

College

Newsletter



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume 2 2020

6 MARCH

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Coming

Up

MON 09 MAR

• Canberra Day Public Holiday

THU 12 MAR

• Opening Mass
• Photo Catch-Up

MON 16 MAR

• Year 11 Retreat departs

THU 19 MAR

• Year 7 Immunisations

MON 23 MAR

• Opening of facilities at Padua

WED 25 MAR

• Year 7 Community Day

THU 26 MAR

• Year 10 Immunisations

Contact Us

Contact Details



02 6209 0100



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Mackinnon Street, **Wanniassa** (Years 7-9)
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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 Parents, Teachers and Students,

MEUP MEUP'S TEN YEAR DROUGHT IS BROKEN IN THE POOL

After 10 years, Meup Meup (known as Fire or Lightning) has finally won the Championship Cup at the Swimming Carnival! Last week's event at Dickson Pool was filled with colour, energy, talent, and an enthusiastic spirit that set a wonderful tone for the rest of the year. Congratulations to Mindygari, whose passion and participation earned them the Spirit Cup.

Congratulations to Mr Matthew Crowe, the College Sports Facilitator, and his team of staff and students who organised the event and to the teachers and support staff who made the event possible. The high attendance of the students and their joy of participation made the day memorable.

OPENING COLLEGE MASS

All are welcome to the College Mass on Thursday 12 March at the Tuggeranong Basketball Stadium. The Mass will be celebrated by College Chaplain Fr James Antony and will involve many students and staff. This is always a profound and moving liturgy. All parents are welcome, particularly those who are new to MacKillop.

NEW TEACHER AWARD AT MACKILLOP

Congratulations to Mr Trent Wilson, the inaugural recipient of the Brendan Marsh Teacher of Excellence Award. Very sadly, Brendan Marsh, the brother of past students Zac and Abe Marsh, died suddenly at the family home near Newcastle. His brothers and sisters decided to donate \$5000 to the College to recognise outstanding teaching at MacKillop and to perpetuate their brother who, like teachers, gave much to others. Mr Trent Wilson received the award at the St Peter's campus Honours Assembly last Tuesday, with thunderous applause from the students and parents. Very beautifully, Abe Marsh was at the Assembly to present the Award. I would like to congratulate Mr Wilson and thank the generosity and sentiments of the Marsh family for their gift.

COVID-19 (NOVEL CORONAVIRUS)

MacKillop is actively observing developments around COVID-19 and the issues that this virus may bring to public health and the wellbeing of our students. With this in mind I make the following points:

- Maintaining good hygiene standards is an important way to reduce the risk of acquiring and spreading respiratory infections using infection control guidelines. Soap is available in all bathrooms and hand sanitiser will be made accessible in all classrooms.
- The College will continue as usual with prioritising the hands-off rule in the interests of safety for all students.
- Consistent with our current guidelines, staff and students unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve. Please also make contact with your GP or seek other medical advice in these circumstances.

The College has a number of planned overseas excursions in Semester 2. Contact will be made with relevant families should there be any changes in the planning of these excursions.

The updated advice from Catholic Education for parents and staff includes the following information:

"Any student or staff member who has been in, or transited through, mainland China or has been in Iran is excluded from work, or school for 14 days from the date they left mainland China or Iran (as the COVID-19 incubation period can be as long as two weeks)".

We will continue to maintain close contact with Catholic Education and ACT Health in maintaining a calm, alert and responsible approach.

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

"Last week's event at Dickson Pool was filled with colour, energy, talent, and an enthusiastic spirit that set a wonderful tone for the rest of the year."

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord,

We give thanks for the inspiration and purpose our students bring to the MacKillop community.

Amen.



College Swimming Carnival 2020

The College wrapped up the summer season with the annual Swimming Carnival at the Dickson Aquatic Centre last week.

After sharing the spoils in 2019, Mindygari and Meup Meup were the winners again, effectively swapping trophies as they took out the Spirit Cup and Championship Trophy respectively.

The carnival got off to an amazing start, with all four Houses going through their House songs to begin the day. The energy continued from that point until the very end of the carnival.

Students dressed in House colours or to the carnival theme, Australian Beach Party, and contributed to the day by dancing, singing, cheering on their peers, taking part in novelty events, raising money for Caritas and by participating in races in the pool.

At the end of the day, Mindygari managed to win its fifth Swimming Carnival Spirit Cup and Meup Meup won its first Championship since 2009.

