

# College

# Newsletter



# MacKillop

St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



## Volume *five* 2021

### 23 APRIL

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# Coming

# Up

MON 26 APR

• ANZAC Day Public Holiday

TUE 27 APR

• Year 8 Camp Info Night

WED 28 APR

• ANZAC Ceremonies  
• Year 9 Outdoor Ed Camp departs

MON 03 MAY

• Year 7 2022 Open Day

THU 06 MAY

• Cross Country

FRI 07 MAY

• Try MacKillop Day  
for Year 6 students

MON 10 MAY

• ASBA Info Evening

TUE 11 MAY

• NAPLAN begins

# 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 SMS Line**  
0429 131 463

## 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,

### ANZAC DAY 2021

ANZAC Day observances for the College community will be held on Wednesday on both campuses. The service of Australian women and men who have fought for and died in war and peacekeeping in our uniform and under our flag and allied flags will be remembered. The story of ANZAC is told and retold many times in many contexts. An enduring theme is service, sacrifice, duty, and mateship. This is the heart of the ANZAC story and gratitude, respect, and thanksgiving should be at the heart of our memory.

It should be noted also that many of our families and students will participate in observances on 25 April around the city and in other parts of the country. That form of memory is to be applauded.

On behalf of the College, I would like to thank all families in our school who serve the Nation in uniform: your courage and duty is profoundly reassuring and an example to us all. Lest we forget.

### WELCOME TO TERM 2

The holiday period from my point of view was memorable for two principal reasons: many of us could travel, interact with our neighbours, go to movies and to community events. The other is of course the splendid weather and all the autumnal colour that Canberra boasts at this time of year.

Term 2 will be less interrupted and will allow students to give their best to their learning and the assessment of that learning. Year 11 and 12 students will have an opportunity to bring renewed energy and purpose to their learning intentions and therefore benefit from the redemptive nature of the ACT Senior Education System. I'd like to welcome all staff, students, and families to Term 2!

### ENROLMENT PERIOD

Enrolment period for 2021 officially opens in May. I have already interviewed around 50 students in Year 6, hoping for a place with us next year. They and their parents have cited the welcoming nature of the school, the College facilities and reputation, and the impressive and warm encounters they have had with many of our students. Overwhelmingly, they wish to join our school because they know people who are here already and who love being here. MacKillop's marketing focuses on welcoming everyone, the values we stand for, and the way our students exhibit those values. At the heart of MacKillop's wider community reputation is the character and substance of the students who are already here. The worth of our students should never be overlooked in the telling of MacKillop's story.

If you know people who are looking for a high school, please tell them about our Open Day (3 May) and Try MacKillop Day (7 May). Enrolments for Year 7, 2022 close on Friday 28 May 2021.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO PAST TEACHER NIC MCGINNESS

Mr Nic McGinness departed for Melbourne last year to pursue his AFL umpiring career, his teaching career, and more widely available good coffee. He was a hugely popular and effective teacher here at the school. Nic umpired the AFLW Grand Final last week in a most creditable fashion. Congratulations!

Yours in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,

**Michael Lee**  
College Principal

*"I'd like to  
welcome all  
staff, students,  
and families to  
Term 2!"*

### Prayer

Lord,

*As ANZAC Day  
approaches, we give thanks  
for the service and sacrifice  
of Australian men and  
women who have served  
this country in uniform in  
war and peacekeeping. We  
are particularly mindful of  
the Centenary of the RAAF  
and its integral role in our  
security. We also pray for  
the many Veterans of our  
uniforms who suffer mental  
anxiety and other challenges  
as by-products of their  
service to the Nation.*

*Per ardua ad astra. Amen.*





## We're Back! *Term 2 begins*

Staff and students enjoyed a smooth start to Term 2. This week, the Class of 2021 received their Year 12 jackets, while the College held its Parent-Teacher Info Nights at the St Peter's Campus.

Coming up this term are our Open Days/Info Nights, Year 7 and 8 Camps, NAPLAN, Reconciliation Week, Senior Exams, and a number of Public Holidays. Good luck for Term 2!



