



MACKILLOP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19 2016, 25 NOVEMBER

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear families, students and friends,

Welcome to Year 7 2017!

This is the first newsletter that will be sent to families of Year 7 students embarking on a MacKillop education for their secondary years next year. Many of these students come from families with a long history at MacKillop, whilst others will be the eldest child of families who hopefully will be with us for a very long time. The students will bring their own energy, talents, needs, and interests to our school and we will be all the more privileged for it.

I look forward to welcoming Year 7 2017 to our orientation days over the next few weeks and working with the staff and their energy to begin the exciting process of integrating the year group into our school.

Paul Goonan 1954-2016

As many of you will know, Mr Paul Goonan entered into eternal life on the evening of Saturday 12 November and his funeral was held yesterday at Holy Family Church, Gowrie. I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the many staff who chose to stay at school to ensure that understandable disruption was kept to a minimum. The students at school displayed an entirely appropriate cooperation and understanding during the day, which was widely appreciated by their teachers and those who were there to supervise. In challenging times, such as these – and we've had too many – the relationships of trust and respect and the spirit of cooperation that is therefore fostered speaks loudly of the deep strength and good health of our school community.

At a sad time for our school, we were able to offer strong support to Paul's family and to his wide circle of friends, and to lessen their grief by sharing it with them. It is very easy for me to be proud of this school.

Congratulations to Year 12 2016

The MacKillop community can be rightfully proud of the goodwill and dignity our graduating class chose to bring to their final day as MacKillop students. Their breakfast with the staff and final assembly were joyful experiences with an accent on gratitude and farewell – entirely free of unwanted incidents that can tarnish such occasions. The Class of 2016 farewelled the College with a maturity that has typified their senior years and delighted us all.

New students to Year 11 2017

Yesterday, the College welcomed over 30 new students to an orientation day for Year 11 2017. A large number from Catholic, independent, and public education around Canberra and the Monaro will add to the diversity and strength of next year's Year 11 class. Thank you to the students of Year 10 who participated in the day and to the staff who welcomed them and made sure the day went smoothly. Next year's Year 11 will, I am sure, continue the tradition of real strength in leadership, achievement, and the showcasing of varied talent that typifies the senior years at MacKillop.

Yours sincerely in St Mary MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE
PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord, we give thanks for the life of Mr Paul Goonan. We pray for him. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER
TUESDAY

29

- Year 10 Semester 2 Awards Assembly

NOVEMBER
WEDNESDAY

30

- Year 10 Community Day
- Year 10 last day of school

DECEMBER
FRIDAY

02

- Graduation Mass
- Graduation Formal

DECEMBER
TUESDAY

06

- Year 6 Orientation Day
- Year 10 2017 Transition Day

DECEMBER
WEDNESDAY

07

- Year 6 Orientation Day
- Year 10 2017 Transition Day

COLLEGE NEWS

Administration News

SEMESTER 2 REPORTS

Reports will be mailed out on Thursday 15 December 2016.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION/HEALTH CARE PLANS

Parents are reminded that students who require medication to be dispensed during school hours must have a Request to Dispense Medicine form completed and returned to the College. Forms are available from Student Reception at both campuses. Please note that without the signed form, staff will not be able to dispense medication to your son or daughter. Parents are required to complete an Individual Health and Emergency Care Plan for any student:

1. Diagnosed with severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy or anaphylaxis;
2. diagnosed as being at risk of an emergency;
3. who requires the administration of a health care procedure.

Individual Health and emergency Care Plans are available from Student Reception at both campuses. Please note that it is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that all plans are current.

Please contact Crishti Hawtin at crishti.hawtin@mackillop.act.edu.au or 6209 5217 should you require further information or clarification.

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING FOR 2017

Families leaving the College at the end of the year are requested to notify the Enrolment Officer, Mrs Crishti Hawtin, by emailing crishti.hawtin@mackillop.act.edu.au.

NAPLAN 2017

In 2017, the ACT will be completing NAPLAN online. Students will use either their own laptop or the College provided laptop to undertake the assessment program. More information will be made available in 2017.

A demonstration site has been set up for students and parents to access the demonstration tests, using the NAPLAN assessment platform. Access to the demonstration site is available at: <http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demosntration-site>

If you have any questions please contact Clare Fletcher or Maria O'Donnell.