Students are to be congratulated for their teamwork, spirit, high levels of participation, and their displays of athleticism in the pool. Thank you to the staff – especially Sports Facilitator Mr Matthew Crowe – who played a crucial role in making the day a great success.



Unedjamacated Comedy Show

Who needs a proper job when you can disappoint your parents as a comedian?

MacKillop's *Unedjamacated* show returns to the Canberra Comedy Festival in 2020, with two shows on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 March.

Following on from the success of the 2019 show, a whole new cast will perform in 2020. Alongside teacher/comedian Jeremy Margosis, MacKillop students Maddie Cameron, Eva Meffert, Elena Allende, VJ Kamilo, Darcy Gowland, Isabel Pereira, Zoe Stanford, Xavier Egan, Isaac Travers, Callum Doherty, and John Whinfield will make their Canberra Comedy Festival debuts.

Come and see the next big things in stand up and sketch show comedy as MacKillop's finest new wave of comedians prove that being *Unedjamacated* is a full-time job in itself.

Unedjamacated at the Canberra Comedy Festival
Thursday 19 and Friday 20 March
Canberra Theatre Centre - Courtyard Studio 5-6pm
Tickets: \$22

[GET TICKETS](#)



SRC Report

It's been a big week for the SRC team, but an even bigger week for the school's involvement in Project Compassion! Starting off on Shrove Tuesday, the SRC team prepared a massive pancake feast to kick off project compassion, selling them for a gold coin, with all proceeds going towards the cause. Raising over \$300, they were a big hit, completely selling out at the Padua campus at lunch!

The swimming carnival was also a great chance to get kids involved in the 'Caritas Corner' novelty, selling zoopa doopas, biscuits, and a play in the kids pool with some inflatable toys. At the end of the day, we were out of zoopa doopas and biscuits, and had raised an amazing total, all of which is to go towards project compassion.

Though only three months into the year, it has started with a bang, and there's plenty more coming!

Archie Beresford • Communications Captain



Student Achievement

Jake Bell (Year 8) and Lewis Bell (Year 9) took part in the recent Sydney and ACT International Judo Championships. Jake secured a gold at both the ACT international and the Sydney International in the under 50kg senior boys division. Lewis fought in the cadet men's under 73kg for the first time and won bronze at both events. Both students train at MacKillop Judo club and Olympia Judo club.

Class of 2019 graduate Maddy Watson has been selected to take part in the NSW Preliminary Final for Miss World 2020! The final will be held on 22 March and as part of the journey Maddy is raising money for Variety the Children's Charity.

Goal Setting & Assessment Planners

In recent weeks students have had the opportunity to reflect on their achievements in 2019 and to set academic and personal goals for the year ahead.

Students have also had time to complete a Semester 1 Assessment Planner to provide an overview of due dates for each assessment task issued during the semester. They have been encouraged to use this to assist in organising their time to complete all assessment by the due date and to a high standard.

Parents can access this information in the Student Diary:

- 2020 Student Goal Setting – Page 25
- Semester 1 Assessment Planner – Pages 22 & 23

Parents and carers may find it useful to refer to the goals and Assessment Planner as the semester progresses to support students in remaining focused, organised and achieving their potential.

Year 11 SRC

The elections for the Year 11 SRC took place in Week 2.
Congratulations to the students elected to represent their Houses:

Mindygari	– Darcy Gowland
Gurabang	– Lilly Vassallo
Meup Meup	– Mara Brophy
Ngadyung	– Alison Staniforth

These students joined other SRC members in being inducted into their positions of leadership at the opening assemblies on each campus. Elections for Year 7 representatives will take place at the end of Term 1.

Status Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were been presented Status Awards at this week's Padua Campus Assembly:

Bronze Status
Connor Campbell 8AF, Thomas Crowley 8A2, Natalia D'elia 7F3, Anastasia Makrides 8W1, Nathaniel Mowlam 8W1, Chiedza Muzvuru 7E1, Myah Staniforth 7F3.

Future Proofing Your Children

This Parenting Ideas Webinar will take place on 18 March 2020 at 8:00pm AEDT.

This century is characterised by disruptive change that is turning our world upside down. Jobs aren't just changing, whole industries are ceasing to exist. The scripts for success are being rewritten on a daily basis in our families, at work and in life. In this webinar Nikki Bush teaches parents what to expect and how to support their kids to thrive in a future world of work.

