



# ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE CANBERRA



22 FEBRUARY 2013

## IMPORTANT DATES

FEB.  
FRIDAY  
**22**

- Opening Mass
- Year 12 Mentoring Day

FEB.  
THURSDAY  
**28**

- Photo Day (Isabella)
- Year 7 & 9 Vaccinations

MAR  
FRIDAY  
**01**

- Year 7 & 9 Vaccinations

MAR  
TUESDAY  
**05**

- Moderation Day (Pupil-free)
- Year 11 & 12 AST Trials



## PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

"Lord, help us to follow the example of Mary MacKillop. Let all we do advance the dignity of others.

Amen."

## PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

### Reappointment as Principal at MacKillop

A letter from the Director has announced that, following a successful performance review, I have been offered and have accepted another five year contract as Principal of the College.

This is very exciting for me. With so much going on in education and at the College, I am delighted to be able to accept another five years as principal. Thank you to the staff, students, and parents who were so generous with their remarks to the Performance Review Panel.

### Canberra Area Theatre Awards 2012

Warm congratulations to Clare Fealy and Mr Tony Lazzarato, who were awarded Best Director of a School Musical, and to Chelsea Wright, who was awarded Best Costume Designer for a School/Youth Production at the CAT Awards last Saturday.

Their input – and that of a talented cast and crew – into last year's musical, *Seussical Jr*, resulted in five nominations for MacKillop. For school students to be nominated against productions designed for the general public is really an outstanding achievement. And for Clare and Chelsea (both from the Class of 2012) and Mr Lazzarato to take home an award was quite a remarkable feat.

Thank you to the staff and parents who worked so successfully with our students and who are keys to our success.

### Staff movement

In 2013, we welcome the following staff to the College: Anne Mackinnon, Benjamin Bowman, Cameron Bennett, Damien Leer, Eugene Lehmensich, Helen Jacobs, Jennifer Mullen, Justin Kain, Kylie Figge, Mary Thorp, Peter Birrell, Raffaella Iazeolla, Sarah Peet, Sharyn Quirk, Shevaun Doughton, Tara Williams, Ummehani Rangwalla, Vikram Salhotra, Vivienne Joice, Nathan Lumley, Caroline Barclay, and Doreen Hurst.

At the end of 2012, we farewelled Colleen Speirs (retired), Aaron Rodriguez (interstate), Noreen Dick (retired), Elizabeth Woods (career change), Barbara Morris (promotional position in another College), Andrew Reay (interstate), Helen Maybin (promotional position in another College), Paul Sunderland (interstate), Nicola McLennan (overseas), Marlene Jorgensen (interstate), Michelle Marks (retired), Marg Pass (retired), and Kay Lyddieth (retired). The following staff have moved to other schools: Emily Brownrigg, Tim MacArthur, Luke Potter, and Bronwynn Griffin.

Yours in St Mary MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE  
PRINCIPAL

## REMINDER: TERM 1 FEES & HOW TO PAY

Term 1 fees will be mailed out shortly. Fees are to be paid by 15 March 2013 unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved payment method.

The following methods of payment are available:

### CASH OR CHEQUE

Cheque payments may be posted to the College and cash or cheque payments may be paid in person at both Isabella and Wanniasa Campus.

### DIRECT DEBIT

Payment of School Fees by Direct Debit will require completion of the relevant paperwork. Please contact the Accounts office to set up your Direct Debit which can commence at any time through the year. All Direct Debits continue throughout the year, they do not suspend for the term holidays, unless upon request.

### CREDIT CARD - MASTERCARD OR VISA

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

### EFTPOS

Eftpos is also available at the Front Office at both Isabella and Wanniasa Campus.

### BPAY

Bpay is available at the College. Payments can be made through internet and telephone banking by quoting the Biller Code and Reference Number as recorded on your school fee statement. Please ensure you quote the correct Reference Number so payments can be processed to the correct account. For further information please contact the Accounts Office on 6209 0100.

*Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager*

## SENIOR STUDIES SPOT

I introduced myself in the last newsletter but if you happened to miss that issue, my name is Colby Cruwys and I'm the new Senior Studies Coordinator. I'm hoping to include a short article in all our newsletters in order to inform you about what's happening in the life of our Senior students as well as provide some tips that you and your sons and daughters might be able to benefit from.

On Tuesday 19 February our Tertiary Year 12 students had the opportunity to engage in the Queensland Cognitive Skills test. For us it's a great practice opportunity for those students looking to receive an ATAR before they are required to sit the AST in September. They have no pressure and it informs us of areas that we might be able to focus on in future trials and AST workshops.

On Wednesday 20 February, all of Year 12 were invited to interviews to discuss their future paths and what MacKillop can do to help them reach their goals for 2013 and beyond.

