

COLLEGE**Matters**



MACKILLOP
Catholic College
WARNERVALE

2022

OPEN DAY SHOWCASE

HARMONY WEEK

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS



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College Principal's message

College Principal, Jason Hanrahan, *highlights our new learning journey in 2022.*

IT HAS BEEN a whirlwind of a start to the 2022 school year. In what were the most challenging years of 2020 and 2021, we have been back to another 'new normal' with some restrictions lifted. This new version of our world we are living in has presented the challenges of families, including our staff and their own families, of dealing with seemingly regular changing rules associated with isolation, mask wearing, social distancing, cohorting and so on. Despite these challenges, the students, staff, families and Mackillop community have faced the new year with excitement and resilience, with a renewed sense of commitment to the new learning journey of 2022.

The year has begun with numerous events that we were still able to hold despite the restrictions that are still in place throughout NSW. In Week 3 we held the annual Senior Luncheon at Wyong Leagues Club. This was a fantastic opportunity to congratulate our high achievers from 2021, and welcome back recently retired College Principal Steve Todd and former student Tiarne Eckford. Tiarne's story was a powerful one, a story of resilience, struggle and success through adversity. It resonated beautifully with the audience, and we were privileged that Tiarne was so open about her life. Other events that have been held include the Year 7 Spirituality Days, Primary Leaders and SRC Commissioning, Secondary Swimming Carnival, Ash Wednesday Liturgies, Open Day and Information Evening for Kindergarten and Year 7 2023 (I know, already thinking about 2023!), Harmony Week activities, Secondary Athletics Carnival, Primary Cross Country, Primary Athletics Carnival and Youth Ministry activities, among many others. These are on top of the learning and teaching experiences that are our core business, where we work to ensure all students are cared for, valued and respected across

the College.

Being new to the College, my first term has been spent mostly trying to understand how things work here at Mackillop, understanding the history and story of the College and our Josephite charism, while getting to know as many staff, students and families as possible. This will take time as I work with our Leadership Team and other teams throughout the College to better understand the context in which we work. School improvement literature points to the school context being the first and most important aspect that leaders must understand before implementing any improvement processes. Macklin and Zbar (2020) talk about school improvement using a medical analogy, where often systems of schools and schools themselves move straight to issuing the 'prescription' or, in other words, the solution that will 'fix' the school. We know that with any medical issue we need to first diagnose the problem and then determine the best way forward or prescribe the next steps to improve. This is the key for our team, to work to understand the context better to help us determine the next best steps for the College as we continue the improvement journey, aligned with the Towards 2025 strategy of the Catholic Schools Broken Bay.

One of the important aspects of understanding the context of the College is to engage with you as parents. The Pastoral and Support Team is one way the College has established to engage with parents across K-12. At the time of writing, our first official meeting had just been postponed due to the heavy rain and flooding, and I am looking forward to meeting with the entire team in the coming weeks. I hope that this team is a source of parental advice and collaboration. We will be having ongoing discussions with the team and members of the team

to gain insights from them as we determine the next steps for the College.

We also welcome our new Family Liaison Officer, Natasha Harman, who comes to the College with significant experience in this type of role, as well as experience in family support and group-based learning for parents and families. parents and families. There is a section in College Matters on Tash, as she introduces herself and how she hopes to have an impact in her role supporting families of the College.

One of the areas we will gain further insights into and provide information about is the new Master Planning process for the College. We were fortunate that we received a \$1.67 million grant from the government to contribute to the process of replacing the Primary demountable classrooms. This planning process will take most of 2022 as we engage with parents, staff and students in designing the layout of these learning spaces. Contemporary learning design has come a long way in the last 20 years and these spaces will be designed to best meet the learning needs of the students now, with the flexibility to be meeting the needs of young people for years to come. Further information about engagement and feedback processes will come out in the coming weeks and months as we engage with the CSBB and architects.

