

Important Dates & Events

FEB.
MONDAY

13

- 5.30pm: Year 10 Info Session
- 7.00pm: Year 11 Info Session

FEB.
TUESDAY

14

- 7.00pm: Year 7 Info Session

FEB.
FRIDAY

17

- Official Opening of the Trade Training Centre

FEB.
MONDAY

20

- 5.30pm: Year 8 Info Session
- 7.00pm: Year 9 Info Session

FEB.
WEDNESDAY

22

- 4-7pm: Year 12 Interviews

FEB.
THURSDAY

23

- Photo Day (Wanniassa)
- Year 7 iHum Excursion (1)

FEB.
FRIDAY

24

- Opening Mass

MAR.
THURSDAY

01

- Photo Day (Isabella)

See College Calendar for more dates

St Mary MacKillop College

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"Lord, Bless our College as we return for another year of building up your kingdom."

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome Back!

The College returns for the 2012 Academic Year with an enrolment of 1752 (327 in Year 7 and 242 in Year 11); this is a record enrolment for MacKillop!

The year will start well on the back of outstanding Year 12 2011 results, with 50% of the candidature achieving an ATAR of 80 or more, providing them entry into the university course and institution of their choice. The College compared most favourably with many others in the ACT when our ATAR median was published in the Canberra Times.

Year 9 NAPLAN results showed that 60% of our students achieved maximum improvement since Year 7! There is much to do in and out of the classroom at MacKillop this year. The continued success of our academic program provides a wonderful source of confidence and energy upon which to build.

Trade Training Centre Opening and Blessing

This event will occur on Friday, 17 February at 11.30am in the Isabella Campus Gym. Many invited guests will be in attendance to help the College celebrate the successful completion of this tremendous facility.

The College was advised yesterday that the Prime Minister Julia Gillard intends to accompany Schools Minister Peter Garrett AM to officially open this facility. She and the minister will be welcomed with great dignity and warmth by the College and her government's considerable educational agenda will be warmly acknowledged on behalf of our community.

Parents and past students wishing to attend are welcome and will need to RSVP to the Principal's Secretary (cindy.dean@mackillop.act.edu.au) by 12pm, Wednesday 15 February. There will be many official guests at this opening (including an inevitable and large contingent of media), and very little room in the gym. Please understand that the emphasis will be on accommodating the Isabella students in the gym. Ways of including the Wanniasa students are currently being explored. Should parents wish to attend, the event should take about 45 minutes but seating will regrettably be very limited.

The Opening Mass

All are welcome to join the College at this significant event in the College Calendar. The Mass will take place on Friday 24 February from 9.30am at the Tuggeranong Basketball Stadium.

Hosting overseas students

Every year the College hosts around 15 secondary students from all parts of Europe, rarely is this anything other than a great success for the host MacKillop family or the school.

An opportunity has presented itself for the school to enter into a relationship with a company that provides home stay and school experience for students from Italy, France, and Japan. Students would arrive during our winter, attend MacKillop, and be hosted by a MacKillop family for up to three months. This is a responsibility and cost to our families but many seem to be happy to enter into the arrangement.

Should you be willing to consider hosting a student, please email Cindy Dean (cindy.dean@mackillop.act.edu.au), the Principal's Secretary, by 12 noon on Monday 13 February. You will be under no obligation. The College will host an information evening where families who have done this will talk about their experience, and obligations and advantages will be discussed.

Yours in St Mary MacKillop,



Mr Michael Lee, Principal

Admin

School Fees

Fees for 2012 and how to pay

Term 1 fees will be mailed out shortly. Fees are to be paid by 2 March 2012 unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved payment method. The following methods of payment are available:

Cash or Cheque: Cheque payments may be posted to the College and cash or cheque payments may be paid in person at both the Isabella and Wanniasa Campus.

Direct Debit: Payment of School Fees by Direct Debit will require completion of the relevant paperwork. Please contact the Accounts office to set up your Direct Debit which can commence at any time through the year. All Direct Debits continue throughout the year. They do not suspend for the term holidays, unless upon request.

All Direct Debits must be altered in December for the following year's school fees.

Credit Card Payments – Mastercard or Visa: These payments can be made in person, over the telephone, or details can be provided at the bottom of your school fee statement.

Eftpos: Eftpos is also available at the Front Office at both the Isabella and Wanniasa Campuses.

Bpay: Bpay is available at the College. Payments can be made through internet and telephone banking by quoting the Biller Code and Reference Number as recorded on your school fee statement. Please ensure you quote the correct Reference Number so payments can be processed to the correct account. For further information please contact the Accounts Office.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

Admin

PE Uniform

Mackillop's NEW PE Uniform

We are excited and pleased to inform you that in 2012, St Mary MacKillop College will be phasing in a new Physical Education Uniform.

The phase in period for the new uniform is three years. This means that by start of the 2015 School Year, all students who undertake Physical Education at the College will be required to have the full uniform. This is important as it allows time for current students to get full wear out of their current uniform.

Savvy Tuggeranong and Lowes Tuggeranong will be stocking the College Uniform. If you have any concerns, please contact Deputy Principal Mrs Michelle Marks on 6209 0100 to discuss.

So what has changed?

- The new PE Polo Shirt will be navy blue with teal and white. The College Crest will also appear on the new polo shirt.
- We are replacing the jersey with a sports jacket. The new jacket will have the same design as the new polo shirt.
- The shorts will remain the same, but will no longer have any pockets.
- The tracksuit pants will be very similar to the current style. The teal stripe will be removed and the logo will appear at the bottom of the pant.



We are looking forward to this exciting change and thank you for your continued support of the College.

*Nathan Wood,
Sports Coordinator*

Teaching & Learning

Performing Arts

Interested in Performing Arts?

The ultimate challenge for education is to engage all students on pathways for successful living. Through engagement with the Performing Arts, young people can be well prepared for this century's demands and global social and technological change. The rapidity of change in our lives these days requires us to be imaginative and flexible thinkers.

How can the Performing Arts help prepare students? The Performing Arts provide learning experiences that engage students' minds, hearts and bodies. The involvement of the "whole" person leads students to feel their learning is real and meaningful. Learning is deepest when students have the capacity to represent, through presentation, performance or display.

The Performing Arts can offer many challenges. Studies in Dance, Drama and Music allow for experimentation and risk-taking; for a multiplicity of ideas and outcomes. Performing Arts also allows those students who feel disengaged from the conventional classroom to reconnect, resulting in success in other areas of learning.

For those students who are thinking about studying a subject or pursuing a career in the Performing Arts, speak to your Performing Arts teachers. There are many career paths associated with the Performing Arts. These are: dancer, musician, actor, producer, director, stage manager, lighting and sound technician, and administrator. A useful booklet is the "Career Guide to the Arts, Media, Heritage and Entertainment in the Canberra Region" published by Arts and Recreation Training ACT, 1999.

*Tony Lazzarato
Performing Arts Coordinator*