College

Newsletter







25 February 2022

Coming

Up

Ζ Ο Σ F 2 8 E • School Photos (Padua) • Moderation Day (Pupil-Free Day) \supset Year 11 AST Trials WED Ash Wednesday THU • School Photos (St Peter's) α • Year 7 Immunisations NO N Year 7 Immunisations 8 \supset • Opening Mass (TBC) • Year 8 Immunisations • Year 8 Immunisations



Principal's Letter

Principal's Prayer

Dear Lord, We give thanks for those who work in the medical profession and for first responders. Help the importance of their work to be more valued. Amen.



Dear parents, teachers and students,

A positive start to 2022

Thank you for the positive feedback from students, their families, and teachers. The feedback to the College about the beginning of the year has been overwhelmingly positive. I would like to congratulate the students who have embarked upon the academic year with a sense of purpose, enthusiasm, and fun.

In the next few weeks, families and students in Year 7 will receive a brief survey in an attempt to capture some data about what has gone well and what could be improved for next year's Year 7. We will also explore the possibility of providing surveys to other year groups so that they can provide feedback as well.

Visit to Cooma

Thank you to Mrs O'Donnell, Mr Cruwys, Mrs McLennan, Mr McNicol, Mr Durham and Mr Bootes who joined me at the Ex-Services Club in Cooma for a brief presentation and "make acquaintance and reacquaint" opportunity. This was a very positive evening, attended by roughly 50 parents and students, with faces put to names and constructive feedback, and a chance to visit the town after many months of restrictions. Thank you to the Ex-Services Club for the catering and hospitality.

New Gymnasium

Senior staff, the PE faculty, Board Members, and College Chaplain Fr James Antony were treated to a presentation from David Pennington of Collins Pennington Architects on Wednesday night in the Moira Najdecki Theatre. The building project for the Padua Campus includes a gymnasium with two internal basketball courts and one covered external basketball court, three classrooms, new student changerooms and toilets, a staff facility, a new kitchen, and a complete refurbishment of all classrooms in the original building. This is a necessary and overdue enterprise, which, with the new external basketball and netball courts, will bring increased curriculum flexibility, opportunities for more elective choice, and much-needed specialist areas of world class standard. The completion of the new gym is expected to be around the end of 2023 and the classroom facilities will be staged over that period of time. I would like to congratulate David Pennington for the quality of his designs and Interim Business Manager Stephen Dunkerley, who has worked with Catholic Education to ensure efficiencies and a quality project.

Yours sincerely in St Mary MacKillop,

Mr Michael Lee • College Principal

College News







Honours Assembly

The College held its annual Honours Assembly on Tuesday at the St Peter's Campus.

The Honours Assembly, which is held each February, acknowledges the achievements of MacKillop's senior students from the previous year. It was held in a digital format this year due to COVID restrictions.

The Assembly commenced with an address from our Principal and the presentation of the 2021 College Dux, Stephen Burg. This was followed by the presentation of a range of academic, community, and leadership certificates, as well as the Year 11, 2021 Perpetual Awards.

The College congratulates all recipients on their achievements in 2021.

Student Achievements

Grace Lyons (Year 11) represented the ACT Meteors in the Women's National Cricket League against NSW and Victoria this week.

Charlotte Lewis (Year 9) was selected to attend a Pilot Experience through the Australian Air Force Cadets in Bathurst last weekend.

Last edition, we named a number of students who were selected to play in the Australian Oztag Championships in Coffs Harbour. The following students were also selected to compete: Taylah Buckley, Ryley Arnold (Year 7), Logan Berry, Liam Dunn, Shaun Drazevich, Jesse Fordham (Year 8), Lachlan Buckley, Millana Charnock, and Bryce Dunn (Year 9).

Tom Shakespeare (Class of 2021) has been playing for the Canberra Cavalry (Baseball) over the summer and had his first hit at the top level recently.





Lent - Reflection and Sacrifice

Lent is a time of reflection and renewal. It encompasses an inward journey of self-awareness and eventual acceptance; that we are fallible, make mistakes, do wrong, but also have the chance to right those wrongs and transform ourselves into better people. That is the precious gift of being human: that we are sinful yet graced.

The idea of 'sin' can perhaps sound antiquated. Associating it with ourselves can also leave anxiety that there is no capacity for change, or there is something deeply wrong with us. That is far from the truth. If we think about the Greek translation for sin to mean "miss the mark" it can suddenly take on a whole new meaning. We can often miss the mark but learn from that. By our failings and overcoming them, we become better people and more fully human. This is challenging and takes faith and courage, just like the 40 days leading to Easter, culminating in the Cross overcoming sin.