*Clare Fletcher and Maria O'Donnell
Assistant Principals, Curriculum (acting)*

Italian Mask Competition winners

The Italian Embassy has communicated the final results for the Canberra Mask Competition on the occasion of the 16th World Italian Language Week. St Mary MacKillop is very proud to announce that Tiroja Lubbersen won 1st place in the Year 7 category and Owen Lever won 1st place in the Year 8 category, while Julia Del Bianco and Tara McInnes finished 2nd and 3rd in the Year 8 category respectively.

Tiroja's mask was a celebration of Italy's most famous drink, cappuccino! Owen's mask was inspired by Dante Alighieri's literary masterpiece, the Divine Comedy. Julia's mask was a tribute to Murano and Burano, two small islands in the Venetian Lagoon famous for glass and lace. Tara based her creation on Rome's foundation myth as she created a mask representing the she-wolf who found Romulus and Remus.

Congratulations for the original work and fantastic results!
Bravissimi ragazzi!

Raffaella Paolucci, Italian



Student and Staff Achievement

Congratulations to Aaron Hilborn (Year 7) who achieved an award in the annual Australian National Botanic Gardens Photography Competition. He won the People's Choice Award in the Altered Images category for his photograph 'Sitting Pretty' (above).

Congratulations to the following Year 12 students whose work will be exhibited at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre during the school holidays: Claire Mackey, Joseph Simpson, Caitlyn Carruthers, Malcolm Fortaleza, Hazel Bennett and Alexa Malizon. The exhibition is 'College Create' and showcases works by Year 11 and 12 students from Colleges in South Canberra.

This weekend, our Technology Assistant Mark McMillan will be taking on Mount Panarama Bathurst in the Challenge Bathurst Event. We wish him well and safe driving!

Numeracy

In recognition that numeracy skills are essential to everyday life, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has incorporated Numeracy as one of seven General Capabilities underpinning the Australian Curriculum. For students to become numerate, they need opportunities to use their mathematical knowledge and skills outside of the Mathematics Classroom. To facilitate this, the Wanniasa Campus engaged in a Kahoot! Competition during National Literacy and Numeracy Week (29 August - 4 September). For those unfamiliar with Kahoot!, it is an online gaming platform incorporating quiz-like questions. The teacher displays the quiz to a class and students answer the multiple-choice questions on their own devices. The quiz questions can be illustrated by colourful pictures and animations and are backed by catchy music. Students often find themselves dancing along. During NLNW, Kahoot!s reflected both a Literacy and Numeracy focus, with cross-curriculum questions.

- *Red and blue are mixed in the ratio 3:7 to make a particular shade of purple. How much red and blue paint are needed to make 20L of this shade of purple?*
- *How can 2 1/2 cups of flour be measured if you only have access to a 1/4 cup measure?*

The Pastoral Care Class that achieved the highest average points over NLNW was 9A2. They were treated to a pizza lunch for their efforts and success.

There was a high level of engagement with these Kahoot!s over NLNW, particularly with the added incentive of a prize. Wishing to capitalise on such student engagement, Pastoral Care Teachers have continued delivering Numeracy Kahoot!s on the Wanniasa Campus, once a week during Term 4. These are proving very successful, not only in engaging students in numeracy on a regular basis, outside of the Mathematics classroom, but the collaboration and competition is assisting in strengthening a community environment within Pastoral Care Classes.

Beth Bright, Numeracy Coordinator

Host families urgently needed

In February 2017, MacKillop's French sister school, Institution St Joseph's, will once again be visiting the College. Students will be here from 10 February until 24 February. Host families are required to provide the students with somewhere to sleep (their own room is not necessary), 3 meals a day, transportation to school and the opportunity to see some of Canberra and participate in Australian family life. If you would like to participate in this rewarding experience, please email andrew.mitchell@mackillop.act.edu.au as soon as possible so that host families can be organised before the end of the year.

Andrew Mitchell, Project Officer Languages

WANNIASSA NEWS

2017 Student Representative Council

Reflection by the students of Years 7-9 during Term 4 on leadership has concluded with the Wanniassa House captains and SRC election in preparation for 2017 Student Representative Council. The successful candidates are listed below:

Wanniassa Campus Captains: Maddison Coles and Darcy Kinsella

Year 10 SRC:

Mindygari: Audrey Kent

Meup Meup: Lauren Phillips

Gurabang: Connor MacLachlan

Ngadyung: Caitlin Banton

Year 9 (Wanniassa Campus House Captains):

Gurabang: Mackenzie Alcock & Ben Walker

Meup Meup: Madison Lustri & Owen Lever

Mindygari: Danita Brittain & Jackson Tippet

Ngadyung: Scarlett Kris & Luca Gagliardi

Year 8 SRC:

Mindygari: Aaron Hilborn

Meup Meup: Kira Tawton

Gurabang: Lilly Vassallo

Ngadyung: Mia Cachia

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

This year the College will again focus its Christmas fundraising efforts towards the St Vinnies' Christmas Gift Appeal. Last year the students gave generously to the Gift Appeal and we look forward to providing a range of gifts again this year to local families in need.

