

ISSUE 8 | WEEK 10, TERM 1 2017

COLLEGE**Matters**



A rich &
welcoming Term One

A BIG OPENING MASS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

HARMONY DAY



MACKILLOP
Catholic College
WARNERVALE



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College Principal's message

Steve Todd *offers his thoughts on what adds to the flavour of this College.*

AT TIMES IN a busy and large College such as ours, some things and many people can pass by without too much notice and you just move along with it all. When, I do take the time and notice what has just taken place, or why we are doing certain things, as well as notice who the people are the connection to why + do the things we do, offers me more often than not, a deep sense of gratitude for belonging to this College community.

I would like to give a big shout out to some of the people who make coming to MacKillop each day a real blessing:

- College Captains, Will O'Keefe and Samantha Vella who along with Parliament leaders so dramatically demonstrated the plight of refugees trying to seek refuge in Australia at our swimming carnival. This was an inspirational moment where I thought 'now this is what makes our College special'. Thank you Will and Samantha.
- To all the new Kinder students and Yr 7 students who attended the Parish Welcome Mass and received welcome teddy bears and key rings, so great to see you here at MacKillop. Thank you mums and dads for sending your children to us.
- To Peter Ives, ex-student from 2010 who just wowed us at the Senior student luncheon with his story that has taken him beyond Australia to live his dream in construction. It was a joy to hear his story.

- To all our Primary students who made Mrs Dietrich and I so proud of their illustrations for Catholic Schools Week for 'Putting yourself in the picture'. Mrs Dietrich and I have never looked so colourful!
- At our Open Day, to the student leaders who so proudly took visitors on a tour of the College. So many visitors spoke glowingly of the student tour guides.
- To all the students for singing so well at our Opening Mass for the year. You are creating a wonderfully positive atmosphere that sets such a strong spirit and unites us all in community.

To see Mrs Kerry Aitken present the Stephen Aitken 'Personal Best' shield to our College Dux, Kayla Christensen at the senior student luncheon was a touching moment.

It was a privilege to welcome two special guests to our College towards the end of the term. Firstly, our Bishop Peter Comensoli who came to visit our Parish and to speak to the students and staff. Always heartening to have a visit from Bishop Peter. And, secondly to Mr Hatoyama from our Sister School, Nihon Daiichi High School, Tokyo who visited us to escort the two exchange students home to Japan. We are so delighted to see our two schools forging such strong international ties.

Finally, I wish everyone a blessed Easter and we look forward to all the happenings of Term 2.

An eventful Term 1 for Primary

A message from our Assistant Primary Principal, Sue Dietrich

AS WE NOW come to the end of the first term of the 2017 school year, we reflect on the many experiences we have shared as a community during March.

We held our Annual Open Day during Catholic Schools Week. First and foremost, Catholic Schools Week is about celebration. One of the major objectives of Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is to raise public awareness of the strengths of Catholic schools and highlight the significant contribution the Catholic education sector makes to our state and nation. CSW is an opportunity to share with the broader community the great things that take place in our schools every day. This year, Mr Todd and I asked the children to reflect on themselves as part of our MacKillop Catholic community and to "Put Themselves in the Picture" through an artwork based on Mr Todd's caricature of the two of us. This indeed gave life to the week and the children enjoyed completing their picture. During the Open Day we invited the current and future community in to see the College and what we are able to offer children and families in this partnership during their 13 years of education. We enjoyed this opportunity to share our College with many visitors and this time enabled them to see many different aspects of the College – both Primary and Secondary.

On Friday 24th March, we celebrated Harmony Day. Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity - its inclusiveness, respect and sense of belonging for everyone. Our Harmony Day Liturgy and Parade of Nations were enjoyed by all.

Every year, I am amazed at how quickly the weeks go by as we settle our new Kindergarten children into their school life and then so suddenly we are ready to meet the families for the next year ahead. Our Parent Information Evening on Tuesday, 14 March was the opportunity for families seeking enrolment in Kindergarten and Year 7 in 2018 to meet the Leadership of the College and Executive staff and hear information about the enrolment process. If you have a child in either of these categories or have family or friends who would be seeking enrolment for 2018, please advise them to come to the College Office for an enrolment package.

Our class teachers have completed the Parent/Teacher interviews for this first term. This has been a great opportunity for parents to meet and discuss their child's progress with the teachers. The two key areas of celebrating achievements of this term and setting goals for the term ahead have been the focus of discussions during the meetings.

As we wrap up our first term with our annual Athletics Carnival, CCC Cross Country, Year 6 Transition Day and our wonderful reflection on Holy Week ahead, we can truly look back and feel blessed by the many positive experiences of mission, learning and care for each other that we have experienced.

I wish all families a wonderful holiday break and a happy and Holy Easter. We look forward to seeing all the children back at school on Wednesday, 26 April for the first day of Term 2.



Thinking about others

A message from our Secondary Principal, Debra Ferguson.

THIS TERM HAS really been all about thinking about others, doing something to help others and realising that everyone can make a difference. With the season of Lent commencing with Ash Wednesday on 1 March, Project Compassion becomes a focus for the entire College. With Harmony Day then falling on 21 March we find the saying of Mary MacKillop, 'Never seeing a need without doing something about it', comes alive.

To see students generously organising fundraisers to help those less fortunate both overseas and here in Australia tells us so much about what is being taught both at home and at school. We have seen generosity with gold coins at the Swimming Carnival, guessing competitions, selling of sweets and drinks, cake stalls and much, much more. Lent is about preparing for Easter and the wonderful gift Jesus gave us through his death and resurrection. It is a time of repentance, prayer and fasting and a time to think of others.

Our College Captains and the College Leaders have also been leading a campaign to ensure that our students know about the plight of asylum seekers and refugees. They have spoken at assemblies and performed an extremely moving presentation at the Swimming Carnival showing the plight of refugees challenging the students to become more aware of their struggles and the generosity needed by our nation.

Finally, Harmony Day was organised and celebrated. The Junior students examined what discrimination involved and how we need to ensure it does not creep into any of our lives. They looked at how even one person can make a difference and ways this could be done. The actual day celebrates the wonderful multiculturalism of living in Australia but it also calls on all of us to love unconditionally and to see everyone as an image of God.

I am proud of all the events and achievements that have been highlighted in this edition of College Matters. I am particularly proud of the calibre of students that are developing at MCC. The students have an awareness that all should be treated equally and happily step forward where there is a chance to help others.



