

Monday 15 August, 2022
Feast of the Assumption of Mary,
the Mother of Jesus, taken into Heaven.

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Staying Connected No. 14. 2022.

Mary MacKillop's life story inspires our school community to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One of the great stories of our Catholic tradition, especially for Australia, is that of the life and charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. In the introduction of *From Humble Beginnings: Commemorating 200 years of Catholic education in Australia* (NCEC 2021), Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and the Hon Jacinta Collins write of Australia's first saint:

The figure of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop stands tall in our stories: firstly, a lay teacher in Portland, she established the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola and their ministry quickly spread across the continent, often to remote and disadvantaged communities, bringing education to Australian children (p. 3).

There are many communities that have a strong historical and living faith connection to the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, including many who have named their parishes and schools after her. Here at SMMPS, we proudly share her story, intertwining it with our own stories, shaping how we live out her values of care, compassion and respect today. We see that this sharing of such common challenges is a 'stepping-stone' to the whole school community making 'connections between faith and culture as part of living out the Good News and illustrating a dynamic faith supporting all to take action in the community and wider Church'.



A life story which has impact upon many Australians right across our country.

Born in 1842 in Brunswick Street, Newtown (now known as Fitzroy), and spending her early years in Victoria, Mary was conscious of the needs and challenges of the lack of education and social support experienced by many of the marginalised in society at that time. As a professed Sister of Saint Joseph, she was able to attend to their needs by establishing schools, orphanages and homes for the needy. In living her life, Mary had an impact upon the lives of many Australians, beyond the Catholic population, across our country.

On Monday 8 August, we proudly celebrated the Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop. It was a great day of celebration. See below for some details and photos of this happy day in the life of our school.

We are grateful to Mrs. Stephanie Taylor, our Religious Education Leader for organising such a celebratory day and we extend that gratitude to all our staff who supported the activities on the day and to the children who fully entered into celebrating the day. Thanks also to our supportive Mums, Skye and Natalie, who helped out with the BBQ lunch.

As has been an annual event for many years, our Year Six students travel to Sydney each year to visit Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney, where there is a museum that tells the life story of Mary MacKillop. The students also visit the sacred space; the room where she died and have time to pray at her tomb. Many past students have told me, this experience was highlight of their time with us.

In 2017, our school joined a liturgy in North Sydney, where we, along with other schools in Mary MacKillop's name and the Josephite tradition, poured a capsule of soil, taken from our school sites into a shared space in the garden, near Mary's tomb. This symbolic gesture represents our shared connection to Mary MacKillop.



Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions we have been unable to travel for the past two years, so the Classes of '20 and '21 lost the opportunity to travel to North Sydney with the school. We have, however, planned for this trip to occur in November this year. All things going well; the trip should move forward.

Invitation to prayer

O God, source of all goodness,
You have given us Saint Mary,
a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross.
We pray in thanksgiving for her life and her influence in our lives.
We pray for all those who have been influenced by Mary to work for the common good.
We pray to have the respect for the marginalised and abandoned that Mary showed in her life.
God of hope, hear our prayers and our hopes spoken aloud and held in our hearts.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, friend of the marginalised. Amen

Have a good week everybody,



Anthony McCluskey

Principal

Upcoming Events-Term 3

Term 3: Monday 11 July-Friday 16 September 2022

Monday 15 August

Feast of the Assumption

Thursday 18 August

Cyber Safety Project-Yr. 4, 5, 6 and staff

Monday 22 August to Friday 26 August

Book Week (Parade-Tuesday 23 August)

Monday 29 and Wednesday 31 August

Father's Day Stall

Tuesday 30 August

School Closure Day-Faith Formation

Friday 16 September

Last Day of Term 3

Students finish at 1.00pm

BUILDING PROGRAM and TRAFFIC FLOW

The site fences are erected and sheds onsite, so the ground works for our new building are imminent. Ground works are expected to start on 29 August 2002. Our new library, visual arts studio and digital technologies studio will be state of the art and add value to our learning community, as a space to gather, learn, discover and create.

I am very grateful for your positivity and support with the restricted parking out back. The traffic is flowing well and drivers are taking care, Thank you.

