

College

Newsletter



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume 6 2019

3 MAY

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Coming

Up

MON	06	MAY	• Year 7 2020 Information Night
WED	08	MAY	• New Zealand Trip Meeting
THU	09	MAY	• Urban Challenge Parent Information Session
FRI	10	MAY	• Try MacKillop Day
TUE	14	MAY	• NAPLAN begins
WED	15	MAY	• Year 11 2020 Information Night • Careers Expo
MON	20	MAY	• ASBA Information Evening
THU	23	MAY	• Cross Country

Contact Us

Contact Details



02 6209 0100



info@mackillop.act.edu.au



www.mackillop.act.edu.au



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Tuggeranong ACT 2901



Mackinnon Street, **Wanniassa** (Years 7-9)
Ellerston Avenue, **Isabella Plains** (Years 10-12)



Absentee Phone Lines

Years 7-9: 02 6209 5240
Years 10-12: 02 6209 0110

Socials



www.facebook.com/
mackillop_act



www.twitter.com/
mackillop_act



www.instagram.com/
mackillop_act



www.youtube.com/
stmarmackillop

Principal's

Letter



Dear families, students and friends,

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to Term 2, a busy term for us all and critical to building upon achievement for end of semester reporting. It's been very pleasant to hear of the wide variety of activities and experiences staff, students, and their families have had over the break.

Parent/teacher nights across the school have given me the opportunity to catch up and engage with many families and to enjoy positive and constructive evenings about the abilities and future of our students.

ANZAC DAY

Thank you to Ms Darley, Ms Tulpule, and their teams who organised dignified and moving ANZAC Day Observances on each campus this week. Many of you would know from Instagram that I was in Melbourne over the ANZAC Day break with our Year 12 Captains and senior staff. We visited the MacKillop Heritage Centre, the State Library of Victoria, attended the Essendon v Collingwood ANZAC Day match at the MCG, and most importantly, participated in the Dawn Service at the Shrine of Remembrance on St Kilda Road. The Occasional Address was delivered by the Premier of Victoria, Mr Daniel Andrews, who said that what is required of each citizen in this country is to pause and remember the sacrifice of servicemen and women with gratitude and pride. This was a very moving occasion, the emotion of which has been widely shared by others in our community at different observances here in Canberra and around the country.

FEDERAL ELECTION

Senator David Smith (Labor candidate for Bean) and Senator Zed Seselja (Liberal ACT) have both written letters to me outlining their policies and disposition towards Catholic education and our school. I have published them at the end of this newsletter for your evaluation. The NCEC has also produced on its [website a document](#) outlining the policies of the ALP, Liberals, and the Greens on education and Catholic schools.

MacKillop encourages staff, students and their families to be engaged in the Election. The school will not be endorsing any particular party or candidate but hopes that the outcome of the Election will deliver a fair funding model to ensure that public money for education follows need here in the ACT and around the country.

ENROLMENT PERIOD

Our Year 7 2020 Information Night takes place on Monday 6 May, followed by Try MacKillop Day on Friday 10 May. If you know anyone looking for a high school, please invite them to these enrolment information sessions. More information can be found on the following page.

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

"Welcome to Term 2. It's been very pleasant to hear of the wide variety of activities and experiences staff, students, and families had over the break."

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord,

This community stands in gratitude for the sacrifice of Australian service men and women who have served this country with courage and bravery in war and peacekeeping.

