



20 DECEMBER 2012

**IMPORTANT DATES**

FEB.  
MONDAY  
**04**

• Term 1 begins for Years 7, 10, 11, and 12.

FEB.  
TUESDAY  
**05**

• Term 1 begins for Years 8 and 9.

FEB.  
FRIDAY  
**22**

• Opening Mass

**INFO NIGHTS**

11 Feb: Year 10 Info Night  
11 Feb: Year 11 Info Night  
12 Feb: Year 7 Info Night  
18 Feb: Year 8 Info Night  
18 Feb: Year 9 Info Night



**PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER**

**“Lord, we give thanks for the year, for all the grace you bestowed upon us. Help us remember you, born poor and in a manger, this Christmas. Amen.”**

**PRINCIPAL'S LETTER**

**YEAR 12 RESULTS**

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2012 who have achieved extraordinarily well in their final results. Congratulations to Parker Blakey who achieved the highest Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) in the College - and one of the highest in the ACT - with 99.10 out of a possible 99.95.

Out of 116 students who enrolled in a tertiary pattern of study (and were therefore eligible for an ATAR), 51 achieved a result of 80 or more - 19 of which achieved 90 or more! Again, this was an excellent result for MacKillop students.

Our calculations suggest that 98% of those who applied for university entrance will be successful, while 57% of them will gain a place at the Australian National University.

One of the very pleasing aspects of these results is that almost all students achieved between 5-12% beyond their expectations and are thus 'over the moon' with their achievement. Also pleasing is the fact that our median mark is up again for the fourth consecutive year.

This is a remarkable set of results for a school that proudly accepts all students of all abilities, which has a large inclusive education support program, that has among the lowest school fees in the territory, and a large number of students pursuing vocational education pathways. It is reassuring that our absolute commitment to be inclusive of all abilities has yielded splendid overall results and many, many students who have achieved well beyond their expectations!

On page 4 of today's Canberra Times is a detailed table showing the achievement of the Class of 2012 relative to the other 22 colleges in the ACT. Whilst not too much should be made of this table, the improving performance of Year 12 results at MacKillop continues to trend upwards and the MacKillop community can be proud that we are only behind Radford and Girls Grammar in terms of the number of our students achieving an ATAR of 65 or above.

Congratulations to the students and teachers who have developed such positive relationships that have been respectful, motivating, and successful. I really cannot praise the staff enough for all they have done for this group of students, or the work of Year 12 Coordinator Mr Jonathan Chandra who was present to all the needs of the class and who magnificently advocated on their behalf.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO COLLEGE CAPTAIN TYLER FRIEND**

Well done to Tyler who learned yesterday that he was one of 48 of 3000 applicants who were selected to train as pilots with the RAAF through the Australian Defence Force Academy. Tyler was a splendid captain, won the Principal's Award at Graduation, achieved an ATAR of over 90 and now this - a remarkable year which reflects well on him, his family, and all the support he received from his school.



**YEAR 12 BSSS & PERPETUAL AWARDS**

On 7 December, the College celebrated the Graduation Mass and the Graduation Formal. Both were magnificent events! Warm congratulations to the following students who achieved individual distinction by winning the following awards at Graduation and at the BSSS Recognition of Excellence Ceremony.



**TYLER FRIEND**  
Principal's Award



**MICHELLE HOYTINK**  
Academic Excellence



**ANDREW ROBINSON**  
All Rounder



**CLARE FEALY**  
Students' Choice



**SARAH MACKEY**  
Christian Leadership (joint-winner)



**NATHAN RYAN**  
Christian Leadership (joint-winner)



**NICHOLAS SLADER**  
Rohan Schultz Award



**CHELSEA WRIGHT**  
Creative Arts



**MICHAELA BUTLER**  
CEO Teaching Scholarship



**MATTHEW SMITH**  
Tegan Blunt Sports Award



**MAT HART**  
Elite Athlete Award



**JALINE HOEK**  
Elite Athlete Award



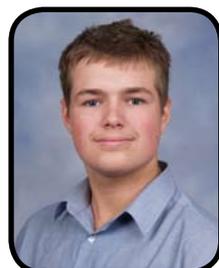
**ANDREW ROBINSON**  
Elite Athlete Award



