



MACKILLOP
Catholic College
WARNERVALE

November 2018

From the College Principal, Steve Todd

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we make our way through the final weeks of the year, we are very mindful that it is a very demanding time for parents to engage with the events that wrap up the year here at MacKillop. I take this opportunity to offer my thanks to you for supporting us with lots of different happenings that complete and celebrate the school year.

I did want to take the opportunity to invite all our parents to reflect on three areas that are most important for the shared partnership we have with our parents and families. The three areas are:

- ***The Plenary Council Process***
- ***Our Parent Partnership Charter***
- ***Developing the next era for the College***

If parents wouldn't mind engaging in one or all of these matters it would greatly assist us as we move forward into 2019.



PLENARY COUNCIL PROCESS

An invitation will be extended to parents to respond to two questions via an invitation that will go out from our FLO, Natalie Tunstead. The two questions to respond to are:

- **How can the Church be more open to families?**
- **How can the Catholic School be more open to families?**

If you are happy to sit with your family and reflect on these questions, it would be most helpful to the process. You do not have to be Catholic or a regular Church goer to have your say, we would be pleased to hear what your honest response is to these two questions. Details will be sent home via our social networking platforms.

We are also proposing to host a Plenary Council parent forum on Friday 30 November at 9.00am here at the College to offer those parents who wish to be engaged in a sharing process that will allow us to upload a response directly to the Plenary Council's website. Our FLO, Natalie Tunstead will be offering parents an rsvp opportunity to register for this one-hour forum. This gathering will precede the Primary spelling bee and Christmas Concert.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP CHARTER

The combined wisdom of parents and staff has now shaped a very important new document that will be launched in 2019.



This document has been a project that has taken two years to reach its final format and it contains six sections that recognise six important values that assist the development of every student in the College. The Charter has been arranged under the groupings of the 6 Houses and each section offers a framework for both parents and teachers to proactively engage with that will promote the healthy development of each child.

A copy of the Charter will be published on our website in 2019 and will be promoted with a special parent function in early 2019 where we will launch this important document. We look forward to launching this document to all parents in early 2019.

DEVELOPING THE NEXT ERA OF THE COLLEGE

After 16 years of developing our profile and way of life as MacKillop Catholic College, Warnervale it is timely as further housing development surrounds the College campus that we reflect on what we need to be as a K-12 Catholic School in this local area.

The conversation on what the next era will be relates to the leadership of the College under the guidance of the College Principal. I see this as one of my responsibilities to offer this community a plan and a strategic process for further enhancement and growth as a Catholic School over the next 5 years.

In looking at this plan a number of staff, parents and students have been asked to reflect on 3 important questions:

- 1. Taking two significant points along a student's school journey (Yr 6 & Yr 12); what key attributes or qualities should we find in graduating students of Yr 6 and Yr 12?**
- 2. How can MacKillop Catholic College further contribute to an environment that would assist the students attaining these qualities?**
- 3. What existing key features and traditions of MacKillop Catholic College contribute to the College's profile?**

I would like to invite our broader parent community if you would like to offer your thoughts on these questions to do so via an email to the College on smccw@dbb.catholic.edu.au

All feedback will remain confidential and the College's executive team will be working with our Catholic Schools Office on building a blueprint for what the next era may look like.

I thank you for your consideration and views about these matters and I hope these final weeks of the year are blessed one for you and your loved one.



Steve Todd
College Principal