Lest We Forget. Amen.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

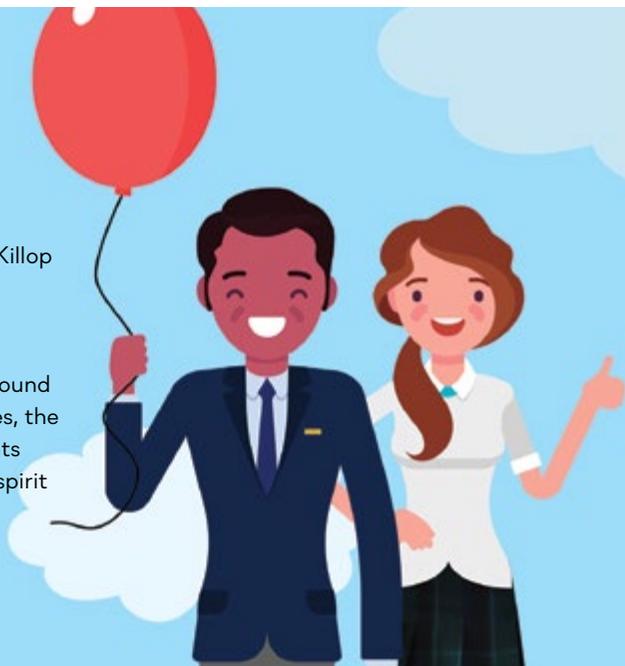
We have decided to reduce our newsletter frequency from five per term down to four. This means that the newsletter will come out at the end of Weeks 1, 4, 7, and 10 each term.

This means that the next newsletter will be distributed on 23 May.

Project Compassion

During the season of Lent, students at MacKillop are encouraged to donate towards Project Compassion - Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness raising appeal, supporting the poor in both Australia and around the world. Led by the SRC on both campuses, the College raised close to \$17,000 with students demonstrating their generosity, community spirit and willingness to assist those in need.

Lachlan McNicol
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care



Recycling for Caritas

Senior students undertook an initiative in Week 10 Term 1 to collect recyclable containers to raise money for Caritas. A total of \$150 was raised.

Ummehani Rangwalla • Science



Red Frogs

Red Frogs is an informative group which teaches students of college and university age how to enjoy parties whilst being safe. The program promotes a harm minimisation approach that acknowledges some young people will engage in risk taking behaviours in spite of the dangers involved. By providing practical party safe strategies, it aims to contribute to a decrease in alcohol and drug related harm. Using a mix of audience participation (thanks Noah, Connor and Robert) and videos, the presentation was an engaging way for all to learn about the hazards of partying, and how to have fun safely.

Lyndall de Ambrosio • Year 12 Coordinator



Student Exchange

Ella Grech and Tobias Mayne (both Year 10) recently presented to the Woden Rotary Club for their applications for the Youth Exchange Program for next year. Tobias has applied for exchange to European countries and Brazil. Ella said, "I wouldn't mind being placed overseas in any country but I would love to go to Germany, France, and Spain. Each country has its own culture and experiences that I could learn so much from. This exchange is more than just getting the opportunity to go overseas."

Nadira Pardo • Mathematics





Hosting Opportunity

French students

Five French students from our sister school Institution St Joseph's are visiting MacKillop College between 6 June and 4 August as part of the College's long-stay exchange program.

Italian students

25 Italian students from our sister school Liceo Fermi in Padua are also visiting MacKillop College between 2 and 8 September for a short exchange program. Students from MacKillop College will then visit our sister school in Padua in the Term 3 holidays, as part of the Greece and Italy Study Tour.

Why Host an Exchange Student?

Their arrival presents a unique opportunity for MacKillop families and students to engage in cross-cultural learning and to make lifelong friends. There is no requirement for host students to be studying or to have fluency in French or Italian, as the visiting exchange students have a strong level of English. During their visit students will experience life as a student of the College and attend excursions organised by the College in the Canberra region. Under the long-stay exchange program, financial support of \$400 is provided to host families to offset the costs of hosting an exchange student.

Host families are sought for the visits of the French (in particular to host a male student) and Italian students. If you are interested or would like further information about hosting an exchange student, please contact Peter Johnson.

Peter Johnson • International Programs Officer

New Zealand Trip 2020

This 12-day tour of New Zealand's South Island is a fantastic travel opportunity for SOSE, Hospitality and Science students in Years 10, 11 and 12 (2020) at St Mary MacKillop College

An information evening for all students and their parents who are interested in attending an extra-curricular trip to the South Island of New Zealand in 2020 will be held on Wednesday, 8 May at 5.30pm in F Block at the St Peter's Campus. This information session is designed to go through the trip details, including contacts, timings and activities.

The trip is designed to extend the SOSE, Hospitality and Science students of 2020 in the Senior College.

If you are unable to attend, please email the Hospitality Coordinator Janelle Maas (janelle.maas@mackillop.act.edu.au) or Michael Batten at (michael.batten@mackillop.act.edu.au) prior to the evening.