Diocesan Teachers' Mass

Deb Ferguson talks about the achievements of our long serving staff members.



EVERY YEAR ALL staff from the Catholic Primary and Secondary schools of the Broken Bay Diocese are invited to attend an Opening School Mass with Bishop Peter Comensoli. This year the Mass was held on Thursday, 23 March at "Christ Our Light" Hall, St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga.

The Mass is always a beautiful celebration with hundreds of voices joined together to thank God for the unique position we share in serving in Catholic Education. As part of the ceremony the Catholic Schools Office and the Bishop honour all the new staff that have joined the Diocesan schools and each receive the Diocesan cross. They also honour all those staff who have reached various milestones in their careers for Catholic education.

This year Mrs Kerrie Calphy, who works in our photocopy room, was honoured for working in Catholic Schools for the past 25 years. Mr Todd was also honoured as he has now served Catholic education for the past 40 years and Mr Michael Bowman, our Business Manager for the past 45 years.

These are wonderful achievements and we congratulate all three and thank them for their dedication and contribution to serving God's mission through education.

Love Your Neighbour

Kerry Power *explains Lent is a time for giving.*

LENT IS A traditional time in the church calendar to consider the ways we can show care and consideration for the needs of others. The traditional actions of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving throughout the forty days of Lent ask Catholics to consider the habits we could change in an effort to be better people. Lent began on Ash Wednesday in Week 5 and concludes on Holy Thursday during the first week of the holidays.

Project Compassion is the international aid organisation that the Catholic Church supports with monetary aid to needy communities. This year the motto for Project Compassion is 'Love Your Neighbour' and the countries receiving direct support are many of our Australian neighbours, such as Fiji, Vietnam, The Philippines and Timor. Our MacKillop students have used Lent as an opportunity to raise money in many creative ways. The MacKillop Mini Macks started the fundraising drive with pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, each Primary classroom has a large Project Compassion Box on their prayer tables and students are encouraged to donate the spare change they may spend in the canteen toward the needy. Secondary students also contributed with a gold coin fundraiser. Each class also nominated their own fundraising initiative such as soft drink drive, milkshakes and lolly guessing competitions.

On Harmony Day the Senior Hospitality students cooked and served many international dishes for the cost of \$5 with proceeds also going towards Project Compassion. The Primary School have spent the last few weeks collecting Easter Eggs and treats that will be wrapped and distributed by our Mini Macks to residents in five local Nursing Homes.

Reaching out to others is part of our Catholic Mission and our children and young people can learn lifelong lessons in altruism through acts of kindness and goodwill.

Blessings.



Repent and believe in the Gospel

Chrystal Price *shares the celebration of our Opening College Mass.*



ON WEDNESDAY, 1 March 2017 the College community gathered in the Stephen Aitken Hall to celebrate Eucharist and ask for God's blessings for the year ahead.

This day also coincided with Ash Wednesday which is one of the most important holy days in our church's liturgical calendar. During the Mass both staff and students received ashes on their foreheads as an important reminder that as Catholics we now enter into a season of fasting and prayer. It was great to see the Senior Youth Ministry students distribute the ashes to the congregation and it was a testament to their role as leaders of faith in our community.

During the homily Fr Vince reminded the students that just like they would prepare for an important sporting endeavour or examination, Lent is a time for us to prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. To do this Fr Vince encouraged the community to take the time out to pray and talk to Jesus more often this Lenten season.

At the beginning of the Mass the Mission Leaders and College Captains presented some of the important symbols associated with our College and the charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Here the students were also asked to reflect on the house values and how they should embody these important values in their interactions with others throughout the school year.

We are truly blessed to have the opportunity to celebrate events such as the Opening College Mass as a K-12 community. We are also grateful for the many staff and students who put in so much time and effort to making sure our College Masses are a vibrant part of our Catholic identity. Many blessings for the year ahead.



Year 7 visit MacKillop Place & Kincumber

Michael Rickards *shares two days of spirituality and education.*

ON 22 AND 23 March, Year 7 were divided into two groups with one group travelling down to MacKillop Place at North Sydney and the other going to Kincumber the site of the old boys home set up by the sisters of St Joseph.

Our main purpose in taking the year group out for these two days is to further enrich students understanding and connectedness to the story of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

At MacKillop Place students took part in a workshop with Sister Marea and Sister Connie to help develop students understanding of the core values that each of our houses stand for and the history represented by the house names. They then developed chants based on these values to present back to the group.

Students also took part in a tour of the museum and had the opportunity to pray at the resting place of Mary MacKillop.

The trip to Kincumber involved three rotating activities looking at the history of the site at Kincumber and exploring identity through the selfie.

The day ended with our parish priest Father Vince having a Q and A session in the church. Father Vince candidly answered questions about Mass and the church. I would really like to thank Father Vince for giving up his time and insight to really help students understanding of the ritual and practices of Mass. It certainly deepened everyone's knowledge of Mass.

I would like to thank Mrs Price for all her hard work and thoughtfulness in the organisation of the excursions. Finally I would like to thank the students for their participation and cooperation over the two days. The presenters and guides all gave positive feedback about the quality of questions asked and the mature way the students got involved in the activities.





A meaningful start for Year 6

Year 6 come together for Mass and their Buddies, Leanne Hyland.

YEAR 6 CAME together with energy and enthusiasm to worship and serve at our Youth Mass on Sunday 19 March at 5pm. Students spent time the week before preparing for the liturgy. They selected ministries that they would like to serve in and practised together. Miss Kovacic worked with a group of students who created Artwork to represent the Gospel passage. These were displayed during the Mass. Students enjoyed taking part in the celebration and joining in singing with the band. The Mass ended with chips, pizza, and games. Just the way a fun Youth Mass finishes.

"I loved everything. It was really good because we got to ministries that we normally don't get to do." Olivia

"I liked how we got to paint pictures for the Gospel. I think the pictures made the Gospel more meaningful." Elisabeth

BETTER BUDDIES

The buddy initiative is important to our school and this year we are utilising a buddy program called Better Buddies. The program focuses on developing positive relationships between buddies, reducing bullying, and teaches pro-social values and skills. During the first few weeks of the term, Year 6 has focused on supporting their Kindergarten buddies with their transition to school. Year 6 made their buddies feel welcome and safe, and spent time showing them the school environment. They helped them understand the routines of school and the school rules. Year 6 gave up their recess and lunch times for the first few weeks to help their buddies orientate themselves in the playground and to make friends. We look forward to seeing the friendships continue to grow and develop over the term.