Lent is an outward journey of giving as well. By accepting our own fallibilities, we must also accept them in others; our giving is in our capacity to forgive. And giving Lent does not stop here. Lent emphasises our need to look outwardly towards those who need our help. We may rightly discuss what we will be giving up during the weeks of Lent. While it carries a positive meaning, its primary focus is the self. Our challenge during Lent is to give more as well. This is demonstrated through organisations like Caritas and the launch of Project Compassion. Giving not just from our purses but also giving of ourselves brings into sharp focus the meaning of sacrifice and offering oneself for the betterment of another. This was the continual message Christ taught us, most profoundly through His Passion.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Jonathan Moyle • Assistant Principal Faith Leadership



Teaching + Learning

Year 11 Study Day

"Sometimes The questions are complicated and the answers are simple." - Dr Seuss

As our Year 11 students settle into their senior studies, many supports are offered to students to build their capacity for this next phase of their education. Greater freedom is coupled with greater responsibility as an evolving independent learner, laying the foundation for their pathways post Year 12.

The Year 11 Study Day, which occured on Wednesday 16 February, comprised several sessions designed to provide information and strategies for managing the senior years. The sessions presented over the day were:

- 1 Introduction to the BSSS and Senior Studies
- 2 Time Management
- 3 Study Skills
- 4 Learning Commons and Academic Integrity
- 5 Mindfulness and Managing Self

Each of these sessions targeted an area of skill and / or knowledge that Year 11 students will require over their next two years at school to provide a solid foundation for success. The materials from these sessions are available on the Year 11 Canvas page.

The College provides many supports for our senior students as they develop into independent learners who can advocate for themselves. Some of these supports include faculty tutorials, Learning Commons support with assessment and research, specialised teacher academic support within the Learning Commons and the review of drafts.



The Year 11 Study Day offered the cohort an insight into what our senior years at MacKillop will look like and provided us with strong building blocks. The different sessions gave us strategies to manage the stress of senior years as well as ways to help us reach our potential. We learnt many valuable lessons such as how to make our study more effective and how to organise our time to benefit our education. We acquired skills, such as note-taking, planning our time well, and how to push ourselves to achieve the best marks possible. Hearing from guest speakers gave everyone an interesting perspective about what is needed to succeed and really reinforced the importance of a studious approach to our studies.

We were reminded of the support we are able to receive from teachers and other people at the school. The wellbeing session was very useful as we head into the stressful years of senior studies. Following this session, we all feel more confident in our abilities to manage and excel in all we do.

Tegan Tawton and Elise Dredge, Year 11

The transition to the demands of the senior secondary certificate can sometimes be challenging for students, especially in the first few weeks of Year 11. We encourage all students to make use of these support structures within the school and remind students and parents/carers that it is a good idea to tackle any issues which arise as quickly as possible and closest to the source. In working together issues can be resolved effectively, allowing productive learning to continue.

We look forward to the next two years of working with our Year 11 students.

Maria O'Donnell • Assistant Principal Academic Care





PE Pathways - Inside the Fitness Centre

Let's meet some of our student athletes!



Caitlin Koch, Year 11

Sport: Soccer

Biggest accomplishment so far: Being a part of a professional club's academy.

Sporting Hero: Steven Gerrard for his loyalty and work ethic.

Sporting aspirations: To represent my country in soccer.

Favorite inspirational quote: "The pain you feel today will be the strength you feel tomorrow" – Anonymous

Favorite song to listen to when training? FTS - Showtek

What do you like most about the PE Pathways program?

Opportunity to grow physically and mentally whilst being around like-minded athletes.



Harry Menham, Year 11

Sport: Soccer

Biggest accomplishment so far: Having the opportunity to play for Manchester city academy and getting the bronze medal for ACT school boys.

Sporting Hero: Marcelo Vieira – because of his work ethic, passion and leadership.

Sporting aspirations: To play soccer for my country and play at a high level in a different country.

Favorite inspirational quote: "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get back up." – Vince Lombardi

Favorite song to listen to when training? Fresh New Kicks

What do you like most about the PE Pathways program? Being able to grow as an athlete along side my friends.



Year 11 Student Representative Council

At the beginning of this year, elections for the Year 11 SRC took place. Congratulations to the students elected to represent their Houses.

Year 11 SRC:

<u>Mindygari</u>	<u>Gurabang</u>	<u>Meup Meup</u>	<u>Ngadyung</u>
Samirah Bradsha	Elizabeth Locke	Kristelle McGowan	Joshua Abrokwah

These students joined other SRC members in being inducted into their positions of leadership at the opening assemblies on each campus.