## *Interschool* Debating

On the last day of Term 1, four Year 12 students attended the Interschool Parliamentary debates at the ACT Legislative Assembly. Our team - Lexus Vo Tran, Tobias Mayne, Kira Tawton and Kate Conway - were tasked with a difficult job: presenting the negative case against electric vehicle incentives. However, after many lunch, recess and 8am planning meetings, they delivered a confident and well-researched argument. They responded to the questions without notice eloquently, working as a team to come up with answers with admirable speed. The team also participated in other debates, asking difficult and interesting questions and engaged in a lively Q & A session with the Speaker. Congratulations team!

Danielle Logue • English

## Water Polo *Winners!*

In late Term 1, MacKillop entered a team into an ACT schools Water Polo competition, which featured students in Years 10-12. The team went on to win the whole competition! Congratulations to: Isaac Brettargh, Stephanie Brettargh, Patrick Couper, Harry Menham, Rachel Mumberson, Corey O'Leary, Patrick O'Leary, Ben Symington, and Paterson Trudgett.



## Pastoral Program

The Pastoral Program for Term 2 focuses on the theme of "Safe Behaviours and Wellbeing". Each Year group will be studying different topics within the theme which are:

- Year 7 – Cybersafety
- Year 8 – Body Image
- Year 9 – Mental Health
- Year 10 – Party Safe
- Year 11 – Safe Behaviours
- Year 12 – Life skills for adulthood

## PC Teacher *Changes*

A small number of Pastoral Care Classes have a new PC Teacher from the start of Term 2 due to staffing changes. The new PC Teachers are:

- 8E2 – Francesca Taliano
- 9A2 – Tim Markcrow
- 10E1 – Jiajia He
- 10E2 – Geetanjali Rogers

## Year 8 Camp *Parent/Carer Info Evening*

A Year 8 Camp Parent/Carer Information Evening will be held for interested parents at 6.00pm on Tuesday 27 April in the Padua Campus Theatre. The information evening will provide the opportunity for parents/carers that have particular concerns or questions about the camp, or sons or daughters with particular needs, to receive an overview and more detailed information. This includes the camp program, travel arrangements, catering, accommodation, dietary and medication requirements. All Year 8 parents are invited. However, please note that the evening is not for the information of students.

## Respect, Consent & Sexuality

Further to the communication from Michael Lee sent to parents/carers about issues of respect, consent, sexuality & aggression, and the follow up that the College is undertaking in responding to the issues, families can also have a role in conducting meaningful conversations and ensuring that respectful attitudes and values are upheld. The current events and media coverage provide an opportunity to start a conversation with young people about these issues.

An article published in The Sydney Morning Herald earlier this year by Georgie Carr discusses the importance of teaching young males and females about consent beyond sexualised behaviour. As the first teachers of their children, parents/carers can encourage language and modelling in the home around general consent. Carr writes, "...consent also applies outside of sexual contact altogether. It applies when you ask a friend's permission to borrow their car, or [when you offer to make them a cup of tea](#). The concept of consent can be taught even to young children: "Do you want to give grandma a hug or wave goodbye?"

The full article is available [here](#).

## After-School Sport *Term Two*

During Term 2 Basketball/Netball will be run as an afterschool sports activity, available to all students in Year 7 to 9. The sessions will take place on Thursday afternoons from 29 April until 3 June in the Padua Campus Gym. Year 12 students will be coordinating the activities with a staff member present to supervise.

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

**Lachlan McNicol • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care**

## NAPLAN *starts soon!*

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for all students in Years 7 and 9. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every student to progress through school and life. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy.

As a College we value the NAPLAN testing for a variety of reasons. We are provided with detailed data about individual students and the respective cohorts which assist in informing teachers about areas of student strength and areas for development.

NAPLAN 2021 is scheduled to take place between 11 and 14 May 2021 for our Year 7 and Year 9 students. All testing will occur using the online testing platform.