Celebrating Catholic Schools Week

Deb Ferguson speaks about our Open Day and CSW.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK (CSW) 2017 was held from 5 - 11 March and involved the communities of all Catholic primary and secondary schools across NSW and the ACT. One of the major objectives of CSW is to raise public awareness of the strengths of Catholic schools and highlight the significant contribution the Catholic education sector makes to our state and nation. CSW is an opportunity to share with the broader community the great things that take place in our schools every day. The week is designed to be a lively celebration for all who have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, and parishioners.

This year we invited our present parents and prospective families to our annual Open Day on Wednesday, 8 March from 4 – 7pm. Both the primary and secondary schools had exhibitions, games, information, displays and so much more. Our school SRC, Parliament and Peer leaders conducted guided tours, many students assisted with demonstrations in class rooms or performed, Natalie Tunstead, our Family Liaison Officer, and volunteer parents provided a free bbq and our Hospitality staff and students supplied tasty treats and beverages. We thank all our volunteers very much for the afternoon.

Our generous, talented and proud staff donated their afternoon to allow this to occur and we thank them all very much as they continue to work so hard to ensure that MacKillop is a wonderful school.

Catholic Schools Week is a celebration and everyone at MCC celebrates and is grateful for all the blessings we receive by being part of the Catholic faith and its traditions and belonging to such a wonderful community.

Our student exchange programme

Cherry blossom trees flourish as does our Sister School relationship, Helen Beech.

LAST YEAR WE celebrated our 10th year Sister School anniversary. During this time Mr Kumagai, the Principal of Nihon Daiichi Junior High School, came to MacKillop Catholic College to celebrate. Whilst he was visiting it was decided that to celebrate our 10th year anniversary we would take our Sister School relationship a step further by beginning a term exchange programme between our two schools.

On 24 January 2017 Shinae Dunkley and Elisa Alvarado from MacKillop Catholic College travelled to Nihon Daiichi Junior High School for 8 weeks. In return we were happy to receive Ema Inagaki and Hinano Osuda. All students experienced school life, family life and activities associated with their respective countries. All students' language improved immensely and they made many life long friends.

On Tuesday, 21 March 2017 the Vice Principal of Nihon Daiichi Junior High School, Mr Hatoyama, visited us for the week. He had meetings with Mr Todd and Mrs Ferguson to discuss our ongoing Sister School relationship. He attended classes, joined in the celebrations of Harmony Day in both the High School and Primary School; he enjoyed participating in a Year 2 Japanese lesson and visited Kincumber with the Year 7 students.

Thank you to the host families who looked after and cared for our students both here and in Japan. Thank you to Emma Gately, Chloe MacDonald, Connor Liston and their families for hosting Hinano and Ema.

This was an amazing opportunity for all students, families and both schools and I look forward to this Sister school relationship continuing to flourish. In their own words ...

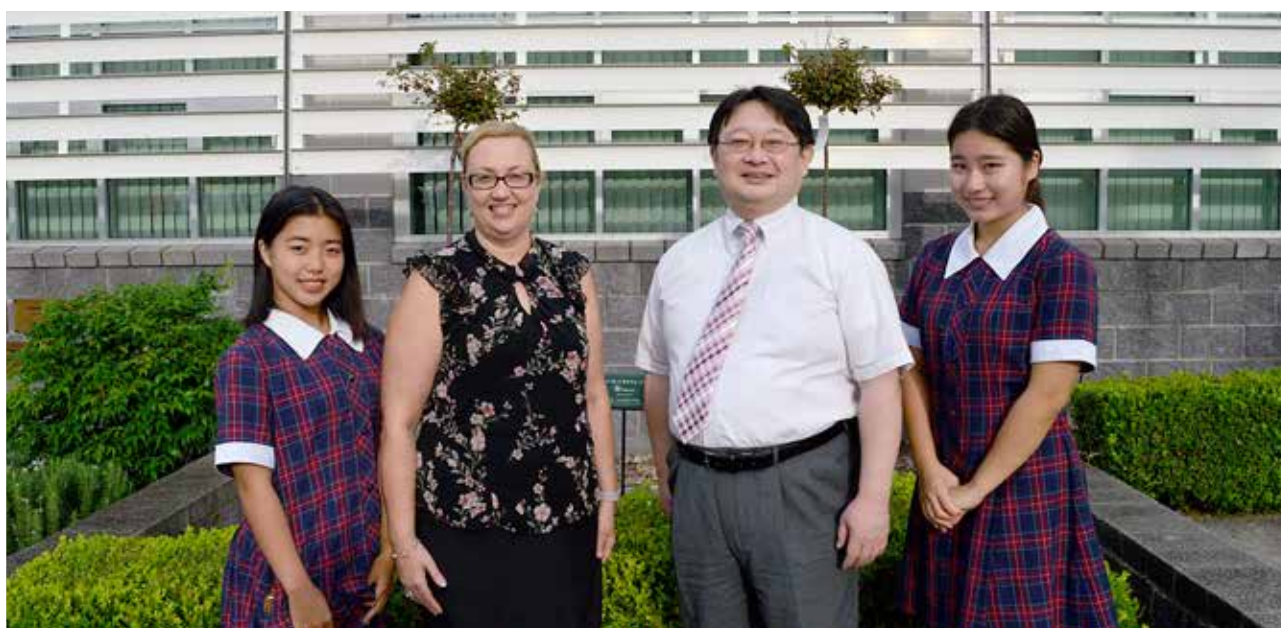
Living in Japan for 2 months was truly a great experience. On this adventure I learnt a lot about the lifestyle and culture that is Japan. I went to an amazing school where I met some of the most kind people that helped me enjoy my experience as much as I did.

The students' lives technically revolved around school. The students were pretty much a reflection of everything a teacher was from our school, amazing. Our whole days at school were set out completely different to what we were used to, but it was good to try something different for a change.

After a few weeks we had everything set out for us and what we wanted to do while we were spending our time in Japan. We had our friends, acquaintances and our well... not so much friends. But we had everything we ever needed to be happy. I travelled to many places with my family and friends; I tried new foods and new attractions. I learnt a lot about myself and the others around me. They would always keep me motivated in the situations where I wasn't or would always make me happy when I was upset and I cannot express in words how thankful I am to have had the host family I was with, the friends I made or the relationship I will keep forever. I had an amazing experience in Japan and will definitely be visiting again. Elisa Alvarado

My exchange experience was probably one of the most exciting things I have ever done. When I first arrived you could say I was not the best at speaking Japanese and I was extremely shocked by how different their culture was. Whilst being in Japan I attended school 6 days a week sometimes even 7. Before coming to Japan I could not even do a speech in front of my school, I feel as if now I would be able to do so.

