

College

Newsletter



MacKillop

St Mary MacKillop College Canberra



Volume *Sixteen*

15 December 2022

2023 Term

Dates

TUE 31 JAN

• Years 7, 10, 11 & 12 Commence

WED 01 FEB

• Years 8 & 9 Commence

THU 06 APR

• Term 1 Concludes

WED 26 APR

• Term 2 Commences

FRI 30 JUN

• Term 2 Concludes

TUE 18 JUL

• Term 3 Commences

FRI 22 SEP

• Term 3 Concludes

MON 09 OCT

• Term 4 Commences

FRI 08 DEC

• Term 4 Concludes



Principal's Letter

Principal's Prayer

Lord, we give thanks for the year and look to the manger for our hope and inspiration for the next. Amen.



Dear parents, teachers and students,

Advent Blessings

As we wait for Christmas, I have been speaking to some members of Catholic Education who recently returned from the Catholic World Congress in Marseilles. Of the many issues discussed there, the point was made that amidst the doom and gloom of the First World (economy, political instability, COVID, anxiety, cost of living, etc.), Catholic schools remain a vital source of hope, inspiration, connectedness, shared identity, and community. Like many of you, I recognise enormous truth in this observation. Looking back over the last several years at our school, not everything has been perfect, but every engagement, conversation, encounter, lesson, assembly, and contact with your children has showcased respect, trust, delight and joy. It is easy to overlook these things in the busyness of our days. Queen Elizabeth II, of late and happy memory, remarked in her 2001 Christmas Broadcast that community and belonging were a deep yearning in us all. I hope that you join with me in giving thanks this Christmas for the way our school has played its part in going a long way towards satisfying that yearning need.

Year 12 Results 2022

Congratulations to all the students at MacKillop, and indeed around the country, who have achieved or exceeded their expectations with their Year 12 results – be it an ATAR, a course score, or VET certificate.

Most students in Year 12 at MacKillop received early entry offers to the course of their choice in September. Others, based on their ATARs, now have wider options and choices for further study. I particularly note that every student who sat for the ATAR gained a result at or above their expectation, so many of them achieved their personal best.

Congratulations also to the many students who have achieved VET certificates, which will move them to the front of the line for attractive employment opportunities and advanced standing in CIT courses and apprenticeships.

Some notable statistics:

- Our College Dux was Georgia Aldred. Congratulations, Georgia!
- The Class of 2022 had our highest ever percentage of ATAR seekers.
- On average, our ATAR seekers achieved a score 4.5 marks higher than their estimated range, with some achieving up to 12 points higher.
- It is estimated that 70% of our ATAR seekers received early entry into university in September this year.
- We issued 91 Vocational Certificates to our Year 12 students and many more Statements of Attainment.

This school has never defined itself as an ATAR factory, and eyebrows are being raised across the country at the impact of early entry offers by universities on student motivation towards the end of Year 12. What really matters is that students emerge with their results with a satisfaction, confidence, and range of choices for which they can take responsibility and move forward with their lives. I'm really happy for MacKillop to be defined as a school that prizes this!

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and safe Christmas. Christmas Mass and Services of all denominations focus on the hope and inspiration of the manger at Christmas. I hope there is an opportunity for all of you to celebrate the birth of the revolutionary Jesus – the one who challenged the status quo, overturned the money lenders, and who emerged for humankind as a Prince of peace, justice, hope, and redemption.

Yours sincerely in St Mary MacKillop,

Mr Michael Lee
College Principal





Year 12 Perpetual Awards

Principal's Award

Neika Henson

Tenison Woods Students' Choice Award

Sienna Molloy

Tegan Blunt Southern Cross Sport Award

Amy Frost

St Mary MacKillop Award for Christian Leadership

Neika Henson

Rohan Schultz 'per ardua ad astra' Award

Nikolas Dulevski

Sr Noelene Quinane rsj Award for Academic Excellence

Georgia Aldred

St Mary MacKillop College Creative Arts Award

Molly Brabham

Jodie Higgins Caltex Best All Rounder Award

Amy Frost and Dylan Neindorf (joint winners)