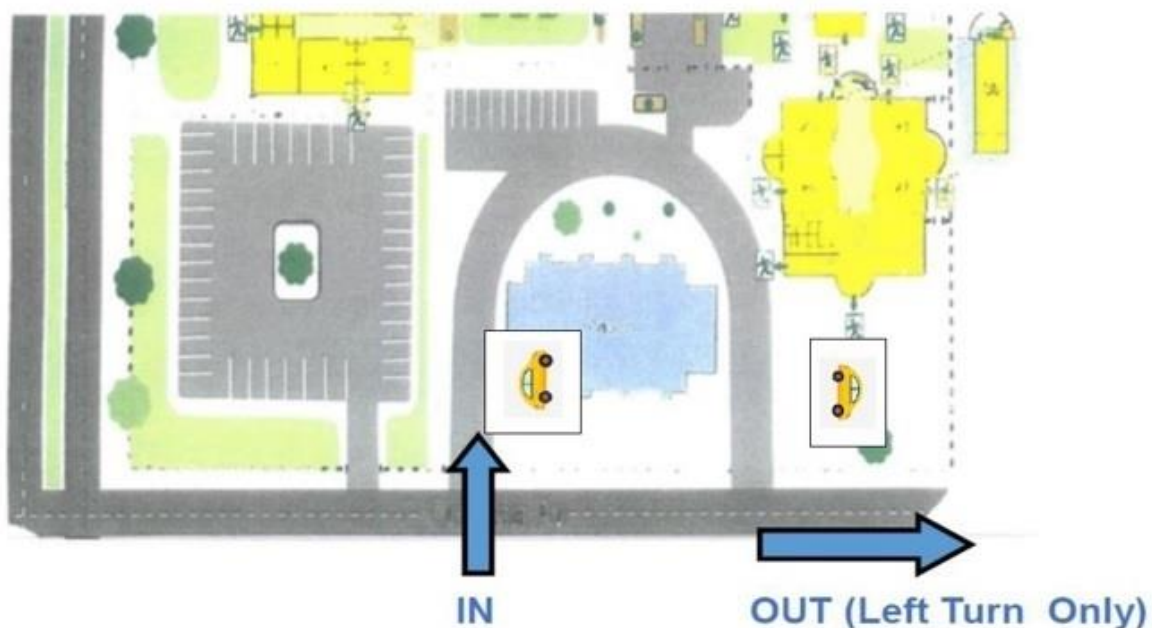
We need however, to remain aware of how we use our front car park. No 'pleases' this time; **just don't leave your car unattended double parked.** I turn a blind eye to drivers, double-parked, waiting to collect children, but you must be prepared to let cars exit who are parked in bays. **All we need is a little patience, kindness and care.**

I also remind you that the drive through, which operates in the morning must keep flowing, so once again, I refer you to the diagram below. If cars are banked up to the gate and over the crossover, simply drive on. Council and VicPol will not allow cars to be queued onto Sunshine Avenue. Thank you for your support.

FRONT OF SCHOOL

Cars may be parked in the main front car park for drop off and pick up.

The children may also be dropped off on the front 'drive thru', open in the morning only. The driver may not leave the car. (This includes leaving the car to unbuckle seatbelts.) This is about safety and keeping the drive way moving.



Principals Awards



St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day

On Monday the 8th of August, our school celebrated Saint Mary MacKillop's Feast Day. On this day we started with the Years Prep through to 4 going to Mass while the Year 5s and 6s participated in a Liturgy. During the break, there were a number of activities organised including colouring in, skipping, hula hoops and a staff vs student netball game. After break, the Preps sang to the whole school a song about Mary MacKillop's famous quote "*Never see a need without doing something about it*". After the assembly, the whole school started creating our hand murals, one for each building. In the middle of creating our hands we all went to get a delicious sausage from the sausage sizzle. After we finished our sausages, we continued to create our hands that reflected the Scripture quote that will feature in our building. At the end of the day we took part in a whole school meditation led by Mrs Taylor. Then we collected our cookies with inspirational quotes on them. The quotes were either "*Never see a need without doing something about it*" or "*Find happiness in making others happy*". These are great quotes for all of us to live out.

Written by 6 Blue



We celebrated

100 DAYS

of Prep

Last Tuesday our Prep students celebrated 100 days of school. They have been counting the days since their very first day of school back in February and it was a much-anticipated day.



PREP RED



PREP YELLOW



PREP BLUE



PREP TEAM



We made
fairy bread
to celebrate!



The day started with the Preps exploring '100' in Discovery Learning – What can you build with 100 cups? What would you do with \$100? The Preps had opportunities to make '100 Days' hats, imagined and drew pictures of themselves at 100 years old, made fairy bread (made with 100s but not 1000s!) They wrote about what they might look like, what they might work as and a skill they could learn before they reach 100. They even practised walking like a 100-year-old!





