

Important Dates & Events

APR.
FRIDAY

13

- Last day of Term 1

APR.
MONDAY

30

- Term 2 begins

MAY.
TUESDAY

01

- 4-7pm: Parent/Teacher Interviews (Wanniassa)

MAY.
WEDNESDAY

02

- 4-7pm: Parent/Teacher Interviews (Isabella)

MAY.
THURSDAY

03

- 4-6pm: Parent/Teacher Interviews (Wanniassa)

MAY.
MONDAY

07

- Year 7 2013 Information Night
- Enrolment Period begins

MAY.
THURSDAY

10

- Year 11 Retreat begins

MAY.
TUESDAY

15

- NAPLAN

"Lord, we give thanks for the gift of your son; his teaching, example, sacrifice, and his gift of our redemption. Amen."

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

He is indeed risen!

Easter Sunday is a happy day. It is a time to give thanks for the meaning of our faith. Archbishop Mark described our school as an Easter school, a place where the promise of eternal life is proclaimed – he was generous but right.

The College experienced two very powerful Easter liturgies on Holy Thursday, a clear and dignified focus on the Passion of our Lord and the promise of salvation. The school was dignified, reverent, and moved.

Thank you to Mrs Noreen Dick and her team who provided a powerful context and setting for our experience of Easter this year. Christ is risen! He is indeed risen!

Farewell to Archbishop Coleridge

Archbishop Mark Coleridge has treated our College with generosity, kindness, and love during his time as our Bishop. I would like to express my thanks to him for his support of myself and the staff, and for his concern and interest over the progress of the MacKillop community. His move to Brisbane will be a cause for celebration for the Catholic community in that city. They are gaining a man as their Archbishop who is intelligent, humorous, aware, and considerate. Catholic schools in Brisbane will be particularly fortunate.

Thank you Bishop Mark, your care for this school and its community has been deeply appreciated and will not be quickly forgotten.

Early events in Term 2

Allow me to wish you all a safe and enjoyable mid-semester break. When we return, the College will be holding parent/teacher interviews in the first week back. Correspondence has gone out regarding this but if you have not received information on how to log into PT Online, then please contact the College.

In the second week back, the College will hold its Information Night for Year 7 2013. These evenings always draw a large crowd, thanks in no small part to spoken word from parents of our students. Once again, if you know people who are looking for a high school next year, tell them to choose MacKillop and come to our Information Night on Monday 7 May from 6.30pm at our Wanniassa Campus.

We have been informed by Savvy School and Formal Wear that the new College PE Sports Jackets have arrived and are now on sale. Along with the Sports Jacket, they now have their latest shipment of the new PE Polo Shirt. You can contact Savvy on 6293 4342.

Yours in St Mary MacKillop,



Mr Michael Lee
College Principal

See College Calendar for more dates

St Mary MacKillop College

PO Box 1211
Tuggeranong ACT 2901

[T] (02) 6209 0100
[F] (02) 6296 2383 (W)
[F] (02) 6292 8632 (I)

www.mackillop.act.edu.au

Admin

School Fees

Fees are now overdue

Fees for Term 1 should now be finalised unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved arrangement. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately.

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 on 6209 0147.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

Pastoral Care

Pastoral News

Year 12 Mentoring Day

Mentoring Day was a solid success again this year, with Year 12 students nominating to work with junior students in their subject areas of choice, interest and competence. Junior students really enjoyed the support and enthusiasm of the older students who assisted them in their lessons on Friday. Year 12 were inspired to persevere and aim for excellence by presentations from a visiting ex-Daramalan student and Principal Mr. Lee. Later AST writing sessions for students involved fascinating small group workshops exploring Persuasive texts using footage from the recent Koni stories presented via YouTube, Twitter and Facebook.

From our Defence Transition Mentor:

Defence Force Families will soon receive invitations to attend morning tea in the Wanniasa staffroom following the Anzac Assembly and Liturgy on Wednesday May 2. This will be an opportunity to meet other Defence Force families who have recently arrived in Canberra and we hope many of you will be able to attend.

If Defence families become aware that they will be deployed to another city, state or country, Mrs. Woods would be grateful to receive this information as soon as the deployment is confirmed. She has particular information and support for students and families and may be able to make educational transitions much easier and simpler.

Caritas Fundraising

Pastoral classes have used many creative ways of raising money this Lent for Caritas; their aim is to make a difference for young people in third world countries by providing funds for education and training in small communities in the Philippines and nearby countries. Mr. Brennan's 10EW class raised many dollars for Caritas at the swimming carnival for the fun of seeing Mr. Brennan jump into the pool in his suit; Mrs. Darley also supported the cause by jumping into the pool once a substantial amount was raised by students. The exact total from the College will be announced in Term 2.

Uniform

As parents organise winter uniforms for Term 2, all are reminded to check the web-site and student diaries for uniform requirements.

- Shoes need to be traditional black lace-up and polishable.
- No canvas shoes are to be worn.
- Stockings are navy blue.
- Socks are white for girls and grey for boys.
- All hair accessories are to be in college colours.
- Scarves need to be navy blue.

Parents are also reminded that facial piercings are not permitted.

SSTS travel - DEANE'S BUSES

Deane's Buses are finding an alarming number of students who are not producing a pass or paying a fare on their services. This is a ministry requirement and drivers now need to enforce this ruling.