### TESTING TIMETABLE NAPLAN 2021

Tuesday 11 May	Wednesday 12 May	Thursday 13 May	Friday 14 May
Writing (42 minutes)	Reading (65 minutes)	Conventions of Language (45 minutes)	Numeracy (65 minutes)
Year 7- Period 2 Year 9- Period 3	Year 7- Period 2 Year 9- Period 3/4	Year 7- Period 2 Year 9- Period 3	Year 7- Period 2 Year 9- Period 3/4

### STUDENT EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. A fully charged device (laptop computer).
2. Earphones (plug in earphones are preferred rather than wi-fi versions which may drop out over the course of the testing and provide interruption to student testing).
3. Writing equipment (pens, pencils eraser and sharpener).
4. Water bottle.

Please note that students are not to bring any mobile phones or digitally enabled watches. All students will be asked to remove their watches and place them in their pocket for the duration of the testing. All tests have a clock on them to assist students with time management.

### OTHER INFORMATION

**Withdrawals:** Students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent/carer if there are religious beliefs or philosophical objections to testing. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents/carers in consultation with their child's school. A formal application must be made via the College. Please contact Lisa Buckland, Teaching and Learning Coordinator at [lisa.buckland@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:lisa.buckland@mackillop.act.edu.au) prior to testing to discuss this.

**Exemptions:** Exemptions may be granted for students with a language background other than English or for students with a disability. In both cases, schools need to discuss the proposed exemption with the student's parent/carer and gain their permission prior to testing. Please contact Caroline Windslade, Inclusive Education Coordinator, at [caroline.windslade@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:caroline.windslade@mackillop.act.edu.au)

If students are sick on the day of NAPLAN please keep them at home. They will be offered the opportunity to undertake catch-up testing (depending on their return to school date).

Parent/carers and students can access more information about the testing at:  
<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

If any parents/carers would like to discuss any aspect of NAPLAN 2021, please make email contact with Lisa Buckland, Teaching and Learning Coordinator, in the first instance at [lisa.buckland@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:lisa.buckland@mackillop.act.edu.au)

**Maria O'Donnell • Assistant Principal Academic Care**



Inclusive

Education

## Support for student learning

After a busy year last year the Inclusive Education Faculty has hit the ground running in 2021. We have been very impressed with the positive transition into high school made by our new Year 7's and are delighted with how seamlessly our Year 10 students have settled into the St Peter's Campus.

2021 has seen some significant changes in the Inclusive Education Faculty at the College. We have had two new teachers join the team. Rhean Ashcroft has joined us on the Padua Campus and Adam Firych has joined the team on the St Peter's Campus. Both bring a wealth of teaching experience to our team and are working closely with me to support the students in our care.

Last year we also made a change to the way that we are structured. We have assigned Classroom Support Assistants to each Year Group. We found this to be a successful model in which CSA's were able to develop a positive rapport with the students in their group as well as a comprehensive understanding of individual student need.

For your reference the CSA's attached to each year group are:

- Year 7 – Lisa Wallace, Isaac Milnes and Anthony Makai
- Year 8 – Sarah Purcell
- Year 9 – Riley Shield
- Year 10 – Tara Bowen and Natasha Brittain
- Year 11 – Jodie Newman
- Year 12 – Jo Burch

The Inclusive Education Faculty looks forward to working with students, parents and teachers to ensure that all students receive the support that they require.

We encourage parents who have concerns in regard to their students learning to contact myself Rhean or Adam on 62090144. Please do not contact Classroom Support Assistants directly.

**Caroline Winslade • Inclusive Education Coordinator**



## Senior Learning Commons

**Need some academic support? The Learning Commons is here to help!**

The Learning Commons is a valuable resource across both campuses offering students help with academic support for core subjects, referencing skills, time management and organisation.

If a student is having academic difficulty and fails to hand in an assessment, they should chat to their Year Coordinator, Mrs McLennan (Teaching and Learning Coordinator) or Mrs. Rutter (Learning Commons Coordinator), to be considered for a session with a specialist teacher, for a specific academic need.