I stayed there for 2 months in a small apartment with my host mum, dad and sister. There was only one bedroom in the whole apartment. Every day I would catch the train to my school which was an hour from my home. After school I would either go to dance club or shopping with many friends I made. By the end of my exchange I'm proud to say that I experienced and learnt so much I am now able to speak more Japanese and could easily have a normal conversation with people. I loved every moment of being there and one day I hope to return. Shinae Dunkley



Fun at the Outreach Programme

Year 6 students enjoy exploring science concepts at Questacon, Kylie Huggins.

ON TUESDAY 7TH March, the Year 6 students participated in an incursion with 2 instructors from the Questacon Outreach programme. The day was broken into 3 sessions with each class spending 90 minutes exploring Science concepts.

The sessions were all interactive and lots of fun. We learnt about how it is important to always try and if you fail, that is ok, because it is a very important part to learning.

We started by using iPads to play a game called, 'Bridge Constructor'. Each level had different problems that we had to solve by making a bridge and getting cars and trucks to cross it. After the game we were challenged to work with a partner to build a bridge using wood and a paper folder.

We discussed drones and their uses. Some can be used for deliveries and some can be used for racing or repairing. The teachers gave us another challenge to make a drone landing platform. We had 30 minutes to build our platforms and then they were tested by placing weights on them.

Some people had successful platforms while other platforms just snapped!

It was a great experience and made us really excited about our trip to Canberra when we get to visit Questacon.



It's Enrolment time at MacKillop

Steve Todd explains the process and dates for enrolment 2018 at MCC.

IT WAS A blessing to see the skies clear for the College's Open Afternoon on Wednesday, 8 March during Catholic Schools Week. Many existing and prospective families took the opportunity to have a tour, look at the many displays and exhibitions as well as enjoy the hospitality at the free BBQ and for other delicious delights in the College's Dreaming Café.

Yes, it is hard to believe we are in the enrolment time for 2018, as the Parents Information Night was held on Tuesday, 14 March. Parents and families are keen to receive information and our College Enrolment Officer, Janine Silver is well prepared to support the enrolment process for the next intake of Kinders, Year 7 and Year 11.

Parents who have children ready for gaining entry to MacKillop need to do so by following the dates overleaf.

ENROLMENT OPENING AND CLOSING DATES		
KINDERGARTEN Applications for Kindergarten students starting in 2018 open 1 May 2017 and close 31 May 2017.	YEAR 7 Applications for Year 7 students starting in 2017 open 16 March 2017 and close 5 May 2017.	YEAR 11 Applications for Year 11 students starting in 2018 are now open and close 27 October 2017.

Limited places in other grades from Year 1 to Year 11 available. Applications can be made through the College's Enrolment Manager, Mrs Janine Silver.

KEY DATES FOR STUDENTS COMMENCING IN 2018

**CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS WEEK**
5-11 March

**OPEN
AFTERNOON**
4-7pm, Wednesday
8 March
All welcome for
tours, exhibitions
and displays

**KINDERGARTEN
& YEAR 7
PARENT INFO
NIGHT**
7pm, Tuesday
14 March

**YEAR 7
TRANSITION
DAYS**
5 April & 28 June
For prospective
Year 6 students

**YEAR 11
INFO NIGHT
& SUBJECT
MARKET**
Monday 26 June

**YEAR 11
INTERVIEWS
FOR SUBJECT
SELECTION**
August/September

**KINDERGARTEN
ORIENTATION
PROGRAM**
Runs for four weeks
in Term 4

**YEAR 7
ORIENTATION
DAY**
Friday 17 November

**YEAR 7 PARENT
INFORMATION
NIGHT**
Tuesday
21 November

All enrolment enquiries and applications can be made through the
Enrolments Manager, Mrs Janine Silver by phone (02) 4392 9399
or email janine.silver@dbb.catholic.edu.au

A new look to NAPLAN and HSC

Mel McGuinness *explains the new changes.*

LATE IN 2016 The Board of Studies (now NESA) announced that in a move to strengthen the HSC standards, there would be some changes to NAPLAN and the HSC. There are three areas of change to the new HSC. These are Minimum Standard, Curriculum and Assessment

'Minimum standard' refers to a requirement that all students will need to reach a minimum literacy and numeracy standard in order to be eligible for the award of the Higher School Certificate. This means that all students in Year 9 NAPLAN, will need to achieve at Band 8 or above in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. This minimum standard is a functional level of literacy and numeracy that is necessary for everyday life and therefore does NOT represent the standard needed for further academic study.

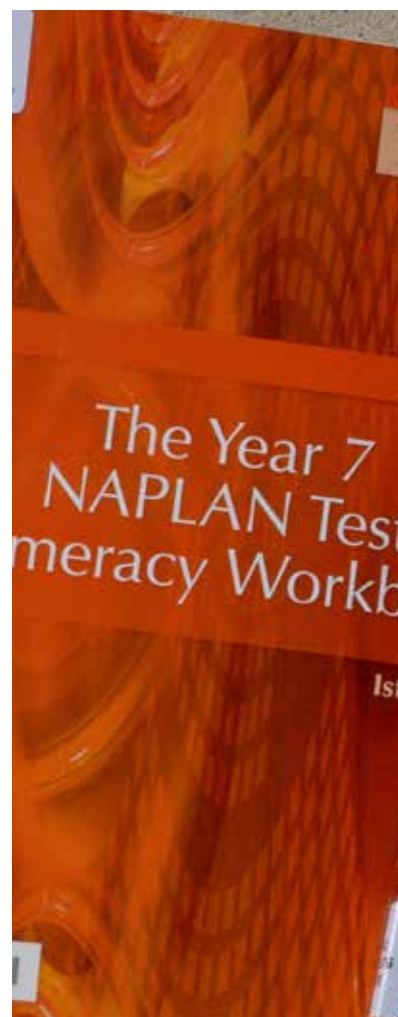
Your child can take the tests up to twice a year in Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 for up to five years after they start their first HSC course.

The change to Curriculum refers to a review cycle-which will be adopted by NESA - and will occur every five years to keep the syllabuses current and relevant. There will be new courses on offer and the new syllabuses will be implemented for Year 11, 2018.

There will also be changes to the way in which assessment occurs. There will be a cap on the number of school-based assessment tasks, to "reduce stress caused by over-assessment". Moreover, there will also be a change to the design of HSC examinations in order to assess the application of skills and depth of knowledge rather than simple recall of information, which is a lower order skill which does not serve to develop students' thinking skills and cognitive abilities. The focus will be on in-depth analysis and problem-solving skills.

For more detailed information about the changes you can visit: <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/initiatives/stronger-hsc-standards>. Here you will find flyers for parents, teachers and principals as well as Frequently Asked Questions.

We at MacKillop see these changes as a positive move for education and for our students. Our hope is that together with you, we can support our students in embracing their learning and thus equipping themselves for success beyond the school gate or the school yard, so that they may lead thriving, purposeful lives.



Year 10 Digi Ed & Year 12 Art Express Excursion

Jillian Young *speaks about what has been happening in arts.*



YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY and Digital Media classes attended an incursion by a company called DigiEd. During this workshop, students learnt new skills in the field of stop-motion animation. A brief introduction to pre-production and storyboarding was given to help develop ideas. Designing and developing characters, props and sets followed. Most students enjoyed physically making their clay characters before filming. Editing began with titles and credits. Sound effects and music were then added.

It is pleasing to report that Charlie Sharp and Jeremy Hevers stop-motion film 'Reality' was selected by DigiEd as a finalist for their monthly school prize. We wish them luck in the final voting.

Year 12 Visual Arts students travelled to the Art Gallery of NSW to view the 2016 HSC ArtExpress exhibition. This exhibition showcases the outstanding achievements of students' practical work for the subject of Visual Arts. Whilst at the gallery, students participated in a guided tour with gallery staff. Feeling inspired by the day, Year 12 have come back to class with skills to aid their own artmaking.

Artists of Excellence

Jillian Young *showcases the students wonderful artwork.*

BELOW ARE COLLECTIONS of artworks made by Year 11 Visual Arts students who have been studying the Australian landscape.



Primary sports off to a flying start

Kellie Denneman gives the results from Term 1 Primary sports.

THE ANNUAL PRIMARY Cross Country was held at Hamlyn Terrace Sporting Fields on Friday, 10 March (Week 6, Term 1). Despite large amounts of rain in the week prior and threatened poor weather on the day we were thankful to run the event. A few alterations were made to the course on the morning due to unsafe running surfaces on parts of the course & the children adjusted extremely well to this last minute change.

Overall points score across all houses were extremely close this year with 4 points separating the top 4 houses and a tie for 3rd place. Congratulations to Kincumber on their 'narrow' win this year. Final places were:

1. Kincumber
2. Penola
3. Alma & Temuka
5. Gesu
6. Fitzroy

	GIRLS	BOYS
7/8 Years	Elise Arthur	Evan Enraght-Moony
9 Years	Jasmine Amos	Fynn Sadler
10 Years	Jasmin Fisher	Kai Rennie
11 Years	Keeley Swaysland	Connor Hibbard
12/13 Years	Tayah Hastings	Joshua Hyland

A team of over 100 students (top 10 in each age group) will now represent the school at the CCC Cross Country in Gosford on Thursday 6 April. We wish them all the very best of luck

NSWCPS SWIMMING

Congratulations to Dylan Wightman (Yr. 4) who represented Broken Bay at the NSWCPS Swimming at Homebush on Wednesday 22 March. He won a silver medal in the Junior Boys 200m Individual Medley & Junior Boys Butterfly and a bronze medal in the Junior Boys Backstroke. He will now represent Polding at the NSWPSSA Swimming Championships in April. We wish him all the very best of luck

BROKEN BAY WINTER TEAM SPORT TRIALS

We had a number of students nominate and attend Broken Bay Winter Team Sports Trials in Netball, Soccer, Hockey, Rugby League and Touch in weeks 8 & 9 this term.

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in making Broken Bay teams to attend Polding trials in Bathurst in Week 1 next term:

BOYS SOCCER – Isaac Zappala (Yr 5) & Will Barr (Yr 6)

GIRLS SOCCER – Zoe Henderson (Yr 5)

GIRLS HOCKEY – Emma Jones (Yr 5)

11 YRS RUGBY LEAGUE – Jack Dedman (Yr 5)

OPEN RUGBY LEAGUE – Thomas Taylor (Yr 6)

2017 PRIMARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

We ventured to Mingara again for another successful and fun Athletics Carnival. The weather was extremely kind given the volume of rain both the week before and days after.

Thanks to our wonderful parent helpers who assisted with the BBQ and to run events on the day along with the Year 9 PASS kids who worked tirelessly without a break!

There was plenty of excitement amongst both track and field events on the day and during the High Jump in the Hall on the Friday.

8 New records were set across the carnival this year which is a stunning effort.

Congratulations to the following student who set records this year.

Halle Bruen (7/8 Yr Girls) – 2 Records

Fynn Sadler (9 Yr Boys) – 2 records

Isaac Zappala (11 Yr Boys) – 1 record

Jasmine Amos (9 Yr Girls) – 1 record

Markus Wolscher (10 Yr Boys) – 1 record

JasminePetherbridge (9 Yr Girls) – 1 record

We celebrated many wonderful individual performances and congratulate the Athletics AGE CHAMPIONS

	BOYS	GIRLS
7/8 Years	Bowen Carruthers	Halle Bruen (7 Yrs)
9 Years	Fynn Sadler	Jasmine Amos
10 Years	Markus Wolscher	Maya Rennie
11 Years	Isaac Zappala	Annabelle Ross
12/13 Years	Travis Northey	Abbey Ryan

The overall point score for the House Challenge was extremely close with 10 points separating the first 4 places. Congratulations to PENOLA for winning the House Champion Trophy for Athletics in 2017

- | | | |
|----|-----------|-----|
| 1. | Penola | 201 |
| 2. | Gesu | 196 |
| 3. | Fitzroy | 192 |
| 4. | Temuka | 191 |
| 5. | Alma | 171 |
| 6. | Kincumber | 160 |



Secondary Athletics & Cross Country

Duncan Black *reviews our sports for this term.*

THIS TERM HAS been very busy for students and staff in sport. The first major College Sporting Event was the Swimming Carnival. It was a fun filled community day with the MacKillop spirit definitely present as students competed for victory in competitive and novelty events for house points. The house cheering was fantastic, congratulations to every student, teacher and parent for making the carnival a memorable event. The next College Sporting Event is the Athletics carnival which was postponed earlier in the Term due to wet weather. The new date is Week 4 Tuesday 16 May, 2017 Term 2 at Mingara Athletics Centre.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Swimming Carnival was held at Wyong pool, congratulations to all swimmers in particular the ALMA house who was crowned House Champion. Below is the list of Age Champions, well-done to these students a tremendous achievement:

Age Champions

	GIRLS	BOYS
U12	Libby Tohme	Lachlan Bishop
U13	Kaitlyn Norris	Tyson Scicluna
U14	Leah Caldwell	Isaac Wightman
U15	Dionne Mills	Brock Ray

U16	Georgia Ray	Nathan Ward
Open	Tayla McGaw	Lachlan Coppen

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

A reminder that the Athletics carnival will be held at Mingara on Tuesday 16 May. This is a compulsory day for students.