Elite Athlete Awards

Ebony Brunt and Clare Levings

BSSS Awards

Community Service Award

Amy Frost

Vocational Studies Award

Joshua Haynes

Individual Course Area Award

Jonathon Silver

Subject: Specialist Mathematics

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award

Jayda Cullen

Academic Studies Award

Georgia Aldred



Years 7-10 Awards



Year 7

Penola Award for Academic Excellence
Ruby Pardy

MacKillop Medal for Witness to the College Vision
Savannah Apoderado

MacKillop Sportswoman of the Year
Bethany Heron

MacKillop Sportsman of the Year
Nicholas Christian

Year 8

Penola Award for Academic Excellence
Noa Zisman

MacKillop Medal for Witness to the College Vision
Indiana Kildey

MacKillop Sportswoman of the Year
Ariella Paterson

MacKillop Sportsman of the Year
Kevin Kamilo

Year 9

Penola Award for Academic Excellence
Hima Pynadath

MacKillop Medal for Witness to the College Vision
Millie Terracini

Paul Butz 'Omnia Optime' Award
Phoebe Vassallo

MacKillop Sportswoman of the Year
Meaghann Scott

MacKillop Sportsman of the Year
Max Swoboda

Year 10

Penola Award for Academic Excellence
Milly McCabe and Stella Wilde

MacKillop Medal for Witness to the College Vision
Oliver Wright

St Mary MacKillop Award for Christian Leadership
Labella Arrouk

St Mary MacKillop College All-Rounder Award
Milly McCabe

MacKillop Sportswoman of the Year
Milly McCabe

MacKillop Sportsman of the Year
Alexander Parnell

ACU Most Improved Award
Alexandra Phathanak





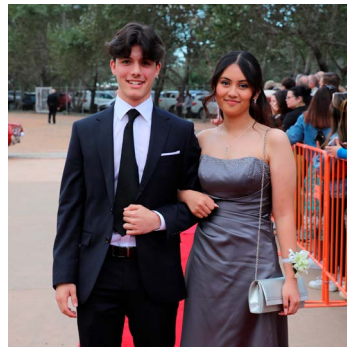
Year 12 Graduation

The Class of 2022 celebrated its graduation from the College with the Graduation Mass, Perpetual Awards, Graduation Ceremony, and Formal Dinner on Friday 2 December.

The Mass was held at the St Peter's Campus in the morning and was celebrated by College Chaplain Fr James Antony. Over the past few years, COVID restrictions had impacted numbers at the Mass, but the lack of those limits in 2022 meant that the gymnasium was packed with families and friends. After Mass, several students were presented with the College's Perpetual Awards. These awards recognise the outstanding contribution the recipients have made to the College during their time with us.

In the evening, students attended the Graduation Ceremony and Formal Dinner at Thoroughbred Park. The night began with families and friends watching on as Year 12 arrived in style, walked the red carpet, and posed for photos. The Graduation Ceremony commenced at 7pm, during which the members of the Class of 2022 were presented with their Graduation Certificates and Portfolios. After the formal proceedings, students sat down for a three-course meal before hitting the dance floor to share their final moments together as a year group.

Congratulations, Year 12 – we hope it was a night you'll remember for years to come!





Merry Christmas and Farewell

Christmas is such a wonderful and blessed time of the year, although we also know this season can have its challenges as well, be they financial or spiritual. At times we can get lost in the "race" to get things done and to serve others, which is after all what we are called to do as Christians. But we also need to ensure that we have enough left for ourselves, to take a moment in silence and let God speak to us, to let God renew us.

In these times, the very simple practice of mindfulness in Christian meditation comes to the fore. There is something special about meditating using the language that Jesus spoke as you breathe in and out: Ma-ra-na-tha. It is also all the more special when we consider that the inflection of the language can transform it from petition ("Come Lord"), to imminence ("The Lord comes"), to presence ("The Lord has come"). How striking this simple phrase is during the Christmas season is to bring our minds to peace as we await the birth of Christ.

Such are our lives, with journeys of rebirth and the challenges. I have had such a rich experience at St Mary MacKillop College over the past 15 years and I hope in some small way I have been able to offer something to a community that is so dynamic and welcoming. There are many fond memories of students, parents and colleagues that I will carry with me forever. Most especially, our patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, will always be walking with me, through my intercessions, prayers and reflections. She reminds us that "we are but travellers here" and as 2022 comes to a close, I need to take this quite literally to heart. Farewell to you St Mary MacKillop College, you are a beautiful school.

