

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

T: 03 9367 6199



Staying Connected No.5, 24 April, 2025

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to Term Two and all the good it promises to bring. As people of hope, we will all rise to the occasion and be our best selves—for our children and for one another.

I trust you were able to find some time to rest over the past weeks. That said, I understand that family responsibilities and personal commitments can sometimes make for a really busy time. At the very least, I hope you found a moment to enter into the spirit of Holy Week and Easter.

As we begin this new term, I offer a simple reflection that encourages us to be **Easter people**. Easter is a season of renewal—a time to begin again in our relationships with ourselves, our families, our friends and our neighbours.

Let's embrace this invitation to renewal and rise to the challenge of being Easter people in all that we do.

EASTER BLESSING

In this Easter Season; "Let us look again at the lives we have been so generously given and let us let fall away the useless baggage that we carry - old pains, old habits, old ways of seeing and feeling - and let us have the courage to begin again. Life is very short, and we are no sooner here than it is time to depart again, and we should use to the full the time that we still have.

We don't realise all the good we can do. A kind, encouraging word or helping hand can bring many a person through dark valleys in their lives. We weren't put here to make money or to acquire status or reputation. We were sent here to search for the light of Easter in our hearts, and when we find it, we are meant to give it away generously. The dawn that rises in the Easter morning is a gift to our hearts and we are meant to celebrate it and to carry away the gifts of healing and light and the courage of a new beginning."

John O'Donohue

Dawn Mass Reflections at Corcomroe Abbey, Ireland.

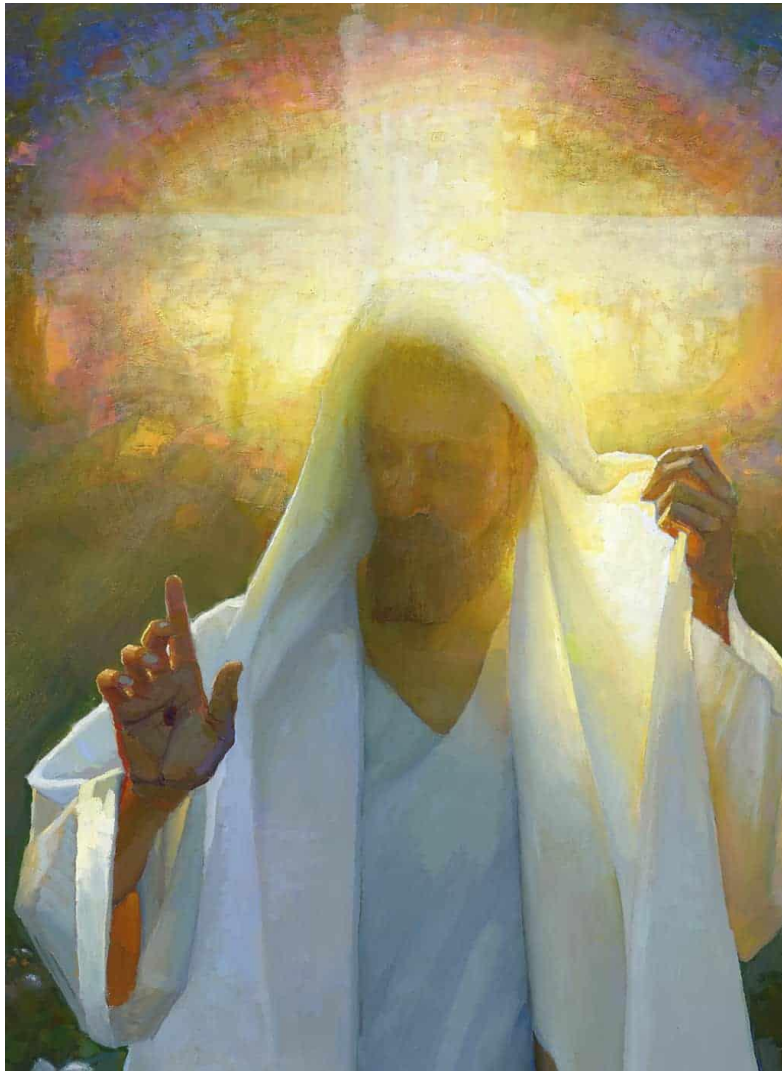
In the words of Mary MacKillop, which she wrote in 1898, "God be praised."

