

College

Newsletter



MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume 12 2020

25 SEPTEMBER

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Coming

Up

FRI 2 5 SEP

- Last day of Term 3

MON 1 2 OCT

- Term 4 begins

THU 1 5 OCT

- Progress Reports sent home

WED 2 8 OCT

- House Captain Elections
- Senior Hospitality Dinner (TBC)

WED 0 4 NOV

- Long Tan Awards
- Campus Captain Elections

WED 1 1 NOV

- Remembrance Day
- ISART Exhibition
- Year 10 Exams commence

TUE 1 7 NOV

- Year 12 Farewell Assembly

WED 1 8 NOV

- Senior Exams commence
- Junior SRC Elections

Contact Us

Contact Details



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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/
stmarymackillop

Principal's

Letter



Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,

YEAR 12 2021 CAPTAIN ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Year 11 students who allowed their name to go forward as candidates for election for Year 12 Captain positions 2021. There is real courage in allowing your name to appear on a ballot. The desire to serve and lead should always be admired. The captains for 2021 are:

- College Captains: Lilly Vassallo and Zac Cunningham
- Faith & Community Captain: Mara Brophy
- Sport Captain: Sam Robinson
- Performing Arts Captain: Callum Doherty
- Sustainability Captain: Alison Staniforth
- Communications & Connections Captain: Kira Tawton

MACKILLOP DAY 2020

This year's MacKillop Day was a day unlike any other – no jumping castle, no singing, no Mass, no visiting of the other campus, no rain, no fairy floss! And yet a good time was had by all! What mattered was the central idea of what we celebrate; community, belonging, shared identity, the life and legacy of a remarkable woman, and the place of the Sisters of St Joseph in the story of this school. A particular thanks to Mr Jonathan Moyle for his leadership of the online Liturgy and to Mr Lachlan McNicol, who oversaw the organisation of our celebratory events. I acknowledge the contribution of many staff and students, which made for a successful event despite the regrettable restrictions.

SATISFACTION SURVEYS

A summary of the responses from the [Parent Satisfaction Survey](#) is now available.

SCHOLARSHIPS (YEAR 11 2021, YEAR 12 2022)

Thank you to the large number of applicants for senior scholarships. The College will be increasing the number of scholarships available and applicants for 2021 will be advised by the end of Week 1, Term 4.

VALE TERM 3!

Whilst it is true that much has been achieved at the College this term and there is much to be thankful for, it has not been without the burden of anxiety and uncertainty around COVID-19 and the potential of destabilisation to teaching and learning, which is core business at this school, and the safety of members of the community, which is core business for us all.

A particular acknowledgement should be made of the energy of Year 12 and their teachers in preparation for the AST and important assessment tasks. I am aware that many of our families have had no break since last December with fires, floods, and virus. I hope this spring break is a time to pause and reflect for some diversion and relaxation with family and friends – it is richly deserved!

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE, COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

"Much has been achieved at the College this term and there is much to be thankful for."

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord,

We give thank for the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the US Supreme Court. Justice Ginsburg was a beacon of justice for all. Her life was one of commitment to giving voice to the marginalised and oppressed and she was an inspiration to generations, not only of Americans but those who loved the law throughout the world. May her memory be blessed.

Amen.



MacKillop Day

The College celebrated the life of Mary MacKillop and the culture of the school with a modified MacKillop Day on Friday 11 September. Despite COVID restrictions impacting on the day, students made the most of the opportunity to pause and celebrate.

The celebrations started with a digital liturgy that captured the patronage and legacy of St Mary MacKillop. The liturgy included prayer, readings, reflections from Mr Lee and Fr James, a performance of 'Oceans' by the A Cappella Choir, and images of MacKillop from the 10 years since the canonisation of our patron. After the liturgy, staff and students were provided with a catered and extended lunch, before splitting into PC classes for a range of activities at each campus.

Congratulations to the students for bringing such a positive energy to the occasion, as well as the many staff who planned and prepared for the day. We hope it was an enjoyable day for all!

Student Achievement

Ella Grech and Kate Conway (Year 11) have recently been busy fundraising within the Canberra Community for an organisation called "One Girl". This organisation supports young women in third world countries who do not have adequate access to education. Congratulations to both Ella and Kate for their commitment and dedication in engaging family and friends to raise over \$5000 in less than one week.