For Yr 11 and 12, this should occur during study lines or in tutorial time. Year 10s should seek help in the first instance from their teacher, or their Faculty Coordinator. A timetable is displayed in the Library of which staff member is available and where, if any student needs a quick chat about referencing, how to structure their essay or guidance on what an assessment task is asking of them.

**Samantha (Tidy) Rutter • Learning Commons Coordinator, St Peter's Campus**



## Visual Arts *Know My Name*

In support of the Know My Name campaign and exhibition, our Visual Arts teachers are featuring a female Australian artist in each edition of the College Newsletter.

### CLARICE BECKETT

It was difficult to arrive at one favourite artwork from the Know My Name exhibition, so in choosing, I considered which artwork from the show I would not be able to leave without seeing at least one more time.

I could not walk past Evening landscape by painter Clarice Beckett, without being completely drawn into the image. Beckett has managed to capture the bones or essence of the landscape without the need to record each detail. Beckett's economy of brush stroke in her silhouettes and hazy shapes evoke a feeling of catching that last five minutes of glowing ethereal light peeking through trees as the sun disappears at the end of the day.

Beckett lived mostly in Victoria, and studied at the National Gallery School in Melbourne under Frederick McCubbin, and later with Max Meldrum. The influence and techniques of both artists can be seen in Beckett's work, focusing on a play of light and subdued colours and tones.

Her paintings record moments and scenes, usually caught during a walk from her home. Her attention to tranquil atmosphere, or the simplicity in the way colour and light affect the landscape at dusk, or how rain places a veil softly over lights, the moon or trees, is why her work is so important to me. I love that she noticed subtle changes in the light and atmosphere, and captured them.

**Fiona Bolton • Visual Arts**



Clarice Beckett, Australia 1887 – 1935  
***Evening landscape c 1925***

**Place made**  
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
**Materials & Technique**  
paintings, oil on cardboard



## Science *opportunities*

### THE PROFESSOR HARRY MESSEL INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE SCHOOL (ISS)

#### Opportunity for Year 11 & 12 Science Students

This biennial event brings the best and brightest Science students from around Australia and the world to Sydney for a week of hands-on activities, lectures and social events. This year it is being held completely online and is free for successful applicants. Each day during ISS Online, you will be inspired by talks from world-renowned scientists, go on virtual tours of cutting-edge research facilities, and take part in mind-expanding hands-on workshops and activities.

To apply, complete your application form by Friday 7 May:

[https://iss.formstack.com/forms/iss\\_online\\_21](https://iss.formstack.com/forms/iss_online_21)

### THE NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

#### Opportunity for Year 11 Students (Science/Technology/Engineering/Maths)

The NYSF Year 12 Program is a 12-day digital and in-person program designed to give students a broader understanding of the diverse study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The NYSF will run from 10 to 25 January 2022 and while at the program, students will have opportunities to: participate in tours of science and technology facilities; engage with industry partners; learn about STEM career pathways; mix with other like-minded students and former NYSF participants from all over Australia.

Students applying for the 2022 NYSF Program are required to submit an application through the NYSF website by the end of Term 2.

<https://www.nysf.edu.au/what-we-do/how-to-apply/>

Students are encouraged to contact their local Rotary Club for financial support. Information is available in the application process.

**Tristan Burg • Science Coordinator**

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## CAT Test *Mathematics*

On Tuesday 23 March, over 40 students from Year 7 to 12 took part in the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking (CAT) competition, which is a one-hour problem solving competition designed to encourage student curiosity and promote multiple modes of thinking.

Students did not need a computer programming ability, but the competition will help identify students' computer programming potential – something that they might not normally have the opportunity to demonstrate at school. The competition was an ideal activity to encourage students to solve real-world problems.

The competition was a mixture of multiple-choice and integer answers and incorporated unique 'three-stage tasks' that encouraged students to develop informal algorithms and apply them to test data of increasing size or complexity.