Michael Batten • SOSE Coordinator (Isabella)

School Fees

Term 2 Fees were electronically sent to family email addresses on 17 April 2019. Fees are to be paid by 17 May 2019 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.

It is most important that you notify the College regarding any changes to your email address as this is our primary form of communication.

Please note that if you are seeking a credit for non attendance at a Camp or Retreat you must provide the College with a medical certificate or seek approved leave from the Campus Head.

Michelle Predovan • Fees Manager

Year 7 SRC

Late in Term 1, Year 7 students engaged in a process to elect a member of the Student Representative Council for each House. 30 students nominated to stand as candidates for the 4 leadership positions.

The elected Year 7 student representatives were announced on the final day of Term 1. They will be inducted into the SRC and presented with their Leadership Badges at the next Padua Campus Assembly on Wednesday 29 May.

Congratulations to the elected student leaders in Year 7 for each House:

Mindygari	Carli Rowlands-Mowle
Gurabang	Christina Said
Meup Meup	Sadies-Avari Petersen
Ngadyung	Samantha Pope

100%

Attendance

390 students, over 21 per cent of the student population, did not miss a day of school during Term 1 this year.

It is reassuring that students and parents/carers recognise the importance of regular attendance at school and the many academic and social benefits that come with this. Students who maintain 100 per cent attendance over the course of a semester are awarded an Attendance Certificate.



After School Sport

During Term 2 Basketball will be run as an afterschool sports activity, available to all students in Year 7 to 9. This is again being organised by College Sports Captain Jacob Church with assistance from other Year 12 student volunteers.

The sessions will take place on Thursday afternoons from Week 2 until Week 7 from 3.30pm to 4.30pm in the Wanniasa Campus Gym. Year 12 students will be coordinating the activities with a staff member present to supervise.

All boys and girls are invited to participate including those who may play Basketball competitively as well as those who may have limited experience in these or other organised sports.

The afternoon sports activities provide a great opportunity for students to involve themselves in the school community, enjoy a social sporting environment and build friendships. Students who have attained Bronze or Silver Status can count the hours that they attend towards their application for the next level of Status, as Community Involvement time.

Consent forms for students interested are available from Pastoral Care Coordinators, the PE Staffroom or they can also be downloaded from Canvas.

Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care

Student Wellbeing

HEAD TO HEALTH - MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

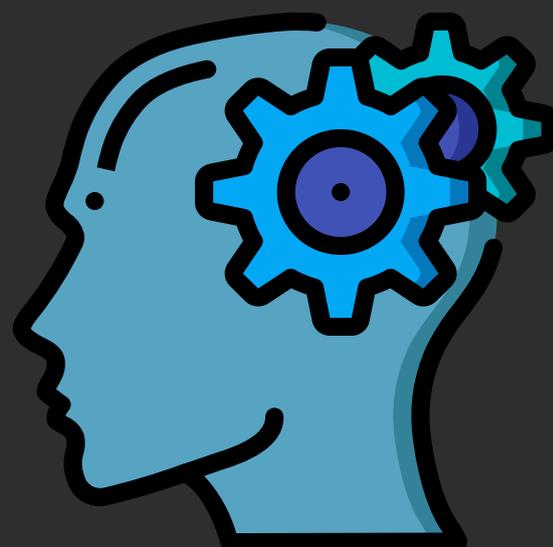
Head to Health is a website that links Australians to free or low cost online and phone mental health services, information and resources appropriate for their individual needs. It supports people seeking help - either for themselves or someone they care about.

Head to Health is not only helpful when seeking support for a mental health condition, it also provides information about staying mentally well.

Services and resources listed on Head to Health are delivered by Australia's mental health service providers including the Butterfly Foundation, beyondblue and Kids Helpline. They include free apps, online support communities, online courses, and phone services that are private and secure.

Head to Health was developed in collaboration between the community, the mental health sector, and the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Visit www.headtohealth.gov.au





Debating

On the last day of term 1, seven Year 11 students spent the day at the ACT Legislative Assembly debating several issues that are prominent topics in today's society. During the first three debates, we listened and asked several, well formed questions without notice at the end.