I want to take the opportunity to thank our staff, parents and students for the warm welcome I have been given since I arrived. Mackillop College is a wonderful place, and the adults here are so deeply invested in the young people we serve. I have been able to spend time in many classrooms as I have worked my way throughout the College and have been impressed with the quality and care shown in the learning that is occurring across the school. Like any educational organisation, we are not perfect, however we are consistently working towards improvement by relentlessly looking for the gaps between what we aspire to and what is happening. I look forward to continuing the improvement conversations with all stakeholders as we progress throughout 2022.

I wish all families a wonderful, safe and Holy holiday break as we approach this time of Holy Week and Easter.





Challenges don't stop the learning

Frank Cohen, Primary Principal, says to prevail when obstacles are in your way takes courage, grit and determination. Welcome to the start of 2022.

"WHETHER YOU THINK you can or whether you think you can't – you are right" - Henry Ford. With these words in mind the 2022 school year got underway. We started the year how we ended it in 2021 with COVID restrictions and many families in our community have been impacted directly by COVID Omicron and for some Delta. Through the NSW Government every family had been administered Rapid Antigen Tests for the first half of the Term and although fatigued, strangely we are now used to living with a disease that is far from over for the world. Sadly, we also witnessed the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the upheaval it has caused, and thrown into the mix torrential rain and flooding that has hit us and that was our backdrop for the start of Term 1.

To start this year we have welcomed over 33 new families to our Primary school and some new staff. Ms Brooke O'Connell has begun her teaching career in Year 1 Grevillea, Ms Cassie Phillips in Year 5 Banksia and Miss Abbie McBride in Year 3 Grevillea. A new teacher coach position has been created with Mrs Shilling our Leader of Pedagogy. Her role is to lead the professional learning teams that do teaching rounds in each grade. Using the assessment data on each child the class teacher with a team of 4 other teachers analyse it and devise tailored teaching strategies. On top of their normal teaching that takes place daily, the team of teachers takes specific groups of students for direct instruction in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

Early morning maths groups before school for Year 3 and 5 resumed and the school is gearing up for its first ever Primary Musical Disney's The Lion King Kids. Identified Year 6 students are now working on extension mathematics in Year 7 with the Secondary Math's staff and several students across all grades have been partially accelerated for Maths and some aspects of English.

A new Lighthouse Positive Behaviour for Learning reward system is now in place, which is proving to be quite motivating

for all students. This means that individual, class and colour house groups are rewarded for their classroom and playground behaviour. The new system allows for students who have been doing the right thing all the time to enjoy a special Principal morning tea and associated activities.

We welcomed Mrs Natasha Harman as our new Family Liaison Officer. Her role is to support all families. There are plans to introduce a playgroup and there will be multiple parent education opportunities on offer throughout the year with a focus on building happy and resilient families.

The MacKillop demographics are changing and are becoming multi-cultural. We rejoice in the knowledge that we have many families from almost every part of the globe now in our community. To acknowledge and celebrate this fact the College celebrated a wonderful Harmony Week, where children dressed up in traditional dress or wore orange as a sign that although we are many, we very much are one. The children moved into their clan groups and participated in Harmony Week activities where we celebrated diversity and are proud of our family roots.

Finally, we were able to open our College up for our annual Open Day to welcome new families to tour the school and see the learning in action. We also introduced a new Under 6 Fun Morning for potential Kindergarten 2023 students. Parents and children loved the creative play, big book time and each left with a goody bag for coming to spend time with us.

It was also pleasing to have each grade back at weekly mass and the children were very reverent during Ash Wednesday celebrations. The sacramental program has also resumed without the imposition of COVID restrictions.

With God's blessings we are grateful to have got the school year underway in the face of many challenges. The children are settled and the staff have been amazing under trying circumstances in delivering a well-rounded positive education to the children.



Rebuilding after HBL & COVID

Secondary Principal, Debra Ferguson, says we are proud of our Secondary students and how they have shown maturity, respect and cooperation.

TERM 1 IS always extremely busy with a number of really enjoyable events but also returning to school to meet new teachers, start new subjects, re-establish friendships and to be organised with a positive attitude to learn.

Despite the COVID restrictions it was wonderful to return to school with everyone here. However, it certainly was not normal with the separation of cohorts, social distancing, sanitising, mask wearing and Rapid Antigen Testing (R.A.Ts).

