

College

Newsletter



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume 5 2019

4 APRIL

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DAY PAGE 6 • ENGLISH PAGE 8 • STUDENT WELLBEING PAGE 9

Coming

Up

FRI 1 2 A P R

- Last day of Term 1
- Easter Liturgies

MON 2 9 A P R

- Term 2 begins
- Parent/Teacher Interviews (St Peter's)

TUE 3 0 A P R

- Parent/Teacher Interviews (Padua)

WED 0 1 M A Y

- Parent/Teacher Interviews (St Peter's)

THU 0 2 M A Y

- Parent/Teacher Interviews (Padua)

MON 0 6 M A Y

- Year 7 2020 Information Night

FRI 1 0 M A Y

- Try MacKillop Day

TUE 1 4 M A Y

- NAPLAN begins

Contact Us

Contact Details



02 6209 0100



info@mackillop.act.edu.au



www.mackillop.act.edu.au



PO Box 1211
Tuggeranong ACT 2901



Mackinnon Street, **Wanniassa** (Years 7-9)
Ellerston Avenue, **Isabella Plains** (Years 10-12)



Absentee Phone Lines

Years 7-9: 02 6209 5240
Years 10-12: 02 6209 0110

Socials



www.facebook.com/
mackillop.act



www.twitter.com/
mackillop_act



www.instagram.com/
mackillop_act



www.youtube.com/
stmarymackillop



Principal's

Letter



Dear families, students and friends,

NICK MCGINNESS – EARLY CAREER TEACHER

Mr McGinness joined MacKillop at the beginning of this year as a recent graduate teacher. He brings to the staff an outstanding record of diverse achievement as a high school student, an enviable academic record as an undergraduate, a warm personality, and real promise as a young man in the teaching profession. Nick also brings expertise and passion in cricket and Australian Football umpiring.

Last Sunday, Mr McGinness field umpired in the AFLW Grand Final at Adelaide Oval. This is a distinguished achievement for Nick and a recognition of the level of skill and respect that he brings to umpiring. A crowd of 54,000 closely observing the game must be a high point for him in his umpiring career.

The newsletter regularly highlights student achievement. The applause for Nick's appointment to the game was very warmly received at senior assembly and I'm sure will be by the broader MacKillop community. "No umpire, no game!" Congratulations, Nick!

ENROLMENT PERIOD

Enrolments for Year 7 2020 have now opened and I'm grateful to the senior and junior students and staff who have accompanied me to some delightful sessions with local Catholic primary schools. Pleasingly, the Year 6s at these schools have indicated that our sessions have made them feel better about high school and they have enjoyed seeing students from their previous Year 6 coming back to their school.

For those of you who are considering a place in Year 7 2020 at MacKillop for your child, or if you know of other people who are, you are most welcome to commence that process immediately. The enrolment dates and deadlines are included on the following page. Increasingly, MacKillop is the school of choice for so many families and we do wish to prioritise children of families already connected to the school and those from our local Catholic primary schools.

END OF TERM 1 AND EASTER BLESSING

I would like to congratulate all the students for the way they have applied themselves so readily to their studies over the first term of this academic year. It is true that there have been many interruptions, all of them unavoidable. Just the same, student attendances at our Opening Mass, carnivals, school days, at our senior tutorials, Homework Club, and masterclasses have been at record highs. This is a clear indication of the priority our students bring to their learning.

I would like to extend to every member of the MacKillop community my best wishes for a deserved holiday and for a happy Easter. The opportunity to pause and reflect in the hope and comfort that Easter brings is there for us all.

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

"I would like to extend to every member of the MacKillop community my best wishes for a deserved holiday and for a happy Easter."

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord,

May we become closer to
You on our Lenten journey.

Amen.



MacKillop

St Mary MacKillop College Canberra

A Catholic school for all.

