

Monday 11 September, 2023

# ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## *Staying Connected No.12, 2023*



Hello Everyone,

On 8 September the Church traditionally celebrates the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary is a role model for all persons. Her willingness to say 'yes' to the Holy Spirit calling her to bring Jesus into the world and live life to the fullness, reminds us of our call to listen to the Holy Spirit who gives us life and peace.

The Holy Spirit speaks to each of us in many ways. Perhaps the Spirit talks to us through the beauty of world or the inherent goodness in all people. The Spirit speaks to us when we are challenged to do the right thing, encountering all situations with love and patience.

St. Mary MacKillop listened to the Holy Spirit,

***"Believe in the whisperings of God to your own heart..." 1868***

Her life of listening to the Spirit provides a blueprint upon which to pattern our thoughts, our motivation for all our actions, and how we relate with life around us.

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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.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

We are now utilising our new building. Library lessons are happening and Digital Technologies are timetabled in the new lab. The bookshelves for the library are arriving first week next term, at which time we will move the book stock over to the new building. Our beautiful new building is really something to celebrate!

We have engaged Furlong Painting who have commenced a painting maintenance schedule. We are currently painting a number of internal and external doors and some rooms. We are also painting the front of the acoustic wall along Sunshine Avenue.

We are about to commence re-carpeting John Paul 11 and we hope to artificially turf the large area of asphalt between Tenison Woods (the new building) and the Performing Arts Room in mid-October. You will also see new signage appearing around the school.

Maintenance and upkeep of facilities are important, as are providing the children with quality and attractive spaces to learn, play and be together.

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## THANK YOU

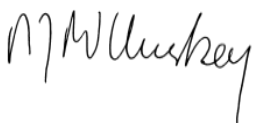
**Thank you to the dads and kids who joined us for a most successful Father's Day Breakfast.** We had upwards of 130 Dads turn-up. **Thank you to the generous staff** who set up for the event, cooked the BBQ and served the food on the day.

**Thank you to the parents who supported the kids by helping out with the Father's Day Stall.** The children really appreciated your efforts, as do I. The looks of excitement on their faces with their gifts for their dads is priceless. **Thank you.**

***Term Holidays start this Friday 15 September at 1:00pm.***

***School resumes on Monday 2 October at 9:00am.***

Have a safe two weeks everybody.



**Anthony McCluskey**

**Principal**

# Principal Awards



## BOOK FAIR

The school has had another successful book fair.

Thank you to all the staff & families for supporting the book fair with over \$9,000 (to be confirmed) being spent.

From those sales the school earns a commission to purchase new books for the library.

Special thanks to our parent volunteers Skye, Andrea, Lee-Anne & Chelsea who helped at various times during book fair.

Student orders have been submitted to Scholastic & hopefully they will be delivered before the end of term.

Thanks Again.

Denise Thorne - Library Technician

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend

### “Live Your Best Married Life in Love”

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can cause you to lose touch with your spouse.

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 is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.

**Please check our website for more details.**

**3-5 November 2023** in Melbourne

(Book early to avoid disappointment)

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

Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

# Grade one Incursions

Throughout Term 2 the Grade 1's have been learning about different cultures and traditions for our Inquiry topic.

We have been immersed in different cultures and incursions. These involved Chinese Fan Dancing, African Drumming and Commedia Dell 'Arte.

We had the opportunity to try traditional foods, dance using different instruments and learnt about landmarks and famous people from different countries.

We learnt a lot about how there are differences and similarities between the way people from different cultures live compared to us!





## SRC REPORT 30th August 2023

We are all excited to announce that our new building is done. We are just waiting for the furniture before we move into the library, ICT room and Art room. It is going to be great! The new building leaves us much more room for children to play in the yard.

This term we had a great time dressing up as our favourite characters for Book Week and showing off our costumes to our friends and parents. We have also had the book fair which is a great opportunity for students to purchase some new books. We are grateful to all the parents and staff that make opportunities like this possible.

On Friday the 15th of September we are ending the term with a Footy Fun day. On this day you will dress up in your favourite footy team colours. We will also have some delicious pies, sausage rolls and hot dogs for sale from the canteen for lunch. Please bring a gold coin donation to support the Koala Kids Foundation who help kids with cancer.



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### A Message from the School Nurse

Allergy season is fast approaching and it is a timely reminder to update your child's allergy and or Hay fever Action plan along with their medication.

This year, experts are saying allergy season will start early and it is expected to see many days of high to extreme pollen count. High pollen days trigger allergies and hay fever symptoms. These high and extreme pollen count days can also lead to thunderstorm Asthma.

If your child **has a current** Action plan for Allergies and or Hay Fever already, please make sure it is up to date.

Medication can be kept at school in the first aid room, and will be administered if your child requires it during the school day, provided they have a current Allergy / Hay fever action plan.

Thank you, Erin



# 2023 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK@SMMPs

Book Week was celebrated well by our school community this year.

We kicked off with our annual parade, where students and staff came dressed up as beloved book characters. Thank you to families who helped prepare costumes and attended the parade. Thanks also to Jenny Melki who always brings the parade to life with a little performance!



Two Australian authors of children's literature, Corrine Fenton and RA Spratt, visited the school and spoke to students about their writing experiences. They talked about where they get their ideas and how they work on a story from an idea at the beginning of the process through to a published book. Students were able to ask them questions, view drafts of their work to see that they work through a similar set of steps as our students do in their writing at school.



Buddies from different class levels got together to create artworks based on the Book Week Shortlisted books. Classes have enjoyed reading the shortlisted books and discussing the visual images, author's message, characters, settings and themes.



**Congratulations to everyone for their participation. Book love is certainly alive and well at our school.**

Andrea Gale and Jen Melki



# SMMPS Upcoming Events.....

## **Term 3: 10 July-15 September 2023**

**Friday 15 September**

End of Term 3-Students finish at 1.00pm

## **Term 4: 02 October-15 December 2023**

**Monday 02 October**

First day of Term 4

**Tuesday 24 October**

Prep-Grandparents Day

**Wednesday 25 October**

Prep 2024 Orientation-Session 1

9.15am to 10.00am and 10.15am to 11.00am

**Thursday 26 October**

Prep 2024 Orientation-Session 1

9.15am to 10.00am and 10.15am to 11.00am

**Tuesday 31 October to Thursday 2 November**

Year 6 Camp to Sydney

**Monday 6 November**

School Closure Day

**Tuesday 7 November**

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

**Wednesday 8 November**

Prep 2024 Orientation-Session 2

9.15am to 10.00am and 10.15am to 11.00am

## SMMPS Upcoming Events Continued.....

### **Thursday 9 November**

Prep 2024 Orientation-Session 2

9.15am to 10.00am and 10.15am to 11.00am

### **Tuesday 21 November to Wednesday 22 November**

Year 4 Camp-Mt Evelyn

### **Thursday 30 November**

Prep 2024-Meet the Teacher

9.30am to 10.30am

### **Friday 1 December**

Carnevale Day

### **Wednesday 6 December**

Whole school end of Year Thanksgiving Mass

Time to be confirmed

### **Thursday 7 December**

Annual Christmas Carols @ 6.30pm

### **Friday 8 December**

School Closure Day-details to come

### **Wednesday 13 December**

Year 6 finish for 2023

Guard of Honour @ 12.45pm

Year 6 Graduation @ 7.00pm

### **Friday 15 December**

Prep to Year 5 finish for 2023 @ 1.00pm