If someone had told me 2 years ago that teenagers would all be wearing masks in class and doing so cooperatively, I do not think I would have believed them. However, we cannot speak highly enough of our students who thought of others first and why they were being asked to do this. They showed so much maturity and respect and cooperated throughout those opening weeks.

In the past I usually write to you about our new SIP (School Improvement Plan) but this has been re-named by Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) to a LIP (Learning Improvement Plan) and the reason is simple. The one goal of all our schools is to ensure that all our students advance in their learning and that the teachers put in place measures to ensure this occurs, as well as ways to measure this. This is our priority, and our teachers are, as always, completing professional learning (PL) in a number of areas, especially in literacy and using good data to plan classes and to evaluate learning.

This year we have asked every student to look at their yearly report from last year and to set goals based on the feedback from their teachers and for what they wish to achieve. We are challenging them to avoid leading mediocre lives but to strive, not for the ordinary, but for the extraordinary. We all have only one life so why settle for anything less than extraordinary.

This term a number of our year groups will work with ELEVATE on study skills and each teacher will be encouraging their students to ensure they complete all set work everyday as well as their assessments. It must be stressed that the work done in each and every lesson is the building blocks that the students need for growth and improvement, not just an assessment task completed once a Term. We encourage all our parents to become partners with their children's learning, modeling to them the importance of excellence and always doing your best. We are encouraging each child to be the best version of themselves and to work hard to accomplish this.

In this edition of College Matters you will read about many events and activities as well as student successes. We are so proud of our students at MCC and as we work together to re-establish lost routines and expectations during COVID and HBL. We hope to once again build our very strong community with great connections between staff, parents, students and our Parish.



2022 Primary Leadership Team

Sherylyn Kenney, Primary Assistant Principal, proudly introduces the Primary Leadership Team of 2022.

IT IS WITH much pleasure that I introduce to you the 2022 Primary Leadership Team.

Leading our school into the Year of 2022 are School Captains Brianna Alcid and Charles Alcock. Both of these students have demonstrated exemplary behaviour and promising leadership skills in the years leading up to this major achievement. Being voted into leadership positions by their peers, I am proud to suggest that they have already illustrated their outstanding leadership skills on more than one occasion.

Our Mission Leaders for 2022 are Claudia Alcock and Heath Vassallo. Two students, who throughout their time at MacKillop have modelled their Christ-Like qualities in both their school days and weekends. This year they will have many and varied activities in promoting Liturgy and Prayer within our school community. They will support the teachers, Sr Marea and Mr Snelling in all areas of Mission.

The Wellbeing Leaders need to ensure that the Well-Being of all students and teachers is promoted throughout the school. Savannah Hill and Davod Kobylarz will support Mrs Denneman and Miss Owen, who are our Social and Emotional Learning Co-Ordinators, as well as our teacher. Together they will promote the Well-Being of all students within our school. Through the use of CLANS, Lighthouse Points and DOJO points they will be ensuring that the promotion of positive behaviour of learning, heightened self esteem, enriching Social and Emotional Learning opportunities and exciting new adventures will be at the forefront for 2022.

Our Learning Culture Leaders for 2022 are Aidan Muscat and Julia Debelec. Together they will lead our community

amongst the learning and exciting news that is MacKillop Primary. Focussing on the academic awards and reports of learning from the classroom, these leaders will surely have their work cut out for them. Working closely with Mrs Kenney, Mrs Shilling, Mrs Jones and Mrs Whitmore, these two outstanding leaders will be beacons for learning. As we always say, learning happens as a result of thinking and thinkers are we!

On a fortnightly basis, you will witness outstanding leadership skills as these eight leaders host our Primary Assembly. The leaders are responsible for all aspects of the assembly, it is a formal assembly held in the College Hall lead BYstudents FOR students.

Every one of our six Houses has two leaders. Each leader has the responsibility of leading their house by motivating, cheering, modelling and expecting sportsmanship in every sporting event. With the sporting encouragement of Mrs Denneman we will see these leaders shine. The House Colour Captains for 2022 are ...