After an amazingly catered recess, we prepared for our first debate: *Should police wear body cams?* We were the negative team, and despite our questions, didn't win that debate. After a trip to the Canberra Centre and a quick lunch, we went back for our final debate: *Renewable energy cannot meet base load demand.* The team spent weeks preparing for this debate and it certainly paid off. After a thorough presentation and a dramatic questions-without-notice period, the team were thrilled to get the win!

All in all, it was a fabulous day and the senior debating team can't wait to do it again in Semester 2.

Charney Wells • Year 11 student



Geography

On Wednesday 3 April, 34 Geography students in Years 10, 11 and 12 travelled to Kosciuszko National Park. Multiple rangers from NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service were on hand to greet and guide the students through a range of fieldwork activities throughout the day. Year 10 students recorded observations from multiple locations across Kosciuszko National Park and examined the features of the vegetation zones found within the Park. Year 11 and 12 students walked along Charlotte Pass looking at the natural environmental hazards, such as invasive species, that are present in this alpine environment. In the afternoon, both groups examined the impact that human activity has had on the natural environment at Perisher Resort, as well as some of the management strategies that have been put in place to mitigate these impacts. While many challenges still exist in the preservation of the Kosciuszko National Park, it was clear that students realised the sizeable impact that humans have had on the degradation of the alpine area and are now aware of the active role that they can play in preserving this unique Australian landscape.



Nicholas McGinness & Trent Wilson • SOSE

Legal Studies

Recently students from Year 11 and Year 12 Legal Studies classes visited the ACT Magistrates and Supreme Courts to observe court procedures and learn about the criminal trial process. Students were also fortunate to visit the Youth Law Centre and speak with lawyers and paralegals who work in the Community Legal Sector. Year 11 students will soon complete their own 'mock trial', whilst Year 12 students are set to represent MacKillop at a Law Week Competition held at University of Canberra.

Peter Johnson • SOSE

Amazing Maths Race

On 11 April, two Year 8 Mathematics classes combined to test their mathematical knowledge, speed and accuracy. They participated in an Amazing Race activity that required them to form groups of three and complete math questions based on the units of work they had studied that term. Once they correctly completed a question, they ran up to the teacher to get their answer checked and receive the next challenge. Each time they progressed the questions became more challenging. The race was certainly on, with all students fully engaged and eager to win. Both Miss Kansal and Mrs McClelland were amazed by the competitive nature of the students and look forward to doing similar activities with these classes in the future. There was an overwhelmingly positive response from the students as they consolidated their knowledge and worked in teams to complete quite challenging, unfamiliar questions.



Some Reflections from the students were:

"The Amazing Race was a great initiative taken by the teachers to introduce competitions and excitement in the world of maths. Everyone wanted to win. It was a great activity to do at the end of the term that improved our maths skills." - Gemma Jones

"The Amazing Race was a really fun game to finish the term with. All of us were super competitive and very keen to win. It was a really cool and exciting new way to boost our maths skills but have fun at the same time." - Izabella Hayes

"The Amazing Race maths activity was fun because we were able to get out of the classroom and test our previous knowledge of what we had learnt in class. It was also good working with different people from the other class." - Kristelle McGowan, Georgia Miners, Chelsea To

Sonali Kansal and Ashleigh McClelland • Mathematics

Learning Commons News

Did you know there are many awesome benefits from reading fictions books?



(CBC Books, 2012, <https://open.buffer.com/reading-fiction/>)

There are LOTS of new fiction books at the Padua and St Peter's Libraries. Come and grab a fiction book and read for as little as 6 minutes!



The Learning Commons Library at the Padua Campus has been buzzing with students from all Year groups engaged in creating media content using the Green screen technology.

During Poetry Week there was a Poetry slam competition. There were many powerful messages from both teachers and students. Congratulations to the winners of this powerful competition.

Jessica Stokman • Learning Commons Coordinator

NAPLAN Timetable 2019

Please note the following timetable changes to allow for adequate preparation and introduction.

