

College

Newsletter



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume 11 2019

16 AUGUST

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Coming

Up

MON 1 9 A U G

• Book Week begins

THU 2 2 A U G

• Book Week Dress Ups

MON 0 2 S E P

• Year 11 Leadership Preparation Session
• Year 12 Assessment-Free Week

TUE 0 3 S E P

• Year 12 AST
• Year 12 Breakfast

WED 0 4 S E P

• Year 12 AST

THU 0 5 S E P

• ICAS Science Competition

FRI 1 3 S E P

• MacKillop Day

FRI 2 0 S E P

• Spring Zing

Contact Us

Contact Details



02 6209 0100



info@mackillop.act.edu.au



www.mackillop.act.edu.au



PO Box 1211
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,

MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE, EDEN

Thank you to Mrs Kim Maloney and Mr Nathan Wood, who joined me with the A Cappella Choir on the Eden Pilgrimage last Friday and Saturday. We travelled to Eden on Friday afternoon and visited Lumen Christi College and the MacKillop Museum at Eden. The students gained a rich insight into the relationship Mary MacKillop formed with the community of Eden after her mother Flora drowned in a shipwreck at the end of the 19th Century. The choir performed at the Pilgrimage Mass on Saturday to the delight of the pilgrims and the local parish. This was a very generous act on behalf of the staff and students, most of whom had been performing in the musical each night that week.

I was reminded all over again of the quality of this group, the expert leadership of Mrs Maloney, and of the real joy they bring to all who hear them.

COLLEGE MUSICAL, SPAMALOT

I haven't always had positive experiences of musicals! In 1969, my mother took me to audition with the Campbelltown Players for the role of Oliver in their community theatre production. So affronted was she when I was offered the role of the Artful Dodger that she refused to allow me to participate at all! Apart from a matinee with the Charlie Brown musical in 1973, I had successfully avoided seeing any of them, until I became Principal of MacKillop, where I have missed none!

Whilst I shudder to think how I would cope with a College production of Oliver (reflecting on what might have been – Hugh Jackman eat your heart out!) the quality of each of the performances has always been very high.

Perennial features of a MacKillop musical are the diverse range of students that participate, expert timing and movement upon the stage, a real sense of spirit and enjoyment, and only a nodding fidelity to the original intentions of the musical – we do like to make them our own! Mrs Mansfield and Mrs McLennan, along with other staff, were warmly applauded on Thursday for their leadership of the musical, as were the cast, sound crew, and backstage crew. This was a wonderful community event for the College and a real highlight of the school year. Please sir, I want some more!

AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

Congratulations to all the recipients of awards presented at assemblies last week and this. Very large numbers of parents, carers, families and friends attended both assemblies and warmly congratulated the varied achievements of many students. It is important to remember that the criteria for these awards are rigorous and not easily handed out – therefore all the worthier! I look forward to signing off on even more at the end of the year!

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

“Perennial features of a MacKillop musical are the diverse range of students, expert timing and movement on stage, a real sense of spirit and enjoyment, and that we like to make them our own!”

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord,

We give thanks for the abundant talent in our community.

Amen.



Monty Python's Spamalot

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the College Musical, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, which took place at the Padua Campus Theatre last week to rave reviews.

Spamalot, a musical comedy adapted from the 1975 film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, is an irreverent parody of the Legend of King Arthur and Camelot. The story follows King Arthur as he gathers his Knights of the Round Table and sets out to find the Holy Grail. The College production was typically 'Pythonesque', with surreal and slapstick comedy, dramatic acting, witty improvisation, theatrical choreography, catchy songs, and intricate costumes. The talent that students brought to the acting, singing, and dancing made for a truly entertaining experience.

Congratulations to the entire cast, backstage team, sound and lighting crew, production team, choreographers, stage designers, costume and prop creators, hair and makeup team, front of house, and all students, parents, and staff who made the production possible. Particular thanks and congratulations to the core production team of Petrina Mansfield, Nicola McLennan, Bella van Doorn, Amanda Knott, Jacinta Paquay, and Performing Arts Captain Flynn Gibbs-Patterson.

It was great to see the MacKillop community enjoying the talents of our staff and students again this year. Congratulations!