Maranatha:

Come Lord
The Lord Comes
The Lord Has Come

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Jonathan Moyle • Assistant Principal Faith Leadership

Christmas Mass Times

Mass times are available at:

Corpus Christi Parish - www.ccp parish.org.au

St Anthony's Parish - stawanniassa.blogspot.com

St Thomas the Apostle Parish - cg.org.au/kambah

St Patrick's Cooma - cg.org.au/cooma

The Cathedral - cg.org.au/cathedral





Year 9 Transition Day

This week, Year 9 spent two days at the Senior Campus for our Year 10 2023 Transition Days. This time allowed us to adapt to the campus, and familiarise ourselves with the facilities and the environment. We had the opportunity to meet and get to know the teachers that we may have for next year. Our transition days provided us with confidence to be able to make our way around the campus too. It was a fun experience and we can't wait for what next year and beyond will hold for us all.

Ruby Travers & Hanna O'Mara Cochrane • Year 9



2023 Year 12 Leadership Day

The 2023 MacKillop SRC and leadership team was invited to spend the day at Marist College Canberra with 6 other schools and their leaders for 2023. The day was run by Burn Bright Leadership and Training and focused on how SRC's have an enormous opportunity to make a significant impact on their school. Throughout the day, the leaders from MacKillop were given the opportunity to develop a vision and strategy that is inspiring and allows for a meaningful contribution to the MacKillop community. With a vision and united direction, the SRC were given the opportunity to consider ways to mobilise and lead to ultimately have a positive impact at MacKillop. Overall, it was a very constructive day as the 2023 leaders were empowered with the skills and encouraged to make a meaningful difference next year.

Charles Bootes • Year 11 Coordinator

MacKillop Uniform

In preparation for the 2023 school year, many students may need to purchase new uniform items. The information below is taken from the College Uniform Policy and is accessible in the Student Diary and on the College Website. It is provided to assist parents/carers in ensuring that students return to school for 2023 in correct uniform.



In terms of footwear, the expectation is traditional, black, leather, lace up, polishable school shoes. Suede shoes and black joggers are not acceptable for safety reasons. Elevated shoes and platform heels are not a part

of the College uniform. The sole should be no more than 2 cm high and the heel 3 cm. Buckle shoes, canvas shoes, ballet shoes, cloth shoes, and slip on shoes are NOT permitted.

Girls' skirts, dresses or shorts are to be knee length.

Hair should be clean and neat; fashionable extremes are not permitted ... Only natural, all-over hair colour or subtle highlights can be used to dye or highlight hair. Rats tails, horsie, dreadlocks and geometric shapes cut into the hair and extreme variations of length are not permitted.

Nose, tongue and facial studs/rings, body piercing ornaments or plastic plugs are not permitted. Clear piercings are also not permitted.

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 year.



Charity Fundraising at MacKillop

Market Day

Market Day on the Padua Campus has developed over the years to become an end of year community celebration for staff and students and the final fundraiser for the year to contribute to the House Charities.

The response from students to the afternoon was extremely positive and the total amount of money raised on Market Day was \$9,618.87 to be shared equally among the House Charities.

St Vincent DePaul Christmas Appeal

Throughout Term 4 the charity focus has been the St Vincent DePaul Christmas appeal. A large number of non-perishable food items were generously donated by students to assist those in need within our community this Christmas.

House Charity Shield

MacKillop students raised the following for charities over the course of 2022:

- \$12,286.21 for Project Compassion
- Over \$65,000 for the Cancer Council through Relay for Life (by Year 12 students)
- \$16,604.52 for the House Charities and Market Day

Students have wholeheartedly supported the College charities throughout the year and in doing so raised a total of over \$115,000.

The money raised for the House charities will be divided evenly resulting in over \$4,100 being donated to; MacKillop House, Orange Sky, the Ricky Stuart Foundation and Beyond Blue.

The House who raises the most money for charities across the year is awarded the St Mary MacKillop College House Charity Shield. Meup Meup were announced last week as the winners of the Shield for 2022.

Paul Durham • Assistant Principal Pastoral Care



Australian Maths Competition

On Wednesday 3 August and Thursday 4 August, a number of MacKillop students in Year 7 through to Year 11 participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition in their respective Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions.

