

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

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Staying Connected No. 7, 31st May 2024

Dear Community,

As we come to the end of one season and prepare ourselves for the beginning of a new season, we bid farewell to the golden colours of autumn and welcome the crisp, frosty embrace of winter, as we stop and think about the beauty and challenges each season brings. As we reflect, we find profound messages of hope, preparation, and faith that guide us through this time of transition from autumn to winter, both in nature and in our spiritual lives.

This seasonal shift also brings to mind the life and legacy of St. Mary MacKillop, whose unwavering faith and dedication serve as a guiding light through times of change. St. Mary MacKillop exemplifies how to navigate the seasons of life with grace and resilience. Her life was marked by significant challenges and profound acts of faith, much like the transitions from autumn to winter.

This week our Year 3 student's along with their parent's and teachers reflected on the importance and significance of receiving the Sacrament of Communion at our Sacramental Family Faith Evening held in the MPR. Sister Rita, a Josephite nun led us in exploring the importance of the sacrament and reflected on the fact that First Communion is a profound event that encompasses spiritual, religious, communal, educational, cultural, and personal dimensions. It is a key moment in a Catholic person's faith journey, enhancing their relationship with God and their community.

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.

At this week's assembly the Year 5 students lead us in prayer. They spoke about the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity and about the Three Persons of God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We understand that God is all of these people in one. They reminded us that Jesus was sent to teach us what it means to love one another and to show us what kindness, compassion and love for others looks like.

As we move from autumn to winter take this opportunity to pray and reflect as a family with this prayer inspired by St Mary MacKillop:

‘Heavenly Father, as we transition from the warmth of autumn to the chill of winter, we thank You for the beauty and lessons of each season. Inspired by St. Mary MacKillop, may we embrace change with faith, prepare our hearts with patience, and hold onto hope for renewal. Help us to see Your presence in every season of our lives and to act with kindness and compassion towards others. Amen.’

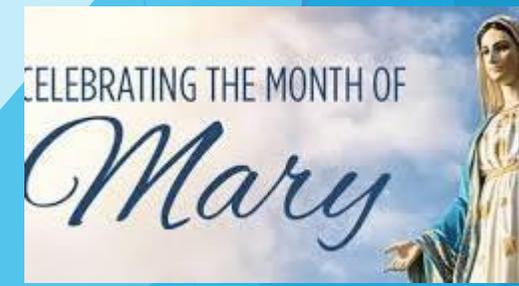
Have a great weekend everyone.

As Mary MacKillop said on this day in 1870;

“May God's holy will be done.”

Anthony D'Amico

Principal



REMINDERS

- The School opens at 8.30am and children can enter the classroom at 8.50am. **Please do not drop children off prior to 8.30am.** If you need to bring your child to school before 8.30am please book them into the before school hours program.
- St Mary MacKillop is a 'Smoke Free Zone' and smoking on the school grounds is not permitted. According to the law, 'The Tobacco Act 1987 bans smoking or vaping on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.'
Please do not smoke on the school grounds.
- If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school it **must be handed** into the teacher in the morning where it will be stored in a secured location and returned to them in the afternoon. Please refer to the Mobile phone policy on the following pages.
- The basketball court is used as a carpark in the morning and afternoon. The safety of our children is of utmost importance and therefore I ask that you take extra care when driving in the carpark areas, The speed limit is **5km per hour** and there is to be no double parking at all.
Thank you for taking the safety of our children seriously.



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CHANGES TO NOTE

- As there is no supervision on the playground area in the morning, the playground is out of bounds and children are not to play on the playground before school.
- The front drive through area between the Church and the School operates as a drive through zone only before school.
- Due to a few near misses, those who wish to park and bring their child into class must use the back car park area. There is now no parental parking in bays outside the front of the Church.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



School Attendance

I would like to reinforce the importance of students attending school and being present and ready to learn by 9.00am every day. Classes begin at 9.00am so we can maximise the learning time the students have at school.