Year 12 Retreat

Retreat provided a great opportunity for Year 12 to relax and reflect on our past years of schooling as well as form and strengthen bonds with one another. The balanced itinerary for the three days allowed us to engage in reflective activities in our Pastoral Care Classes, listen to insightful presentations by Mr Lee and Ms Darley as well as spend quality time together. We took the time to write affirmations and reflect upon how far we have all come in the six years we have been together. An emotional ceremony where representatives from each PC thanked their respective PC teachers reminded us of the care and support our teachers give to us daily and further emphasised the limited time we have before graduation.

We extend our gratitude and appreciation to everyone who made retreat as amazing as it was, especially Ms De Ambrosis!

Gabrielle Petersen and Chris Caruana • College Captains

Junior Stretch Challenge

On 1 August, Milly McCabe, Elisabeth Lilley, Hamish Williamson, Izaak Brettargh, Freia Huber, Taylah Lee, Brinda Raju, Nila Ranjith, Stephanie Crowe, Eden D'Souza, Annabelle Vial, Emily Rasheed participated in the JSC at CGGS.

The day was full of activities designed to challenge the way people think and express their ideas on certain topics including genetics, epigenetics, what the purpose of life is, who we are and where we are headed in life. The day started with a lecture about what makes a good decision and how we can make good choices in our lives.



This was followed by a group discussion about whether the meaning of life is "to be happy". Each discussion group was formed randomly and was designed to allow students to meet new people, share their thoughts, and listen to other people's opinions on the subject. After lunch, the students participated in another lecture about genetics, epigenetics and philosophy and then ended the day with a debate about whether it is okay to cull kangaroos. Ultimately, this was a fabulous day for all who attended. I would like to thank Ms Kansal and Ms Gupta for giving us this opportunity and for making the day a huge success.

Freia Huber • Year 8



Gardening Initiative

Recently we have been given our own garden patch and have been able to plant whatever we like. So far we've planted carrots, lettuce, snow peas, herbs, onions, tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, capsicum, beetroot, dwarf beans, strawberries and a range of flowers.

We have reused pots to plant our seeds in. When they have grown into seedlings, we will move them into the bigger space for them to fully grow. We have also used teapots and saucepans to plant flowers and herbs in. We have all brought in pots to use.

We were very privileged to receive a small greenhouse from one of the staff to keep our seeds warm while they grow into seedlings. We want our garden patch to be as colourful as it can be using vegetable plants and lots and lots of flowers! We have also decided to paint the side of our garden patch for an extra splash of colour!

So far our garden has been very successful and we hope that it will continue to be as we continue to grow our garden. We would like to thank Mrs Weaver for giving us this opportunity.

Addisen Bale, Annikah Field, Jessica Hannett and Hannah Vickers • Year 7

SRC Update

The SRC has been really happy with the student participation in our House Charity weeks, particularly with the uniform variation. Another uniform variation will be held in Week 6 for Gurabang. Follow the SRC Instagram @mackillop_src for updates and ideas.

Miguel Sanchez
Connection & Communications Captain



Student Achievement

In July, Engarde@MacKillop hosted the first event of the 2019 ACT U15 Fencing Championships (Sabre). Engarde fencers covered the podium, with MacKillop student **Benjamin Crowley** (Year 9) winning the gold medal.

Sam Sergio (Year 12) represented Australia in squash at the World Junior Championships in Malaysia at the end of July.

Thomas Lynch (Year 7) was awarded Best Stableford at the ACT Monaro Winter Junior Week of Golf in July.

Keira Polmanteer (Year 8) and Logan Stewart (Year 10) represented the ACT at the School Sport Australia Hockey Championships in Newcastle.

Caitlin Jorritsma (Year 7) played the lead role of 'Jack' in Child Players ACT musical production of Jack and the Beanstalk during the July school holidays.

Callum Doherty (Year 10) will play the lead role of Charlie in the Budding Theatre production of Jasper Jones, which is will be held at the Canberra Theatre Centre's Courtyard Studio in October.

At the end of July, **Brianna Simon, Jessica Reardon, Tam Espartero** (Year 7), **Ashley Bryson** (Year 9), **Isabella Simon** (Year 10), and **Maddy Watson** (Year 12) represented the Canberra Physical Culture Club at an interstate dance competition in Figtree.

Luke Gray (Year 7) represented the ACT at the School Sport Australia Australian Football Championships in Mandurah, WA, last week.