Yes, "God be praised" for giving us the Easter experience, so that we might be people of hope, always prepared to begin again.

Have a happy term,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony McCluskey". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Anthony McCluskey
Principal



The Resurrection by Peter Adams 2018

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.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS 2025



First Reconciliation

Congratulations to our Year 3, 4 and 5 students who received this sacrament of forgiveness for the first time on April 3rd 2025.



CELEBRATING THE EASTER SEASON



Learning of Phonics

At St Mary MacKillop Primary School we teach Phonics in a structured and sequential manner, where our children begin with the simplest sounds and gradually move to more complex sound-letter patterns. Our teachers use a range of ways to engage our students in these Phonics lessons.

The following are some examples of our Year 2 Term 1 Phonics learning.

Phonics

Floss rule
If a word ends in a f, l, s or z it always Double like
hill, buzz

Split Diagraph
A Split Diagraph is when there's a vowel in between a and e their will be a consonant and e makes the a say its name like
cake snake

The Long ay sound
Use AY if the long a sound is at the end of the word or syllable

Suffixes
A Suffix is when like catz there is only one yeel
Catz at the end there is 2 s that makes two of more like
hat hats

Suffix rule two
if a word end in a, s, sh, ch, x or z add s or ss just s like
Fox -> Foxes
Box -> Boxes

Suffix rule three
est added to the End of the word means the most
Fast Fater, Fox

The long of a w
inf l
split d
use ay
may say
A

Phonics

words that are the
may be the letter a is followed by a consonant and the word ends in letter e the and a e

If the word ends in f, l, s or z it's always double

Insamples

all fall sayll
sayll
Ball
Goll

sa~~ff~~ ma~~ss~~ la~~ss~~ glo~~ss~~

ev added to the end of the word means more than

tall~~ey~~ tall
fust~~er~~ fust
niss~~ey~~ nis
happ~~ey~~ happy
chot~~er~~ chob

not~~er~~ hot
fun~~er~~ fun

Space
city
racing

ll ff ss ss

Suffix Rule

It fox if you
it to be fox
to have es
it will mat

PHONICS RULES

1. The long ai sound. Use it if the long ai sound is at the beginning or middle. **Small Train** **Floss Rule**
if the ends in **f, l, s or z** it's Always double!
mass mass mass
loss mass
toss

3. **SPLIT Diagraph** It looks like this **you will use it**
- A - e
Bake lake
make shake

4. **Long ay Rule** you will use it at the end of a word.
Use AY if the long a sound is at the end of the word or syllable.
hay Play may Pay lay

REMINDERS

- 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. Please only park in the designated parking spots and do not park on the **artificial turf or in pedestrian walk ways**. Thank you for taking the safety of our children seriously.



- From time to time our children forget to bring their lunch to school or a lunch order is ordered for the wrong day and we ask parents to bring in the missing lunch. In order to continue with our healthy eating expectations we ask that parents **do not bring in take away food** such as McDonalds, KFC etc. If you do need to purchase lunch for your child we ask that you purchase things such as sushi, sandwiches or wraps.
- 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 or vape 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 school website.
- As there is no supervision on the playground area and the oval are in the morning, these areas are out of bounds and children are not to play on the playground or the oval 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.

2025 Term Dates

Term 1: 31 January-04 April 2025
(Good Friday 18 April-Easter Monday 21 April)
Term 2: 22 April-04 July 2025
Term 3: 21 July-19 September 2025
Term 4: 6 October-16 December 2025
(Year 6 finish Friday 12 December)

PLAYGROUND USE BEFORE SCHOOL – REMINDER

Please note that all of the Junior and Senior Adventure Playgrounds are **not to be used before school**.



This is the Junior Adventure playground.
It is only for use by students from Prep to Year 2.



The climbing frames can be used by all students.