If a student wishes to compete in the 1500m running race they will need to board the first bus from school as this is the first race of the day.

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all the Year 7 – 10 students that participated in the College Cross Country carnival on Thursday 30 March. The students ran the course at Soldiers Beach before torrential rain and wind set in. Thank you to the PDHPE staff and students for your cooperation and support of the successful event.

Champion House - Alma

	GIRLS	BOYS
12	Trinity Young	Caleb Pantos
13	Kaitlyn Norris	Zachariah Waddell
14	Mia Middleton	Ethan Falconer
15	Shae Slattery	Brock Ray
16	Victoria Coppen	Jamison Costa



BBSSSA SPORT

SOFTBALL

Congratulations to Hannah Taylor (Yr 8) on her selection into the Opens Softball team.

OPEN / U15 RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS

A number of Rugby League players travelled to North St Mary's to trial for the Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges team. This team will compete at the NSW CCC trials at St Mary's in Week 4, Term 2.

Congratulations to Raymond Kaifa (Under 18's) and Jack Bishop (Under 15's) on their selection into their respective teams.

Well done to the following boys on their selection into the Broken Bay Rugby League team:

- Opens - Raymond Kaifa
- Under 15 - Jake Holmes & Jack Bishop

TOUCH

The boys and girls Open touch teams played in the recent touch championships in Frenchs Forest with both teams finishing 3rd. Congratulations to Teearna Langbridge on her selection into the Broken Bay team.

The boys and girls U/15 competition were both postponed until Wednesday 5 April.

BASKETBALL

The Open boys and girls basketball teams participated in the Broken Bay competition at Terrigal with mixed results. The boys finished 3rd in their competition while the girls finished 4th. Well done to the players and their respective coaches.

SWIMMING

The College swim team travelled to SOPAC (Homebush) to compete in the BBSSSA swimming meet. Our team did extremely well this year. We entered 8 of 10 relay teams with 2nd place in the 4 x 50m Intermediate freestyle relay being our best result.

Congratulations to the following swimmers on being selected into the Broken Bay team to swim on Friday 31 March at SOPAC (Homebush).

- Tyson Scicluna – Under 13 Boys
- Isaac Wightman – Under 14 Boys – (Isaac was also the BBSSSA Age Champion)
- Nathan Ward – Under 16 Boys – (Nathan also broke a 12 year old 50m Breaststroke record).
- Ella McKay – Multi class

NSW CCC SPORTS

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in their respective sports a great achievement:

- Kelsey Collins-Brown – Baseball
- Kaleb Daley – Cricket
- Jack Taylor - Softball

COMMUNITY SPORT

Congratulations to the following students who have competed at an elite sporting level outside of school:

Mia Middleton – Surf lifesaving – 8th in the flags at the Australian titles.

Jarryd Walter – Athletics – 11th in the Under 18's Javelin at Nationals.

BBSSSA CALENDAR

Below is the BBSSSA calendar, I would ask all students that are interested in the sports below to be aware of the dates. With all sports teams there will be selections at school by the teacher in charge of the team.

Term 2	2	Cross Country	Friday, 5 May	St Ives Showground
	3	Open Soccer	Monday, 8 May - WW back up: same day at Pennant Hills	Cromer Park, Cromer
	4	U15 Touch Training	Wednesday, 17 May	St Leo's Catholic College
	8	13 & 15 Soccer Girls	Wednesday, 14 June - WW back up: Wednesday, 21 June	Cromer Park
	8	13 & 15 Soccer Boys	Thursday, 15 June - WW back up: Tuesday, 22 June	Cromer Park
Term 3	1	Netball	Thursday, 20 July - WW back up: Thursday, 27 July	Pennant Hills Park
	3	U12 Rugby League Gala Day	Tuesday, 1 August - WW back up: Wednesday, 9 August	Wyong
	5	Athletics	Wednesday, 16 August	SOPAC, Homebush
	6	Junior/Inter Basketball	Thursday, 24 August	Bridgecoast Stadium, Terrigal
	7	Golf	Friday, 1 September	Tuggerah Lakes
	7	Surfing	Friday, 1 September - WW back up: Tuesday, 5 September	Avoca Beach
Term 4	2	Water Polo	Friday, 20 October	SOPAC, Homebush
	3	Tennis/Beach Volleyball	Tuesday, 24 October - WW back up: Tuesday, 28 November	Queenwood Tennis Centre/ Manly Beach
	4	Softball Trials	Friday, 3 November	Golden Jubilee Oval, Wahroonga
	8	Surf Lifesaving	Wednesday, 29 November	Terrigal Beach

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS FOR NSWCCC

The NSWCCC sports listed below require an online, individual entry for all Broken Bay students. A Diocesan Team is not selected in any of these sports, so if you are of a high, representative standard we encourage you to apply. Please refer to the NSWCCC website at www.csss.nsw.edu.au for further sports specific information including cost, CLOSING DATES and 'what to bring'.

Once you have successfully registered your 'expression of interest', your Sports Coordinator will be required to approve the registration. This will be based on the required criteria, their knowledge of you as a Sports person, proven evidence that you compete at a high, representative level in your nominated sport.

Please note the general information below.

SPORT	AGE GROUP/ELIGIBILITY
Boys Cricket U15	Players MUST be 15 years or under as at 1 September 2017
Diving	12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17+ years/open platform
Golf	Open - Handicap must be 12 or under for boys. Handicap must be 36 or under for girls
Boys Hockey	Open (Players must have turned 15 as at 1 January 2017)
Girls Hockey	16 years and under NSWCCC team (16 years or under as at 31 December 2017)/Open team (Years 11 or 12 and must be turning 17 or 18 years in 2017)
Netball	15 years (must turn 15 by 31 December 2017). Opens 9 must not turn 19 in 2016)

Rugby	Under 18 (Player cannot turn 19 in the year of competition) Under 16 (Player cannot turn 17 in the year of competition)
Tennis	Open to all ages from Year 7 to 12 Players must have an Australian Ranking. This must be provided with entry. A confirmation email will be sent to you via the website should you be accepted into the tournament. Where a large volume of entries are submitted, the top 32 entries will be accepted to play
Volleyball	15 years and under in the year of competition
Waterpolo	Players must be U/17 at some time during the year of competition. For the 2017 competition born in 2000 or after

A MESSAGE TO ALL YEAR 7 STUDENTS, NEW STUDENTS TO THE COLLEGE AND THEIR PARENTS

There are many students at MCC with a variety of sporting talents and it is often assumed that the College knows about your child's talent. It is important that if your child has a sporting talent you contact the Sports Coordinator to ensure that your child has the opportunity to participate in the representative sports pathway. This is a little different to primary school pathways and follows the following levels of representation:

MCC team, BBSSA team, NSW CCC, NSW All Schools and Australian Teams. Please ensure that your child speaks to Mr Black or if you have any questions you can contact him at the College.

Kindergarten are settling in

Cath Paholski shares 1st term for Kindergarten.



KINDERGARTEN IS CONSTANTLY on the go! Every day there have been different sounds to learn, letters to write, songs to sing, numbers to order and prayers to share. It is a busy world full of stories, laughter, questions and chatter! This term we have concentrated on settling into the school environment and getting to know each other through our PDH unit 'Me and my mates'. This unit covers the importance of friendships, good manners, listening, being safe and sharing.

During the term we have watched the children grow in confidence as they have learnt the many routines in the classroom and playground. They have enjoyed spending time on the play equipment, visiting the library, and having fun at Lego and drawing clubs during lunch. It has been wonderful to see new friendships blossom and children 'filling each other's buckets' every day. Our Year 6 buddies have continued to be supportive and happy to see their Kindergarten friends.

The first term has passed by in a flash! We are looking forward to new adventures and happy learning in Term 2. Kindergarten is ready to shine!

Wonderful sounds from Primary

Kate James *tells us all about our Primary musical talents.*

MUSIC IS PART of life at MacKillop College. Whether it is as simple as singing the College Song, the Australian National Anthem at Community time, as part of our liturgy services or as involved as performing in our Primary College Choir, Band or as a soloist in front of peers, parents and teachers. The opportunities are far-reaching and invaluable.

PRIMARY COLLEGE CHOIR (YEARS 3-6)

The Choir resumed again this year with gusto. With only two rehearsals under our belts, we were more than ready and excited to show off our new repertoire at the College Open Day. The sound was amazing and the students were more than happy to sing through songs unseen to give our community a snippet of our ability and the great things to come. The Primary choir rehearse every Tuesday lunch time and each week the choir grows with new and eager students joining in the fun and enjoyment of making music.

Extra Extra Read all about it.....K-2 Choir will commence Term 2. Stay tuned for time and place.

PRIMARY COLLEGE BAND

The Primary Band has arrived! Looks can and are deceiving with this petite ensemble. Whilst small in numbers, the sound is bursting with dynamism. Like the choir, the Band, in as little as three rehearsals, are ready to entertain and are planning their debut performance. The Primary Band rehearses every Monday morning 7:45-8:45 in the Performing Arts building, Music Room 1. Students and Parents from Years 4-6 are welcome to come along and see what we can do.

COLLEGE INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

The College's Instrumental Program provides opportunities for our students to access tuition in a number of instruments, including flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, strings and percussion. The program continues to be very popular this year with students timetabled during the school day and many other students having lessons outside of the

College.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY BAND NEWCASTLE

The College had a wonderful opportunity to attend a performance from the Australian Army Band Newcastle in week 5. This is what some students had to say of the experience.....

'MacKillop was fascinated with all the different instruments including the saxophone, trombone, French horn, clarinet and bassoon. We learnt that the bassoon belonged to the woodwind family and has a comical and gruff sound. The saxophones played the theme from Pink Panther and French horns played Star Wars. It was a wonderful time to see the whole community come together and listen to the extraordinary performance by the Army Band.' (Leo Biju and Daniel Laing- Year 6 Banksia)

'It was enjoyable and the band was great!' (Blair Shaw – 3 Banksia)

'Really creative!' (Brianna Way – 3 Banksia)

'Exciting and awesome. I loved when they played the Pink Panther' (Dylan Mauro- 4 Grevillea)

'Intriguing and amazed by all of the songs' (Charlotte Killalea- 4 Grevillea)

'Loved the songs and can't wait to see them again!' (Giselle Woodham- 2 Wattle)

The Army Band came to MacKillop to play their music. They had many instruments including French horn, keyboard, flute and drum kit. They performed a marching song that told a story through music. We were hooked!

The soldier-musicians explained the features and differences between each instrument. For example, woodwind instruments are made of wood and metal, have holes and keys to play different notes. (Chloe Middleton & Elisabeth Herron – 6 Grevillea).



An update from the Library

Alyssa Chilvers *keeps us informed on what happening in the Library.*

OPEN DAY

WE HAD A very exciting afternoon in the Library hosting our visitors on Open Day, Wednesday, 8 March. Almost 100 families (totalling nearly 300 people) were welcomed into the Library to start their guided tours of our wonderful school. Parents were given the opportunity to view a presentation in Learning Area 2 about Cultures of Thinking - our school's focus for learning. Many students entered our Library Hunt competition and learned a lot about MCC Library along the way. Congratulations to the four families who each won a book pack prize. Miss Erin Sullivan, our eLearning Co-ordinator, provided information about the school iPad program and was available to answer questions which many parents took advantage of. A highlight for many who visited the Library was the chance to have their photo taken using the green screen which, with some technical wizardry, transported them to a tropical island, Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory or The Great Hall at Hogwarts.

HSC STUDY LOCKDOWN

To assist students during the stressful time of half-yearly

exams held in Week 9 and 10, we invited them to attend our first ever HSC Study Lockdown sessions. On Thursday, 16 March and Thursday, 23 March 70 students attended from 3.00-6.00pm. Teachers from English, RE and Maths were available to help students stay on track with studying and assist with any questions. Students were also able to work individually or collaboratively for other subjects with pizza and refreshments to keep them going. Our next sessions will be held in the weeks prior to the HSC Trial exams, and then again in the weeks prior to their final HSC exams.

LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

The Circulation and Workroom areas of the Library have been undergoing extensive changes over the past few months. This has created a more welcoming entry to the Library as well as improving supervision of students. Students and staff now have easier access to Library staff including Miss Kathreen Acido, our Mobile Device Support Specialist. Our next stage of Library improvements will include an upgrade to the Senior Study area as well as the installation of three glass fronted meeting/seminar rooms for both student and staff use.



Sharing Harmony Day

Nicole Wittman, Angela Dunn and Chris Shilling *share the joy of belonging.*

ON FRIDAY, 24 March, the primary classes celebrated Harmony Day. The message of Harmony Day is 'everyone belongs'. The day aims to encourage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster sense of belonging for everyone. To engage with this theme, each class learnt about and represented a different country. Students came to school dressed in colours from their own cultural heritage or those of their class country. A range of nations was represented, which made for a very colourful day.

We began our whole school celebration in the church with a beautiful liturgy that celebrated Australia's multicultural heritage and reminded us that Australia has a rich tapestry of cultures and heritages, including Indigenous heritages. Mrs Power read Mem Fox's 'Whoever You Are', which reminded us that although we are all different, things such as joy, pain and

love are universal.

Following the liturgy, students moved to the hall for a 'Parade of Nations', which was well attended by parents and visitors. We even had a special guest, Mr Hatoyama, the assistant principal from our Japanese sister school. As if this wasn't exciting enough, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip made a special appearance to oversee proceedings and to offer insights into the various countries that were represented. The children enjoyed parading around the hall to their nation's national anthem and sharing cultural items from their class country.

The Harmony Day Committee would like to thank the Primary staff and students for their enthusiastic participation on the day.





Everyone belongs

Michelle Baxter *shares the celebration of cultural diversity.*

HARMONY DAY CELEBRATES our cultural diversity – it's a day for showing our respect for everyone who calls Australia home. The Day also coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The message of Harmony Day is 'everyone belongs' – its aim is to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and to foster a sense of belonging for everyone.

On Tuesday 21 March, Secondary students celebrated Harmony Day by participating in a sharing of cultural foods. Students from Years 9 and 10 Food Technology, as well as Hospitality students across Years 11 and 12, prepared a range of dishes from a variety of nations; Jollof Rice – South Africa, Nasi, Gorang – Indonesia and Vegetarian Curry – India to name just a few. In addition, there were 'Sanga's from around the World' on offer; kransky, hotdogs and of course, the good old Aussie beef sausage.

Students were able to purchase orange Harmony Day ribbons as a symbol of their support for the cause. Entertainment and Music students performed during the break, adding to the fantastic vibe and further encouraging a sense of community. Parliament assisted by serving the food and ensuring everyone was looked after with a smile.

It was a wonderful day that fostered what it truly means to be a MacKillop person.

Over \$900 was raised with all proceeds going to Project Compassion.



Sharing a pancake breakfast

Jaimie Higson *shares the passion of Mini Macks.*



IT WAS WITH much excitement and anticipation that the primary Mini Macks embarked on their first act of giving for 2017, taking on the pancake breakfast in celebration of Shrove Tuesday. This event marked the beginning of Project Compassion within the College, with all proceeds donated to Caritas.

On Tuesday 28 February, as the rain poured down and the grey skies set in, thirty five bright-eyed Year 5 students arrived like a ray of sunshine to provide the MacKillop community with a delicious pancake breakfast.

The level of enthusiasm, passion and wholeheartedness displayed by the Mini Macks was inspiring, demonstrating that deep sense of community that we know and love here at MacKillop. There were money handlers, pancake distributors, chocolate sauce servers and ice-cream connoisseurs galore. The whole community came together in honour of this liturgical celebration and dug deep to support the wonderful cause of Project Compassion. There was nothing but high spirits, smiles and full tummies, and those pancakes... they were 'selling like hotcakes!'

As the morning quickly flew by, so did the supply of pancakes. Although our trays became empty, the hearts of the MacKillop community remained full. Donations a plenty continued to roll in, with the support of our wonderful community a heart-warming thing to witness.

Touching base with our families

Natalie Tunstead *reflects on the successes of Term 1.*

FACEBOOK

2017 HAS GOT off to a busy start and we have already come to the end of Term 1. One of our focus areas following feedback from the parent survey last year was to look at ways to improve communication between the College and parents. One strategy has been to set up Facebook pages for each year group from Kindergarten to Year 12. We have had a very positive response to these pages so far and there is still time to join. To join please login to Facebook and search MCC Year (?) 2017 and request to join. This is a closed page for parents of each particular year group. The idea of the Facebook pages is to exchange information and photos, ask questions and seek clarification. I have also been using the site as a source of parent education with various parenting articles and videos. Please note that any inappropriate content will be deleted. If you have any further queries please contact me via email at natalie.tunstead@dbb.catholic.edu.au

PARENT FORUM

We had our first Parent Forum for the year on Tuesday, 28 March. It was a very productive meeting with some great brainstorming from parents and executive staff as we move towards the start of developing a Parent Partnership Charter. I will collate the information gathered from the meeting and distribute information to the parent community via the Facebook pages for any additional comments. This will be done early next term prior to our next meeting on Monday, 5 June at 7pm in the staff lounge.

PARENT EDUCATION

This term I have been co facilitating 1,2,3 Magic and Emotion Coaching at St Brendan's Primary School over two evening sessions. We had our first session last Thursday night and there were 4 MacKillop parents. Feedback from the first session has been very positive.

PARENT HELPERS

I would like to send a huge thank you to those parents who were able to assist with the Open Day and Primary Athletics Carnival BBQ. We would not be able to have this provision without your help. A special thank you to Kirsty Liston for coordinating the Primary Athletics carnival and making my job so much easier. For their generous time and effort the parent helpers have earned 10 house points per family.

Term 2 Events:

Mother's Day stall is on Thursday, 11 May

Mother's Day Morning Tea is on Friday, 12 May

Our first ever Parents and Carers Wellbeing Walk will be on Thursday, 25 May from 9am till 10am. Everyone is welcome and please meet at the front office. Following the Walk is the Biggest Morning Tea in the Library. Please bring a gold coin donation for Morning Tea.

I hope you all have a wonderful school holiday break and come back refreshed and ready for Term 2.

I can be contacted by email at natalie.tunstead@dbb.catholic.edu.au and phone 43934539 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