- Period 1 lessons will conclude at 10:00 am each day.
- Period 2 will begin at 10:05am to allow for IT set-up and test admin.
- Period 3 will begin at 11:45am and will end at 1:15pm
- Period 4 will begin at 1:15pm and will end at 1:45pm

	Tuesday 14 May Day 2	Wednesday 15 May Day 3	Thursday 16 May Day 4	Friday 17 May Day 5
	Year 7	Year 9	Year 9	Year 7
Period 2	Writing 42 minutes (plus 6.5 minutes for special provisions = 48.5 minutes total)	Writing 42 minutes (plus 6.5 minutes for special provisions = 48.5 minutes total)	Language Conventions 45 minutes (plus 7.5 minutes for special provisions = 52.5 minutes total)	Language Conventions 45 minutes (plus 7.5 minutes for special provisions = 52.5 minutes total)
Period 3 and Period 4	Reading 65 minutes (plus 11 minutes for special provisions = 76 minutes total)	Reading 65 minutes (plus 11 minutes for special provisions = 76 minutes total)	Numeracy 60 minutes (plus 10 minutes for special provisions = 70 minutes total)	Numeracy 60 minutes (plus 10 minutes = for special provisions 70 minutes total)

The time allocation in brackets for each session accommodates students who are entitled to special provisions. This will occur automatically for these students.
Catch-up sessions will run on Monday of the following week.



St Mary MacKillop College Performing Arts would like to extend an invitation to the MacKillop community to attend our Semester 1 2019 performances.

Act Up!

Exploring the theme of 'Times Up', our Year 11 Drama students will perform as part of a two-day student fringe festival at the Canberra Theatre Centre.

Date: Wednesday 5 June

Time: TBA

From Baroque to the Stage

MacKillop's Senior Music Industry, Tertiary and Accredited Music classes will perform their final assessment at the Padua Campus Theatrette.

Date: Wednesday 5 June

Time: 7.30pm

Year 8 Melodrama

Year 8 Drama have taken a trip back in time to when all stories had heroes and villains. They will be presenting performances filled with super heroes for their adoring fans at Padua Campus Theatrette.

Date: Tuesday 11 June

Time: 6-7pm

Masquerade

Senior Dance will perform their own compositions at the Padua Campus Theatrette. These explore the topic 'masquerade'. What in our lives do we choose to hide and to reveal?

Date: Wednesday 12 June

Time: 6-7pm

Year 8 Music

Year 8 music will perform their assessment live in the Padua Campus Music Room.

Date: Thursday 13 June

Time: 6-7pm

Comedy Show

Year 12 Drama presents an evening show filled with the unexpected, bizarre and strangely compelling as they complete their semesters exploration of comedy. The performance will take place at the Padua Campus Theatrette.

Date: Thursday 13 June

Time: 7-8pm

Performing Arts Festival

All Year 9 and 10 Performing Arts students will perform their final assessment at different venues around Padua Campus for family and friends at our inaugural 'Performing Arts Festival'. Come share and help celebrate our Dance, Drama, Music, and Band students.

Date: Monday 17 June

Time: 6-7pm



MacKillop Judo Club

MacKillop student dominates competitions

Congratulations to Lewis Bell (Year 8), who won three gold medals at the recent Victoria, Sydney, and ACT Judo Internationals. Lewis dominated the Senior Boys 60Kg division and was undefeated.

Lewis is preparing to represent the ACT at the Australian Judo Championships in June and is training under the direction of international coach Stephanos Georgiadis.

"The boys exhibit great commitment and dedication by training for a minimum of three days per week all year-round," Coach Stephanos said.

"I am very proud of Lewis and the rest of the team who train hard to make sure they can compete with the best. His goal, along with the rest of the team, is a good performance at the Australian Judo Championships."

The growth of our MacKillop Judo Club is shown by the addition of new members, family participation and enjoyment, and competition success. If you like to meet our team come at the Padua Campus gymnasium on Tuesdays or Fridays from 5:30pm or call Stephanos on 0411 105 449.

Student Achievement

Brianna Hosie and Bailey Watson (Year 7) have both been selected to represent the ACT at the National Junior League Baseball Championships in Adelaide from 26th-31st May 2019.

Tom Shakespeare (Year 10) is currently representing the ACT at the School Sport Australia Baseball Championships in Geelong.

Stephanie Brettargh (Year 10) will represent the ACT at the Australian All Schools Water Polo Championships in Sydney at the end of the month.