This is the Senior Adventure Playground.
It is only for students in Years 3 – 6.



Parents are required to actively watch their children when using the equipment after school.

Keilor Historical Society

INC. 1990



WAGGONERS ARMS HOTEL, KEILOR VILLAGE CIRCA 1840's

ANZAC DAY Ceremony

10.30am

Friday 25 April 2025

Keilor Cenotaph

Keilor Community Hub

704B Old Keilor Hwy

Keilor

Wurundjeri Country

Proudly Supported by
Melbourne Airport

**MELBOURNE
AIRPORT**



MARIAN COLLEGE



**DISCOVERY
DAY 2025**

To book get in touch with our Transition and Community Participation Leader
Shelley Smith at ssmith@mariansw.vic.edu.au
or contact on 9363 1711



Step into a world of discovery, and embark on
an adventure at Marian College's
Discovery Day!

Join us for a day filled with exciting experiences
that will ignite your passion for all things that
our girls secondary college has to offer. Don't
miss out on this opportunity to engage, create,
and explore!



A Kildare Education Ministries Catholic School for
Girls in the Brigidine Tradition
196 Glengala Road, Sunshine West VIC 3020
0393631711
mariansw.catholic.edu.au

STRONG FUTURES
gentle hearts



Taylors Lakes
SECONDARY COLLEGE

*'every child,
every classroom,
every opportunity'*



LEARN



ACHIEVE



EXCEL



EXPERIENCE



COLLEGE TOURS 2025

ONSITE TOURS: February 26th, March 5th, 12th, 14th, 19th, 21st &
26th; April 2nd, 23rd & 30th; May 7th, 14th & 21st 9:30am - 11:00am

REGISTER AT THE COLLEGE ON 9390 3130 FOR DETAILS

Stage
School
Australia

"One of the **BEST THINGS**
we have done for our child"

Stage School Parent

Join us in the spotlight in 2025!

Performing arts classes for young people aged 4 - 18

25+ locations across Melbourne

FREE TRIAL CLASSES OPEN

Hurry - Limited Time!



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Ages 4 - 7



Musical Theatre
Classes

Ages 8 - 18



Drama & Acting
Classes

Ages 8-18



Dance Classes
for Boys

Ages 6-18



Screen Acting Training
and Representation

Ages 4+



(03) 8199 8345
admin@stageschool.com.au
stageschool.com.au



FREE GYMNASTICS TRIAL

CLASSES AVAILABLE
FOR CHILDREN
AGED 2-14 YEARS
OLD



4/12 Malcom Court,
Kealba



Gymnastics Unlimited
Australia



Gymnastics Unlimited
Australia



vladgym1@gmail.com



0410 651 155



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

Foster parent* **OR** Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____

Camps, Sports and Excursions fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one; or
 - on the first day of Term two.
- Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder; or
 - Be a temporary foster parent; and
 - Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and seventeen years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students' attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (see [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Policy | education.vic.gov.au](#)).

Payment amounts

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

The CSEF is paid directly the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the policy for the current rates.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

How to complete the application form

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

- Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
- Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
- Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Upcoming Events 2025

Term 2: 22 April-04 July 2025

Friday 25 April

Anzac Day Public Holiday

Friday 02 May

2026 Enrolments Due

Monday 05 May to Friday 16 May

2026 Prep Enrolment Interviews-New Families

Thursday 08 May and Friday 09 May

Mother's Day Stall

Friday 09 May

Mother's Day Breakfast

7.30am to 8.45am in the Hall-Flyer will be emailed shortly

Wednesday 14 May

School Closure Day-details soon

Wednesday 21 May

2026 Prep Offers Issued

Upcoming Events 2025 Continued....

Saturday 21 May

Year 3 First Holy Communion

10.30am and 12.30pm

Friday 06 June

2026 Enrolment Offers Due

Friday 20 June, Monday 23 June and Monday 30 June

Teeth on Wheels

Saturday 21 June

Year 6 Confirmation

10am and 12pm

Monday 23 June to Friday 27 June

Prep 2026 Existing Family Interviews

Friday 04 July

Last Day of Term 2

Students finish @ 1pm