Enrolling now for 2020

MONDAY
6
MAY

Year 7 2020
Info Night

6:30pm at the Padua Campus
Mackinnon Street, Wanniasa
Includes a presentation and tours

FRIDAY
10
MAY

Try MacKillop
Day 2019

Open to current Year 6 students.
Register online:
www.mackillop.act.edu.au

WEDNESDAY
15
MAY

Year 11 2020
Info Night

4:30-7pm at the St Peter's Campus
Ellerston Avenue, Isabella Plains
Includes a presentation at 6pm

Year 12 sets new College record for Relay for Life

On Saturday 23 March, 154 Year 12 MacKillop students gathered at the AIS Athletics Track to participate in the Cancer Council's Relay for Life. Together with over 1000 other Canberrans, we walked to celebrate, remember and fight back against cancer.

Led by an inspiring group of carers and survivors whose first lap marked the beginning of our 24 hour long relay, we set off with our heads held high, and in hindsight, with far too much of a spring in our steps. Nevertheless, despite a few unfortunate and unforeseen injuries, we marched on into the night and onto the next morning; all of us looking a little worse for wear but indefinitely filled with pride.

I'm sure that the rest of my peers would agree, that apart from the unforgettable ache in our bones it was the 9 o'clock candlelight ceremony that will forever hold a place in each of our hearts. Standing shoulder to shoulder, each with tear stained cheeks, we heard from an inspiring young boy whose cancer journey not only resonated with survivors like me who could draw strength from and share in each of the ups and downs that cancer brings to the lives of so many, but gave meaning and context to the event as a whole.

Over the past few weeks, our cohort has been working hard to gather donations from friends and family to support this very worthy cause. All of the money raised from the event goes towards the Cancer Council's efforts in funding vital medical research, patient support and cancer awareness campaigns. With this being said, I am proud to announce that we have raised over \$28,000 - something that we should each be incredibly proud of! This more than doubled the previous College record for MacKillop. We also got the prize for being the largest team in attendance at the relay.

On behalf of Year 12, I would like to thank Mr Kain, Mr Longo, Ms Pert and Ms Stratigos for sleeping overnight and putting up with us for the entirety of the event as well as Ms Fahey who gave up her whole Saturday until late that night. Not to mention, members of the Executive and Year 12 PC staff who gave up a few hours of their weekend to walk a couple of laps with us as well. I would also like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful year coordinator Ms De Ambrosis, as without her unwavering support and encouragement, none of this would have been possible.

And finally, I would like to thank Year 12 for their impressive dedication and capability and for making this experience so especially memorable, you are all amazing!

Rebecca Zivkovic • Year 12





Year 7 Community Day

Our prayers to St Mary MacKillop were answered last Wednesday with the sun shining and the temperature perfect for a day of challenges and activities. This was a great opportunity for Year 7 to get to know other students in their houses - Mindygari, Meup Meup, Gurabang and Ngadyung.

Our Year 7 Pastoral Team put their minds to creating some fantastic activities and their commitment and enthusiasm ensured the day was a great success. There were many highlights including marshmallows flying into buckets, students modelling the latest in recycled fashion, strategic moves on the oval, quiz champions and a coin line that extended from one end of the basketball court to the other.

Students have compiled a report on the day from their perspective, which can be read below.

Nathan Wood & Colleen Kain • Year 7 Coordinators



Community Day was a fun and enjoyable experience. Our day began when we watched a performance called "A Day in the Life of Mary MacKillop". We learnt about Mary's life and what she went through as the founder of the Josephite sisters. Her leadership skills were extensive and when added to the wonderful talk by Mr O'Callaghan, we were challenged to become leaders ourselves.

After recess, each house group went to different activities. Everyone had a good time playing Capture the Flag because we were able to work together. In Trivia, we made new friends in our house group. We had some fun with Mr O'Connor and his gang of teachers building marshmallow launchers, where our aim was to launch marshmallows into a hoop and bucket. Next Top Model had everyone laughing. We had to design a costume for one of our group members to model. There were a lot of hilarious costumes; there was a hula girl, newspaper mummies and manikins. There was also a trivia competition with absurd team names like The Confused Bats and The Chubby Turtles.

As we reached lunchtime, the coin line competition was on. The class with the longest coin line was 7W3 who raised over \$194.50.

Overall, Community Day was a great experience to share with leadership skills with our new classmates in our house.

