



MACKILLOP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 7 2015, 15 MAY

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Parents, students and families,

Visit of Monsieur Guillaume Demeillers

MacKillop has been delighted to welcome Monsieur Demeillers, Director (Principal) of St Joseph's College, Le Havre, to our school over the past week. He has visited a number of French and Mathematics classes and has spent time with staff, myself, and other curricular leaders at MacKillop. He and I are keen to explore further development in teacher and student exchange and to build upon the already warm relations between our two schools.

Enrolment Period

The Enrolment Period for Years 7 and 11 2016 is now open. Indeed, readers could hardly have missed all the signs, radio advertising, and print media around at the moment. Over the past several weeks, I've been able to visit, along with a variety of fantastic MacKillop students from Years 7, 8, 11, and 12, the 16 local Catholic primary schools and the College has hosted the Year 7 Information Night, Try MacKillop Day, the Careers Expo, and the Year 11 Information Night. I have also hosted a most successful Information Evening at St Patrick's School, Cooma.

**FRIDAY
22 MAY**

YEAR 7+11 2016 ENROLMENT FORMS DUE

I would encourage all families to get their applications in ASAP. Should the applications arrive after Friday 22 May for Year 7, 2016, it is likely it will need to go on the waiting list. I am keen to offer places to all Year 6 students who have siblings here already.

As we will be welcoming students from other high schools into Year 11, 2016, I would be grateful to receive applications from current Year 10 students by the closing date.

In the meantime, the College has received a high number of compliments about its reputation, presentation, and the quality of its students. We received many comments, in particular, about the fact that students and current families speak so positively about the College. The loyalty of our community comes as no surprise to me, nor do the positive observations about our students, but it is nice to hear it just the same.

NAPLAN 2015

Congratulations to the Year 7 and 9 students who have participated in NAPLAN this week. NAPLAN is important but it is only one form of assessment and it serves as a source of data to inform us about their progress. The data we receive helps us to strengthen teaching and learning at MacKillop.

Yours in St Mary MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE, PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord, we give thanks for the strength of our MacKillop community and ask your guidance in helping us be a great Catholic school for all. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
TUESDAY

19

• Athletics Carnival

MAY
FRIDAY

22

• Final day of Enrolment Period

MAY
TUESDAY

26

• Parent Info Session for Year 7 Camp

MAY
THURSDAY

28

• Variety Night

JUN
MONDAY

08

• Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

COLLEGE NEWS

Changes to ACTION Bus Services

MORNING BUS CHANGES FROM 18 MAY 2015

- 544: This service now commences 5 minutes later at 7.55am
- 650: This service now commences 3 minutes later at 8.01am
- 651: This service now commences 3 minutes later at 7.59am
- 660: This service now commences 4 minutes later at 8.01am
- 665: This service now commences 1 minute later at 8.03am
- 671: This service now commences 3 minutes later at 7.58am
- 851: This service now commences 4 minutes earlier at 7.50am
- 852: This service now commences 3 minutes later at 7.56am
- 855: This service now commences 2 minutes earlier at 7.45am
- 856: This service now commences 1 minute earlier at 8.11am
- 859: This service now commences 3 minutes later at 7.46am
- 874: This service now commences 2 minutes later at 8.09am

AFTERNOON BUS CHANGES FROM 18 MAY 2015

- 541: Now servicing Jim Pike Ave and Callaway Cres (for MacKillop students only)
- 604: Now commencing at MacKillop Wanniasa at 3.22pm. No longer servicing MacKillop's Isabella Plains Campus. No longer servicing Wheeler Cres and Sternberg Cres to Erindale Dr
- 606: No longer servicing Jim Pike Ave and Callaway Cres Gordon. These students are to use S/R 541
- 670: No longer servicing MacKillop's Isabella Plains Campus (These students to use routes 67 and 71). No longer servicing Isabella Plains.
- 687: No longer servicing Wheeler Cres and Sternberg Cres to Erindale Dr
- 695: Now servicing Isabella Plains

For details, please visit <http://www.action.act.gov.au/>



Oztag Champions!