Elections for Year 7 representatives will take place at the end of Term 1.

After school sport – Oz Tag

During 2022 an after school sports program will again be conducted on the Padua Campus. The afternoons are organised by the College Sports Captains and supervised by a member of staff.

In Term 1, an opportunity for Year 7 students to be involved in Oz Tag will run on Thursday afternoons from Week 4 until Week 9, from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on the Padua Campus oval.

The afternoons are open to all students including boys and girls who play Oz Tag competitively, while also catering for students who may have no involvement in organised sports. Students wishing to attend do not have to have any experience of playing Oz Tag. They can attend with friends and participate in an atmosphere of fun while developing and maintaining fitness and learning new skills.

Students who have attained Bronze or Silver Status will be able to 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.





Student Mentoring

Throughout each semester, students have an opportunity to participate in Student Mentoring lessons within their PC Class. This week students have taken time to set academic and personal goals for the coming semester/year.

Students have also completed a Semester 1 Assessment Planner. This provides an overview of due dates for each assessment task. It assists students to organise their time and the attention they give to each task to ensure that all assessment is complete by the due date and to a high standard.

Parents a can access this information in the Student Diary:

- 2022 Student Goal Setting Pages 24 & 25
- Semester 1 Assessment Planner Pages 22 & 23

College Photos

Details of when the College photos will be taken are:

- Padua Campus Monday 28 February
- St Peter's Campus Thursday 3 March

Students have been provided a 'photo envelope' which contains an individual 'shoot key' for ordering photos online. Photo envelopes should not be returned to the College, but retained by parents/carers so that reference can be made to the 'shoot key' when ordering photos online.

Boys will be required to wear the College tie in their photograph and have been asked to bring this with them to school on Monday. For students in Year 7, or others who are new to the College, who may not yet have their own tie, one will be provided for the photograph.

Paul Durham • Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care

Forearmed is forewarned

I am open to learning anything I can about the online space that our students increasingly engage with. The internet is an amazing tool for so many reasons; however, it does have an insidious side as well.

The AFP recently published a press release coinciding with a return to school after the summer break. Specifically, this press release discussed a glossary of terms used by some sex predators to groom children online. The glossary of terms is being advertised to provide parents and carers with information related to some of the ways predators can communicate with our children in games, chat rooms and social media, for example. As stated – "Some terms, slang, emojis may seem to be innocent symbols, however, they may signal a highly sexualised conversation."

Engaging in conversations that seek to prepare children for what they might encounter online is incredibly valuable. Educating young people in this way also acts as a form of prevention. The link to the press release, including the tables of slang and emoji can be found here:

AFP releases glossary of terms used by some sex predators to groom children | Australian Federal Police

Rohan Langford • Director of Student Wellbeing

Co-Cutticulat



Music

Friday

Students can participate in our **in-school instrumental tuition** through the College. If you would like to take part or for further information, please speak with Ms Boulton or Mr South.

Students are also welcome to join our **Ensemble Program**:

Tuesday - Vocal ensemble (Year 7 only), 8am, Ensemble Room Padua Campus

- Guitar Ensemble, 8:30am Padua Campus

Wednesday - Senior Wind Ensemble, 8am, Music Room Isabella Campus

Thursday - Junior Band (Year 7s only), 8am, Ensemble Room Padua Campus

- Senior String Ensemble, 8am St Peters Campus

- Concert Band (Year 8 & 9 only), 8am, Ensemble Room Padua Campus

- Junior String Ensemble (Year 8 only), 8am, Music Room Padua Campus

If you are interested in joining an Ensemble please contact veronica.boulton@mackillop.act.edu.au.

Veronica Boulton • Director of Music & Performance



MacKillop Mob Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Support



Currently we have 79 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at the College. At MacKillop we value cultural diversity and the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students within and beyond our school community.

As well as the Study Support offered to all our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students we will be participating in a variety of cultural activities including traditional games, bush tucker, language, art and cultural awareness.

These activities aim to provide students with a pathway both academically as well as personally, to foster pride in their heritage and culture and to allow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students opportunities to learn about and share their experiences with non-aboriginal students in the College.

For more information and Study Support times check out the MacKillop Mob page on Canvas, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander display areas on both Campuses or feel free to contact me.

Contact: jeremy.margosis@mackillop.act.edu.au

Jeremy Margosis • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Contact Teacher

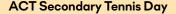


College Sport

Unfortunately due to the COVID restrictions in place from the ACT Government, many sporting events have had to be cancelled for Term One. The following events may be able to take place in Term 2, pending the easing of COVID restrictions:

ASC Athletics

The ASC Athletics carnival will take place on **Tuesday 26 April**. More information about nominations for this event will be distributed shortly.