This year we had 143 students participate in the competition with 1 student in Year 7 receiving a High Distinction, 9.1% of students receiving a Distinction and 42% of students receiving a Credit. Thank you to all the students who participated in the competition this year.

High Distinction: Alexander Brooks

Distinction: Amelia Kraljevic, Reuben Lilley, Samuel Major, Thomas Odd, Brandon Wake, Jake Watson, Jacinta Van Der Kallen, Freya Stanford, Jasper Van Doorn, Oliver Wright, Patrick Dunn, Ari Gilchrist and Jack Valois.

We congratulate these students and wish them well in their future Maths studies.

Anna Keppel and Dylan Watt • Maths Coordinators



Student Achievement

Laura Tarrant (Year 8) has been selected for the Female U16 Cricket ACT Team and will compete at the National Championships in January.



Music Academy

Do you have a child in Primary School who would like to learn an instrument?

The MacKillop Music Academy will commence in 2023 and will give students in Years 5 and 6 at a Catholic primary school the opportunity to learn an orchestral string instrument or wind instrument one night per week during the school term.

The Academy will be run by MacKillop music teachers and lessons will take place at the College's Padua Campus in Wanniasa. MacKillop students and private tutors will support the students in the program.

Instrument hire will also be available (if required) for the duration of enrolment in the MacKillop Music Academy. We have 12 instruments to choose from:

String Instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass.

Wind Instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, French Horn, Trombone, Trumpet, Euphonium, and Tuba.

For more information and to register visit our website: www.mackillop.act.edu.au/index.php/community/mackillop-music-academy

Primary Schools Tour

The Year 7 String Ensemble, Junior Band and Dance Crew visited the following primary schools and gave concerts last week:

Holy Family

St Thomas the Apostle

St Francis of Assisi

St Clare of Assisi

St Anthony's

Veronica Boulton • Director of Music & Performance



School Fees

It is now time to review all existing Direct Debit payments for 2023. If you currently pay fees by Direct Debit please email the Accounts Officer robert.jonas@mackillop.act.edu.au for a new calculation of payments.

Please note Direct Debit arrangement run all year round including the holidays.

Bpay calculations are also available for parents choosing to pay by this method.

The 2023 Fee Schedule is now available on our website www.mackillop.act.edu.au

Please finalise any outstanding 2022 fees immediately.

Michelle Predovan • Fees Manager

Uniform Shop

The SHUS will be open by appointment from 16 January 2023 for your uniform needs.

Please contact 0427 089 370 or uniforms@mackillop.act.edu.au to leave a message to make an appointment and/or if you have uniform donations (please ensure donations are washed).

The mobile and email will only be monitored periodically during the holiday closure. Please be assured you will be contacted if you leave clear contact details.

Thank you to all who have supported the SHUS this year. Your donations, purchases and referrals contribute to a valuable service for our school community.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Judy Keogh • Uniform Shop Coordinator

Jack's Gym

Jack's Gym is a local community martial arts school specialising in muay thai kickboxing and is offering classes to ages 12+.

Classes run Monday - Thursday from 6-7:30pm at the Garratt St Centre and will be running through the school holidays.

Drop in to try out a class or for more information email jacksgym@mail.com or call 0424 522 587.

Dale's Ballroom

Kids of all ages are welcome to come try ballroom dancing on Thursday 2 February 2023 at the Crystal Ballroom in Greenway.

Dance is a fun, creative and social way to improve coordination, self-confidence and fitness.

Email dale_harris@bigpond.com.au or call on 0407 066 110 for more information.

OZ Code Academy

Weekend coding and robotics classes are running at Canberra College for all students.

Registration and trial classes for Term 1 2023 are open now. Classes run every Saturday from 2-3:30pm and align with the school terms (starting 11 February).

To encourage girls to code they offer a 30% discount for new joiners.

To book a free trial class call 0451 071 920 or visit ozcodeacademy.com. For more information email info@ozcodeacademy.com.

YWCA Summer School Program

The YWCA Canberra Youth Programs Team provides a FREE school holiday program to young people age 10-25 in Tuggeranong.

Drop in activities will be run from the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre, 22 Sidney Nolan Street, Conder. For excursions, the bus will pick up and drop off at the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre.

Get in contact via youth@ywca-canberra.org.au, 02 6185 2090 or visit www.ywca-canberra.org.au.





MacKillop
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra

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



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