

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Vic 3038
www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au
T: 03 9367 6199



Staying Connected No.16, 20 August 2026

Dear Community,

I am proud to present you with a summary of our MACS 4-year Cyclical Review Report.

The Review strongly validated the direction of the school over the past four years. The recommendations are largely about **consolidating, deepening and refining** what is already working, rather than changing direction.

The key points are:

- **Culture and relationships are the foundation of the school's success.** The report repeatedly describes St Mary MacKillop as caring, inclusive, welcoming, safe and relational. High levels of trust exist between leadership, staff, students and families, and the calm, predictable learning environment is seen as a major strength.
- **Catholic identity is authentic and lived.** The charism of St Mary MacKillop is clearly visible in the culture, relationships, pastoral care, prayer, liturgy, Sacramental life and service of the school. Staff and student perceptions of Catholic identity are significantly above MACS averages.
- **Teaching and learning have improved significantly.** The report recognises strong progress in explicit teaching, collaborative planning, curriculum coherence, literacy and numeracy practice. Student achievement and growth are described positively, with NAPLAN results consistently strong and PAT Reading and Mathematics showing around 65% of students at or above expected standard—about 5% above the Australian norm.

- **Leadership is viewed very positively.** The report recognises the leadership structure, investment in staff capability, professional learning, collaborative culture and high relational trust.
- **Wellbeing and learning are seen as inseparable.** The report recognises the school's strong wellbeing culture, respectful behaviour expectations, SEL work and commitment to supporting diverse learners.
- **The community strongly values the school.** Families identify relationships, safety, support, Catholic values and academic standards as reasons for choosing the school. Parents describe the school as feeling like a family and recognise that staff know and care for children as individuals.

The **three major recommendations for the next four-year School Improvement Plan** are very clear:

1. **Consolidate, enrich and refine the instructional framework** — strengthen explicit teaching, real-time responses to student need, provision for high-potential learners, assessment literacy, data use, particularly in Mathematics, teacher feedback and leadership of pedagogical change.
2. **Enhance Catholic identity and faith culture** — strengthen contemporary RE pedagogy, deepen the connection between faith and life, and expand formation in Catholic Tradition, Scripture, liturgy, Catholic Social Teaching and the Mary MacKillop charism.

3. **Bring teaching, learning and wellbeing together as co-drivers of improvement** — implement the six practices of the Vision for Engagement, better respond to individual learning needs and adjustments, provide timely feedback, and refine whole-school Social Emotional Learning approaches around self-awareness and self-regulation.

St Mary MacKillop is a strong, relational, faith-filled and improving school whose next challenge is not to reinvent itself, but to consolidate its success, sharpen consistency and deepen the connection between faith, learning and wellbeing.

We have much to celebrate and we will continue working together to create an even better school.

Keep well everyone,

Anthony

St Mary MacKillop Annual Book Parade

Step into the magical world of stories and bring your favourite literary characters to life!!! Join us for a fun- filled celebration of reading, imagination, and community as students and staff showcase their favourite books in our **annual St Mary MacKillop Book Parade on Monday the 31/8/26, 9.10am**. Whether you're dressing up as a classic hero, a picture-book icon, or a bold adventurer, come share your love of stories with our school community. Bring your enthusiasm, cheer on your classmates, and let's make this year's Book Parade an unforgettable day!

Costume guidelines - Please ensure all costumes are directly inspired by a book character, comfortable to wear throughout the day, and school appropriate without any scary elements.



PRINCIPAL AWARD



SAINT MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL
152 ODESSA AVENUE
KEILOR DOWNS, VICTORIA, 3038
Phone: 03 9367 6199 Fax: 03 9367 1642
Email:kdoherthy@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

ALL OUR DAD'S ARE INVITED TO OUR.....