Leo Vanderpol (Year 7) has been selected to represent the ACT at the School Sport Australia Football (Soccer) Championships here in Canberra at the end of the month.

Michelle Bryant (Year 12) competed at the recent Country Gymnastics Championships in level 10 Rhythmic and came away with individual and team golds and was 2nd overall.

Former student **Michaela Leonard** (Class of 2012) played for the Wallaroos against New Zealand in Perth on the weekend.

Safe drop-off and pick-up

Unsafe driving and parking pose a potential safety risk for our students. We ask that drivers follow road rules at and around both MacKillop campuses to ensure the entire College community remains safe.

Please do not park on the verge, in bus bays, near crossings and on surrounding streets as this increases the risks to students. Please drop off and pick up students before and after school on the Basketball Courts at each campus to ensure all of our students remain safe.

Sandra Darley & Paul O'Callaghan
Campus Heads

Semester 2 Goals & Assessment Planners

The first Student Mentoring session of Semester 2 focuses on students striving to improve and engaging with their studies as much as possible in order to achieve their potential. Students have the opportunity to review their Semester 1 Approaches to Learning for each subject along with Grades for Achievement and Application to studies. Goals for this semester are then encouraged to be set and recorded on page 76 of the Student Diary.

Students are also asked to complete an Assessment Planner for Semester 2 which contains the due dates of all assessment tasks. The Semester 2 Assessment Planner is on pages 74 and 75 of the Student Diary. This should be used by students to assist in organising and managing time. It can also be accessed by parents/carers to check due dates, monitor work completed at home and assist in ensuring that assessment tasks are met within deadlines.

Most students in Years 10 to 12 have had their Student Mentoring session. Students in Years 7 to 9 will have theirs on Wednesday 21 August.

World Challenge Expedition: Borneo 2020

Students who are **currently in Year 10** have the opportunity to participate in MacKillop's annual World Challenge Expedition to Borneo in November and December 2020. The program involves students planning and ultimately leading their own three-week expedition.

The details of an information evening for Year 10 students and parents are:

Date: Wednesday 28 August, 2019

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre, new Student Services Centre, St Peter's (Isabella) Campus



Free Parent Webinar: Creating 21st Century rites of passage

In this webinar, parents/carers will develop clear guidelines and learn impactful strategies to support you to build strong healthy relationships with their children, bolster their independence and support them in their use of technology in these rapidly changing times.

Date & Time: Wednesday 28 August 2019, 8:00pm AEST

For further information see the parenting ideas article at the end of this Newsletter. Details on how to redeem the voucher in order to gain free access are at the conclusion of the article.

A YouTube video accessible [HERE](#) provides further information about rites of passage.

Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care



Dr Graham Walker Science Show

On Friday 2 August, Year 7 students were fortunate to have a special visit by Dr Graham Walker and his spectacular science show about Forces! We are currently learning about forces and his show was very relevant to us as well as being very engaging and informative. Throughout the show, Dr Walker involved the audience; he even had some students on stage shooting marshmallows at him. Dr Walker showed us lots of experiments and most of them were built with household items so we could try them at home. Some of his experiments included a marshmallow shooter, a hover board and a canon that decapitated a toy monkey (it also shot out a whole bunch of other stuffed teddies). All of these forces were unbalanced as they pushed, pulled or twisted.

Avari & Gemma • Year 7



Oceanography

On 9 August, Year 11 Oceanography students had the opportunity to visit Geoscience Australia and learn about bathymetry and its applications. Students learnt about how bathymetrical studies assisted with the search for MH 370 and had the opportunity to explore Geoscience's amazing collection and touch some moon rock.



Guest Lecturer

On Tuesday all Physics students in Years 11-12 were audience to a guest lecture by Dr Helen Maynard-Casely in the comfort of the new lecture hall. Dr Maynard-Casely from ANSTO is Australia's "2019 Women in Physics Lecturer" and delivered a talk on "How Neutrons Will Save the World". In this talk our students learned how neutrons from Australia's Opal reactor can be used for cutting edge research in a range of fields including electronics, energy and medicine.

ICAS Science Competition

An invitation to participate in the 2019 ICAS Science Competition has been emailed to the families in all students 7-12. The ICAS Science competition is an online multiple choice quiz, designed to recognise and reward academic excellence by allowing students to demonstrate a deeper, integrated, and thorough level of learning. There is no cost for students to gain experience, and recognition, in this nationally benchmarked competition. Permission forms need to be returned to school by 21 August.