Key learning and discussion points include:

- Key trends that are changing the world
- Frameworks for future-proofing children
- Highlighting the X-factors for success
- Explaining the role of school in a changing world
- Helping parents to set realistic and relevant parenting goals

Attend this webinar at no cost - simply enter the voucher code FUTURE.

Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is scheduled to occur in Week 13 of Term 2 (12 May - 18 May 2020). Students in Years 7 and 9 will undertake online assessments across four domains:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (grammar, spelling and punctuation)
- Numeracy

A NAPLAN Coordinated Practice Test will be undertaken at the College on Monday 23 March 2020. Students in Years 7 and 9 will participate in this Practice Test so that they have familiarity with the requirements of the assessment. Students are required to download the locked down browser onto their own device in readiness for the assessments. Students will be instructed at school on how to undertake this task.

Should you have any questions please contact Lisa Buckland, Teaching and Learning Coordinator via email at lisa.buckland@mackillop.act.edu.au.

Maria O'Donnell
Assistant Principal Academic Care

STEM News

It has only been 5 weeks, but what an exciting time we have already had in the STEM faculty. We kicked-off with a large number of students, 34 by last count, joining the Drone club which runs every lunchtime in the Gymnasium at the Wanniasa Campus. In this club students develop skills in manoeuvring drones around an enclosed space. Their skills are rapidly improving and may help in their future employment with utilisation of drone technologies becoming even more prevalent in various future industries.

The importance of emerging technologies in industry was the main theme of our recent "STEM professionals in Schools" event. On Thursday morning of Week 3 an electrical engineer, Mr. James Hislop, who works for Nova - a private contractor to the Australian Defence Force, gave us an insight into his industry through an informative presentation. When not working on satellite communications, he works with drone technology to solve technological problems for the defence force. His presentation to Year 9 STEM was about communications and submarines. He also highlighted the importance of creative thinking in problem solving and the importance of good language skills in engineering.

Another wonderful initiative that has begun on the Wanniasa campus this Term is a STEM group for girls. Mrs. Kristine Head will be holding the first meeting for the group on Monday of Week 7 during lunch to discuss opportunities for STEM-related projects that they could undertake. While we have already had a significant interest in this group from several girls, all are welcome to attend to talk all things STEM.

The STEM faculty are always looking for new activities to participate in STEM-related industries and the community. Should anyone in our community wish to contact me in relation to STEM initiatives please feel free to use the details below.

Perry O'Connor • STEAM/PBL Project Coordinator

PE Pathways Profile

We're looking inside the fitness centre at MacKillop as we begin a new series of profiles on some of the College's elite athletes.

Name: Josie Dubbert

Sport: Soccer

Year Group: 11

Biggest accomplishment so far: Playing for the Junior Matildas

Sporting Hero: Ronaldinho

Sporting aspirations: To be a professional soccer player

Favorite inspirational quote: Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give... it's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward." - Sylvester Stallone, Rocky Balboa

Favorite song to listen to when training? Thunderstruck, ACDC

What do you like most about the PE Pathways program? The great support from my teachers and the help I get for my gym work out.



Developments in Religious Education/Studies

The coming years are bringing significant changes to the curriculum of Religious Education for junior students and Religious Studies for senior students. Whilst the Archdiocese approved Treasures New and Old curriculum for Years 7-10 provided a solid foundation for an understanding of the Catholic faith and the BSSS units offered a rich and broad lens to critically analyse religion in senior studies, it is fair to say that after over 20 years at both levels, it was justified to scrutinise, review and rewrite the curriculum across the territory.

In the case of the new junior curriculum the Diocese of Brisbane, through considerable time and cost, has developed an authentically Catholic curriculum which has also recognised a changing demographic of those in the classroom in the 21st Century, both from a faith and cultural perspective. This is no mean feat, but absolutely necessary if there is to be a rigorous contemporary pedagogy along with the possibility to introduce or reinforce a respect for 'this thing called religion' at the very least, to an encounter with Christ whose theological foundations stretch 2 millennia at best. The Brisbane Curriculum has generously offered its extensive resources and scope and sequence of units for high school. A team within St Mary MacKillop College will be working to create units that will broadly meet the Brisbane Curriculum achievement standards but will also take into consideration the needs of the MacKillop narrative we proudly espouse as our shared identity at the College. While there is no specific deadline for the implementation of these units, we will look to move towards them over the coming semesters.