Lawn Bowls

On Tuesday of Week 10 last term, a select group of Year 11 and 12 students competed in the ACT Colleges Lawn Bowls competition. After a strong showing in the initial rounds from MacKillop, five pairs managed to make it through to the finals matches. The Year 12 team found their rhythm and rolled into the semi finals, and after some clutch bowling from Daniel Anderson, one Year 11 team joined them in the penultimate round. Although both teams put it in a gallant effort, both were knocked out at this stage, with the Year 11s going down to the eventual winner. Despite the result, the MacKillop teams held their heads high after a good day on the green and have set the standard for future competitions.



Andrew Brennan • Coach

insights

Speak so young people will listen

by Michael Grose



If you find that your young person's eyes glaze over the minute you start to talk to them, then don't despair. Sometimes all it takes is a small change to encourage your young person to listen to what you have to say.

1. Tell them what you'll do

Control is a big issue for young people. Threaten their need for control by telling them what to do and you risk them tuning out. Let them feel that they are calling the shots by focusing on your behaviour rather than telling them what to do. Instead of ordering "Clean your room now!" say "I only go into bedrooms that are neat and tidy." The shift in language is small but the impact can be significant as your young person is making the decision about their behaviour.

2. Bring others into the act

If your son or daughter is more likely to listen to other adults than you, consider looking use these favoured adults as leverage when holding important conversations. "I think Jai's dad would tell you that you need to be careful going to a party in that part of town." Referencing admired adults is a great way to get around a young person's natural defensiveness and their suspicion that their parents exist only to spoil their fun.

3. Slow communication down

If your son or daughter is adept using the tightest possible timeframe to get your permission, then develop the habit of buying yourself some time. A young person who asks you just before heading off to school if they can go to a party that night, usually knows intuitively that quick decisions will usually be made in their favour.

If you feel that you've been verbally ambushed by your young person, slow the conversation down rather than reply straight away. "I need to think about that. I'll get back to you after school." Add a time factor rather than force you to make a snap decision.

4. Avoid making eye contact to get cooperation

This strategy is anti-intuitive as we've been trained to make eye contact when we speak to others. However making eye contact with a young person while telling them to go to bed challenging them to either argue or ignore you. Better to use as few words as possible - "Erica, it's bed-time" - and look away while you're speaking, indicating that you're not willing to engage in verbal banter.

5. Put that finger away

Nothing invokes a verbal fight quite like an adult pointing a finger at a young person in an effort to get some cooperation. Finger-pointing cuts straight through to your young person's reptilian brain, inviting them to fight or flee. If you point to the bin indicating it's their turn to clean it, use an open palm. It's a non-threatening way for you to get your message across.

Adolescence is a volatile age when a wrong look or word can turn them against the messenger. Choose your words and your non-verbals carefully so that your young person will listen to the message rather than tune out due to clumsy delivery.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy

DAVID SMITH

LABOR FOR BEAN



Mr Michael Lee
Principal, St Mary MacKillop College
PO Box 1121
TUGGERANONG ACT 2901

Dear Mr Lee,

In a matter of a few weeks Australians will be asked to make an important choice when they vote in the Federal election.

Labor wants our children to be the best educated in the world with 15 years of world class education from universal access to two years of high quality pre-school for three and four year olds through to year 12, the opportunity to go on to TAFE or university, and support to be lifelong learners after that.

I was fortunate to receive a world class education infused with social justice principles at Saints Peter and Paul's in Garran and Marist College Pearce before attending the Australian National University.

My children attend Catholic schools in the electorate of Bean because Liesl and I want them to receive an education that balances academic excellence with the importance of community service.

In March 2018, Bill Shorten wrote to Archbishop Hart and stated that when it comes to school funding, Labor stands "shoulder to shoulder" with the church.

Labor has stood with Catholic schools in the ACT and around Australia to fight the cuts imposed by the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Governments. We were successful in restoring that money because of the campaign Labor ran alongside Catholic schools, and a Shorten Labor Government will match the funding that the Government has committed as well as continuing to ensure the SES formula does not unduly discriminate against local Catholic schools. Labor is also fighting to restore funding to public schools.

Under a Labor government, all students will be better off, irrespective of which school they attend.