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

- Date:** Friday 4th September, 2026
- Time:** 7:30m to 8:45am
- Venue:** St Mary MacKillop School Hall
- Cost:** \$16.00 (per adult) which includes an egg and bacon sandwich, a sausage in bread, tea, coffee or juice
- \$12.00 (per child) which includes a ham and cheese toastie, a sausage in bread and juice.
- If your child would like a bigger breakfast, you are more than welcome to order a \$16 meal for them

We invite our Dads, Grandads, Uncles and any other significant males in our children's lives to join us for breakfast at school.

If you have any dietary requirements, please contact Kellie at the office and we will do our best to organise an alternative.

Please complete the slip below and return with your money to the office by Friday 28th August. As this is a catered event, we strictly cannot accept any forms and money after this date.

Hope to see you there!

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST – Friday 4th September, 2026

Family Name		
Eldest Child's Name and Class		
Number of adult breakfasts (\$16.00 each)	Number of children breakfasts (\$12.00 each)	
I enclose my \$_____ for the Father's Day Breakfast		



Celebrating the Feast of the Assumption

Whole School Liturgy

The Faith and Mission Leaders lead our liturgy

The choir lead us in worship through song

Mr McCluskey shared a reflection on the qualities of Mother Mary

Together, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption, remembering that Mary was so loved by God that he assumed her body and soul to heaven, which is something extraordinary, that God's love and power took not only Mary's soul to heaven, but also her body.

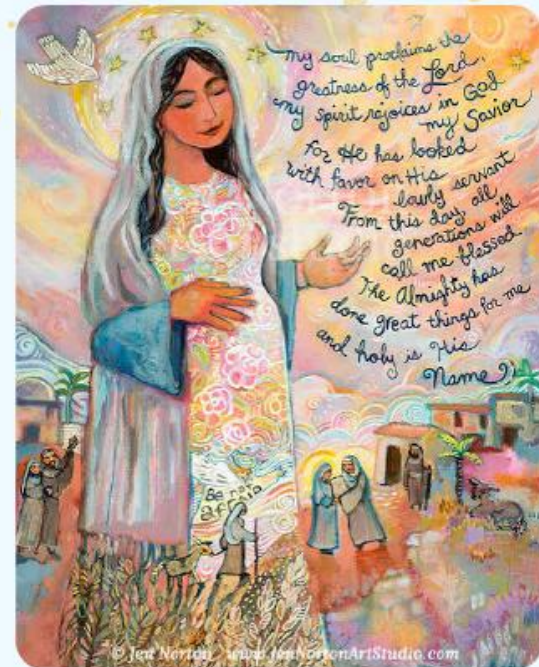
But in our celebration, we don't focus on this: that Mary died and went to heaven. We actually focus on what it is that made her so special. Mary was chosen by God to be the mother of His son. God saw her pure heart and her love for Him, and chose her.

Mary's life was a journey of following Jesus. Today we know that she is a very important friend to Catholics, praying for us and accompanying us on our own journey in following Jesus. She helps us to find our way to her son Jesus, and Jesus, as we know, is the only one to help us find our way to God.

Mary always chose to do God's will, always deciding to do what God called of her, not what she wanted to do. And so we can look to Mary as a great example of how we can say, "Yes" to God in our own lives.

In our Gospel reading, we heard Mary's song of praise for God. She said: "God cares for me...God has done great things for me....He shows mercy... gives the hungry good things to eat..." And there is a lot that we can learn from how she saw God working in her life. It can help us to think about how we can be an image of God for others in our world: to care for others, to do what is good for all, to show mercy and kindness and to feed the hungry.

Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us.



CELEBRATING ST MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY



**Our last Feast Day
Mass with
Monsignor Portelli**



**Lunch time games and photo
booth**



**In-class learning and
celebration**



Sausage Sizzle

**Thank you to our generous parent helpers,
Cole, Mr Quinn and Kellie!**



100 days of Prep



Last Tuesday our Prep students celebrated a very special milestone – 100 Days of School! Since their very first day in February, the children have been eagerly counting each school day, making this a much-anticipated celebration.