On Monday 4 May, Year 7/8 boys represented the school at the ACT Oztag Gala Day. The team started the day with a strong win over Lyneham High. Throughout the day the boys demonstrated some very potent attack finishing our pool games undefeated and qualifying in first place for the semi finals. The semi final saw them take on local rivals Wanniasa High, in a game that proved to be our toughest task yet. Wanniasa took an early lead but MacKillop showed true character to come back and win the game convincingly. The grand final was a rematch against Lyneham High, who had shown tremendous improvement since our first encounter but the MacKillop boys were switched on! In their seventh game of the day they finished the way they started, beating Lyneham High and taking out the tournament. Thank you to all the players - every single one of them made great contributions and is to be congratulated for his effort: Jordan van Aalst, Jackson Gallagher, Adam Slingsby, Will Granger, Harry Grant, Tim Breitkopf, Tom Hill, Khi Langridge, Oscar Schmidt, Harrison Piper, Dylan Blewitt, Harrison Palic.

Sam McCombe



ASC Swimming

The ASC Swimming Championships were a successful day for St Mary MacKillop College. Our relay teams did exceptionally well with the following results:

- 16 years girls medley relay - 1st
- 14 years boys medley relay - 1st
- 15 years boys medley relay - 2nd
- 14 years girls medley relay - 3rd
- 17 & over girls freestyle relay - 3rd
- 15 years boys freestyle relay - 3rd

Several students excelled throughout the day achieving a top 3 place for Age Champion. Well done to the following students:

- Ethan Long - 14 years boys - 2nd
- Jarrold Lee - 14 years boys - 3rd
- Josh Ball - 15 years boys - 3rd
- Alexie Boulton - 15 years girls - 3rd

Many students have qualified to compete at the ACT Swimming Championships.

Teresa Miller

Future Stars

Sarah Purcell (Year 9) has been accepted into the Australian Talent ID squad for water polo.

Chloe Smith (Year 9) will have her short story, 'Falling for my target' published in a book called 'The Write Track', which will be released in October this year.

Mikaela Mbonzi-Geach of Year 9 represented the ACT Schools team for Triathlon at the Australian Championships in April.

Jeremy Blick (Year 7) has been selected to represent the ACT in Men's Artistic Gymnastics at Australian Championships in Melbourne from 17 to 24 May 2015.

Hone Peri (Year 7), Dylan Slattery (Year 7), Tyson Kelly (Year 8), and Wezley Alexander (Year 9) have been selected by the Brumbies to represent the ACT in rugby union.

School Fees

Term 2 Fees are due to be paid today, Friday 15 May 2015, 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.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

Variety Night

MACKILLOP PRESENTS

VARIETY NIGHT

28 MAY • 7PM

WANNIASSA CAMPUS THEATRETTE

Tickets for Variety Night go on sale from Tuesday next week! Tickets are \$10 for students/concession and \$15 for adults.

WANNIASSA NEWS

Spirit of generosity at MacKillop

Young people today are often labelled as self-absorbed, inward-looking, inconsiderate of others, and selfish. Most students at MacKillop do not fit that description and numerous examples of generosity at the Wanniasa Campus have recently broken down that stereotype. Students have looked beyond themselves in charitably donating money to Project Compassion and volunteering their time for no personal gain at last week's 2016 Year 7 Information evening.

FUNDRAISING

Each year the College raises money for Project Compassion during Lent. Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, supporting the poor in both Australia and around the world. Last year students on the Wanniasa Campus raised more money during this period than before with just over \$7,500. The SRC led the 2015 campaign throughout Lent informing students of how their contributions would assist others, leading fundraising activities and encouraging donations. These donations by far made up the majority of the final total raised.

Notably, \$4,000 was raised in the final four days to bring the total sum raised to \$9,536 on the Wanniasa Campus. This is a new record for the Campus and the generosity of our students will assist in improving the lives of others who are less fortunate providing them a healthier future.

The College SRC recently decided upon the charitable organisations that each House will be raising money for during Terms 2 and 3.

These are:

Mindygari	Soldier-on
Gurabang	Indigenous Literacy Foundation
Meup Meup	New Hope for Cambodian Children (NHCC)
Ngadyung	Snowy Hydro South Care

VOLUNTEERING

Over 150 students gave up their time last week to assist in various ways at the Year 7 Information Evening. 100 students in Years 7 to 9 were joined by Year 12 students as they acted as tour guides to prospective students and parents. For many visitors it was their first time at the College and they spoke very favourably about the way students led them around the facilities, addressed their questions and spoke positively about their school. Other students were involved in performing or by assisting with curriculum demonstrations.