They ended the day with assembly where they received a balloon and certificate to remember their special day. Students dressed in amazing costumes on the theme of 100. We are very proud of all they have achieved in just 100 days – and look forward to seeing what they'll do in the next 100.

Walking on Country

Over the past few weeks Year Two students have immersed themselves in Aboriginal Culture. They have participated in a range of activities exploring Aboriginal art, storytelling and music traditions.

They had an incursion where they used VR goggles to see the native land in which First Nations People inhabited and some of the dances and music that were a part of their tradition. They also heard about the Rainbow Serpent and the Aboriginal belief of how animals came to the land.

Students also listened to a guest speaker Ron Murray who spoke about the First Nations People and entertained the students with re-enactments of dreamtime stories and how some aboriginal traditions came to be.

VR Culture Incursion



During our Inquiry incursion we watched some Indigenous Australians play traditional music. We also played a really fun bush tucker hunting game where we had to search for bush tucker through the VR goggles. I learnt that Aboriginals ate grubs, honey, peaches and bugs. We also saw a beautiful rainbow snake in the air.

We saw some Aboriginals preparing to hunt. The people looked so real through the VR goggles. We saw a giant rainbow snake in space which told one of the Aboriginal traditional stories. I had lots of fun.

On Friday the 22nd July the Year Two's had an incursion. We used VR goggles and got to see how Aboriginals hunted for food. We saw spirit giants, fighting and we learnt what different bush foods they ate like honey ants and peaches.

Our incursion was about Indigenous Australians. We got to wear VR goggles which made it look like they were all really there. I saw two different traditional dances. At the end we played a game to hunt for bush tucker food. It was lots of fun.

Immersion Activities



Guest Speaker Ron Murray



Teachers vs Year 6 Students Netball game

St Mary MacKillop's feast day was celebrated on Monday the 8th of August. As part of the celebration we held a Teachers vs Year 6 Students netball game! Each house played ¼ of the match and the teachers rotated players each half.

The teachers got out to an early lead and were very difficult to defend due their height, but our students persisted and switched their gameplan to bounce passing, so it became harder for them to intercept! Though, they still got the ball at times.

The rims were standing at a ginormous 3.1 metres high, most students thought they were too good and were shooting it like a basketball which resulted in the teachers dominating 12-5.

It was heaps of fun, and the crowd support was amazing! It was a great part of the celebration day. Hopefully this is an activity we can add to the annual calendar.

Thanks to Ms Lind for umpiring, Mrs Melki for scoring, and all the staff who played in the match.

By Alyssa Di Natale and Sienna Power

Students who participated:

Yellow- Sienna P, Jacob C, Kuat D, Milan B, Thomas A, Mikayla D, Charlotte B

Blue- Alyssa D, James A, Saskia W, Kobie P, Alicia H, Elijah F, Jett G (Dante D was in the team but was unfortunately absent)

Green- Zara G, Orlando P, Ruby L, Sophie V, Joseph S, Luca C, Noah T

Red- Chelsea D, Anabel G, Klara S, Jaydan S, Sofia P, Sethan C, Rita H



2022 SMMPS House Athletics Carnival

On Wednesday the 10th of August years 4-6 took part in our annual SMMPS House Athletics Carnival. We traveled by bus to the Keilor Little Athletics track dressed in our house colours, ready to have some fun and compete for our house team. We had lots of fun competing in all the different events which included discus, shot put, 100m sprint, 200m sprint, long jump, high jump and hurdles.

Some kids dressed up in funny wigs and costumes to support their house teams and hoped to earn some bonus points! Those who placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd received a ribbon, and people who finished 4th or 5th secured a Well Done Ribbon, too.

Thankyou to Mr McCluskey and all our teachers who made the day possible. Special mention to the Botoulas brothers who ran the race of the decade to help out each house!

We would also like to thank the HUGE number of parents and families who came along to support and assist us on the day! There is no way we could have had such a great day without our parent helpers!

Congratulations to those students who have qualified for the next round and will represent our school at the SDPSSA carnival.

Congratulations to Orlando and Zara and the entire GREEN Team on their long awaited VICTORY. Everyone really enjoyed themselves, especially in the Team Spirit, Best Dressed and Tidiest area competitions.