When students arrive late, they miss the important whole class instruction period and are therefore missing key concepts, modelling and information that is vital to their learning.

Please note that if your child/ren are late (after 9.10am), they **must** come to the office to be signed in late. **Parents are not to accompany them straight to their classroom.**

I also understand that there are times when early departures cannot be avoided. In these cases, I would appreciate if you could pick your child/ren up at either 11.00am-start of lunch break, 11.45am-end of lunch break, 1.40pm-start of second break or 2.20pm-end of second break as picking up during class times disrupts the lesson and the other children in the class.

Due to the busy nature of the office and classroom in the afternoon, we cannot call children out of class between 3pm – 3.15pm (unless it is an emergency). Please try and collect your children in the hours listed above if they must leave early.

Thank you.

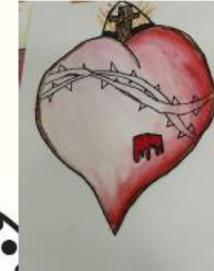
First Holy Communion
Cards for
St Paul's (Kealba) and
Holy Eucharist
(St Albans)
By Year 3-6



Faith & Community Connections



Sacred Heart
Cards
for the
Feast of the
Sacred Heart
(7th June) for
Rosary Home
and Sacred
Heart School
(Newport)
By Year 5



School Communities Working Together

This week we had the privilege of CRC North Keilor Year 9 students visiting our Prep and Year 1 classes. Our children listened to the Year 9 students read 2 picture story books followed up with a book response talking about their favourite part of the story. The Year 9 students, some of whom were past students, were practicing their public speaking and asked if they could work with our junior grades. It was a fantastic opportunity for all involved. Our children were thoroughly engaged in the stories and loved working with the CRC children.



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 Saint Mary Mackillop Primary School
Winter Uniform

In Terms 2 & 3 students are required to wear their Winter Uniform.
The photos below show what all students should be wearing.



Callout boxes in the photos identify the following items:

- School jumper
- Blue shirt with school emblem
- School jacket
- Blue shirt (Peter Pan Collar)
- Pinafore or grey school pants
- Grey school pants or shorts
- Navy blue socks or stockings
- Black school shoes or fully black runners
- Grey socks

*Hair ties, small bows or headbands need to be pale blue, royal blue, navy blue or white.

Uniform items can be purchased in the following ways:

- In Store at: Academy Uniforms, Deer Park. Monday to Friday: 9am - 5pm Saturday: 9am - 12 noon. 10/85 Mt Derrimut Road, Deer Park. Phone (03) 8385 9111**
- On-line: at www.academyuniforms.com.au for home delivery or a free weekly delivery to school.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION

Hope in a Suitcase

We are the Year 6 Mission Leaders and we want to tell you about our whole school social justice action: Hope in a Suitcase. Hope in a Suitcase is an organisation that helps kids who go into foster-care. They organise bags and suitcases to give to children who have been removed from their homes to keep them safe. Sometimes these kids leave all of their belongings behind. This organisation's aim is to give these kids a suitcase full of things to help them feel special, important and loved.

We would like our whole school to work together to gather important items to go into the hands that need them. We have been thinking about and connecting with children the same age as us: children in primary school.

Wouldn't it be great if we could collect BRAND NEW things to put in these suitcases for children aged 6 to 12 years old?

Our collection boxes will be placed in the Office foyer. You can bring your donations to the Office and pop them into the boxes. Let's work together this term to support this great organisation and children in need!

Final donations will be collected by Friday 14th June, the end of Week 9 this term.