Tristan Burg & Kate Goolagong • Science Coordinators

Performing Arts Camp

SMMC is pleased to offer our Performing Arts students an opportunity to attend a two-day camp to develop and extend their skills in their chosen discipline. The Camp will be held on 23 and 24 September at the Warrambui Conference Centre, Murrumbateman.

This year's workshops will be as follows:

- Dance: Hip Hop, Contemporary and Musical Theatre.
- Music: Advanced Vocals, Choir, Rock Band and Instrumentals.
- Drama: Theatre sports, Improvisation, Performance Ensemble and Busker's Workshop.

Similar to last year, we are thrilled to have our past student mentors return to share their talent and training with our current students. Leading our dance teams this year will be professional Hip Hop performers and teachers Jess Bui and Mitch Cridland, Dance Boss star Angela Sullivan, and off-Broadway starlet Hayley Paull all under the experienced and watchful eye of Mrs Bella van Doorn.

Our Drama workshops, supervised by MC extraordinaire Mr Jeremy Margosis, will be led by local amateur theatre frequent Liam Jackson, Canberra Comedy Festival favourite Ashy Kinsella, Magical Masterminds Harry Hattch and Michael Caruana and ex-Performing Arts captain and Drama teacher-in-training Tash Brittain.

Singing sensation Maddie Prescott (Choir) will accompany a plethora of music specialists from the teaching staff. We are thrilled to have on board Mrs Kim Maloney (Vocals) Mr Jon Moyle (Rock Band) and Ms Lyndall De Ambrosis (Instrumentals).

If you feel as though your son or daughter would benefit from an intense two-day camp, visit our QKR site for notes, information and payment or see your Performing Arts teacher. Payment and notes due 23 August.

Petrina Mansfield • Director of Performance



What's on in Performing Arts?

This semester sees the Performing Arts involved in a number of events. Having just wrapped up the NAIDOC Week Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral, the College Musical '*Spamalot*' and PCOPA's pilgrimage to Eden, we are now beginning to look forward to our productions and performances around the school and community.

- Band continues each Friday Morning at Padua Campus
- Boys and Girls Dance Crew continue each Thursday morning.
- PCOPA - CE Recognition Awards, 29 August
- Performing Arts Camp, 23-24 September (Notes due Friday 23rd August)
- Dance Festival: Boys Dance Crew, Year 9 Dance, Year 10 Dance and Senior Dance on 12 September from 7pm at the Canberra Theatre Centre
- Year 12 Drama Production: *The Hamlet Thrill-ma-geddon*, 11 and 12 November at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre
- Senior Dance: *We Remember*, 14 November
- Year 11 Drama: *Much Ado About Mean Girls*, 18 November and 6pm, St Peter's Campus Lecture Theatre
- Year 10 Theatre Tech: Museum Display, 18 November at 4pm in the Learning Commons
- Primary Schools Tour, Week 18

Bella van Doorn • Performing Arts Coordinator

School Fees

Fees for Term 3 should now be finalised unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved arrangement. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately.

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

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

Book Week

Next week is Book Week and in celebration of this a number of activities will take place at the St Peter's and Padua Campuses. There is also an opportunity, on Thursday 22 August, for students to dress up to the theme 'Reading is my Secret Power'. Please check student messages each day next week for daily activities.

Cathryn Thomas • Teacher Librarian

Senior Scholarships

Year 10 students continuing their enrolment at St Mary MacKillop College are invited to apply for a scholarship to assist with Tuition Fees in Years 11 and 12. Successful recipients will have 50% of their Tuition Fee as set by the Catholic Education Committee (CEC) credited to their fees account for 2020 and 2021. There will be two different categories of Scholarship - Academic and Community.

[DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM](#)

If you would like to apply, download an application form and submit it to Mr Lee on or before Friday 25 October 2019.

Community & Careers News

SMITH FAMILY SAVER PLUS

The Smith Family Saver Plus matches savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs. To find out more, visit saverplus.org.au.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The South Woden Parish is having an enquiry night for adults who wish to become Catholic. The night will take place on Thursday 22 August from 6:30-7:30pm at 115 Hodgson Cres, Pearce.