The willingness of so many students to make themselves available was appreciated and it says a lot about the pride they have in being MacKillop students. At a time when many young people are referred to as self-centred, it also says a lot about MacKillop students!



Status Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have this week been presented Status Awards at the Wanniasa Campus Assembly:

Bronze Status - Joseph Arrouk (7A3), Archie Beresford (7E1), Noelle Bowles (7E3), Samantha Bowles (8W1), Taylah Brussow (7W3), James Crowther (7W3), Abbie Curry (7W3), Maddy Garfath (8W1), Page Major (7A3), Mykal Marsham (7AF), Emily Martin (7F3), Connor Scott (7W3), Erin Trevillion (8EW).

Year 7 Camp - Parent Information Evening

A Year 7 Camp - Parent Information Evening will be held for parents at 6.00pm on Tuesday 26 May in the Wanniasa Campus Theatre. Some Year 7 students and their parents may be excited and have little concern about the camp. However, others may have anxieties surrounding particular aspects of the camp or the whole camp in general. The information evening will provide an opportunity to give an overview of the camp to parents and address any general questions in order to ensure that the camp is accessible to all Year 7 students and a safe and enjoyable experience is had. All Year 7 parents are invited - please note that the evening is not for the information of students.

Parentingideas

"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer" - Albert Einstein

The ability to carry on and see things through, despite difficulties and obstacles can at times be challenging for all of us. However, the Parentingideas article below discusses that "persistence is the one temperamental factor that can be improved over time. Parents and teachers can develop persistence in children and also impede its development by making life too easy for children so that they don't have opportunities to persist or hang in there".

*Lachlan McNicol
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care, Wanniasa*

COMMUNITY NEWS

Corpus Christi Morning Tea

Corpus Christi & Queanbeyan Cancer Support Groups will again be hosting the Biggest Morning Tea after the Anointing Mass on Friday 22nd May. All proceeds to the ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Council. The main raffle prize will be a large basket of groceries.

Bowling the blues away

Megan's Walk of Courage is holding a Bowling Night to raise funds for Lifeline on 21 June from 5pm at AMF Belconnen. Donations of toys and books (new only) will also be taken for the Smith Family Toy and Book Christmas Appeal. Find information on facebook, on the 'meganswalkofcourage' page.

Organ Donation: donatelife.gov.au

Tuggeranong Valley Band

The Tuggeranong Valley Band is always looking for new members! Visit tvband.org.au for information.

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Teach children to persist

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

"Persistence and patience have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish." John Quincy Adams

The ability to persist at a task and see it through to the end is one of the most important success attributes that you can develop in a child.

There are numerous times every day when children must persist rather than give in. A young child learning to tie shoelaces must persist. A primary aged student must show determination to finish tasks and a secondary student needs to work through difficulties, particularly those he doesn't understand or complete right away.

They need to be able to persist when work gets hard or life gets tough. They need the 'stickability' to work through difficulties and hang in there when things don't go their way.

Some children are more naturally predisposed to persist than others. They have a determined, even competitive streak in their temperament that doesn't allow them to give in. These children and young people can drive themselves very hard to succeed.

The results of the Australian Temperament Project show that persistence is the one temperamental

factor that can be improved over time.

Parents and teachers can develop persistence in children and also impede its development by making life too easy for children so that they don't have opportunities to persist or hang in there.

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

Parents can be a sounding board for children's gripes but they should show confidence in their ability to cope and get through their difficulties. "You can do it" is far more powerful in terms of promoting an attitude of persistence than "If it is a little too hard then try something else."

Let children know that there is a correlation between effort and success. In fact, they need to learn that by GIVING EFFORT they will more than likely experience more success. The ability to persist in the face of difficulties maybe an old-fashioned quality but it is one of the best success attributes that children will ever develop.

Here are four practical strategies you can use to promote a sense of persistence in your children:

1 Develop a vocabulary for persistence

Words like "Hang tough", "Work Hard" and "Hang in there" can become part of their every day vocabulary.

2 Point out to children when they stick at a task

Most parents know it pays off when they catch their children being good but it also pays off to catch them being persistent. The behaviours you focus on as parents expand so let them know when they have been persistent. Also remind them that persistence generally pays off.

3 Help children to remember

times when they experienced success by HANGING IN when they were younger. Let them know that persistence has paid off before and it will again.

4 Talk about HARD WORK with your children

They need to understand that to be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not always the case.

Michael Grose



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.

