

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Staying Connected No.14, 15 July, 2026

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to Term 3!

After the pressure and busyness of our MACS four-year Cyclical Review last term, I had hoped things might slow down a little. The reality of school life, however, is that it is full steam ahead once again, with another significant and exciting term ahead of us.

The weeks ahead promise to be busy.

On **Monday 13 July**, we welcomed an Occupational Health and Safety Audit. I am delighted to share that our school was rated very highly by the inspector. The safety and wellbeing of our children, staff and families will always be my first priority. While accidents can never be eliminated entirely, it is reassuring to know that our school continues to provide a safe, well-maintained environment for everyone.

On **Tuesday 14 July**, we welcomed back our reviewer, Stephen Russell, for the **Dialogue and Engagement Day**. Stephen spent the day with the leadership team and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) personnel working through the findings of our Review Report. This day provided us with the opportunity to reflect deeply on the report, celebrate our achievements and consider the recommendations that will guide our future improvement.

Having now read the report, I can simply say that I could not be prouder of our school community. It is an outstanding affirmation of who we are and what we have achieved together. As Principal, I feel incredibly privileged to lead such a dedicated staff, wonderful students, supportive families and connected parish community. These affirmations belong to all of us because they are the result of our shared commitment and collective effort. Once the report has been formally endorsed by MACS, I look forward to sharing a summary with our community.

Next **Monday 20 July**, we will also undertake our **Compliance Review**, with personnel from the Victorian Catholic Education Commission (VCEC) and MACS spending the day at our school reviewing policies, procedures and compliance requirements. This is another significant milestone for our school. While I am naturally conscious of the importance of this review, I am also confident that our staff have worked diligently to ensure we meet these expectations. Schools today are rightly held to very high standards, and maintaining compliance is both an important responsibility and a considerable undertaking.

Also on **Monday 20 July**, our **Parent-Teacher-Child Conversations** will take place. **As previously advised, this will be a student-free day.** We have made this decision to support both staff and families by allowing teachers to be fully present for these important conversations without the demands of a normal teaching day. We hope this provides a more relaxed and meaningful opportunity to celebrate each child's progress, acknowledge their strengths and discuss the next steps in their learning journey.

Despite the demands of audits, reviews and compliance, we continue to draw strength from the wisdom of **St Mary MacKillop**, who encouraged us to *"Trust in God and go forward without fear."* She also reminded us:

"Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God."

These words continue to inspire confidence, hope and calmness as we move forward together.

Capital Works

You may notice a number of improvements that were completed around the school during the holiday period.

Major repairs have been undertaken to the Hall roof to prevent ongoing leaks. Sections of the planter boxes in the main yard have been replaced after becoming unsafe, and the level change between the playground and the Year 2 deck has been rectified to eliminate a significant trip hazard.

These are important investments in our school. While they may not always be the most visible projects, they address genuine occupational health and safety concerns and reflect our ongoing commitment to providing a safe, welcoming and well-maintained environment for every child, staff member and visitor.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy and successful Term 3. As always, thank you for your continued support of St Mary MacKillop Primary School. I look forward to another wonderful term as we continue to **Pray, Trust and Act** together.

Go well,

Anthony McCluskey
Principal

ST Mary MacKillop's annual BOOK FAIR

Get ready, book lovers! Our annual Book Fair is just around the corner. St Mary MacKillop will be holding its annual Scholastic Book Fair from the **27th - 31st of July** bringing a fantastic selection of books for readers of all ages and interests.

Students will have the chance to browse the fair and create their wish lists on **Monday, Tuesday and part of Wednesday**, giving students plenty of time to see what catches their eye. Then it's shopping time! Classes will visit the Book Fair to make purchases from **Wednesday to Friday**.

Whether your child is searching for their next page-turner, a new series to love, or a book full of amazing facts, there's something for everyone. Every purchase helps support our school and encourages a lifelong love of reading.

✦ Start making room on your bookshelf – the Book Fair is almost here! ✦

She Who Explores

JULY SESSIONS

Discover what it means to be an Ave girl.

Through our after school program, She Who Explores, Year 4 and 5 students can experience Ave Maria College through fun, hands-on learning activities..

Scan the QR code to register.

For more information, please contact Mrs Natalie Meddis, Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), at AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.

Choose a session and start exploring!

- **Food Technology (Repeat)** - Monday, 20 July
- **Science (Repeat)** - Monday, 20 July
- **Food Technology (Repeat)** - Wednesday, 29 July
- **Netball Skills (Repeat)** - Wednesday, 29 July



GRADE 5 IMMERSION PROGRAM TERM 3 @ CRCNK



This fun and engaging program runs over 3 consecutive Thursdays:

📅 27 August | 3 September | 10 September

🕒 3:45pm – 5:00pm

**Students must attend all 3 sessions.
Parent/carer attendance required (includes Leadership presentations).*

- ✓ Hands-on sessions with our staff & student leaders
- ✓ Explore high school subjects in a fun, supportive environment
- ✓ Gain real insight into student life at CRCNK



Places are limited – register via our College website today!

🌐 www.crcnk.vic.edu.au

📍 1C Santa Monica Drive North Keilor

☎ 9361 5900

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER 2026

TERM 3

Monday 13 July
Term 3 commences

Wednesday 15 July, Wednesday 16 July and Thursday 23 July
Teeth on Wheels

Monday 20 July - SCHOOL CLOSURE
Parent Teacher Conversations-8.30am to 6.00pm

Monday 27 July
Prep Grandparents Afternoon 2.30pm to 3.00pm-Details to come

Monday 27 July to Friday 31 July
Book Fair-see information and flyers around the school

Tuesday 4 August
100 days of Prep 2.45pm to 3.15pm-Details to come

Friday 7 August
St Mary MacKillop Feast Day Mass at 12pm

Friday 14 August
Feast of the Assumption-whole school Liturgy at 2.30pm

Monday 24 August to Monday 31 August
Book Week

Monday 31 August
Book Parade @ 9.00am in hall

Friday 18 September
End of Term 3 Students finish @ 1pm

TERM 4

Monday 5 October
Term 4 commences

Monday 19 October
School Closure Day-Staff Faith Formation

Monday 26 October to Wednesday 28 October
Year 5 Camp

Tuesday 27 October to Thursday 29 October
Year 6 Camp

Monday 2 November
School Closure Day

Tuesday 3 November
Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Wednesday 4 November and Thursday 5 November
Prep 2027 Stay and Play-Session 1 9.15am to 10.15am

Monday 9 November to Wednesday 11 November
Year 4 Camp

Wednesday 11 November and Thursday 12 November
Prep 2027 Stay and Play-Session 2 9.15am to 10.15am

Thursday 26 November
Prep 2027 Meet the Teacher 9.15am to 10.15am

More dates soon.....