

## Important Dates & Events

MAR.  
MONDAY

12

- Canberra Day  
Public Holiday

MAR.  
FRIDAY

16

- College Swimming  
Carnival

MAR.  
THURSDAY

29

- Year 7 Community  
Day

MAR.  
FRIDAY

30

- Year 12 Mentoring  
Day
- Year 7 iHum  
Excursion

APR.  
MONDAY

02

- Year 7 iHum  
Excursion

APR.  
THURSDAY

05

- Easter Liturgies
- Year 7 iHum  
Excursion

APR.  
FRIDAY

06

- Good Friday

APR.  
MONDAY

09

- Easter Monday

"Lord, we pray for all those who are meeting the challenges of natural disasters.  
May they know your peace and comfort in their distress. Amen."

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

### Brava Maria - MacKillop's Melba!

Moving beyond Fox Footy and ABC television is big for me, and no doubt most of you, but what a joy it was to see Maria Suraci of Year 11 win her heat on free-to-air's Young Talent Time. The quality of her voice, moving selection of aria, and the drama of her performance made for memorable television indeed!

Camera shots of her parents in the audience willing her on were emblematic of how we all felt about Maria. Congratulations and best wishes for the next round!

### Mrs Philpot retires!

Maria Philpot, foundation staff member of Padua High School, will retire from the College at the end of Term 1.

Maria's service to thousands and thousands of students and their families has been distinguished by a warm but no-nonsense style, fabled efficiency, loyalty, and a quiet dignity that has brought comfort to many students and the gratitude of many a grateful principal.

Maria's departure will be keenly felt by her colleagues, past and present. A mass in Maria's honour will be celebrated at St Anthony's, Wanniassa, on 28 March at 5pm, followed by drinks and testimonials in the new staff centre at the Wanniassa Campus. The event should conclude by 7pm. RSVP to Cindy Dean on 6209 5215 by 21 March. All welcome!

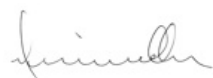
### NAPLAN 2011

Thank you to the many parents that have emailed me responding to my letter regarding NAPLAN 2011, which was sent last week.

It was very reassuring indeed that whilst so many parents were praiseworthy of MacKillop's achievements, many were keen to agree that there is so much more to any school than public testing results.

The challenge for the MacKillop community is to be the best we can in all our endeavours.

Yours in St Mary MacKillop,



**Mr Michael Lee**  
College Principal

See College Calendar for more dates

**St Mary MacKillop College**

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# Admin News

## The Bursary Scheme

The ACT Government provides financial assistance to support families with education expenses through the Secondary Bursary Scheme for students in Years 7-10 and the Student Support Fund programs. The scheme provides assistance to low-income earners in the ACT with dependent full-time students in Years 7-10.

More information and application forms can be found at: [http://www.det.act.gov.au/school\\_education/starting\\_school/financial\\_assistance\\_for\\_families](http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/starting_school/financial_assistance_for_families)

## Uniform

Please label the clothing of your sons and daughters to assist with returning lost property.

## MyWay Cards

Students who have an Action Bus MyWay card, have been asked to record their card number in the front of their school diary and to mark their initials in small print on the card.

A number of cards have been lost and handed to student reception but there is no way of knowing who the card belongs to unless students have recorded their number and marked their initials on it.

## Bus Route Changes

Please note that changes have been made to the operation of the Action Bus services listed below. These changes have been made to assist in overloading school buses and will come into effect from 12 March 2012.

AM - 665 (this bus will no longer service Bonython)  
AM - 859  
PM - 526  
PM - 661

The details of these changes, including routes and times are posted on each Year noticeboard at the Wanniasa Campus and can also be accessed at the following link: [www.mackillop.act.edu.au/Website/Buses2012.pdf](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au/Website/Buses2012.pdf)

# School Fees

## Fees are now due

Term 1 Fees are due to be paid by 8 March 2012 unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved method. If you would like more information regarding Direct Debit payments or have any queries regarding your fees, please contact the Fees Office.

*Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager*

# Community News

## Join Canteen

You are eligible to join Canteen if you are aged between 12-24 years and have cancer or have a brother, sister, mother or father who has cancer or who has died from cancer. To find out more about Canteen, call 02 6101 2207 or visit [www.canteen.org.au](http://www.canteen.org.au)

## AFP Role Available

The AFP (High Tech Crime Operations) is looking to employ a Youth Advisor. Do you have an interest in technology, social networking, social media and their impact on youth? Do you have excellent written and communication skills and can present the above issues to a range of audiences? Do you understand the values of integrity, commitment, excellence, accountability, fairness and trust?

If you completed year 12 studies in 2011 and are looking for what to do next, possibly during a gap year, the following opportunity may be for you:

- 12 months contract, potential 6 months extension,
- sponsored introductory media or marketing training, work in a flexible and dynamic team focussed on crime prevention, specifically targeting youth and the impact of technology and social media.

Please note that this position requires a Secret security clearance or the ability to obtain one.

Contact Officer: Tony Speldewinde (02) 6131 4438

Closing Date: 5pm (AEDST) Friday 9th March 2012

Further information can be accessed via the AFP website: <http://www.afp.gov.au/jobs/current-vacancies.aspx>.

## Galilee Foster Care

Ordinary people can do extraordinary things, like becoming a foster carer with Galilee! Information sessions start soon. To find out more, call 6290 2191 or visit [www.galilee.org.au](http://www.galilee.org.au)

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend for married couples is being held on 23-25 March at Douglas Park, NSW. bookings: 02 4283 3435 or [wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au) Information: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

## Red Cross Volunteers

The Red Cross is seeking volunteers for a range of different roles to make a significant difference in the lives of people in your community. To find out more, email [volunteernow@redcross.org.au](mailto:volunteernow@redcross.org.au) or call 02 6234 7634.

## AC Milan Soccer Camp

AC Milan is holding a soccer camp on 23-25 April at the University of Canberra for junior boys and girls. Find out more online at [www.acmilansoccerschool.com.au](http://www.acmilansoccerschool.com.au).