**PARKER BLAKEY**  
College Dux



**MICHAEL WOOD**  
BSSS Vocational Student



**JOSHUA CREECH**  
BSSS Community Service



**ASHLEE EVANS**  
BSSS Performing & Visual Arts



**LIAM PITT**  
BSSS Indigenous Student Award

**END OF YEAR EVENTS**

As well as the Formal, MacKillop celebrated the Year 10 Mass and Presentation and the Wanniasa Awards Ceremony last week. Students received recognition for their hard work throughout 2012. The names of the recipients of special awards can be found in our College Magazine. An online version has been made of this and a link was included in the email for this newsletter.

**WELCOME TO YEAR 7 2013**

Also last week, MacKillop hosted new students for 2013, who visited the school to gain some familiarity with the place. We hope these transition days were of benefit and we look forward to seeing you when you arrive for Term 1 2013!

## FAREWELL TO DEPARTING STAFF

The College will lose a number of staff to retirement, promotion, interstate, and only three to other schools in Canberra.

Mrs Michelle Marks has been warmly farewelled by the College at a special morning tea earlier this month. Her legacy was recognised with warm remarks by Federal Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann, leader of the Canberra Liberals (and former student) Zed Seselja, and with a standing ovation by the school at the end of year assembly.

To Michelle and other staff who are departing, may you always know the value of your contribution to MacKillop, and may the inspiration of Sr Mary MacKillop be with you in the next stage of your life journey.

## JOYEUX NOEL

May the peace, love, and joy of the one who was born poor and in a manger be with the MacKillop community this Christmas.

Happy Christmas,



MICHAEL LEE  
PRINCIPAL

## COLLEGE NEWS

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR COLLEGE BOARD

Expressions of interest are sought to fill three vacancies on the St Mary MacKillop College Board. Additional information may be found at <http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au/Website/TheCollegeBoard/BoardNews.php>

Expressions of interest may be forwarded to the Principal's Secretary, Mrs Cindy Dean, at [cindy.dean@mackillop.cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cindy.dean@mackillop.cg.catholic.edu.au) by 20 February 2013.

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Oscar Mortlock (Year 11) has been selected as one of 16 students Australia-wide (two from each state and territory) to participate in the National Summer Art Scholarship at the National Gallery of Australia in January. It is quite a rigorous application process and he was very much supported and encouraged by Fiona Bolton, his Visual Art teacher.

Natasha Brittain (Year 7) will perform in the Peter Pan Musical showing at Theatre 3 in Acton on 16-19 January. Get your tickets from [www.canberrarep.org.au](http://www.canberrarep.org.au) or for further information, visit [www.childplayersact.com.au](http://www.childplayersact.com.au).

### SCHOOL FEES: END OF YEAR DETAILS

It is now time to review all existing Direct Debit payments for 2013. If you currently pay fees by Direct Debit please contact the Accounts Office for a new calculation of payments.

Please note that Direct Debit arrangements will continue over the holidays unless you have contacted the Fees Office to suspend or cancel the arrangement.

The 2013 fee schedule has been placed on the College website and can be accessed at [www.mackillop.act.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au).

Fees for 2012 should now be finalised. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately. If you require more information regarding Direct Debit arrangements or other approved payment methods please contact the Fees Office.

### CORPUS CHRISTI CHRISTMAS TIMES

Corpus Christi will hold a Mass on Christmas Eve (Monday 24 December) outside the Sacred Heart Church in Calwell from 6pm. Bring something to sit on and a hat/umbrella.

All other Christmas Masses will be held at Holy Family Church, Gowrie.

Christmas Eve (Monday 24 December): 9pm & Midnight (including carols from 11.30pm)

Christmas Day (Tuesday 25 December): 8am and 10am