Allison Kinghorn, Ryan Williams & Liam Manderson • Year 7



Year 11 Biology & Oceanography

On Monday 25 March, Year 11 Biology and Oceanography students headed out to Pine Island to conduct fieldwork. In this citizen science project, students worked in conjunction with Waterwatch, a group that monitors the health of the waterways across the ACT and Cooma regions. Students collected samples of the water and undertook a series of chemical tests on the water itself, to assess the quality of the water. They also walked up and down the riverbank looking at the vegetation and considering the benefits of a healthy riverbank environment. Finally, using nets, the students captured waterbugs and worked to identify them, as a greater variety of waterbugs indicates a healthy body of water. The data collected will go towards the 2019 report put out by Waterwatch on the health of the waterways in the ACT and Cooma regions. Everyone was happy to see that Pine Island currently rates as a healthy body of water!

Melissa Pert • Science

Student Achievement

Sophie McInerney (Year 8) received a School Sport ACT Leadership Award at the ACT Excellence in Sport Awards in March, as a result of her performance at the National Netball Championships last year.

Charlotte Nicholson (Year 9) is currently representing the ACT at the Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Sydney.

Caleb Vickers (Year 9) will represent the ACT at the School Sport Australia Softball Championships, which will be held in Canberra in May.

Charlotte Nicholson, Ariadne Stergiou, Alyssa Davidson, D'Angelo Leslie, Benjamin Crowley, and Kai Viljakainen (Year 9) received 19 medals collectively at the ACT Little Athletics Championships in mid-March.

Notices & Information

Project Compassion

Project Compassion is in its final week. The St Peter's SRC have planned a some fundraising events to help us reach our goal. Eastergrams will be sold next week and on Wednesday and Thursday we are encouraging everyone to bring in bottles for Trash for Cash. All bottles will be taken to recycling stations where we will receive 10 cents for each bottle to put towards Project Compassion. As always continue to donate in PC, Caritas is a fantastic cause so let's do everything we can to help out. More details in student messages and Instagram.

Sam McCombe • SRC Facilitator (St Peter's)

School Fees

Term 2 2019 fee statements will be sent electronically in the upcoming holidays. It is most important that you notify the College regarding any changes to your email address as this is our primary form of communication. Thank you to the families who have paid Term 1 fees. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved arrangement. If you require more information regarding Direct Debit arrangements or other approved payment methods or are experiencing difficulty paying the fees please contact the Fees Office.

Michelle Predovan • Fees Manager

Hosting Opportunity

Five French students from our sister school, Institution St Joseph's, are visiting MacKillop between 6 June and 4 August as part of the College's long-stay exchange program. Their arrival presents a unique opportunity for MacKillop families and students to engage in cross-cultural learning and to make a lifelong friend. There is no requirement to be for host students to be studying or to have fluency in French, as the visiting exchange students have a strong level of English. During their visit students will experience life as a student of the College and attend a full schedule of classes. Under the long-stay exchange program, financial support of \$400 is provided to host families to offset the costs of hosting an exchange student. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact me.

Peter Johnson • International Programs Officer

Lawn Mowers

The Technology Faculty is hoping to seek out more old lawn mowers for students to work on. Contact John on 6209 0164 if you are able and would like to donate.

John Solari • Technology Faculty

English Report



Year 8

The Year 8s are focusing on the different stages of a hero's journey through their class novel and links to other heroes, both real-life and fictional. They are currently working on creating a digital oral presentation to showcase a hero of their choice. This has already created interesting discussion about their different heroes. In Term Two, students will later be completing an analytical essay based on their class novel.

Given the curriculum changes we have made over the last couple of years we thought our English article would be more a brief insight into what the students are doing in each year group this semester. Please see the headings below for more information.

We are currently preparing two teams for Year 10 and a Year 11 team for the annual ACT Legislative Assembly debating competitions.

There are a number of Writing Competitions running and students are invited to email Nicola McLennan (Nicola.McLennan@mackillop.act.edu.au) or Lyndall Baker (Lyndall.Baker@mackillop.act.edu.au) for details of these competitions.

Nicola McLennan & Lyndall Baker • English Coordinators

Year 9

The Year 9s are studying a unit called the Power of the Human Voice. Students have been looking at texts which raise awareness about issues which have gone in the past, but can also be present today. Students will choose an issue and present their understanding of the issue through a medium of their choice. They will later be completing an analytical essay based on their class novel. The unit has already generated some lively discussions in the classroom.