In the case of senior curriculum, the Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) is making significant changes across the Humanities and Religious Studies will now fall under this banner. As a pattern of study within this framework, it could be easy to assume that this removes a religious dimension to units and that the study of religion is reduced to one of a sociological perspective. This is, only in part the case, since a student enters senior studies to critically analyse religion as part of the human condition, just like it has in previous years. However, the BSSS states in its rationale that units have the scope to be developed as such to cater to the needs of a particular school community, in our case, a Catholic community with a Josephite flavour. I will be working with an experienced and vibrant team to create new units that reflect our identity, as well as analysing a broad view of religion as part of the human experience.

In short, there is much to look forward to as we move to a new Religious Education/Studies curriculum. Not only are we framing our Catholic identity within these parameters, we are also invigorating a legitimate academic field to meet the needs of the 21st Century learner. On this point, any of the above cannot be done without the skill, expertise and the relationships made by those who teach in this unique and challenging field of study. It is a common and at times valid assumption that "RE is the toughest subject to teach" in a high school setting, yet the rewards, like those above, justify its value, along with the value we see in those who teach the subject. These outstanding teachers not only seek to provide a rich and valuable education for our students, but they also open themselves to a deeply personal view of the world, which can both challenge and be challenged by contemporary culture.

Jonathan Moyle • Assistant Principal Faith Leadership



Learning Commons News

Homework club is now open for 2020 at the Padua Campus.
Homework club is open from 3:15pm -4:30pm Monday to Thursday.
Students must sign-in on arrival.

The Learning Commons Library is also open for students at the St Peter's Campus from 8:30am - 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

Resources to assist in the research process:

Facts on File:

a database for students in year 7-12. Facts on File can be found on the Library Canvas page. The username and password can also be found there. Facts on File and the associated video's, articles etc. can be embedded into your Canvas Page. Currently there is a database for English, SOSE, IHUM, and Science. Soon there will be additional database for Issues and controversies. Please see the Learning Commons team about how you and your students can utilise Facts on File.

EBSCO:

a database for students in year 10-12. EBSCO can be found in the MacKillop login portal. Students will not need to use a username and password. Currently there is a database for Science, English, Physical Education, Psychology and a Australian/New Zealand points of view. We are currently investigating a Religious Education database within EBSCO.

ClickView:

this is a video database for all students. It can be found in the MacKillop login portal. There is a variety of video that link directly to the Australian Curriculum.

Jess Stokman & Dom Lenarduzzi • Learning Commons Coordinators



Canvas Information for students and parents

Canvas is accessible for all students and their families. You will find it a great resource for you and your son/daughters. It will have the unit outlines, assessment task and even a calendar for each class they are in. Don't forget to check your notification settings and see if they are meeting your family needs. (Hint: Due dates and announcements are a great one to turn on). If you are yet to login to Canvas and are wondering what your Username and Password is, you can recover your User name or reset your Password.

To reset your password or recover your username:

Go to <https://password.mackillop.act.edu.au/sspr-family> and click on "forgotten username" or "forgotten password", the username or password for your account will be emailed to your designated email address.

If you do not receive the email within an hour please check your spam folder or contact enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au to verify or make the necessary changes to your family email address.

Jess Stokman & Dom Lenarduzzi • Learning Commons Coordinators

Catholic Education Survey

Catholic Education (Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn) has released an online survey to better understand your opinion of the value Catholic schools like ours provide and what that means for you and your children. The findings of this research will be used by Catholic Education to improve the offering of Catholic schools.

The survey will be sent out to parents via email in the coming week and should take less than 15 minutes to complete.

Privacy and confidentiality

Please note that Catholic Education has engaged JWS Research to host the survey, collect the data and analyse the results. JWS Research is an independent, fully accredited, Australian research agency (see www.jwsresearch.com for further information). Survey results will be reported in the aggregate with individual responses remaining completely confidential and treated in accordance with the relevant privacy laws, including the Market and Social Research Privacy Principles and the industry's code of professional behaviour.

Lawn Mowers

The Technology Faculty is hoping to seek out more old lawn mowers so that Year 10 students can work on them. Contact John on 6209 0164 if you are able and would like to donate.

John Solari • Technology

School Fees

Fees for Term 1 are due today, Friday 6 March 2020. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately.

It is most important that you notify the College regarding any changes to your email address as this is our primary form of communication.