Students are asked to donate Christmas gifts suitable for children and young adults aged 0-16 years. Donated items should be in their original packaging or new items. St Vinnies ask that the gifts are left unwrapped as this ensures that they can determine the suitability of each item based on the needs of individual recipients. Please do feel free to attach a card with a Christmas message of hope and joy instead!

Gift suggestions for young children include: colouring books and pencils, puzzles, soft toys, Lego, blocks, sporting equipment, baby toys and books.

For older children: body lotions, gift vouchers, candles, diaries, pens, makeup, perfume, sporting equipment and books.



Status Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have this week been presented Status Awards at the Wanniassa Campus Assembly:

Bronze: Borna Farrokhmehr (7A1), Blake O'Connor (7A1), Jackson O'Dea (7A2), Aimee Kennedy (7A2), Callum Doherty (7A3), Samantha Gonzalez (7AF), Jordan Reilly (7AF), Lana Barclay (7E1), Jack Battye-Matheson (7E3), Olivia Kennedy (7E3), Amy Coleman (7E3), Holly Clarke (7F2), Ike Goddard (7W1), Riley Margosis (7W3), Edward Quayle (7AF), Makayla Bowring (7W2), Emma Downes (7W2).

Silver: Cody Golding (7E1), Lilly Vassallo (7E3), Isabella Coates (7F3), Mia Cachia (7W1), Caitlin Keen (9W2).

School Shoes

In preparation for the 2017 school year, many students may be in a position of needing to purchase new school shoes. The policy regarding school shoes is outlined on the College website and in the Student Diary and states the expectation being:

- traditional, black, leather, lace up, polishable school shoes.
- Suede shoes and black joggers are not acceptable for safety reasons.
- Elevated shoes and platform heels are not a part of the College uniform. The sole should be no more than 2 cm high and the heel 3 cm.
- Buckle shoes, canvas shoes, ballet shoes, cloth shoes, and slip on shoes are NOT permitted.

An information page later in this newsletter is designed to assist parents and students in clarifying what is suitable in order to hopefully avoid any confusion.

Parenting ideas

The article at the end of this newsletter, "Maintain a strong relationship with your teen," discusses two key actions for parents when managing challenging situations with young people; they are following through and following up. Following through is about doing what you say you are going to do and following up involves rebuilding the relationship after the issue has been resolved.

Monica Bailey, AP Pastoral Care, Wanniassa Campus

COMMUNITY NEWS

Parentline ACT

Being a parent is one of the hardest jobs we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress. Parentline ACT is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Phone 6287 3833, Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

Teen Start Up: First Responders

Teen Start-Up: First Responders is an innovation camp for 12 to 18 year olds, run during the January school holidays. Over three days, students are taken through the innovation development process from idea to execution. Students form teams, work with mentors, hear from industry experts and come up with an idea for a business or social enterprise and then pitch their concept to a panel of judges. The theme for this competition is 'First Responders'. Teams will be looking at problems encountered by our first responders in managing emergency situations - the police, paramedics, State Emergency Services, army, public health departments, HAZMAT teams, hospital emergency departments and the fire brigade. They will be challenged to come up with innovative solutions to predicting, managing and avoiding emergency situations.

For information, visit <https://www.teenstartupcamp.com.au>.

SCHOOL FEES + PAYMENTS

School Fees

Fees for Term 4 should now be finalised unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved arrangement. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately.

Please note the College no longer accepts cheques.

We are now able to email Term Statements. If you would like to switch off your paper statements and receive Fee Statements by email, please email me at michelle.predovan@mackillop.act.edu.au from the email address you would like to receive your statement.

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

Qkr! Payment System

Qkr! is now available for payment of fees, excursions, school items, and event tickets!

St Mary MacKillop College has a new, more convenient way for parents and guardians to make various payments to the school. Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') is a mobile payment app which enables consumers to order and pay for school fees, excursions, uniforms and event tickets directly from their smart device.