Year 10

Have been studying under the thematic context of the Human Condition a range of different short stories and poetry. After their investigative oral in which they will present their findings on the human condition as represented in film; they will move onto a Shakespearean study with students given a choice of Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, The Merchant of Venice, Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night or Midsummer Night's Dream.

Year 11

Have been studying under the thematic context of the Search for Truth through the study of issues in the news (both print and online). They have already completed an investigation into the real truth behind a fake story and are now looking at controversial issues such as the Fast Fashion Industry on which they will base an awareness campaign as a creative task. These students are concurrently reading either Jasper Jones or Kite Runner as their exam based text.

Year 12

Have been studying under the thematic context of the Australian Imagination through the study of a range of short stories, essays, film and texts. They have already completed a creative piece for which students wrote their own creative narrative weaving landscape into the thematic/character/plot focus of the piece. At the moment they are looking at how Australia is represented through film (character, themes and setting) and the stereotypes that are obvious but more important looking at aspects of film which subvert these stereotypes. Students are reading either The Secret River or Burial Rites as their text for examination.

Community News

MURRUMBIDGEE GIRLS' GOLF PROGRAM

The Murrumbidgee Country Club is running a girls' golf program in Term 2, running over eight weeks from 9 May to 27 June. Contact Sue Harrison on 0431 550 857 for information or go to mygolf.org.au to register (Enter postcode 2600, select Central Southern Golf Association, and choose Murrumbidgee CSGA Girls' Golf Program).

EASTER MASS TIMES

Corpus Christi @ Holy Family Church, Gowrie:

Wednesday, April 10, 6.30pm - Second Rite of Reconciliation
Holy Thursday, April 18, 7pm
Good Friday, April 19, 3pm - Passion and Death of Our Lord
Holy Saturday, April 20, 7pm - Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday, April 21, 8am & 10am.

Corpus Christi @ St Clare of Assisi, Conder:

Good Friday-11am Stations of the Cross

St Anthony of Padua @ Wanniasa:

Holy Thursday 7pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday 10am - Stations of the Cross at 10.00am
Good Friday 3pm - Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday Mass 7.00pm
Easter Sunday Mass at 9.00am

Winter Uniform

A reminder that from the beginning of Term 2 all students are to be wearing the Winter Uniform.

- For boys this means that tailored mid-grey school trousers are to be worn with a black belt and junior (7-10) or senior (11-12) school tie.
- Girls may wear the pleated tartan winter skirt or tailored navy slacks with College monogram, a white over-blouse with College monogram and a teal kerchief. Opaque navy tights are optional.
- The College teal jumper and/or navy College jacket with College crest should be worn to keep warm
- School shoes are to be traditional, lace up, black and polishable

Students are reminded that any holiday 'variations' such as facial piercings or fashionable extremes to hair such as colours or styles should be rectified before returning to school for the new term.

More detailed information is available in the Student Diary, on the College website and on Canvas.

If there are circumstances that prevent students from wearing the correct uniform, they are required to bring a signed note from their parents to explain the situation. This needs to be presented to the Pastoral Care Coordinator during PC time each morning to obtain a uniform pass.

New School Bus Network

The ACT Government is introducing a new public transport network for Canberra for the beginning of Term 2, 2019. Students who use public transport will need to be aware of the following changes:

- The change to services will include dedicated school services for the commencement of Term 2 on 29 April 2019.
- The new timetable information is now available online.
- The Transport Canberra Journey Planner is available at: www.transport.act.gov.au
- You can view all the different services available for St Mary MacKillop College (listed under 'S') in the A-Z listing:
www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/new-network/schools/schools-a-z-listing

Lachlan McNicol
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care

Student Wellbeing

THE 7 PSYCHOLOGICAL BENEFITS OF STUDENTS EATING BREAKFAST

Research suggests that students who eat a healthy breakfast before starting the school day achieve higher academic results than those who do not.

Beyond academic performance, eating breakfast is linked to a whole range of positive consequences. These include enhancing memory, increasing concentration, better eating habits throughout the day, improving physical and mental health, boosting energy levels and increasing the likelihood of them doing physical activity.