Final scores were:

1st GREEN - 383 points, 2nd BLUE - 352 points, 3rd RED - 325 points
4th YELLOW - 286 points

By Dante Dalben, Jamie Krzeski, Alyssa Di Natale, Sienna Power, Siera Muraca, Klara Sakic and James Attard



BOOK FAIR

We have had a very successful book fair, so thank you to all students, parents & families who supported the book fair.

Staff & students purchased just over \$11,000 worth of books & variety items.

The school will receive \$3,900 commission to purchase new books from Scholastic.

Thanks must also go to all the staff for their support especially Jenny Melki.

Thanks also to Jenny Brittain, Natalie, Matilda & Chelsea who assisted at different times during the book fair.

Unfortunately, there has been a delay with student orders but hopefully they will arrive soon.

Thanks again everyone.

Denise Thorne

Library Technician

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

This experience gives married couples the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living.

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details.

Next **on-line** weekend is on **19 – 21 August 2022** in the comfort of your own home.

Next **Non-Residential** weekend is on **22 – 23 October 2022** in Niddrie

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

FACE TO FACE WITH Year 4 – 6	18th Aug (on site)
FACE TO FACE WITH STAFF	18th Aug (onsite)
ONLINE WITH PARENTS	09th Aug (More details to come)

Cyber Safety sessions designed to empower young people to take control of their own digital safety and wellbeing through engaging and interactive workshops and presentations. All student workshops align to the Cyber Safety Project Curriculum Framework values of Responsibility, Integrity, Strength and Empathy with a focus on either **Digital Safety** or **Digital Wellbeing**.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

To ensure that we support and empower ALL Australian students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies both at home and school, we must arm ALL teachers, parents and the wider community with digital literacy skills and resources.

The Cyber Safety Project partners with school communities to ensure all school leaders, teachers and parents are kept up-to-date with the latest trending digital topics. We must provide space and time to learn and understand the way students can connect and interact through digital platforms, devices, sites, apps and gaming networks.

SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS

Our school-based programs aim to provide opportunities for teachers to stay up-to-date with the latest information as well as provide resources and curriculum linked to the National Curriculum. The core outcomes of our program include:

- Teachers know relevant digital citizenship elements of the digital technologies curriculum, ethical and social responsibilities
- Teachers are aware of and understand current digital literacies and trends impacting on young people in their care
- Teachers are able to design learning to achieve the cyber/digital technologies outcomes for students

EMPOWER YOUNG PEOPLE

to self-manage their own privacy and security and to be responsible digital citizens when using connected technologies.

St. Mary MacKillop Primary School is committed to child safety. We believe all students deserve, as a fundamental right, safety and protection from all forms of abuse and neglect.

CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE NORTH KEILOR

40 years of
EDUCATION
in **FAITH**



ENROL NOW for YEAR 7, 2024

www.crcnk.com.au/enrolment/year-7-2024

Applications close 19 August 2022





VICTORIA POLICE

BIKE/SCOOTER HELMETS

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL POLICE

This is a reminder that all users of bikes and scooters (including the motorised versions) MUST wear helmets unless exempt. We have had concerns raised by members of our community, and it is quite apparent that residents have become complacent regarding these laws.

Mandatory bicycle helmet laws were introduced in July 1990. This applies when riding:

- on roads and road-related areas
- on bike and shared paths
- in bike lanes
- in recreational parks
- in car parks
- on footpaths.

Police can stop bike and scooter riders and issue a fine or a warning for not wearing an approved bicycle helmet. **The current fine for this offence is \$231.**

Research indicates that bike helmets greatly reduce the risk of head injuries, which are the major cause of death and injury to bike riders.

- Bicycle helmets reduce the chances of a serious head injury by almost 70 %
- Two years after introducing bicycle helmet laws in 1990 a 23% reduction in head injuries in Victoria.

This is a significant safety issue, and we encourage you all to look after yourselves, family, and friends.

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Auction & Fundraising Dinner

Funding for Life Changing Small Projects within Australia

WHEN

Friday 2nd September 2022
Commences 6.30pm with canapés

WHERE

Mount St Joseph Girls' College
133 Maidstone St, Altona

COST

\$40.00pp (2 course meal & dessert, BYO drinks)

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Robyn Miller, CEO MacKillop Family Services

TICKETS

Call MMHC (03) 9926 9300
RSVP Friday 20th August 2022

MARY MACKILLOP

Today



Photos courtesy of Mary MacKillop Today