CHARLES STURT ADVANTAGE

Students can apply for a wide variety of undergraduate courses for 2020 via the Charles Sturt Advantage program. Check out CSU website www.csu.edu.au/advantage for courses and information. Applications will close on 31 August.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE 2020 CAREER STARTER PROGRAM

The Department of Finance 2020 Career Starter Program opened for application from Year 12 students on Monday 5 August and closes Monday 26 August 2019 (11:30pm AEST). Visit www.finance.gov.au/about-department/recruitment/career-starter-program/

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES EVENING

Your chance to explore the possibility of studying overseas. Meet with representatives from 20 leading universities and colleges from across the world. This will be held on 27 August from 5.30-7.30pm at Canberra Girls Grammar School: www.trybooking.com/BECLC.

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

UC has introduced a new early entry program for year 11. They will be selecting 25 student from ACT region with two places in the program will being prioritised for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students: www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/apply-now/alternative-entry/fast-forward-program

insights



The loss of healthy rites of passage

by Dr. Arne Rubinstein

Rites of Passage have always been a significant part of community life, until now. Each stage of a person's life was marked and celebrated including the significant step of moving into adulthood.

The shift from childhood to adulthood has always been marked by a rite of passage, which represents entry to the adult world and the rights that go with it. This new set of rights is also accompanied by a responsibility to serve and contribute to the community.

The loss of healthy rites of passage

For many young people Schoolies Week, the annual Year 12 endless party, is the only rite of passage they have. The loss of meaningful rites of passage is having disastrous consequences on young people.

Too often we see young men in their twenties and beyond acting like boys in constant need of acknowledgement from their peers, dodging responsibility and still seeking approval from their mother. Many young women are stuck in perpetual adolescence, more worried about how they look than how they can contribute to their communities.

Adults have a role to play

It's the role of adults to recognise and bring out children's strengths and natural gifts so they can contribute fully to their communities as adults. One of the most significant roles of the elderly is to care for and pass on wisdom to the young. Not surprisingly in the past it has been the elders who were responsible for overseeing the Rites of Passage and their timely delivery.

Rites of Passage are not supposed to be done in isolation. As a child becomes a young adult parents also need to take a step and move to the next stage in their lives. Each new stage of development for a child or young person represents a new beginning for parents as well.

Unfortunately, elderhood is not highly coveted or respected in these modern times and there is a global marketing campaign telling us that youth is the desirable and only really acceptable life stage. When adulthood is not fully appreciated or understood, then it's little wonder that many young people are hanging on to their adolescence well into their twenties. Some never make the leap into adulthood.

Families and communities can rediscover the notion of rites of passage and begin to invent their own pathways to adulthood, complete with markers and appropriate recognition. They can put their own celebrations in place that mark significant ages, and the all-important transition to adulthood. These celebrations should include a bringing

together of significant adults and a passing on of wisdom and stories from past generations to a young person. These rites of passage can be creative, must be inclusive and need to be appropriate to each family or community situation.

As your school has a membership with Parenting Ideas, you can attend the [Creating 21st century rites of passage webinar](#) – at no cost!

About the webinar

Join Dr Arne Rubinstein as he discusses the importance of rites of passage in the 21st century. In this webinar you'll develop clear guidelines and learn impactful strategies to support you to build strong healthy relationships with your children, bolster their independence and support them in their use of technology in these rapidly changing times.

When

Wednesday 28 August 2019 8:00pm AEST.

Price

This webinar is \$37 per person to attend, and is free of charge to families at schools that have a membership.

How parents can redeem the voucher

1. Click this link: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-creating-21st-century-rites-of-passage>
2. Click 'Add to cart'
3. Click 'View cart'
4. Enter the voucher code **rites** and click 'Apply Coupon' (valid until 28 September 2019). Your discount of \$37 will be applied.
5. Click 'Proceed to checkout'
6. Fill in your account details. These details are used to login to your account and access your parenting material
7. Click 'Place Order'



Dr. Arne Rubinstein

Dr. Arne Rubinstein is an internationally recognised expert on Rites of Passage and adolescent development. He is the author of the best-seller 'The Making of Men' and has won multiple awards for his work including being nominated for Australian of the Year 2008 for his work with youth. Dr Arne is the proud father of two wonderful young men and a mentor to many others.