Year 12 is the end of a long journey for our students and the last chance we as a College get to leave a long-lasting positive imprint in their lives. We encourage our Year 12 students at this point in their journey to consider how they spend their final year at MacKillop, what they want to get from it and what kind of legacy they'd like to leave for our younger students to remember.

The next big event for both Year 11 and 12 students will be the AST trials on Tuesday 5 March. All students wishing to attain an ATAR are required to be at school as normal on that day to sit practice AST-style exams. These practices are how we prepare them for the actual AST tests but also help us identify areas for growth.

As always, if you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

P: 6209 0173

E: [colby.cruwys@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:colby.cruwys@mackillop.act.edu.au)

*Colby Cruwys  
Senior Studies Coordinator*

## BRIEF NEWS

### RISING STAR

Congratulations to Victoria King (Year 12) who represented the ACT U18 Cricket team at the National Cricket Championships which were held in Ballarat in January.

### HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

During 2013 we will have a number of opportunities to host exchange students at the College. We are currently seeking expressions of interest from families who would like to participate. Each group of students will visit for different lengths of time so there are different programs to cater for different family circumstances. The programs are:

- Japanese Exchange Students: 21 July - 12 August
- Italian Sister School Visit: 12 - 21 August (20 families needed)
- Italian Exchange Students: 24 June - 13 September
- French Exchange Students: 7 July - 27 August

All interested families are asked to contact [andrew.mitchell@mackillop.act.edu.au](mailto:andrew.mitchell@mackillop.act.edu.au)

## PASTORAL CARE AT WANNIASSA

Welcome back to the 2013 school year and in particular new families who have joined our community. As discussed at recent parent information evenings, students on the Wanniassa Campus have made a positive and settled return to school.

### PASTORAL TEAMS

Many parents have already met and spoken to their sons and daughters PC Teachers. It is reassuring that in the majority of Year 8 and 9 classes the PC Teacher has remained unchanged.

The Pastoral Care Coordinators, who work closely with their team of PC Teachers and provide leadership to each cohort have been working closely with students to ensure the year has commenced in a successful fashion. The Pastoral Care Coordinators for each Year group on the Wanniassa campus in 2013 are Mrs Kate Durham and Mr Phil Belcher (Year 7), Mrs Sharyn Quirk and Mr Gary Pickering (Year 8), and Mrs Colleen Kain and Mr Steve Lowe (Year 9). Parents are encouraged to make contact with class teachers or their son or daughter's PC Teacher should they have any concerns about their progress.

### STATUS

The College has a Status System whereby students are recognised, affirmed and rewarded for their positive behaviours. Students may progress to the levels of Bronze, Silver or Gold Status. This system was reviewed in late 2012 by staff and students. A number of changes have been implemented following this review and took into account many ideas suggested by the students.

The refreshed system has been advertised to all students and they are encouraged to seek recognition for their positive contributions to the life of MacKillop through aiming for the progressions of Bronze, Silver and Gold Status. All students have been issued a "Merit Point Record" card as a means of tracking merit points issued by staff. When students have met the criteria for each level they should see their Pastoral Care Coordinator for an application form.

Students who obtain any level of Status will be presented at Campus Assemblies and be recognised in the College Newsletter. A number of other privileges will also be issued depending upon the level achieved.

### UNIFORM

The standard of uniform has been exceptionally high to start the year. A culture has been established whereby students take care in the way they present themselves and represent the College. Thus they wear the MacKillop uniform with pride. The uniform policy states "the FULL MacKillop uniform is to be worn to and from school each day". Thank you to those families who when necessary encourage their boys and girls to wear the uniform correctly. Thank you also to all families who have taken the time and effort to purchase school shoes that are in line with College policy. The response to the information that was distributed in the Newsletter in late 2012 and the information disseminated to students through various mediums has been particularly positive.

Please note that 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. This needs to be presented to their Pastoral Care Coordinator during PC time each morning so that a uniform pass can be obtained.

### DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

For the safety of all students we ask that when parents or family members are dropping students off at the College in the morning or picking them up the end of the day that arrangements be made for this to happen on the basketball courts. There have been a number of 'near misses' involving students being dropped off or collected on Mackinnon St and McBryde Cres. The small car park at the front of the College is not big enough to cater for the demands at these peak times and is only to be used by visitors during the day and across campus teaching staff.

### HOMEWORK CLUB

All Wanniassa students are invited to attend the Homework Club in the Wanniassa IRC from 3:30-4:30 Mondays to Thursdays. Students can find help with their studies in a relaxed, peaceful atmosphere.

