



MACKILLOP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9 2016, 10 JUNE

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear families, students and friends,

Federal Election Material

The National Catholic Education Commission has produced election material (usually about Catholic school funding) and has asked schools to distribute it via our school newsletter. I am happy to do this and will place it at the end of the newsletter. Bringing public money into Catholic education is a good thing.

Variety Night

Congratulations to everybody involved in this year's Variety Night. Mr Tony Lazzarato's directing and the humour of hosts Michael Caruana and Harry Hattch (Year 12) held the evening together convincingly and the range and quality of talent was of a very high standard. Everyone involved should be pleased that they were able to contribute to such a positive community event.

Year 12 Performance

Congratulations to the Year 12 Drama class and Ms Jacinta Paquay for their production of *Treasure Island*. It was, the night I saw it, a production of real quality and humour. The Tuggeranong Arts Centre's performance space worked well and all of us look forward to our new theatre at the Isabella Campus in a few years' time.

Boys Dance Group

At Wednesday's Assembly, Tim Walshe (Class of 2011) and some friends shared some alpha male dance moves to promote a boys dance group at the junior campus. Interested boys should contact Mr Lazzarato and the classes will commence in Semester 2. This is a six-month enterprise to promote dance for boys and young men, taught by young men, at MacKillop. Should the venture be a success, a review of the program will be conducted. Tim Walshe teaches dance at Fresh Funk. The College is interested in providing impetus for the further involvement of boys in this exciting dimension of the performing arts.

Vale Muhammad Ali

The passing of Muhammad Ali has been widely, respectfully and appropriately reported through the media over the last few days. For many of us of a certain age, he spoke of courage, conviction, great skill and personality and was a powerful advocate for social and racial justice. His battle with Parkinson's disease was an example to us all. Farewell to 'The Greatest'.

Yours sincerely in St Mary MacKillop,

MICHAEL LEE,
PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL'S PRAYER

Lord, we pray for victims of disasters and for the police, armed services and emergency services who lend vital assistance to them. Amen

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE MONDAY 13	• Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
JUNE MONDAY 20	• Year 7 Camp departs (Group 1) • Year 12 AST Trial
JUNE TUESDAY 21	• Year 8 MacKillop Place pilgrimage • Year 12 AST Trial
JUNE WEDNESDAY 22	• Year 7 Camp departs (Group 2) • Year 8 MacKillop Place pilgrimage • Year 9 Transition Day
JUNE MONDAY 27	• Year 11 2017 Parent Info Session

COLLEGE NEWS

ACT Learner's Licence Test

On Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 June 2016, during their regular 1 hour PE lesson, eligible Year 10 students will be sit their ACT Learner Licence Knowledge Test. To be eligible students must have met the requirements of the Road Ready course completed during class time which includes classwork, assessment and attendance. Students must have a residential address within the ACT and produce identification which contains their full and correct name in the form of a Birth Certificate or Passport (Clear photo of these will be accepted). Please note that only these forms of identification will be accepted by the teacher as it is a regulation set by the ACT Government.

Dale Argall, PE Coordinator (Isabella)

PE Pathways Open Night

In preparation for next year, the Physical Education and Health Faculty is holding an information evening for Year 9 students and parents interested in the 2017 Year 10 PE Pathways course. This session will be held at the Wanniasa Campus on Thursday 16 June, from 6.00pm in the IRC.

Information including the aims, goals and application process will be discussed and it will serve as an opportunity for any questions to be answered. We look forward to seeing you there.

Braden Longo, PE



Parliament of Youth on Sustainability

On 30 May, senior students from MacKillop participated in the Parliament of Youth on Sustainability. Chloe Boyd and Cameron Prowse from Year 12 and Kate Solari and Harleen Kaur from Year 10 presented green papers on how to reduce Canberra's Ecological Footprint. Sam Ferguson from Year 11 helped by taking photographs on the day.

The following Year 12 students acted as facilitators and helped run committee sessions: Elizabeth Batten, Grace Fidge, Luke Simms, Annabelle Mananagan, Clair Schofield, Leanne Golding, Molly Barrett, Myles Sutcliffe, Brooke Priestly and Madeleine Gray.

Ummehani Rangwalla, Science



Parliamentary Debating

On Friday 27 May, four Year 10 students - Harleen Kaur, Aisling Kinsella, Ruben Mayenco and Dominic Strmota - attended the ACT Legislative Assembly to take part in a parliamentary debating competition against other schools from around Canberra. The students debated on topics such as race relations in sports, the relative merits of a plebiscite, the EU immigration crisis and Anzac Day. They debated with passion, and were complimented on their well-structured arguments and accurate questioning. The students won both their debates, and are congratulated on their success. Well done team!

Danielle Logue, English

Student Achievement

Nicholas Hosie (Year 10), Jordan Coffey (Year 11), and Kobe MacPherson (Year 12) represented the ACT at the Australian Schoolboys Baseball Tournament in Perth last month.

Sophie Highmore (Year 10) was awarded the 2016 Cowra Eisteddfod Ballet Scholarship, worth \$2000.

Abigail Adera competed in the Fiji International Triathlon at the end of May and came 1st in the 300m SWIM, 10k BIKE, 2.5k RUN event and 1st in 14-15 years.

Harry Grant, Lachlan Squire, and Adam Walker (all Year 9) have been selected to represent the ACT in Australian Rules football.

Laura Monterosso (Year 7) has been selected to represent the ACT in hockey.

Indigo Foundation Dinner

Several students represented the College at the Indigo Foundation Canberra Dinner at the National Press Club on 28 May. The food, performances, and auction items all followed the Indonesian theme, with money raised helping young people on the remote Indonesian island of Rote.

Claire Mackey, Year 12

School Fees

Fees for Term 2 should now be finalised unless paying by Direct Debit or other approved arrangement. Any outstanding fees should be paid immediately. 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.

Michelle Predovan, Fees Manager

COMMUNITY NEWS

Olympia Judo Club

Olympia Judo Club operates in Tuggeranong. Training sessions run on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. For information, visit www.olympiajudoclub.com.au.

Ni Bonchi Judo Club

Ni Bonchi Judo Club runs sessions on Tuesday and Thursday from 6pm-7.30pm at Lanyon Vikings. Contact nibonchi@inet.net.au.

RAID Basketball

The YMCA RAID basketball is a program for people with an intellectual disability. It provides participants with an opportunity to be part of a sporting team and to enjoy basketball, friendship, pride, confidence and mateship. For information about the RAID program, visit <http://www.canberra.ymca.org.au/healthfitness/raid/>.

Resourceful Adolescent program

This program for parents helps you to help your teenager. The course is offered over three weeks, beginning 15 June from 6-9pm in Red Hill. Bookings essential - call 6162 6100 for information.

Parentline - 6287 3833

Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress. Parentline ACT is a confidential, anonymous telephone counselling and information service. Call 6287 3833 to talk about parenting issues, gain ideas, seek support, and for help in understanding your child/teenager.

ACT Rugby Schoolgirls trials

Players born 1998-2000 are invited to trial for ACT Schoolgirls Rugby on 19 and 26 June at St Clare's College from 10.30am-12.30pm. Register your interest: d.tyson@brumbies.com.au

WANNIASSA NEWS

House Charity Fundraising

The College fundraising focus in Term Two and Three centres on each House Charity- a combination of both local and national charities decided by the leadership team of each House. Ngadyung's charity Snowy Hydro SouthCare was the focus of the Wanniassa activities in Week 6 with a uniform variation of hats and beanies on Thursday for a gold coin donation as well as a lunchtime comedy performance by our resident comedian Mr Jeremy Margosis raising \$750. We look forward to Mindygari's efforts at the start of Term Three raising money for Heartkids.

Status Awards

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

Bronze Status - Gabriel Nelson(8E3), Gabrielle Wagner (7F2), Renee May (8AF), Isabella Simon (7W3), Lilly Vassallo (7E3), Natasha Luther (7F3), Jessica Reid (7F1), Kiah Noble (8E1), Ella Grech (7F3), Ava Rezo-Kolak (7F2), Justin Lawrence (7F2), Jordyn Parritt (7A1), Isabella Coates (7F3), Ryan Buchanec (7AF), Sam Robinson (7F3), Cameron Taylor (7F3), Max Leonard (7A3), Chloe Pascoe (7F2), Kate Conway (7F2), Catherine Esgnera (7F1), Makayla Walsh (7F3), Lilly Virgo (7F1), Sabina Morgan (8A1), Jake Spackman (7F1), Aidan Travini (8A2)

Silver Status- Alexandra Owen (9F2)



Altitude Day

Altitude Day, a leadership conference for Year 9 students at ANU, is designed to challenge and help Year 9 students build their leadership capacity at this important stage in their school journey. Through a blend of inspirational talks and group activities, the students gained confidence and advice on how to make good choices, learning that they can make a difference. The 13 MacKillop students also enjoyed the opportunity to establish networks with other Middle School students and leaders from schools across the region. The energy in the room was electric throughout the day and truly challenged each student by taking them out of their comfort zone.

Lyndall Ruig
Year 9 Coordinator

Parentingideas

This week's Parentingideas article, "It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school," highlights the impact for students when they miss school time - academically, socially and emotionally.

Wanniassa News by: Monica Bailey
AP Pastoral Care, Wanniassa Campus

PERFORMING ARTS

Treasure Island

The Year 12 Drama production of *Treasure Island* at Tuggeranong Arts Centre was a performance to be treasured. Being part of this production we were able to learn new skills, like costume, lighting and stage design, but most importantly we learnt that all hands on deck makes for an amazing show. Not only was it a successful performance but it was also an enjoyable performance to be part of. We all greatly appreciate the chance to perform and thank everyone who came to support us.