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

Community News

SAVVY SCHOOLWEAR

Our uniform supplier, Savvy Schoolwear, is having a 20% off schoolwear VIP event for Zero and Rewards Card holders on 12 March.

PARENTLINE

Parentline offers free confidential counselling about parenting issues, raising children, relationships, and family. If you need support as a parent or carer, contact Parentline on 6287 3833 between 9am and 5pm.

BRINDABELLA BLUES FOOTBALL CLUB GIRLS COME AND TRY DAY

In association with Capital Football's Female Football Week, Brindabella will host a free, Girls Only, Bring a Friend and Come and Try Evening for girls aged 6 to 18 who want to try football on Wednesday, 11th March, 5.30 to 7pm at Calwell Playing Fields, Were St, Calwell. Come and find out why Football is the largest junior sport in Australia. The evening will include football games everyone can be involved in and enjoy. Just wear boots or joggers and bring a water bottle and a have a go attitude. For further information about all of Brindabella's all-girl teams, visit www.bbfcc.org.au or contact Michael on juniors@bbfcc.org.au or 0423 824 192.

JESUIT-LED SPIRITUAL EXERCISES RETREAT

This is an excellent retreat for busy people - ordinary people who lead ordinary lives. This follows last year's well regarded retreat in Canberra. The retreat runs between 20 April - 16 May 2020 with one small group session each week to suit your diary. You pray and meditate when and where you like. For more details and/or to express interest in attending email CLCinCanberra@gmail.com.

ST PATRICK'S DAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE

This service will take place on 14 March from 12pm at Marist College, Pearce. The service is a celebration of Irish Australian Culture and will feature Dr David Caldicott as the keynote speaker. David is an Emergency Medical Consultant at Canberra Calvary Hospital and a Clinical Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Medicine at the ANU.

INSIGHTS

Parenting in the age of disruption



We live in the age of disruption. The future your children will inherit will be very different than the world we live in now. A university degree, once a guarantee of a well-paid job, no longer ensures your child a career, let alone a steady income.

So how can we prepare children to thrive in a world where it's estimated that over 20 per cent of today's jobs won't exist in just five year's time? How do we prepare them for a work-life of multiple careers and job changes?

South African educator and author Nikki Bush believes that the future will belong to those who develop a broad range of personal capabilities rather than a narrow number of academic abilities. Bush has outlined five key personal factors that will help kids succeed in the future world of work. These are:

Creativity and innovation

With information being only a digital search away, knowledge is relatively easy to obtain in the digital age. The ability to think outside of the square and find new solutions to old problems will be one of the most highly valued skills in the new world of work.

Love of learning

In a world where people working into their seventies and beyond will become common place, a degree of qualification obtained in the early twenties won't guarantee continued success. The future will require people to be in charge of their own learning and be willing to continually upskill. Continuous learners rather than those who close themselves off to new ideas and concepts will thrive in the future.

Resilience

Life doesn't unfold in a straight line. It never has, but the future of work will have more twists and curves than ever before. Kids will need to be resilient and flexible enough to cope with rapid workplace change and lack of security, as well as be able to manage risk to earning a living.

Self knowledge

Personal knowledge of strengths, capabilities and talents has long been a skill, that we've neglected to develop in kids. When the future is fluid and work continually changing, self-knowledge will become a passport to happiness and success.

Teamwork

The ability for your child to work as part of a team both virtually and in the real world will be more important than ever in the future world of work. Even jobs that have an individual skill focus will require people to work cooperatively alongside each other.

parenting*ideas

Reassuringly, there is a great deal you can do as a parent to prepare your child to capitalise on the changing career and jobs landscape. Use Bush's five personal factors for future success as a starting point as you ponder how to prepare your child to prosper in the age of disruptive change.

Related webinar

Our school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. As part of this membership, you can attend the below webinar 'Future-proofing your child' at no cost.

About

In this webinar Nikki Bush teaches parents what to expect and how to support their kids to thrive in a future world of work.

When

18 March 2020 8:00pm AEDT

To redeem

1. Click this link: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-future-proofing-your-child>
2. Click 'Add to cart'
3. Click 'View cart'
4. Enter the voucher code FUTURE and click 'Apply Coupon' Your discount of \$37 will be applied.
5. Click 'Proceed to checkout'
6. Fill in your account details. These details are used to login to your account and access your parenting material
7. Click 'Place Order'

The voucher is valid until 18 June 2020.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.