As the Federal Labor Member for Bean, I will ensure that the students, parents, teachers and all members of the Mackillop community have a voice in a Shorten Labor Government.

Labor also recently announced that we would increase funding for students with disability by \$300 million over the three years from 2020. This commitment is in addition to the disability loading included as part of needs based school funding. This funding will help students get specialised teaching and support, pay for necessary equipment and alternations to school facilities and provide access to modern technologies that help students.

DAVID SMITH

LABOR FOR BEAN



A Shorten Labor Government will also continue to support the chaplaincy program, and will give schools the option to choose a secular student welfare officer. Labor knows that principals and school communities are best placed to understand their students' needs, which is why we will give schools a choice about the services they need and staff they hire, whether that be chaplains or welfare officers.

We also want to support our teachers to deliver outstanding teaching throughout their careers. Labor's additional funding for schools will allow proper investment in continuing professional development for teachers, so they can be lifelong learners and continue to build their skills throughout their professional lives. We will also renew the Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers program, providing a career path for teachers by recognising exceptional teaching.

Labor also knows that investing in school leadership is one of the ways we can have the greatest impact on student performance. That is why Labor will set up a new National Principals' Academy to give thousands of Australian principals advanced leadership training and support. We will ask principals' organisations, the states and territories, catholic and independent schools, unions and other organisations to assist us in establishing the Academy and designing the courses on offer. Mackillop College has particular expertise that would be invaluable in developing such an academy.

We will provide our nation's top students bursaries of up to \$40,000 to encourage them into teaching. Year 12 students with exceptional marks and people with outstanding achievement at university or in the workforce will compete for up to 1,000 cash bonuses each year. The tax-free bursaries of \$10,000 per annum will be paid to recipients for the duration of a teaching degree, up to a maximum of four years. We'll also ensuring there are pathways into teaching for those who might have undertaken other activities after finishing school, but have the aptitude, passion and commitment to become great teachers.

One of the joys of my last 12 months has been the opportunity to take part in assemblies and masses with the Mackillop community.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to deliver this important priority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Smith
Labor Candidate for Bean



SENATOR ZED SESELJA

LIBERAL SENATOR FOR THE ACT



**BUILDING OUR ECONOMY.
SECURING YOUR FUTURE.**

Dear Mackillop Parent,

With an election just around the corner, I know many parents have at the front of mind school funding. That's especially the case this election when there has been a lot of uncertainty in the past two years for Canberra schools.

I was outspoken with my concerns about the initial changes to education funding in 2017 and I made the case to the Education Minister that Canberra schools would be disadvantaged if we didn't amend the model.

I fought for and secured \$57.7 million in additional transitional funding for ACT non-Government schools, including \$36.08 million for Catholic Schools, as well as a review of the SES model for assessing funding need.

As Ross Fox, Director of Catholic Education said at the time:

"I acknowledge the hard work of Liberal Senator Zed Seselja to negotiate additional funding that recognises the needs of non-government schools in the ACT. I believe this funding is sufficient to ensure no child who enrolls in a Catholic school in 2018 will face pressure on fees or funding cuts during their time in a Catholic school."

Last year, the review of the SES model which I fought for found that there were shortcomings in the model and therefore, from 2020, a new direct income measure will be used to determine the capacity of a school community to contribute to their school's operating costs. This has a substantial positive impact on the funding model for Catholic schools in the ACT.

In addition, the Government is putting forward a \$1.2 billion Choice and Affordability fund that will further improve funding for ACT Catholic schools.

Mr Fox also stated at the time of this announcement

"I note the particular advocacy in the Coalition Government of Senator Zed Seselja for fair funding for non-government schools in the ACT."

The Liberal National Government are delivering record health funding across Australia, in this year's Budget, a record \$21.4 billion will be provided for state schools, Catholic schools and Independent schools for the 2020 school year – an increase in funding of \$8.5 billion since 2013.

At this election there is a choice between the Liberal National Government's plan for a strong economy so that we can fund schools and the services we rely on, and Bill Shorten's \$387 billion in new taxes. It's an important choice that sets the direction of our country and I encourage you to think carefully about your vote.

Yours sincerely,

Senator Zed Seselja
Liberal Senator for the ACT