Over the last two weekends, six girls from MacKillop achieved success in different age groups in the BJP Physie (Dance) ACT Champion Girl Competition. The competition was held in a different format due to COVID. Congratulations to Brianna Simon (Year 8) who came first, Jessica Howieson (Year 8) and Ashley Bryson (Year 10) who came second, Annabelle Nelson (Year 9) who came third, Jess Reardon (Year 8) and Tam Espartero (Year 8) who both made it to the final.

Bus Route 2069

School Route 2069 will now travel via the Erindale Interchange to make a better connection with Route 76 on the morning trip. This change will commence from the beginning of Term 4.

If you would like more information about Transport Canberra services, please visit <https://www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around>

Transport Canberra

Semester 2 Progress Reports

Earlier this week our Principal, Michael Lee, wrote to all parents and carers explaining the changes to our regular parent-teacher interview arrangements and to the progress reports.

As a College we greatly value the opportunity to meet with parents and carers to discuss the progress of their sons/daughters over the semester. It is regrettable that we are unable to hold these interviews at this time. We highly value feedback to parents, and the progress reports will now have more detail about each student from each subject teacher. This extra detail, in the form of strengths and areas for development, is designed to provide some of the detail that is usually discussed at parent-teacher interviews. Parents and carers, as always, are welcome to make further contact with individual class teachers if they wish to further discuss their son's or daughter's progress.

The progress reports will be emailed to parents and carers on Thursday 15 October 2020.

Maria O'Donnell • Assistant Principal Academic Care

MacKillop Judo Club Special Offer

Try Judo! MacKillop Judo Club is providing eight weekly lessons for \$100, commencing Thursday 22 October 2020.

- Beginners only class
- Small groups – Limited spots
- Similar age group (min age 12years)
- Uniform will be provided for the course
- This course will count towards your first judo belt

Expression of Interest are now open. Contact Stephanos on 0411 105 449 or email stephanosjudo@hotmail.com. Enrol before 27 September to receive this offer.

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.

Any family affected by the COVID-19 Health Crisis may apply for a Fee Remission for Term 3. Please contact the Fees Office on 6209 0100.

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

Music Program

Congratulations to the Year 7 Band who have rehearsed together for one term on Wednesday mornings. Rehearsals have been lively and exciting with significant progress and achievement. From next term, the Year 7s will join the main concert band on Fridays.

Our other ensembles have continued to rehearse and are also sounding great. New members are welcome.

Tuesday, 8.15am: Vocal Ensemble

Thursday, 8.15am: String Ensemble

Friday, 8.15am: Concert Band

In addition, there will be an advanced wind ensemble starting in Term 4. Students from across the College who play a wind or percussion instrument at a more advanced level (approx Grade 4 and above) are invited to apply. Please contact me for more information: veronica.boulton@mackillop.act.edu.au



Veronica Boulton • Director of Music & Performance

Debating

During the past few weeks, students from Year 10 have lent a hand – virtually – to the Southside Primary School Debating Competition by adjudicating some excellent debates from local schools. The Year 6 teams presented impressive debates on some controversial topics. The St Mary MacKillop College adjudicators were able to join in via Microsoft Teams to hear the debates. The well-informed arguments and witty rebuttals made the experience engaging and fun. Thank you to all debaters and to Mrs McLennan and Mrs White for this opportunity.

Emily Rasheed • Year 10



Creative Maths

Creative Maths has been an enriching and fun experience this term. We started off learning about logic and reasoning, where we were challenged with fun logic questions that tested our understanding and will. We then moved onto code breaking and encryption. We have learnt about a lot of interesting topics such as: modular arithmetic, matrices and online encryption. We also learnt about the World War 2 Enigma Machine and how it was broken by Alan Turing.

At the moment we are learning about Curve Stitching. Curve stitching is a form of string art where smooth curves are created through the use of straight lines. We created lots of cool and creative curve stitching patterns. To do this we hammered nails into a wooden board and using string we threaded them in a pattern. The wool may look curved but don't be fooled as all lines are straight.