ENHANCES MEMORY AND ATTENTION

A **study** of students consuming Breakfast, No Breakfast and Energy drinks. Found that students from the No Breakfast and Energy Drink group performed significantly worse than those who had breakfast.

BETTER EATING HABITS THAT DAY

Unfortunately many students who are trying to lose weight believe skipping breakfast is a sensible plan. Not only is it an unhealthy approach, but **missing breakfast actually primes the brain to search out high calorie unhealthy food** as well as eating more food over the course of the day.

BETTER MENTAL HEALTH

The authors of this **study** found that "individuals who consumed a cereal breakfast each day were less depressed, less emotionally distressed and have lower levels of perceived stress than those who did not eat breakfast each day".

Another **review** suggests that "missing meals, especially breakfast, leads to low blood sugar and this causes low mood, irritability and fatigue".

IMPROVES PHYSICAL HEALTH

Skipping the first meal of the day has been demonstrated to increase the likelihood of becoming obese as well as developing diabetes and suffering from heart disease. Missing breakfast is also associated with an increase of cholesterol levels, which is more likely to lead to heart attacks and strokes.

Source: www.innerdrive.co.uk

7 Reasons That Breakfast is Important

by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk

Increases Concentration



Enhances Memory



Improves Physical Health



Better Eating Habits That Day



Gives You Energy



Better Mental Health



Encourages Physical Activity



insights

Giving kids scripts for social and school success

by Michael Grose



Recently, I heard my adult daughter rebuke a male friend for telling her that she'd lost weight.

"You just can't say that," remarked my daughter.

Realising his mistake this young man said, "So what should say instead?"

"Tell me I look healthy."

"Hey, you look really healthy!"

"That's better," remarked my daughter, who's not backward in coming forwards.

This young man's scripting was askew. He knew that a male complimenting a female on losing weight maybe no compliment at all, however he didn't know what else to say. My daughter gave him a new script that he can use in similar situations in the future.

This scenario is relevant to parenting. Parents should always looking for opportunities to give their kids the social scripts to express themselves in different situations.

Benefits of providing kids with social scripts

Social scripting wins the parenting trifecta. Giving kids the words to use helps them stay safe; become social and importantly, promotes their independence. Your job as a parent is to wean kids off you. Social scripting is a big part of this process.

So if keeping kids safe, while socialising and developing their independence is important then look for ways to give kids the right words to use. Here are some ideas to get you started.

1. Asking a teacher for help or assistance

Kids often coerces parents to do their bidding with teachers, coaches, siblings and other adults. It's easy to pick up the phone and arrange to meet a teacher or go into your child's room and ask for something on behalf of your child. Take a different approach. "Choose a time when your teacher is free, and then ask her if you can sit at the front of the classroom. You could say...."

2. Entering a game at school

Many kids struggle to enter into a game or activity at school, so they sit on the sidelines and miss out. Consider

coaching a child about how he or she may approach a situation. Suggest that he or she looks for someone they know, and wait for a lull in the game before asking. Social scripting involves timing, not just the words to use.

3. Telling a sibling to stop annoying them

“Jessica, please stop flicking the ruler while I’m watching TV. I find it annoying.” This may work. If not, this child could try, “Jessica, could you flick your rule elsewhere.” It may work. It may not. But it’s infinitely better than yelling, “Jessica, DDDOOOONNNN’TTTT!!!!”

4. Saying No to a friend without losing face

Research shows that many teenagers struggle with peer pressure because they don’t know how to say NO in a way that maintains their status. One strategy is to use an excuse rather than say give an outright NO. “I don’t want to drink tonight because I’ve got football training in the morning.”

5. Expressing their emotions

Both genders can struggle to express their feelings, particularly if they haven’t been taught the words to use at home. Recently, I saw a mother prompt her three year old when he was clearly annoyed.

“Are you frustrated Maxie?”

“Yes, I fusttated!!”

“Would you like a hug?”

“Yessss!”

You’re never too young or too old to be hugged. Just as you’re never too young or too old to receive a social script from a well-meaning parent or friend.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia’s leading parenting educators. He’s the author of 10 books for parents including *Thriving!* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*, and his latest release *Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children*.

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy