



**MACKILLOP COLLEGE**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**April**

*Celebrating all life*

*Challenging all people*

*Dreaming the new day*

# MacKillop Newsletter

April 2016



### Table of Contents

Letter from the Principal..... 2  
From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 7 & 8..... 3  
From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 9 & 10..... 3  
From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 11 & 12 ..... 3  
Italy Trip ..... 4  
Sports Report ..... 4  
John the Baptist Resource Centre ..... 5  
Parents & Friends Committee..... 5  
Parent/Guardian Information ..... 5  
Parish News..... 7



MacKThom Cup Girls Basketball



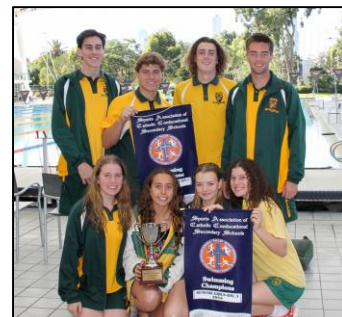
MacKThom Cup Boys Basketball



Easter Liturgy



Global Reality Luncheon



SACCSS Swimming Carnival

College Chaplains

Fr. Frank Buhagiar

Fr. Shymon Thekkekalathungal

Fr. Benneth Osuagwu

PRAYER

*Be bright and cheerful and encourage all**To be the same**Mary MacKillop 1885*

Canonical Administrators

Fr. Frank Buhagiar

(President)

Fr Pius Kodakkathanath

Fr. Jude Pirodda

Sisters of St Joseph

Sr. Geraldine Whelan

AMEN

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April 2016

## Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians

Upon the commencement of Term 2 we would like to offer a warm welcome back to all members of our College community. All students have settled well and are diligently preparing for a productive term.

The recent Italy trip was deemed a success thereby further enriching our extra-curricular program. Our students willingly immersed themselves in the language, art and culture of this wonderful country. Our bond with the secondary students of Legnano was also strengthened.

A group of MacKillop community members completed a four day pilgrimage to Penola, South Australia to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart by Mary MacKillop and Fr Tenison Woods. Students from other Association of Josephite Affiliated Secondary Schools (AJASS) also participated. The trip included many of the places in which Mary MacKillop lived and worked including Portland where Mary first met Fr Woods and decided to follow her calling. Once arriving in Penola, the MacKillop pilgrims joined the anniversary celebrations which culminated with a Eucharist on the original site of Mary MacKillop's first school.

On Anzac Day our students and staff were called upon to remember all Australians who served and died in war and on operational service. Reflection was focused on the spirit of Anzac with its qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice. These are all values which resonate strongly with our Christian beliefs.

With Mother's Day in mind, the Parents and Friends Committee have chosen to host a High Tea in support of the Mary MacKillop Foundation and the College. We wish them every success as this event is a great showing of hospitality encompassing our wider College community.

May St Mary of the Cross MacKillop guide our way.



Rory Kennedy  
Principal

## **From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 7 & 8**

### Year 7

Term 2 commences with the shorter hours of sunlight so the Year 7's are transitioning into their Winter uniforms. This term, the students have enthusiastically tried out for various Premier League teams in sports such as soccer, football, volleyball and netball. The interschool competition will commence in the next few weeks. The Year 7s will also have the opportunity to participate in the MacKillop Athletics Carnival which will help determine the SACCSS Athletics team for 2016. We look forward to the coming months.

### Year 8

Term 2 has started with the students showing confidence and an awareness of what is expected of them with regards to their studies, their uniform and their behaviour. As teachers and coordinators, it is encouraging to see the students going about their daily responsibilities without the worries and anxieties that can come when starting a new school year. We can see growth and maturity in the Year 8 students that should set them up to work well at their studies and enjoy all that Term 2 has to offer.

## **From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 9 & 10**

Following a restful Easter holiday break our students have resumed their studies in Term 2. For a small group of Year 10 students, the return to school followed a unique and exciting learning adventure. The students were part of a select group in the College who spent their Easter break travelling through Italy. By all accounts the Italy trip was an enriching experience which produced many wonderful memories; all of which will complement their studies and their learning for life. In fact, Term 2 will provide our students with a range of learning for life opportunities. This term the Year 9 students at Main Campus ventured outside their traditional learning environment and participated in a Careers Industry Day. The day enabled students to select an industry of interest and experience for a day what working in that industry would be like. Upon their return, it was wonderful to hear our students share what they had learned but it was also wonderful to hear them express their genuine appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the experience. Well done to all our students and teachers on a great start to Term 2!

## **From the Director of Student Wellbeing – Year 11 & 12**

The first term holidays are always a time to take stock and refresh ready for what will be a long but rewarding Term 2. As we celebrated the term holidays and Easter break I was able to spend Good Friday with a group of Year 11 and 12 students who supported the Werribee CFA in collecting money for the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal. In the Year of Mercy it was a rewarding and enriching experience to spend time with our students working with others in the community for such a great cause. Our students across a range of areas have shown a great willingness to live out the values of Mercy in a practical and meaningful way.

On 28 April at 7:30pm we will be running a session for Year 11 and 12 parents/guardians that will focus on how they can support their sons and daughters with study skills and exam preparation. The session will be conducted by Elevate Education who have been working with our students and teachers in developing a common understanding and approach of how to get the best out of their home study. All parents/guardians are most welcome to come along to the session. For more information please contact the College.

As we start Term 2 and move into Winter, we look forward to the many opportunities our students will have in and out of the classroom to live out our College Theme for 2016 "live with passion - challenge indifference".

## Italy Trip

The second ever MacKillop Art/Language trip to Italy took place in the last week of Term 1 as well as the two week break, and there is no doubt that it was a complete success. It was a wonderful learning experience for everyone involved, jam packed with many highlights. From the grandeur of Rome with its spectacular ancient ruins, to Florence's abundance of architectural and artistic treasures, to the magic of Venice's winding narrow canals and Milan's sprawling metropolis, each city has its own distinct feel and flavour. We were constantly exposed to unique food, religious traditions, fashion statements and cultural diversity.

Each day, language students were blessed with constant exposure and opportunity to develop practical skills in a genuine context. While art students got the opportunity to visit and learn about some of the most important masterpieces of the art world such as Michelangelo's *David* and the Sistine Chapel, Da Vinci's *Last Supper* and Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus*. There were also wonderful opportunities for everyone to participate in drawing and water colour activities in amazing locations, as well as a chance to decorate our very own Venetian mask.

Being away from our homes and families was a different experience for all. During the Easter celebrations in Florence we had the opportunity to go to Mass together as well as witness the medieval pageant which was a special moment.

The last week away was predominantly spent in a town called Legnano which is located a half hour train ride from Milan in the northern part of the country. There we found our sister school Istituto Tirinanzi. A huge highlight of the trip was the chance to be a part of Italian classes at their school and the homestay experience with an Italian family. In this time we were welcomed and looked after and built beautiful friendships and memories, some that will last a lifetime.

## Sports Report



For all recent sports results, please refer to the [sports category in the MacKillop News Blog](#) found on the College Website.

## John the Baptist Resource Centre

During Term 1 the library fiction collection was undergoing the process of 'genrefication', meaning that titles were being arranged by similar theme or type. We are pleased to announce that this process is now complete and the shelving arrangement whereby the resources have been categorised into distinctive genre collections is now operational. This has been a time-consuming task but will allow students to locate reading material of similar structure and theme in the one location. Students are encouraged to utilise the JBC library catalogue via the intranet in order that they discover where the title they seek is now located. Browsing is now an easier process but to locate a specific title the use of the catalogue will be essential.

Students involved in the Premiers' Reading Challenge are encouraged to be recording their titles ready for the Challenge. Names have been entered and students will receive their passwords very soon.

## Parents & Friends Committee

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 4 May at 7:30pm in the Training Room of the Sr Giovanni Administration Building.

The Parents and Friends Committee is very excited about the 'High Tea' due to take place on Sunday 1 May in the Sr Giovanni Administration Building. Ticket sales have been slow but steady and the event looks like it will be a grand success. For last minute ticket sales please contact [parents\\_friends@mackillop.vic.edu.au](mailto:parents_friends@mackillop.vic.edu.au).

The Parents and Friends now have a dedicated and permanent email address. If you have any enquires or suggestions for the Parents and Friends Committee please email [parents\\_friends@mackillop.vic.edu.au](mailto:parents_friends@mackillop.vic.edu.au).

## Parent/Guardian Information

### Catholic Education Today

Please [click here](#) to view the latest edition of the Catholic Education Today magazine.

### End of the Day

When picking students up from school at the end of the day, please be respectful of our neighbours and their access to their properties. This includes the properties/businesses in Russell Street, in particular Estia Health. Parents/guardians are specifically asked not to park in or over driveways or in business car parks.

### Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be closed on Monday 9 May 2016 for staff professional development.

## Uniform

Due to the continuing warm weather, the uniform transition period will continue until Friday 6 May. This means that students can be in either full Summer or Winter uniform up to and including Friday 6 May.

Winter uniform includes the College Blazer. Please note, cuffs are to remain on boys trousers if alterations are made. The regulation tights that our girls must wear are only available from the College Uniform Shop as they are specially colour dyed and cannot be purchased elsewhere.

Parents and students are reminded that grooming is part of the Uniform Policy. In part, the policy states: "Hair is to be neatly groomed, appropriate to the wearing of a uniform, fully tied back and off the face at all times...Unusual fashion modes, as determined by the College...are unacceptable". Please ensure that your sons/daughters are compliant with all uniform expectations.

## School Hours and Duty of Care

MacKillop College prides itself on providing its staff and students with a safe environment during school hours. This safe environment is further provided before and after official school hours in a limited capacity.

### Before School:

The College is open to staff from 7:30am. Students are not permitted to be on the school premises until 8:00am. There is no provision for student supervision before 8:00am each day.

### After School:

The College remains open to students until 4:30pm and to teachers for personal organisation after this time. Students are not permitted to be on the school premises after 4:30pm. The only exception is if students are part of a pre-organised activity, under the direct supervision of a nominated teacher, for a specific purpose and for a specified time. For safety reasons, we ask all parents/guardians to ensure that students are not on the school premises before 8:00am or after 4:30pm as they cannot be supervised.

## Financial Assistance – Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Victorian Government has announced provision of \$148.3 million over four years for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF), to ensure all eligible students are able to participate in school trips and sporting activities. Families who hold a valid means-tested concession card or who are temporary foster parents of school age children are eligible to apply.

The 2016 annual CSEF amount for secondary school students is \$225. The payment will be made directly to the school and will be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of the student.

**How to apply:** Contact the Administration Office to complete an application form.

For more information regarding CSEF visit

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx?Redirect=1](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx?Redirect=1)

**Host Family Opportunity**

MacKillop College is currently expanding its International Programs. Annually, in Term 3, we will be hosting up to 25 Japanese students from our Sister School, Seishu High School (HS). We have shared a relationship with Seishu HS in excess of 15 years.

The students from Seishu HS will engage with a Universal Course Immersion Program at the College and will require a host family for the duration of their stay. To date, MacKillop College has relied on the goodwill of its parent body to meet such a need and this article is calling for families who wish to express interest in hosting a Japanese student for the duration of Term 3, 2016. Ideally families will be able to host a student for ten weeks. However, if your family can offer five weeks' hosting, this will help the College in its planning.

If you would like to find out more about this opportunity, please contact the International Programs Coordinator Ms Satoko Nagaoka at the College.

**Parish News**





*Sunday,  
15<sup>th</sup> May 2016*



*Mass at 10.30am*

*St. Andrew's Sports Centre  
(enter via Stawell St., Werribee),  
followed by fellowship.*

*Please come dressed in your  
national costume and bring a plate  
of fingerfood to share.*



*Jubilee Year  
of Mercy*







## 8 Facts about Spacers that may surprise

Spacers assist with taking asthma medication. Spacers are only needed with metered dose inhalers (MDI's) or 'puffers'. Spacers are usually plastic or polycarbonate and shaped like a cylinder. A puffer is inserted at one end, and the other end goes in your mouth.

1. Spacers are recommended for use by only one person use to help stop the spread of infectious disease – each person should have their own spacer, which they can wash and reuse.
2. Spacers are recommended for everyone using a metered dose inhaler (MDI), not just for children. Using a spacer means fewer side effects from the medication, it is easier to use as it requires less coordination than a puffer alone and more medication is inhaled into the lungs.
3. A puffer with spacer works just as well as a nebuliser for treating asthma symptoms, including during an asthma attack. A puffer with spacer is also simpler, cheaper and handier, is much more portable, and has fewer side-effects.
4. Fire only one puff into your spacer at a time. Breathe in from your spacer as soon as you've fired a puff into it as the medication settles on the bottom very quickly.
5. Replace your spacer about every 12 months if you use it every day. If it breaks or cracks, get a new one straight away.
6. After washing your spacer, don't rinse the bubbles off it or wipe it, just let it drip dry. The residue of the bubbles from the detergent puts a coating on the inside of the spacer. This stops the creation of static electricity inside, which can make the medication stick to the sides of the spacer instead of travelling through. Clean your spacer the same way every month and also after you have had a cold or flu.
7. Your spacer should NOT be stored in plastic bags as this may create static. After they have been washed in warm water and detergent, and allowed to air dry, they should be stored in a bag made of fabric or paper.
8. In the event of an emergency and a spacer not available for child under 7, cup child's/helper's hands around child's nose and mouth to form a good seal. Fire puffer through hands into air pocket. Follow steps for WITH SPACER - <http://www.nationalasthma.org.au/uploads/content/22-NAC-First-Aid-for-Asthma-Chart-Kids-FINAL.pdf>

For step by step instructions on how to use a spacer, please see:

<http://www.asthmaaustralia.org.au/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=19327353954&libID=19327353930>

If you have any questions about spacers and how to use them call and speak to a trained health professional on the Asthma InfoLine 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 642)