The day was filled with fun, creativity and learning as the students explored the number 100 through a range of activities. During Discovery Learning, they explored what they could build with 100 cups and what they could build with 100 blocks. They also created colourful 100 Days hats, imagined what they might look like at 100 years old, and enjoyed making fairy bread decorated with hundreds (not thousands!).

The Preps also reflected on their futures by writing about places they would like to visit, where they might like to live, careers they could have, and new skills they hope to learn before they turn 100.

The celebrations concluded at assembly, where each student received a certificate and balloon to mark the occasion. The children looked fantastic in their creative "100 Days" costumes and showed them to an audience of more than 100 people.

We are incredibly proud of everything our Prep students have achieved in their first 100 days of school. They have grown in confidence, curiosity and independence and we can't wait to see all they accomplish in the next 100 days!



Grade 2's... Bringing procedures to life!

Over the term Grade 2's focus in writing has been procedure texts!
We have had an amazing time unpacking all the steps in a procedure text
and had the opportunity to put it all into practice!
We had a wonderful day making, creating and tasting fruit salads, salad
sandwiches and freckle biscuits. Yum!





FOOTY DAY

FOOTBALL UNITES COMMUNITIES - WHETHER YOU FOLLOW AFL, NRL, SOCCER, RUGBY UNION OR ANY OTHER SPORT - UNITE, STAND SHOULDER TO-SHOULDER WITH YOUR FELLOW AUSSIES AND HELP TO FUNDRAISE TO HELP AUSTRALIAN KIDS FIGHT CANCER.

PLEASE BRING A GOLD COIN DONATION TO HELP SUPPORT KIDS FIGHT CANCER.



ON THURSDAY THE
17TH OF SEPTEMBER
2026







AN SRC INITIATIVE





**ST. MARY
MACKILLOP**
Primary School
Keilor Downs

Proudly supporting

ST MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL, KEILOR DOWNS

SAUSAGE Sizzle!



BAKE STALL!



BOTH AT THE ONE PLACE!



**SUNDAY,
20 SEPTEMBER**



BUNNINGS
Taylors Lakes



**SUPPORT
OUR SCHOOL**
All funds raised go directly toward resources and opportunities for our students.



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**
We need helping hands to make the day a success!
Many hands make light work!



**DONATIONS
WELCOME!**
Donations of:
✓ Sausages
✓ Sauces
✓ Drinks
✓ Napkins
✓ Foil Trays
Thank you!

WE NEED
**BAKED GOODS
DONATIONS!**
ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE BAKED

- ✓ Cakes
- ✓ Cupcakes
- ✓ Slices

- ✓ Brownies
- ✓ Biscuits
- ✓ Sweet treats

Thank you for your generosity!



BAKE GOODS DROP OFF DAY
**18th FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER**
Spare an hour, make a difference! Pop in to help our school community!

at the school office or directly to Crystal Maros by negotiation.



Crystal can be emailed at:
crystal@baggageboutique.com.au



VOLUNTEERS!



EMAIL AVAILABILITY TO:
jmaxwell@mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

SAUSAGES • BAKES • COMMUNITY • SUPPORT
Together we can make a big difference!

Last monday the S.R.C's met up for another time this year. In this meeting we talked about P.B.L and a new acknowledgement system where if you are showing values at anytime, you will be rewarded with something like a ticket. When you get awarded a ticket, if you save up enough you can get a prize. Juniors might get a notebook or a sticker whilst Seniors will get free time or movie day. If you want a larger prize, you can work together as a cohort or a class and reach your desired reward.



We are also having Footy day on Thursday the 17 of September to help young kids fight cancer



If we all contribute and donate a gold coin we will support over 1,000 children and their families lives. In Australia there is over 150,000 new cases of cancer and sadly almost 1,000 are children. Your donation ensures that no one family has to face a terrifying diagnosis alone and has somewhere to stay when their child is in hospital.