**Donations for
6-12 year olds:**

- carry on size suitcases
- duffle / overnight bags
- pyjamas
- singlets
- underwear
- socks
- clothes
- toothbrush and toothpaste
- small toys and crafts
- hairbrush, headbands, scrunchies and hair clips
- books to read (fiction/non-fiction)
- colouring, drawing or activity books
- pencils and textas
- body wash/soap
- shampoo/conditioner
- cards and card games

2024 Term Dates

Term 1: 31 January-28 March 2024

(Good Friday 29 March-Easter Monday 01 April)

Term 2: 15 April-28 June 2024

Term 3: 15 July-20 September

Term 4: 7 October-17 December

(Year 6 finish Friday 13 December)




Catholic Regional College
Sydenham
2024
COLLEGE TOURS
WITH THE PRINCIPAL

COLLEGE TOUR DATES

Tuesday 19 March - 11:00am
Thursday 16 May - 9:30am
Thursday 13 June - 4:00pm
Tuesday 15 October - 11:00am

To register for a College Tour,
scan the QR Code below.



Or visit our website:
crcs.vic.edu.au
and navigate to
'Join our Community' and
'College Tours / Events'

*Every Student
Every Pathway*

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Annual St Mary MacKillop PS

READ-O-RAMA

Flex your reading muscles!

Increase your reading strength.

Build your reading powers!

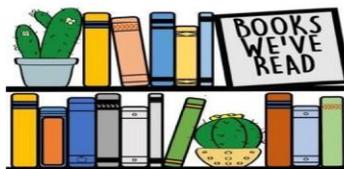


Starting from Monday the 6th May 2024

Your challenge is to read as many books as you can until the end of term.

P-2s will track how many books they read

3-6s will track the number of pages they read



Students record their reading each day,

Teachers keep a tally of their students' reading for the week,

Year levels will keep a running, weekly total of BOOKS/PAGES READ and **display** them in their areas.

At the end of term we will celebrate!

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Scholastic Book Club

This week your child will be receiving Scholastic Book Club issue Number 4.

Should you wish to purchase a book, please remember all orders are to be completed and paid for online via Book Club LOOP, we **Do Not** take orders or payments at school.

Closing date for this issue is 10am Friday, 7/6/24.

Thank you for supporting the school as 15% of every purchase on Book Club goes back to our school in Scholastic Rewards to buy valuable educational resources that benefit your child.



Catholic
Regional College
North Keilor

EXPERIENCE CRC NORTH KEILOR

GRADE 5 IMMERSION PROGRAM

CRCNK are running a Grade 5 Immersion Program throughout Terms 1-3. Students engage directly with our inspiring staff and our Year 10 student leaders for an exciting & fun hands-on Immersion program.

From interactive projects to collaborative activities, this unique experience provides Grade 5 students with an opportunity to explore high school subjects in a safe and supportive environment and gain invaluable insight into what student life is like at CRCNK.

- Sessions run from 3:45pm - 5pm
- Students are required to attend in their school uniform
- A parent/carer is required to attend for the duration of each session and are invited to attend presentations by members of our Leadership Team.

Each program will run on a Thursday after school for 3 consecutive weeks. The dates for the Term 3 programs are as follows -

Term 3: Thursday 18 July, 25 July & 1 August
OR
Thursday 15 August, Thursday 22 August & Thursday 29 August

Students will be required to attend all 3 sessions in one program. Places are limited so register online via our College website using the link below. **Registration will open on Monday 27 May at 9 am.**

 crcnk.com.au/enrolment/year-7-2026



Food
Technology



WoodWork



Science

www.crcnk.com.au

1C Santa Monica Drive
NORTH KEILOR VIC 3038
9361 5900

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Upcoming Events 2024

Term 2: 15 April-28 June 2024

Friday 7 June

Teeth on Wheels

Saturday 15 June

Year 3 Communion @10.30am and 12.30pm

Friday 28 June

Last day of Term 2

Students finish @ 1.00pm

Term 3: 15 July-20 September

Monday 15 July

First day of Term 3-school starts @ 9am

Monday 29 July to Friday 2 August

Book Fair

Upcoming Events 2024 Continued.....

Tuesday 30 July and Thursday 1 August

Parent Teacher Conversations-details next term

Thursday 8 August

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day

Thursday 15 August

Feast of the Assumption

Monday 19 August

Book Parade-details next term

Tuesday 3 September

School Closure Day-details next term

Friday 20 September

Last day of Term 3

Students finish @ 1.00pm