Fitzroy	Thomas Cooper and Hannah Prince
Penola	Holly Matthews and Taj Malloy
Temuka	Lacey Fisher and Sophie Heath
Gesu	Saoirse Twomey and Laura Harmston
Alma	Eric Markulin and Olivia Ketley
Kincumber	Alwan Sura Mathew and Scarlet Goody

These leaders are strong in personality, leadership and determination and under the watchful guidance of Mary MacKillop I am confident that they will lead the Primary MacKillop students through 2022 with their heads held high.

Kindergarten 2022

A warm welcome to our newest cohort.



An admirable HSC performance

Secondary Assistant Principal, Mel McGuinness, shares the HSC results for the Class of 2021.

WE PROUDLY SHARE an admirable HSC result from the Class of 2021. Data is a useful tool for reflection and is best used when we ask ourselves questions and know the narrative behind that data. Across the globe the narrative of pandemic and change has continued. It is a story of challenge in a time of global pandemic and uncertainty. In the face of this adversity, our students, with the support of their teachers, have continued the admirable performance of honour listings. We extend our congratulations to the entire HSC Class of 2021 and all our staff, as these achievements reflect the reputation of the College's learning culture.

A sizeable proportion of the candidature of the HSC Class of 2021 has recorded a credible HSC performance with 81.7% of all HSC entries achieving Band 3 and above. The statistics are even more impressive with close to 57.5% of all listings representing Band 4 and above with a most commendable level of 21.5% of all listings representing the top two bands.

HSC Results 2021 - All Courses n= 112						
Bands	6+E4	5+E3	4+E2	3	2	1
Listings	8	111	199	134	85	16
%	1.4	20.1	36	24.2	15.4	2.9
Variation from 2020	nil	0.6%	-5%	-2.8%	5.8%	-1.5%

A considerable number of HSC Courses achieved above the State Mean, 8 courses in total. A range of courses continue to be above the State mean. MacKillop HSC students have performed above the State mean in these courses:

Hospitality Examination (Kitchen Operations & Cookery)	12.07
Construction Examination	10.07
Business Services Examination	5.34
Community & Family Studies	2.04
Studies of Religion 2U	2.37
Design & Technology 2U	1.13
Society and Culture 2U	1.1
Industrial Technology 2U	0.37

The College proudly acknowledges the top performing students with 7 individual students achieving 8 honour listings across 7 subjects.

We congratulate the following 7 individual students for receiving honour listings in the 2021 HSC:

Beckley, Taylah	Design & Technology
Benson, Chloe	Community & Family Studies
Callaghan, Rose	Community & Family Studies
Callaghan, Rose	Studies of Religion II
Camilet-Dahmen, Charlize	Hospitality Examination (Kitchen Operations & Cookery)
Goss, Liam	Construction Examination
Johnston, Laila	Drama
Wightman, Isaac	Design & Technology

FIRST IN THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Congratulations must also go to the following students who achieved first ranking in the CSBB Diocese:

Rose Callaghan for Community and Family Studies

Charlie Baresic for Entertainment Exam

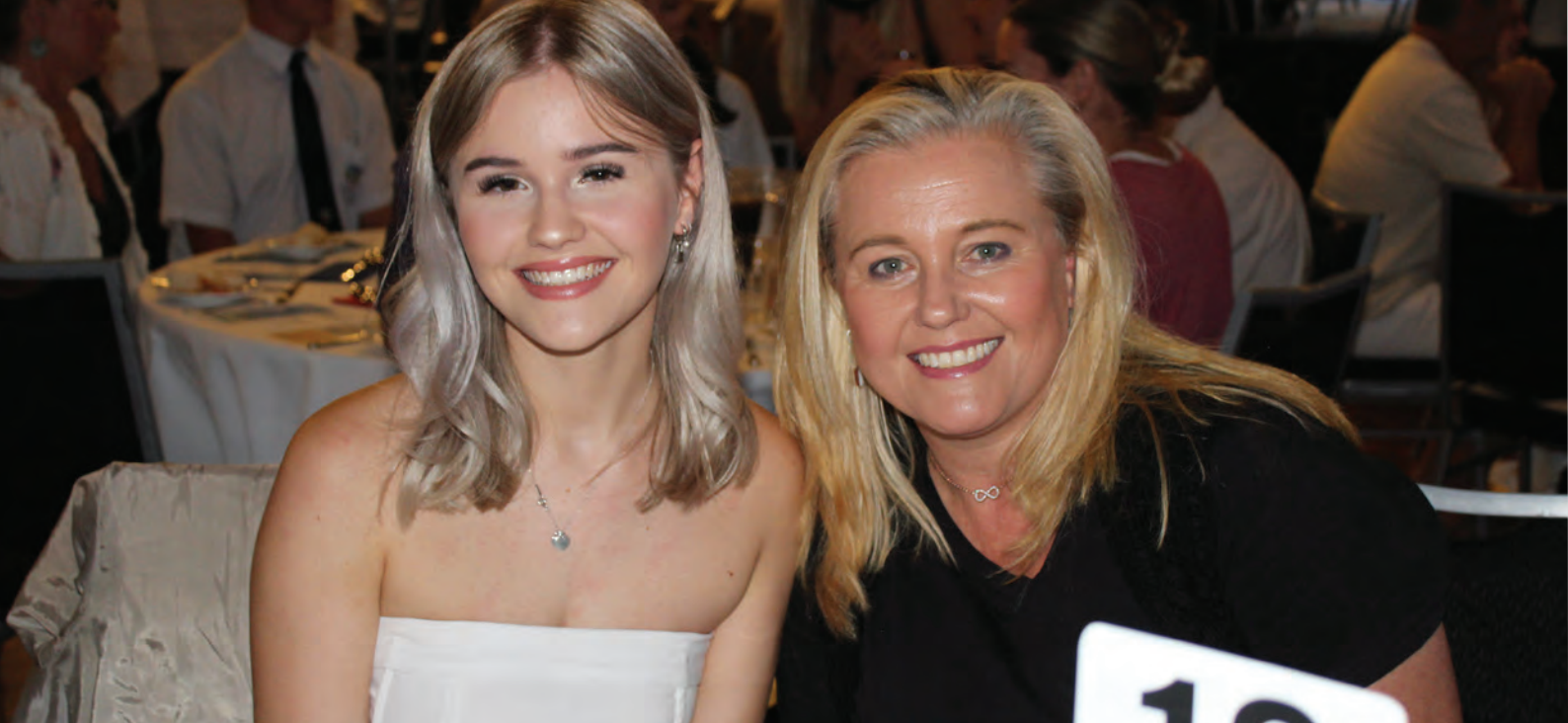
TOP TEN ATAR STUDENTS

Congratulations to Jayda Ormsby who achieved the highest ATAR of 86.45 and so deservedly became the College Dux. We join in congratulating the Top Ten ATAR students for the HSC 2021:

Jayda Ormsby	86.45
Rose Callaghan	85.3
Lachlan Smith	85.3
Paris Jenkins	81.7
Isaac Wightman	81.5
Luka Piltz	80.45
Mason Fitzgerald	80.15
Hayden McCarthy	79.7
Camryn Winkler	79.25
Taylah Beckley	78

It is with enormous pride that the College congratulates the entire HSC Class of 2021 and we wish each student every blessing in taking up the next stage of their individual journey.





Senior Student Mass & Luncheon

Chrystal Price and Kath Arden say we celebrated our Senior Students with a Mass, a meal and words of wisdom.

ON 10 FEBRUARY Year 11 and Year 12 students and staff were fortunate to have celebrated the Senior Mass and Luncheon.

The day began with a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist in the Stephen Aiken Hall. The Mass focused on praising God for the various gifts and talents of our senior students and asking for His blessing as we began a new school year. During his homily, Fr Phillip enlightened the students about the need for courage, perseverance, and prayer in their lives as they journey throughout their last years of the College. The Year 11 students received their senior student badges, and all the students affirmed their role as senior students of MCC by saying the Senior Student Pledge.

Students in Year 11, Year 12 and selected staff then travelled to the Wyong Leagues Club where they attended the Senior Luncheon event. The students were accompanied by special guests including: the two past College Captains, students who receive the top ten ATARs in the College, students who come first in the Diocese in a particular subject or students who receive call backs from on-stage and the like. Those ex-students were presented with awards and informed us on what they will be doing now that they have left the

College and enjoyed a two-course sit down meal with their parents present.