Overall Creative Maths has been a fun, challenging experience which gave us a chance to expand our knowledge.

Milly McCabe • Year 8



Science Opportunities

ASTRONOMY CLUB

For a few beautiful clear nights in term 3 the MacKillop Astronomy Club came back to school at night to share in the wonders of the sky. Club members delighted in using the telescopes to find planets, nebulae, and star clusters in the night sky. We even had a flyover visit from the ISS! In particular, close up views of the Great Red Spot of Jupiter and the rings of Saturn will sit happily in the memory until we can start up again next year.

ANSTO VIRTUAL EXCURSIONS

Both Year 11 and 12 physics students recently had the opportunity to engage in virtual excursions of ANSTO – Australia's nuclear science research centre. Students enjoyed a tour of the scientific methods used in many experiments that ANSTO conducts, including using their nuclear reactor to make medical isotopes used in hospitals across the country, high end silicon wafers used in bullet trains, and neutrons that are used to investigate the structure of biological compounds. Our students impressed the ANSTO staff with their insightful questions that kept the experts on their toes, and enjoyed a taste of the many career opportunities that their skills will prepare them for.

David Henry • Science



Learning Commons News

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club at the Padua Campus is open Monday to Thursday from 3.15pm to 4:30pm. Students are welcome to use this time and learning space to complete school work, assessment or to seek assistance from a Learning Commons Teacher. We encourage students to plan their activities and make the most of their time during Homework Club. Please remember to sign in and out!

HOW CAN THE LEARNING COMMONS HELP STUDENTS?

Senior students have a variety of staff members working in the Learning Commons Library to support them in their learning.

- Learning Commons staff are available to Year 11 and 12 students at the St Peter's Campus. This includes booking a time with the Learning Commons Teacher or the Teacher Librarian to discuss goal setting, time management, research and digital literacy skills, concepts and assessments tasks.
- A variety of specialist teachers from Mathematics, Science, English, Religious Education and HASS also play a vital role in the Learning Commons at the Senior Campus. These teachers are timetabled in the Learning Commons to assist students.

At the Junior Campus, students can see the Learning Commons Staff to help with their research skills, finding the right resources, note-taking and referencing.

LEARNING COMMONS RESOURCES

The Learning Commons also has resources to support students in their learning:

- Canvas Library page
- A virtual Library better known as 'Oliver' and 'LearnPaths'. Students have access to curated age appropriate digital resources (including databases, a video collection, ebooks and websites) anywhere, anytime.
- Facts On File - This is a digital database for Year 7 to 12 students for subject areas including English, Science, Modern History and Ancient & Medieval History.
- EBSCO - This is a digital database for Year 10 to 12 students.
- Reference generator.

Jessica Stokman • Learning Commons Coordinator

Inspire Art Competition

Thank you and congratulations to all students who submitted entries into our Inspire Art Competition! All entries can now be viewed in our Digital Exhibition on the College website. Congratulations to the following students who have received prizes for their submissions:

Overall Winner: Jewel East (Painting), Year 11
People's Choice Award: Jessica Fox (Drawing), Year 9

Digital/Media: First – Isla Edwards, Year 8
Second – Jacob Green, Year 9
Third – Bailey Pickens, Year 8

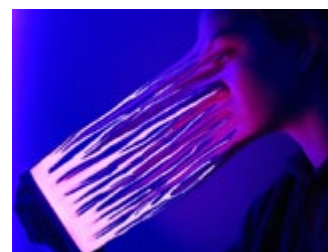
Drawing: First – Leah (Leo) Flask, Year 7
Second – Christina Hunter, Year 7
Third – Maria Ajamieh - Year 9
Highly Commended – Jessica Fox, Year 9

Mixed Media: First – Freia Huber, Year 9

Painting: First – Sarah Lilley, Year 9
Second – Casey Jones, Year 9
Highly Commended – Kamila Wright, Year 7

Photography: First – Christina Hunter, Year 7
Second – Mia Abell, Year 7

Sculpture: First – Jasmine De Jong, Year 7
Second – Marius Gold, Year 8



Life Drawing

MacKillop has been running life drawing classes for senior Visual Arts students again this year at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre.