The drivers expect a pass or payment now. For any students who do not know how much they need to pay, they must call the SSTS department on 6299 3722.

For students who have forgotten a pass, a payment is expected. If students have lost their passes, they will be asked for payment until their pass is replaced. Students will still need to produce a pass or payment on carnival days, non-uniform days etc.

The Ministry of Transport has warned that they will be issuing fines for breaches of traveling arrangements.

Wishing all in our MacKillop community a relaxing Term break.

*Lois White
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care (Isabella)*

Achievement

Merit Certificates

GURABANG: William Seaman (9EW), Brooke Smyth (7E1), Jasmine Sommariva (7E1), Paula O'Sullivan (7E1), Jessica Douglas (7EW), Elsa Huber (7EW), Jessica Douglas (7EW), Lauren Frost (7EW), Nikala Speed (7EW), Ritesh Goundar (7EW), Sophie Burgess (7EW), Kira Guilfoyle (7EW), Molly Gregory (7EW), Jaydon Mace (7E1), Claire Lonie (7E1), Katelyn Twiss (7EW), Brooke Tierney (8E5).

NGADYUNG: Ashleigh May (7W1), Amy Daniel (7W1), Adam Crowther (7W1), Katelyn Pollard (7W1), Rebecca Cross (7W1), Brittany Landon (7W1), Lorren Mullins (9W8).

Achievement

Future Stars

Congratulations!

Mel O'Mara (Year 8) and Bianca Collicutt (Year 9) competed at the NSW State Titles in gymnastics recently. Their team placed first in NSW for National Level 8. The next day in the individual events Mel placed first again. Congratulations!

Parent Survey

Catholic enhancing school identity project

The Australian Catholic Enhancing School Identity Project is a research project which explores the Catholic identity of our school. St Mary MacKillop College is privileged to have been selected as a pilot school for this project in our Archdiocese. This Pilot involves a number of Catholic Schools across Australia and is being conducted in partnership with the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium.

The aim of the Project is to help schools better understand how the Catholic identity is expressed within the life of the school. This is a great opportunity for our school and we encourage all of our families to be involved.

Those of you who choose to be involved will participate in on-line surveys which take approximately 40 minutes to complete. It is vitally important that your voices be heard in this project and we hope many of you will participate. The surveys close after this weekend, so if you can spare some time over the weekend, please participate! The details of the website are:
The website: <http://www.schoolidentity.net>
Password: Oceania

Students and staff members will also be completing surveys. Students in Years 7 – 12 will be completing them during RE classes as part of their reflection on the identity of the College.

If you have any questions about the process please do not hesitate to contact me.

Michelle da Roza
Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator (Wanniassa)

RE News

Religious Education News

The primary text used in Religious Education classes is the 'Holy Bible more specifically the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Deuterocanonicals. Bibles are listed on the book pack as an essential requirement at a cost of \$14.95 and are available from Chalk Education (62983055).

There is an expectation that each student in Years 7 – 10 has a bible of their own that is brought to IHum/RE classes and can be taken home to assist with assignments. In term 1 Year 7 have been studying scripture from both the Old Testament and the New Testament, Year 8 'The Parables', Year 9 have been studying 'The Prophets' from the Hebrew scriptures and Year 10 'The Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes'. In Term 2, Year 7 will continue to study scripture from both the Old Testament and the New Testament, Year 8 will focus on the 'Acts' that is the 'Acts of the Apostles' and Year 9 on Luke's gospel.

The College has some class sets of bibles and the NRSV Bible is available on line; however, learning to use, navigate and read the bible is best done the old fashioned way, actually reading from the good book.

Seasons for Growth

Seasons for Growth is a program for young people who have experienced significant change or loss. It is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life. We examine the impact of changes such as death, separation, divorce, and natural disaster upon our lives, and explore how we can learn to live with and grow from these experiences.

The program is educational in nature and does not provide therapy. We use the imagery of the four seasons to illustrate that grief is cyclical, not a linear journey. Trained "Companions" facilitate small groups where participants share experiences, and support one another. Peer support is a key element of the program; confidentiality is strongly emphasised.

Mackillop has offered Seasons for Growth for many years now and would again like to invite any student who might like to be involved in this program to collect a note from their Pastoral Care Coordinator or Student Reception. The program will begin in about Week 6 of Term 2 and concludes in Term 3. It runs during normal school hours. Anyone that may like to have a chat about what is involved is welcome to contact Helen Maybin at the Wanniassa Campus.

Helen Maybin, REC (Acting)

Quick News

Indigenous Careers Expo

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students attended the inaugural ACT Indigenous Careers Expo on Wednesday 21 March at the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The day was an opportunity to explore various career options post Year 12 with many educational institutions, trade branches, Defence and employers present.

The students spent the day asking questions, exploring their options and partaking in the complimentary BBQ. It was a highly successful day and a valuable experience for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

SOSE Tasmania Trip Update

We have now booked transport and accommodation for 30 September through to 6 October. The staff members escorting students on the SOSE trip will be Mr Ciccarone, Ms Davidson, and Ms Dirago, Ms Box and Mr Batten.

There will be another meeting for parents and students in the Theatre on Tuesday 8 May at 6 pm. This is a most important meeting as final itinerary changes, accommodation variations, luggage and group arrangements for cabins will be discussed. Please feel free to contact Mr Batten at the Isabella Campus if you have any queries or questions prior to this date.