Throughout the luncheon students listened to a variety of speeches about how to maximise their potential for success in their senior years at MCC. It was great to hear from our College Dux, Jayda Ormsby. In her address she encouraged the students to make the most of all the opportunities presented to them to maximise their success, as well as, to take the advice from the staff accompanying the students on their HSC journey. Mr Jason Hanrahan, our College Principal also spoke to the students about how persistence and perseverance can also assist students to achieve their very best. Our special guest speaker was Miss Tiarne Eckford, an ex-student of the College. She discussed her inspirational journey of overcoming great challenges and adversity, to achieving her goals. Tiarne also encouraged the students to consider that whilst life may throw various challenges at you, it is important to use the support networks around you to help you through it and to take it one step at a time.

Overall, this was a great way to begin the year and we are grateful to the College Leadership team for providing the senior students with such a wonderful experience.



Becoming and Belonging at MacKillop

Father Philip Thottam *shares a message of love and hope for the new year.*

WE LIVE IN extraordinarily challenging and changing situations where we encounter unexpected twists and turns, and it reinforces the maxim of George Bernard Shaw, “life is not meant to be easy my child; but take courage, it can be delightful”.

Our experiences of bygone years of 2020 and 2021 have taught us that we can be resilient and resourceful, and this academic year of 2022 comes with its own special blessings and challenges which in fact is a gift and a task. In this journey we are not alone, we are guided and protected by God, Our Father, His Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. We have the constant intercession of our Heavenly Patroness St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop. We are surrounded by our Parish and College community of staff, students, parents, and well-wishers.

We have our new College Principal Mr. Jason Hanrahan,

several other staff members and new students who come with new vitality, experience, and expectations. Along with our existing staff members and students we thank God for their special gifts that they bring to our campus. The presence of each person in our community enables us in the process of becoming better persons for ourselves and for others, because we influence one another to varying degrees. Our school environment in which we live and interact moulds our characters and behaviours. And so, we take responsibility for ourselves and for others as we journey through the year. Let our sacramental life embolden us to hold our motto “Christ our life” close to our heart. During the year we also welcome our children who are making their sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and Holy Communion. What a great opportunity for our young children to integrate themselves to the life of the Church and draw the fullness of life from the Heart of Jesus, our Lord.



The Season of Lent

Tim Snelling *shares about The Season of Lent: bringing us closer to God.*

THE STUDENTS OF the primary school have had a busy few weeks as they commence the season of Lent.

Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins, which is known colloquially as 'Pancake Tuesday' (and 'Fat Tuesday' in some parts of the world) is the day we feast before we begin our fasting. Thank you to the students of Year 5 Grevillia for delivering over 600 pancakes and maple syrup to the students throughout the morning in the rain!

This event marked the beginning of Project Compassion in the primary school and, thanks to your donations, we collected over \$400 for those in need around the world.

Ash Wednesday is the day after Shrove Tuesday. Each class has been learning that this marks the beginning of 40 days of being more prayerful, more giving to those in need, more sorrowful for our grievances, and more willing to make our own sacrifices as we prepare ourselves and remember the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. This season reminds us of the time when Jesus went into the wilderness to bring

himself closer to God.

The primary and high school students celebrated Ash Wednesday together this year. Primary Student Leaders and High School Student Parliament participated in various ministries throughout our liturgical celebration, which was streamed into every classroom throughout the school. Each class participated through the assistance of High School Youth Ministry students who administered the blessed Ashes in the classrooms. The primary students have been putting in their best effort to observe Lent since Ash Wednesday. Donations are being made from any loose change, with many foregoing an extra treat from the canteen. There have also been donations of Easter chocolate for the residents of our local nursing homes, with some classes having already filled their baskets.

Thank you for all of your wonderful donations so far. And if you haven't already, speak to your child about how they have been preparing themselves this Lenten season and the promises that they have made.



Celebrating our liturgical seasons

Chrystal Price celebrates some exciting liturgical seasons, and how a new RE curriculum is underway.