The CAT has three divisions for secondary school. Junior (Years 7–8), Intermediate (Years 9–10) and Senior (Years 11–12). We thank all the students who participated and wish them well in their future studies in mathematics.

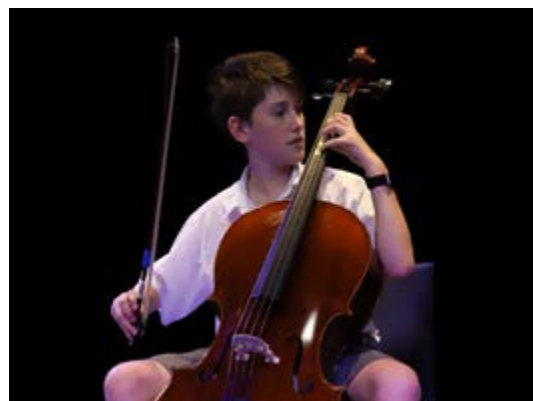
**Anna Keppel & Jonathan Chandra • Mathematics Coordinators**

## Music *Lessons + Ensembles*

### ENSEMBLES

All new members welcome!

- **Vocal Ensemble** - Tuesday morning, 8AM Ensemble Room, Padua  
If you love to sing, come along on and join this rehearsal!
- **Guitar Ensemble** - Tuesday morning, 8.30AM Music Room, Padua  
Our guitar teacher, Mr Reardon leads this ensemble and we look forward to hearing this newly-formed group in performance soon. Come along if you are a guitarist and would like to do more with your playing.
- **Senior Wind Ensemble** - Wednesday morning, 8AM, Music Room, St Peters  
If you have been playing your instrument for a while and would like to play at a higher standard, come along and join this small group of experienced musicians.
- **String Ensemble** - Thursday morning, 8AM Ensemble Room, Padua  
Mr South is an outstanding string specialist and leads this group of orchestral string players.
- **Concert Band** - Friday morning, 8AM Ensemble Room, Padua  
We welcome all brass, woodwind and percussion players, from beginners through to advanced players.



### COWRA EISTEDDFOD

We look forward to our trip to the Cowra Eisteddfod this term. On June 3 the Concert Band, Senior Ensemble and String Ensemble will have a day trip to perform in this eisteddfod.

### YEAR 7, 2022 OPEN DAY

It will be great to be able to showcase Music this year for the Year 7, 2022 Open Day. We look forward to be able to share what we've been rehearsing in the ensembles.

### TUITION

Instrumental Music Tuition Available - please collect a form from outside the Music Room (Padua).

Any questions, contact Veronica Boulton [veronica.boulton@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:veronica.boulton@mackillop.act.edu.au)

**Veronica Boulton • Director of Music & Performance**

## MacKillop Mob *What's on?*

Week 11	Tuesday 27 April P2 Friday 30 April P5	Buroinjin @ Padua Culture and Artwork: Planning our MacKillop Design @ St Peter's
Week 12	Monday 3 May P5	Culture and Artwork: Planning our MacKillop Design @ Padua
Week 13	Friday 14 May P3	Artwork Workshop MacKillop Design @ St Peter's
Week 14	Monday 17 May P3	Artwork Workshop MacKillop Design @ Padua
Week 15	Wednesday 26 May Thursday 27 May 27 May - 3 June Friday 28 April P5	SORRY DAY ANNIVERSARY of the 1967 Referendum RECONCILIATION WEEK Culture and Artwork: Constructing our MacKillop Design @ St Peter's
Week 16	Thursday 3 June	MABO DAY
Week 18	Monday 14 June P5	Culture and Artwork: Constructing our MacKillop Design @ Padua
Holidays	Thursday 1 July 4 - 11 July	COMING OF THE LIGHT NAIDOC WEEK: "HEAL COUNTRY"

**Jeremy Margosis**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Contact Teacher**

## Enrolment *events*

We're enrolling now for 2022! If you know of someone who is looking to enrol in Year 7 2022, please tell them about our upcoming enrolment events! Applications can be completed through the College website.