Qkr! accepts all major credit and debit cards accepted by the school (Visa and MasterCard) and you can register more than one card within the app. The Qkr! app is available from the Apple App Store and Google Play. If using an iPad you can download the iPhone version of Qkr!. You can download and register for Qkr! now and start making payments right away.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme

The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme can provide ACT residents on low incomes with financial support for students in Years 7-10.

Eligibility: Holders of a Pensioner Concession Card or a Health Care Card with means tested 'payment codes'.

Application forms are available at: http://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/starting_school/financial_assistance_for_families

Enquiries can be made to the ACT Department of Education and Training on 6205 8262.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

SIBLING DISCOUNT FORM

The Catholic Education Office offers a discount on Tuition fees to siblings who are attending St Mary MacKillop College and one or more of the following schools:

- Merici College
- St Clare's College
- St Francis Xavier College
- St John Paul College

If you have a student attending any of the above Colleges, as well as having a student at St Mary MacKillop College, please complete the section below and return it to the Accounts Office for the sibling discount to be applied to your account in 2016.

Please note that you do not need to fill in the form below if all siblings are attending St Mary MacKillop College as they automatically receive the sibling discount.

If you have any concerns regarding this matter, please contact the Fees Manager on 6209 0147.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

STUDENT'S FULL NAME	SCHOOL ATTENDING IN 2017	YEAR GROUP 2017

Please return this form to the Accounts Office by 9 December 2016



For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by MasterCard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:

- Pay for school fees, uniforms, excursions and more;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10km's of the school, or search for our school by name.

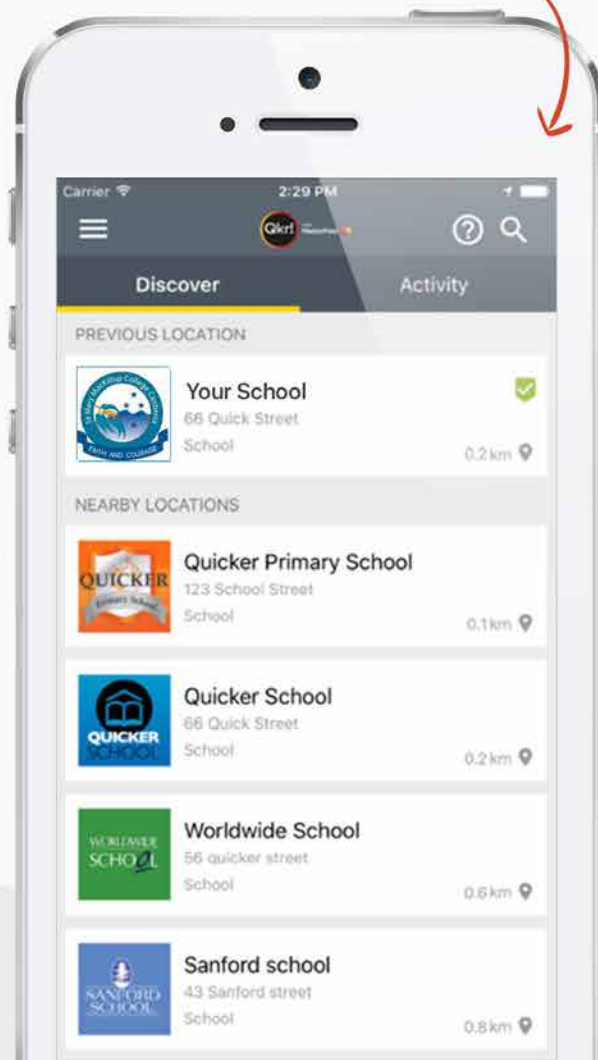
Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'

Search for our school name



Add your children's details in Student Profiles

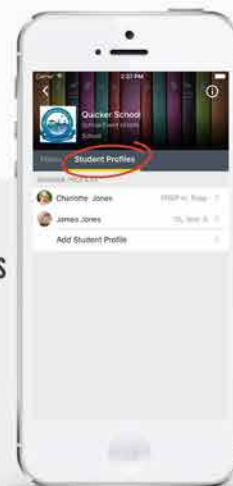
Select
'Add student profile'