Competitions

BUNDARRA YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION
Bundarra manufactures Indigenous clothing using authentic paintings and they are currently running a competition.
Visit: <https://paint4.bundarra.org/>

BEST OF BEAN PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION
Share a photo that shows the people or places in our electorate of Bean for a chance to have your photography featured on the Member for Bean's Christmas/celebration cards.
Visit: <https://www.davidsmith.org.au/photo-comp>

Tamara Murdoch • Visual Arts Coordinator



Graphic Art

Year 10 students might have missed out on Spring Zing but their task to design the Spring Zing ticket still produced inspired results. We particularly liked this 'MacKillop Man' ticket by Isaac Muscat. If only MacKillop Man could have saved us from COVID!



Design & Technologies and the design process

The learning area of the Technologies has changed considerably over the last five years. The introduction of the Australian Curriculum has seen an increased importance in working to produce design solutions.

WHAT EXACTLY IS A DESIGN SOLUTION?

Typical Design and Technologies processes and production concentrate on learning opportunities that require students to apply their knowledge and understanding in practical ways. The Design and Technologies processes and production skills strand of the Australian Curriculum focuses on learning where students create (through problem solving) designed solutions. This means that students must first think about the purpose of the project they are going to make and then create a design solution which meets this requirement.

TYPES OF DESIGNED SOLUTIONS EXPLAINED?

Students in all Design and Technologies subject specialities will have the opportunity to produce or manufacture a range of items or products using a variety of materials and resources.

Designed solutions are specified to give students opportunities to engage with both design thinking and production skills. For example, Year 7 students may apply a design process (systematic method to solve a problem) and produce an engineered product which can measure moisture - an electronic moisture tester. Students have to think about its purpose and how they want it to look. Using instructional assistance from their teachers, students create an electronic circuit in a timber housing. Using the same design process, Year 8 students may manufacture a timber storage stool with a specific purpose in mind, and in Year 10 Metal Engineering, students could design and fabricate a practical project from recycled metal items. In each of these examples students apply and practice production skills and problem solving to create what we refer to as a designed solution.

Garry Seary • Technology Coordinator



Summer Uniform

From the beginning of Term 4 all students are to be wearing the Summer Uniform. Detailed information is available in the Student Diary, on the College website and on Canvas. However, particular points to note include:

- Boys have the option to wear tailored mid-grey school shorts in addition to the trousers. Grey or black socks may be worn with the trousers, however if shorts are worn the socks must be grey.
- Girls in Years 7 to 10 may wear the teal check summer dress with plain short white socks, or the tailored navy slacks with MacKillop monogram and a white over-blouse with MacKillop monogram.
- Please be mindful that as stated in the Student Diary; "Girls skirts, dresses and shorts are to be knee length" (p. 13). It would be appreciated if any adjustments or new purchases are made as necessary to commence Term 4.
- Any holiday 'variations' such as facial piercings or fashionable extremes to hair such as colours or styles should be rectified before returning to school for the new term. In relation to hairstyles, the College policy states "extreme variations of length are not permitted". This means that any changes in length should be graded, tapered, layered, etc. Students should return to school ensuring any haircuts or styles are within the College policy.
- School shoes are to be traditional, lace up, black and polishable

If there are circumstances that prevent students from wearing the correct uniform, they are required to bring a signed note from their parents to explain the situation. They need to present this to their Pastoral Care Coordinator during PC time each morning to obtain a uniform pass.

Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care



Pathways

As a part of the Student Mentoring process in recent weeks, students in Years 7 to 12 have accessed a Pathways website that assists students to plan for their future, including career planning, and aims to support them in times of transition.

In light of the current economic circumstances in Australia, with the nation experiencing a recession for the first time in 28 years, the lesson was presented in a context for students where the implications for young people are that; less jobs are available, the current unemployment rate is 7.4 percent and expected to rise, there has been an increase in the rate of underemployment in Australia and accessing employment opportunities is highly competitive. The Pathways website provided an opportunity for students to consider how they are preparing to put themselves in the best possible position, in terms of skills, experience and credentials, to be successful in this competitive environment when seeking employment, be it post school, part-time or casual.

Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care

Menslink

In Pastoral Program this week, Year 8 and 9 boys had a presentation from Menslink about mental health. They spoke about how each of us experience hard times and how we can help each other when this happens. We learned that it is important to notice changes in friends and were given ideas about we can ask others if they are okay. We learned about the various websites where we can access help, and that teachers, counsellors and other trusted adults can also be people where we can get assistance if we are struggling in any way. We were reminded to keep on checking up on someone who may not be in a good mental state.

Jaiden Masaga • Year 9

Big Sister Experience

This week, the Year 8 and 9 girls had the honour of engaging in activities and listening to The Big Sister Experience led by the founders of that organisation, Bianca and Kritz. They talked about secrets to healthy relationships, supporting other girls and encouraged us to have courageous and empowering conversations. This was very helpful and gave us many different strategies to develop our confidence within ourselves, our friendships and our families. We took away one simple lesson, it's easier to build someone up with praise and encouragement than the opposite. At MacKillop, we're committed to supporting all students here and hopefully making a big impact and leading the way in the community. Thank you, Big Sister Experience.

Emily Warren • Year 9

Year 10 Big Picture Art Project

On MacKillop Day, we unveiled the final design of our 'Big Picture' art project, which we started in the final week of Term 2. This ambitious art project was made up of 300 pieces, with each Year 10 student personalising an individual canvas. These were then put together to become a single artwork which revealed the 2020 Liturgical Theme, "You were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness."



Peter Johnson & Leonie Sullivan
Year 10 Coordinators

Community Notices

CANBERRA SCHOOL OF TENNIS HOLIDAY CAMPS

Canberra School of Tennis camps are taking place at the Pines Tennis Club, Chisholm, and Weston Creek Tennis Club with experienced coaches and lots of fun! Book now at www.csot.com.au - limited places are available due to COVID-19.

Week 1 - Monday 28 September - Friday 2 October (8.30am drop off for 9am start)

Week 2 - Tuesday 6 October - 9 October (4 Days - 8.30am drop off for 9am start)

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online. To see the Programs, Activities & Events happening these holidays go to: www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet

INSIGHTS

Help kids tap into their inner resources



My first parenting mentor, Maurice Balson, author of *Becoming Better Parents* constantly reminded parents, “If you want your child to be resourceful you need to put them in positions to develop their resources.”

Balson’s resourcefulness message is just as apt today. Coping with change, dealing with small losses, handling rejection and overcoming disappointment are the types of experiences that build a child’s or young person’s inner resources.

Developing resourcefulness is the appropriate approach to take when considering the disruptive impact that coronavirus is having on kids’ lives. A child who is struggling to come to grips with the changes brought about by the pandemic initially needs an emphatic, supportive approach. They also need encouragement to tap into their inner resources to help them manage the hard times. The following strategies will help develop your child or young person’s inner resources.

Give them a chance to be resourceful

Harry, age 10, often leaves his lunch at home. His father, who works from home, won’t take forgotten items to school. Harry either misses lunch or persuades his friends to share their lunches with him. Either way, when Harry leaves his lunch at home he’s forced to rely on his emotional or physical resourcefulness to get by. And he does.

Catch them being resourceful

A child’s behaviours that gain a parent’s attention generally expand. Highlight a child’s good manners, acts of kindness or honesty and you’re more likely to get a repeat of those behaviours. Positive parental recognition is a high motivator for most kids. To encourage your child’s resourcefulness, focus your attention and positive comments on acts of resourcefulness and resilience they exhibit.

Encourage creativity

Sylvia, age 13 walked to school each day, saving her bus fare to spend on clothes that were out of reach of her parents’ budget. Sylvia found a way to overcome her money problem in her own way. Children and young people usually come up with very creative solutions when they’re allowed to own their problems.

Develop coping skills

Kids rely on their coping skills to help them manage their emotional states when life throws them curve balls. Build your child’s set of coping skills through direct teaching, modelling and discussion. Humour, distraction, relaxation, exercise, play and thought-distancing are some of the more common coping skills kids can use to help them tolerate their difficult feelings.

The resourcefulness a child develops when they experience adversity doesn't desert them when life returns to normal. It waits in the background, ready to be drawn upon again when hardships, frustrations and difficulties come their way.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.