Monday

**3**

MAY

### MacKillop Open Day

Five bookable sessions, which include a presentation and tours.  
Please book online at [www.mackillop.act.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au)

Friday

**7**

MAY

### Try MacKillop Day

For current Year 6 students.  
Please register students online at [www.mackillop.act.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au)

Applications for Year 7 2022 close Friday 28 May 2021.



## School Fees *have been sent*

Term 2 Fees were electronically sent to family email addresses on 9 April 2021. Fees are to be paid by 7 May 2021 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.

**Michelle Predovan • Fees Manager**

## Textiles Club *Join Now!*

Attention Padua Campus students: Do you like being creative? Come along to the new Textiles Club, running Tuesday afternoons from 3:20pm – 4pm. Our first session will be Week 3, Tuesday 4 May. Register your interest with Mrs Borg.

**Jahcinta Borg • Food & Textiles**

## Sustainability Group *Bottle lid + bread tag blitz*

For ONE WEEK ONLY (Week 2, Term 2) 26 - 30 April, the Padua Campus Sustainability Group will be collecting bread-tags and bottle lids. Both items can be donated to boxes that will be found in PC rooms.

Please note that the bottle lids need to be WASHED and have the white inner-plastic cover removed. Pop-top lids cannot be accepted.

**Padua Campus Sustainability Group**



INSIGHTS

## That's leadership thinking!



My father used to tell me that to be a good footballer I needed to look like a footballer. He always made sure I played with my socks pulled up, boots clean and football jumper tucked in. His attitude was I should at least look the part.

Fast forward a few generations and Dad would probably tell me today that if I wanted to be a footballer I should think like a footballer. His thinking would be right because any significant skill development usually comes before a positive mindset, or at least, a mindset that captures the essence of what's required.

This mindset concept is easily applied to many areas of parenting and family life, including leadership, which is required in school, at work, in the community and in family life. Thinking like a leader comes before leadership action so attending to a child or young person's mindset lays the foundation to real leadership.

The following mindsets are good starting points for developing leadership mindsets in the next generation.

### Be accountable

The mark of true leadership whether for adults or young people is the willingness to take responsibility and be accountable for your actions. Responsibility and accountability are features that great leaders share, so encourage children and young people to accept personal responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes and avoid making excuses when things go wrong. For this to happen parents and teachers need to forgive their mistakes and poor decisions so that they feel they can take responsibility without fear of harsh retribution.

### Plan ahead

Thinking about what needs to be done, planning ahead and managing time are skills that enable many young people to become effective leaders. The ability to think ahead, strategise and figure out a plan may sound like corporate-speak but it's something that kids of all ages can accomplish. We can plant the planning seed by encouraging them to think ahead and set aside some time to plan before tackling any activity – whether it's a homework project, resolving conflict with a sibling or asking for an increase on their allowance.

### Work together

The ability to form, maintain and work in teams is a central leadership capacity. Teamwork refers to a range of skills, including problem solving, working with others, listening and following that enable a team to work towards one purpose. All children are capable of working together, although introverts and pubescent teens can struggle to work collaboratively. Sow the seeds of teamwork by encouraging kids to support their siblings and friends when they struggle and to accept everyone in games and activities.



## Tune in

Emotional intelligence is an essential set of skills that unfortunately many leaders lack. Emotional smarts allows leaders to communicate effectively, relate well and resolve problems when they arise. Develop your child's emotional intelligence by encouraging them to tune in to and regulate their own emotions, and tune into the emotions of others. Help them see behind the behaviour of others and discover the emotions that may be driving behaviour. For instance, a sibling's aggressive behaviour may be driven by anger, annoyance or even sadness.

## In closing

Leadership thinking requires kids to be accountable for their actions, plan ahead rather than act rashly, be open to working with others, and to tune into their own emotions and the emotions of those around them. These are mindsets worth nurturing using the tools of modelling, overt teaching (particularly with secondary school students) and providing plenty of descriptive, encouraging feedback.



### 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.