Add each
child's details

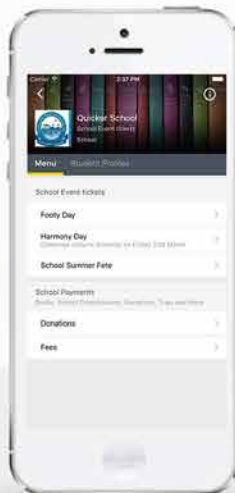


Manage each
child's details in
Student Profiles



Purchase school items

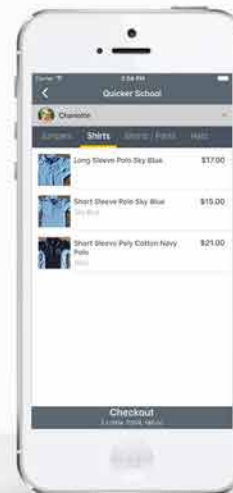
Select a menu
from our school



Select child
you are
ordering for



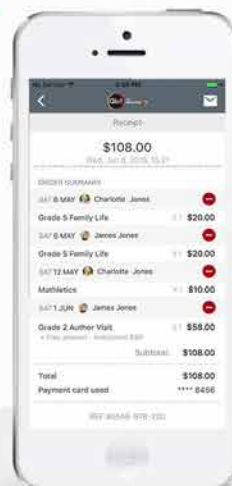
Select your items



Tap 'Checkout'
then confirm and pay

Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



At checkout select which card to
pay with.

Pay with any cards accepted
by the school.

Once your payment is approved you
can continue to the home page, or
view your receipt.



St Mary MacKillop College

School Shoes

In terms of footwear, the expectation is traditional, black, leather, lace up, polishable school shoes. Suede shoes and black joggers are not acceptable for safety reasons. Elevated shoes and platform heels are not a part of the College uniform. The sole should be no more than 2 cm high and the heel 3 cm. Buckle shoes, canvas shoes, ballet shoes, cloth shoes, and slip on shoes are NOT permitted.



Traditional school shoes are leather, have a heel, a sturdy upper and a sole of sufficient density to ensure safety in the differing learning areas where students work.



Shoes which do not meet the College criteria:

- do not cover all of the upper foot
- are not polishable
- do not have a heel
- have a thin sole
- are not robust enough to protect the top of the foot



Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

7 ways to help you be on top of your parenting game

Effective parents equip their children with the skills, know-how and values they need to stay safe and be successful. These seven ideas will help make sure your parenting reflects the times in which we live.

Everyone wants to be the best parent they can be, yet it can be confusing knowing just what to focus on. Here are seven ideas that reflect current trends and needs and will help you be on top of your parenting game:

1 Give the gift of restraint

At a time when kids receive so much it's easy to forget that restraint is a virtue. Just because you can afford to give children and young people what they want, doesn't mean you should. Differentiate between a want and a need, and encourage restraint, goal setting and saving.

2 Build your developmental knowledge

Lucky you have two eyes, as you need to keep one parenting eye on meeting kids' current needs and the other on preparing them for the next stage of development. If starting or leaving secondary school is a year away then start thinking now about how you can make sure your child or young person is ready for the next phase of their life.

3 Reinforce self-regulation

"You waited your turn! Great stuff!"

"Thanks for packing away the toys without being told." "Good on you for staying in bed when you

woke up rather than coming to our bedroom and waking us up."

A child's ability to self-regulate behaviour (like the ability to self-soothe and self-occupy) is highly underrated, and doesn't come naturally to all kids. That's where consistent parenting using visual management and behavioural consequences comes in.

4 Practise digital parenting

The most tech-savvy generation ever raised needs digitally-aware parents. The internet is fun and it's here to stay, but it can pose risks for some kids. Digital parenting means providing guidelines for safety without limiting children's opportunity to learn and communicate in the online world. It also requires you to understand the digital world that your kids inhabit.

5 Develop character strengths in kids

Recent studies (most notably the work of US-based Angela Duckworth) have found that character, not cognitive ability, is the single most reliable determinant of how a person's life will turn out. The traits associated with success include the inclination to persist at boring

or difficult tasks (**grit**), the ability to delay gratification (**self-control**) and the ability to follow through with a plan (**conscientiousness**).

6 Practise reciprocity

The best families, like the most meaningful communities, are built around the principle of reciprocity. *"We help each other out and we treat each other fairly"* builds belonging and forges greater kinship between siblings. Start by getting kids of all ages to help out at home without being paid.

7 Encourage social risktaking

One in three children are risk-adverse when it comes to meeting new people and entering new social situations. Social media removes risk for these kids, yet it's not the answer. Use a variety of strategies ranging from **scaffolding** (baby steps), **practising** meeting and speaking to new friends and **modelling** social risk taking yourself to encourage kids to continually refresh their social networks.

Pick one or two of these ideas, or your own parenting idea, to focus on over a month. Once you've mastered one idea then move on to another, so that you are constantly improving and being up-to-date as a parent.

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Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



parentingideas.com.au