KEILOR PARK DEVILS JUNIOR FOOTBALL

UNDER 8s REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2027!

REGISTER NOW
ONLY
\$49
ONE LOW PRICE
BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL



WHY JOIN KEILOR PARK DEVILS?

- AUSKICK TO JUNIOR FOOTBALL PATHWAY
- FUN, SAFE & FAMILY-FRIENDLY CLUB
- QUALIFIED & SUPPORTIVE COACHES
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS
- GREAT COMMUNITY ATMOSPHERE

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



QUESTIONS?
juniors@keilorparkfc.com.au

**COME JOIN
THE DEVILS!**

OR SPEAK WITH US AT
OUR AUSKICK SESSIONS

Club Italia
EST 1974



facebook.com/keilorparkjuniors



instagram.com/keilorparkjuniors



TAYLORS LAKES
CRICKET CLUB

GIRLS CRICKET!

HAVE A GO. MAKE FRIENDS. HAVE FUN! ★

Taylors Lakes Cricket Club is calling out
girls aged 9-12 who are interested in
playing cricket!

Whether you're new to the game or
have played before, come and be part
of a **supportive** and **welcoming** club.



A GREAT
ENVIRONMENT
BUILDING
SKILLS AND
CONFIDENCE

WHY PLAY AT TLCC? ★

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS
Coaching and support to help
you learn and grow.

MAKE FRIENDS
Be part of a fun, inclusive and
team-focused environment.

BUILD CONFIDENCE
Encouraging girls to challenge
themselves and try something new.

PATHWAYS TO PLAY
Opportunities to continue
and progress in cricket.



TEAM SPIRIT. GREAT MEMORIES.
PLAY CRICKET! ★

WHO?
Girls aged 9-12

WHEN?
Season commences
October 2026

WHERE?
Taylors Lakes
Cricket Club
Lionheart Reserve,
36 Lionheart Avenue
Taylors Lakes Vic 3038

COME GIVE CRICKET A GO! ★
FUN, FITNESS, FRIENDSHIPS FOR LIFE

INTERESTED?
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

tlccjuniors@tlsc.asn.au
 www.taylorslakescricketclub.com.au
 Taylors Lakes Cricket Club



CLUB
FAMILY
PURPOSE

WATERGARDENS SHOP FOR YOUR SCHOOL PROMOTION

Once again the Watergardens Shop For Your School Promotion is here!

Last year we managed to raise a substantial amount of money for our school, this year we hope to go even bigger! All funds raised will continue to contribute to our improvements and upgrades of our school grounds and facilities.

We want to win a share in the \$25,000 prize money on offer, and we need your help!

From the 3rd of August to the 13th of September, every purchase made at participating retailers in The Marketplace* Watergardens counts.

Please use the QR code here to register or else head to:

<https://watergardens.gicre.com/promotions/shop-for-your-school-2026/>



Enter your details and start uploading points directly to **St. Mary MacKillop PS**

Plus, to thank you for your support you'll go into the draw to win incredible prizes including a \$500 Watergardens gift card!



GRADE 5 IMMERSION PROGRAM TERM 3 @ CRCNK



**Food Technology**

**Sport**

**Science**

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 24 August to Monday 31 August
Book Week

Monday 31 August
Book Parade @ 9.00am in hall

Thursday 3 September
Father's Day Stall

Friday 4 September
Father's Day Stall and
Father's Day Breakfast-see invite

Sunday 6 September
Father's Day

Thursday 17 September
Footy Day

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

Sunday 20 September
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle-see flyer

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

TERM 4 Continued.....

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

Thursday 3 December
Annual Christmas Carols @ 6.30pm

Friday 4 December
School Closure-2027 Planning Day

Friday 11 December
Year 6 guard of honour @ 12.45pm
Year 6 finish @ 1pm
Year 6 Graduation @ 7pm in the church

Tuesday 15 December
Last day of the year for Prep to Year 5-students finish @ 1pm