Year 12 Drama

"For most of us in the class, it was our last opportunity to come together and perform so I'll treasure the experience as the performance was one of the highlights of my last year at school. I encourage everyone to get involved with drama, as the end result of a major performance is always rewarding." **Briar Gardiner**

"As a Year 12 class, having the opportunity to do a professional performance outside of school was an awesome experience and so much fun!" **Angela Sullivan**

"It was a fantastic learning experience that created a culture of teamwork and friendship between us." **Tim Lazzari**

Production for Live Theatre

As a student completing the Live Theatre course, we are given many opportunities to work on the technical side for different shows the school produces. We recently had the chance to be a part of the Year 12 Drama performance of *Treasure Island*. We had fun being involved in the sound, lighting and backstage as we were working with different people each with different experiences. The stage crew, in particular, branched out by learning a new skill, playing trees in the production.

Leanne Golding, Year 12



Year 10 Drama

Do you have what it takes to be a pirate? Do you love the sea with all your might? Ever find yourself looking for lost treasure? Year 10 answered these questions and many more with their enactment of '13 Signs You Should Stop Being a Pirate'. The fun performance was the product of weeks of rehearsal and practice and the Year 10 Drama class were happy to invite their friends and family to come and watch.

With some top notch make-up and stellar props, the Drama class became a merry band of scallywags informing the audience of 13 things that disqualify you for piracy.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the class and a special thank you to Miss Paquay for organising the whole thing.

Sarah Purcell, Year 10

SENIOR EXAMS

Senior Exam guidelines for students

The upcoming senior exams form part of the assessment package for most students. They are an opportunity to demonstrate learning and achievement. The following guidelines are in place to provide the best opportunities for success for all students.

- Students are responsible for ensuring they know when and where their exams are on.
- If a student believes they are entitled to special provisions they are responsible for completing the required form and making supporting documentation available to Mrs. Anderson (Inclusive Education). This is to be done in a timely fashion.
- If a student is absent from an exam due to misadventure (eg illness or accident), they must provide documentation to substantiate their absence. This may be in the form of a doctor's certificate or a pharmacy certificate. Arrangements will be made for exam re-sits as required.
- If a student is absent without a valid reason they will be permitted a re-sit but will receive the Notional Zero for their attempt regardless of result.

- Late students will not be allowed additional time to complete their exam unless they have appropriate documentation.
- Students will need to bring their student identification card to all exams.
- Mobile Phones
 - Students are NOT allowed to have their mobile phones out before, during or after entering an exam venue.
 - Students are to ensure that their mobile phone is switched off and remains in their pocket for the duration of any exam. Failure to do so is in breach of exam conditions.
- Smartwatches are not permitted within the exam venues. Clocks will be used to display the time in all venues.
- Students must remain in the exam venue for the duration of the exam.

*Maria O'Donnell and Clare Fletcher,
Assistant Principals Curriculum (Acting)*

Senior Exams - Semester 1 2016

Senior Exams S1 2016		
	Year 11	Year 12
Friday 10 June Morning (9.00am)	English T	Economics Psychology A/T Earth Science Physics
Friday 10 June Afternoon (1.15pm)	History A/T - Ancient Business A/T	RE A/T
Tuesday 14 June Morning (9.00am)	IT A/T Social and Community Work Specialist Mathematics Exercise Science A/T	English T
Tuesday 14 June Afternoon (1.15pm)	RE A/T	Sociology A/T Specialist Mathematics History A/T - Modern
Wednesday 15 June Morning (9.00am)	Mathematical Applications Mathematical Methods	Essential English Literature
Wednesday 15 June Afternoon (1.15pm)	Essential English Literature Economics	Mathematical Applications Mathematical Methods Essential Mathematics
Thursday 16 June Morning (9.00am)	IT DM History A/T - Modern Sociology A/T Chemistry	IT DM Business A/T Biology
Thursday 16 June Afternoon (1.15pm)	Psychology A/T General Science A/T Geography A/T	IT A/T History A/T - Ancient Geography A/T
Friday 17 June Morning (9.00am)	Hospitality T Biology RE DM Music A/T	Hospitality T Social and Community Work Chemistry RE DM Music A/T
Friday 17 June Afternoon (1.15pm)	Legal A/T Physics Business Administration	Legal A/T Exercise Science A/T Business Administration

Please Note: Some courses do not have a final semester exam.

All Year 11 and 12 students will receive a personalised examination timetable indicating session start and finish times and locations.

Enquiries regarding exam schedule should be directed to Janine Hickson, Student Records, in the first instance on 62090129.

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school



When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a

sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

more on page 2 >>



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.



parentingideas.com.au



... It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school...

It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!" Nice try. But the answer should be "No!"

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

AS A PARENT:

- ✓ Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- ✓ Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- ✓ Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- ✓ Consider catching-up on missed work.
- ✓ Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.

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.



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Authorised by Ross Fox, National Catholic Education Commission, Level 3, 156 Gloucester St, Sydney