The ACT Secondary Tennis day will be held on **Tuesday 3 May**.

Players must have either; an Australian Ranking or previous tournament experience in Australian Ranking tournaments or UTR, Junior Development Series events or overseas tournaments.

If you are interested in competing in this event please email me.

ACT Swimming Championships

The ACT Swimming
Championships will take place
on Friday 6 May, at the AIS.
For 2022, due to the inability
to conduct school and regional
swimming carnivals you will need
to nominate yourself if you wish to
participate in the ACT Swimming
Championship competition. You
can print a nomination form from
Canvas or collect one from the
PE staffroom at either campus.
Please return all nomination
forms by Thursday 3 March.



Community Sport

COVID is impacting school sport however community sport is still going ahead. There are many benefits to playing sport such improving your mental and physical health, making new friends, increased confidence and reduced stress. Try a new sport this year to see what benefits it may bring you.

For any further information about sport please contact Mrs Foran: monique.foran@mackillop.act.edu.au

Monique Foran • Sports Facilitator



Notices + Information Term 1 Fees

Term 1 Fees were electronically sent to family email addresses on 11 February 2022. Fees are to be paid by 4 March 2022 unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved method. 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.

How to pay

The following methods of payment are available at St Mary MacKillop College:

Qkr!

A secure app to pay School Fees and other school items from your phone or ipad. Details on how to download and set up the app appear on the back of this form.

Cash & Eftpos

Cash and Eftpos payments may be made in person at both the St Peter's and Padua Campus Front Reception.

Bpay

Bpay is available at the College for payment of School Fees only. Payments can be made through internet and telephone banking by quoting the Biller Code and Reference Number located on your school fee statement.

Direct Debit

Payment of School Fees by Direct Debit will require completion of the relevant paperwork. Please contact Jayne Limbrick via email, jayne.limbrick@ mackillop.act.edu.au to set up your Direct Debit. Direct Debits commence in January and run over 52 weeks or 26 fortnights. All Direct Debits are to be altered in December for the following year's School Fees.

Credit Card Payments - Mastercard or Visa

Credit Card payments may be made in person, over the telephone, or details can be provided at the bottom of your school fee statement.

Michelle Predovan • Fees Manager

Collection Notice

Attached to the end of this newsletter is a collection notice from the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

Please take the time to read the notice.



Surface Festival

On 4-6 March, 35 urban artists will transform the built environment of Braddon, Civic and the National Triangle in Canberra. Presented by the ACT Government, Surface is a festival of urban art in the ACT that celebrates the raw energy and rich diversity of this scene. Artists encompassing street art, graffiti, portraits, stencils, Indigenous art, geometric and abstract art will work across 30 walls and structures. Learn more about Surface Festival at: https:// www.surfacefest.com.au

Tuggeranong FC AFL

Play AFL! Registration is open now to all ages from 5 years to seniors in the mixed, boys and girls competitions.

Find out more at tuggeranongfc.com.au or email playafl@tuggeranongfc.com.au

Rugby League

Female only competitions:

- Tackle: Under 9s to Open Womens.
- · League Tag: Under 12s, 14s, 16s & Open Womens

Register now for Canberra Region Rugby League. Visit playrugbyleague.com.au/play







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





www.facebook.com/ mackillop.act



www.twitter.com/ mackillop_act



www.instagram.com/mackillop_act



www.youtube.com/ stmarymackillop



Collection Notice for parents/guardians 2022 Student Residential Address and Other Information

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) would like to notify you that a request has been made for your child's school to provide residential address and other information as required under the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.

The school is required to provide the department with the following information about each student at the school:

- Names and residential addresses of student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- Student residential address (excluding student names)
- Whether the student is a primary or secondary student (education level)
- Whether the student is boarding or a day student (boarding status).

The school collects the above information by generating a **unique and unidentifiable** – student reference number (SRN) for each student record. The SRN is also **only** used by the school for this collection. **It is not allowed to be used for any other purpose**. The number only indicates to the department that each record provided is for one student.

Purpose of the collection

The Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection (the Collection) informs Australian Government school education policy and helps ensure funding for non-government schools is based on need basis.

The information collected will be used to inform school funding calculations. It is combined with data held by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to calculate a non-government school community's anticipated capacity to contribute to the costs of schooling.

From 2020, a new measure of capacity to contribute, the Direct Measure of Income (DMI), was introduced. The DMI is based on the median income of parents or guardians of students at a non-government school using data collected through the Collection. More information about the DMI can be found on the *Quality Schools Package* page on the departmental website.

Use and disclosure of personal information

Your personal information is protected by law under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with Privacy Act and the *Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.