### THE IPHONE CONTRACT

Some may have read in the media shortly after Christmas about Janell Burley Hoffman who gave her 13 year old son an iPhone for Christmas. It came with letter that included a personalised contract listing 16 conditions. Read the letter on the opposite page.

*Lachlan McNicol  
AP Pastoral Care - Wanniassa*

## A PARENT'S IPHONE CONTACT (continued from Pastoral Report)

12/25/2012

Dear Gregory,

Merry Christmas! You are now the proud owner of an iPhone. Hot Damn! You are a good & responsible 13 year old boy and you deserve this gift. But with the acceptance of this present comes rules and regulations. Please read through the following contract. I hope that you understand it is my job to raise you into a well rounded, healthy young man that can function in the world and coexist with technology, not be ruled by it. Failure to comply with the following list will result in termination of your iPhone ownership. I love you madly & look forward to sharing several million text messages with you in the days to come.

1. It is my phone. I bought it. I pay for it. I am loaning it to you. Aren't I the greatest?

2. I will always know the password.

3. If it rings, answer it. It is a phone. Say hello, use your manners. Do not ever ignore a phone call if the screen reads "Mom" or "Dad". Not ever.

4. Hand the phone to one of your parents promptly at 7:30pm every school night & every weekend night at 9:00pm. It will be shut off for the night and turned on again at 7:30am. If you would not make a call to someone's land line, wherein their parents may answer first, then do not call or text. Listen to those instincts and respect other families like we would like to be respected.

5. It does not go to school with you. Have a conversation with the people you text in person. It's a life skill. \*Half days, field trips and after school activities will require special consideration.

6. If it falls into the toilet, smashes on the ground, or vanishes into thin air, you are responsible for the replacement costs or repairs. Mow a lawn, babysit, stash some birthday money. It will happen, you should be prepared.

7. Do not use this technology to lie, fool, or deceive another human being. Do not involve yourself in conversations that are hurtful to others. Be a good friend first or stay the hell out of the crossfire.

8. Do not text, email, or say anything through this device you would not say in person.

9. Do not text, email, or say anything to someone that you would not say out loud with their parents in the room. Censor yourself.

10. Turn it off, silence it, put it away in public. Especially in a restaurant, at the movies, or while speaking with another human being. You are not a rude person; do not allow the iPhone to change that.

11. Don't take a zillion pictures and videos. There is no need to document everything. Live your experiences. They will be stored in your memory for eternity.

12. Leave your phone home sometimes and feel safe and secure in that decision. It is not alive or an extension of you. Learn to live without it. Be bigger and more powerful than FOMO - fear of missing out.

13. Download music that is new or classic or different than the millions of your peers that listen to the same exact stuff. Your generation has access to music like never before in history. Take advantage of that gift. Expand your horizons.

14. Play a game with words or puzzles or brain teasers every now and then.

15. Keep your eyes up. See the world happening around you. Stare out a window. Listen to the birds. Take a walk. Talk to a stranger. Wonder without googling.

16. You will mess up. I will take away your phone. We will sit down and talk about it. We will start over again. You & I, we are always learning. I am on your team. We are in this together.

It is my hope that you can agree to these terms. Most of the lessons listed here do not just apply to the iPhone, but to life. You are growing up in a fast and ever changing world. It is exciting and enticing. Keep it simple every chance you get. Trust your powerful mind and giant heart above any machine. I love you. I hope you enjoy your awesome new iPhone. Merry Christmas!

Mom ([www.janellburleyhofmann.com](http://www.janellburleyhofmann.com))

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### REGISTRATION DAYS/INFO

Velocity Cheersquad (Tuggeranong Based):  
0416 293 321 • [velocityact@gmail.com](mailto:velocityact@gmail.com)

Scouts (free three week trial):  
1800 SCOUTS • [www.act.scouts.asn.au](http://www.act.scouts.asn.au)

Tuggeranong Lions Junior AFL  
Registration: 24 Feb, Hyperdome, 10am-2pm  
Gala Day: 24 Feb, Kambah No 2 Oval, 4-6pm  
[www.tuggeranonglionsjafc.aflnswact.com.au](http://www.tuggeranonglionsjafc.aflnswact.com.au)

Tuggeranong Buffaloes Junior Rugby League  
Looking for 13-16 year olds  
0449 081 415 • [www.thebuffaloes.org](http://www.thebuffaloes.org)

South Tuggeranong Knights Junior Rugby League  
Registration: 24 Feb, Lanyon Shops, 10am-1.30pm  
[stevenpullen@dodo.com.au](mailto:stevenpullen@dodo.com.au)

### CATHOLIC CARE COURSES

"Bringing up great kids" and "Resourceful Adolescent Program for Parents" both commence next week. Contact Gayle for details on 6162 6122.

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Weekend retreat for married couples on 15-17 March.  
[www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)