Your personal information provided to the department through the Collection may be:

- disclosed to the ABS for the purposes of capacity to contribute calculations and analysis as a part of the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). Further information about MADIP can be found on the MADIP page on the ABS website.
- disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department may from time to time, carry out an audit of
 a school's submission to the Collection. The contracted auditor compares the school's submission with
 the student enrolment information held by the school and will not use the information for any other
 purpose.
- disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology support services to the department.
- used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law.

The department does not intend to disclose your personal information to any overseas recipients.

The department's privacy policy can be found at www.dese.gov.au and includes information on:

- how individuals can access and seek correction of the personal information held by the department;
- how complaints about potential breaches or breaches of the Privacy Act can be made;
- how the department will deal with these complaints.

The department commissioned an independent privacy impact assessment (PIA). The PIA assesses the flows of information under the Collection, compliance with the Privacy Act and measures in place to safeguard the personal information being collected. The current version is available at https://www.dese.gov.au/school-funding/resources/2018-student-residential-address-collection-additional-required-information-privacy-impact

What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the requested details to the department; however, you may wish to ensure that your school has the most up-to-date and correct details for your family.

Contacts for further information

Your school can provide additional information about the Collection process.

Alternatively, please visit the SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page.

parenting *ideas

INSIGHTS

Building strong working relationships with teachers



Studies show that healthy parent–teacher relationships are a more significant factor in student success than parent income levels or social status. Parent–teacher relationships require effort and energy from both parties if they are going to really benefit children and young people. These key strategies will help you build a healthy working relationship with teachers in the year ahead

Get to know them

For your partnership to be meaningful and successful, you need to meet with your children's teacher(s) with the goal of forming a respectful professional relationship. Be willing to share your aspirations for your child and be willing to build the teacher's knowledge about your family. For balanced perspective, also gain an understanding of the teacher's approach and what focus areas they have for their particular year group. This can be done formally by attending start of the year information evenings and informally through conversations, reading newsletters and staying in touch in digitally and in real-time.

Trust their professionalism

Children need to know that their parents are fully behind what their teachers are trying to achieve if they are going to commit fully to learning. The best way to support your child's teacher is to trust their knowledge, professionalism and experience. Avoid the temptation to question the expertise of teachers in front of students, particularly when the teachers use methods that you are unfamiliar with. Initiate conversations with teachers around methodology to give them the chance to explain the approach they are taking.

Go through the right channels

Despite the best teaching practices things do go wrong at school. Kids experience learning difficulties. Conflict and peer rejection happen. Kids will often come home from school with grievances and call on you for assistance. Resist the urge to react emotionally. If you need to contact teachers do so respectfully, calmly and through the correct channels. A measured response will generally achieve the best result for your child.

Stay solution-focused

When problems arise at school, particularly pertaining to a child's learning or wellbeing avoid taking a fixed position to your child's teacher. Gather the facts as best you can and present your concerns but remain flexible to gain an outcome that's both obtainable and in the best interests of your child. Parent-teacher relationships can easily falter when one or both parties take a firm position about a problem and are unwilling to give ground.



Utilise their resources

Teachers and schools often put a lot of work into sourcing and sharing credible resources that they think will help parents. Take the time to read, utilise and enjoy the information provided to you. It's intended to make your parenting journey easier, which will also benefit your child not just at school, but at home. If your school doesn't yet have a clearly defined source in place, consider suggesting one to the teacher, such as the Parenting Ideas memberships for schools.

Build links to student learning

There's a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent engagement in student learning and their educational success. If you want your child to improve their learning, take an interest in what they are doing. Follow school and teacher guidelines about helping at home and attend as many conferences, meetings and events involving your child as possible. This strategy has a significant, long-term impact on your child's attitude to learning.

Stay in touch

Life's not always smooth sailing for kids of any age. Family circumstances change. Friends move away. Illness happens. Mental health challenges can hit anyone at any time. These changes affect learning. Make sure that you keep teachers up to date with significant changes or difficulties that your child or young person experiences so they can accommodate your child's emotional and learning needs at school.

Be loyal

Show your loyalty to your child's teachers by being an advocate. Talk positively about your child's teacher and school, rather than being negative about them when speaking in the wider community. Teachers hold very public positions and generally work hard to build good reputations both within their school and their wider education community. Consider a teacher's reputation among the community and with children when you discuss educational matters with others.

In closing

Building healthy relationships with your child's teacher doesn't just happen. It takes goodwill from both sides, a commitment to setting aside the time necessary to support the home-based learning tasks that are expected, and a willingness to communicate concerns and commendations through the correct channels.



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.