IT HAS BEEN quite the busy start to Term 1 for Mission related events and Religious Education.

Some of the highlights have included the Senior Student luncheon, the Year 7 Immersion Excursion to Kincumber/ Spirituality Days and the Ash Wednesday liturgies.

As a Catholic community we have now entered into one of the most important liturgical seasons in our Church's tradition, Lent. Both staff, students and families are invited throughout the Lenten season to join the Parish in celebrating Mass at 7.30am to continue their time of reflection and prayer. Our secondary parliament leaders and students are encouraged to attend and for those students who come along, a light breakfast is shared in the staff lounge after Mass.

In Religious Education we are now in full swing of implementing the new RE curriculum in Year 7; B7 Belonging

to our Catholic Community. The RE staff at MCC have been involved in various online professional learning forums led by the evangelisation and catechesis team at CSBB. On Tuesday March 8, five members of the RE faculty participated in a collaborative professional learning opportunity with secondary teachers from across the Diocese to explore the implementation of the next unit; A7 Opening the Book. During this day our staff reviewed the current unit of work and explored the use of various contemporary pedagogical practices as well as the possible types of assessment that could be applied to delivering of this topic. We hope the insight and wisdom gained from these professional learning days will continue to enrich our RE classrooms and that the students will come to appreciate the discovery of Christ's presence in their everyday learning.



Fostering faith & spiritual development

Julian Legge *writes about the Year 7 Immersion Experience and Spirituality Days.*

DURING TERM 1 Year 7 students participated in an immersion experience to St Joseph's Spirituality Centre Kincumber, as well as, a Spirituality Day at North Entrance Surf Club.

The Year 7 immersion experience at St Joseph's Spirituality Centre Kincumber aims to explore the charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the history of her work on the Central Coast, and foster the faith formation of Year 7 Students on their spiritual journey. Students had the opportunity to participate in a guided tour of the museum, including a walkthrough of the site grounds itself. Here students learnt about the life of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the work of

the Sisters of St Joseph as well as deepened their knowledge of our house system and values.

Year 7 also participated in their Spirituality Day at North Entrance Surf Club. The development of the students' spirituality is part of the core work we do here at the College and it is vital that the students have the opportunity to experience their faith with one another.

Both opportunities are also integral to the current topic of study in Religious Education; 'Belonging to our Catholic Community'.





Harmony Week in Primary

Christine Owen says *Primary celebrated Harmony Week in colourful fashion.*

HARMONY WEEK AT MacKillop culminated on Friday 18 March, with Primary participating in a very reflective Liturgy paying respect to the multicultural and diverse country we live in. Harmony Week celebrates inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

The primary community then participated in 7 rotational activities including cultural games, cultural languages, kindness activities, and beaded bracelets. Students worked in clans which were a mixture of Kindergarten to Year 6 students. Year

6 took on leadership roles assisting the clan teacher in running these activities. This is aimed at developing relationships within team houses and grades. We also shared cultural food with classmates and spoke of the significance of these dishes.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. We chose to wear something orange this Harmony Week to show support for cultural diversity and an inclusiveness in Australia.







Harmony Week in Secondary

Deb Ferguson *celebrates Harmony Week - Everyone Belongs.*

LAST YEAR IN June our present Yr 12 Student Parliament Leaders attended their Leadership Camp where they set goals for their year in office. At the top of their list was to re-establish the strong community we were prior to COVID and HBL. Part of this goal was to ensure all students had a strong sense of belonging to MCC.

They then planned events that could assist with this and they asked if instead of just celebrating Harmony Day on one day, if they could organise a Harmony Week with events and activities to unite the students.....and this is exactly what was organised.

In Week 8 we experienced a school truly engaged in community activities.

- 2 large banners were created by our College Captains and the Jump Sport students and they were hung around the College along with a number of flags from around the world.
- Students created origami hearts with prayers for the people of Ukraine
- On Wednesday students proudly wore costumes of their cultural heritage or orange clothing. We have never seen so many orange High Vis shirts. Awards were given for the best dressed costumes. The overall winner was Tanishka Kapruwan in Yr 11 for her beautiful Indian attire and the best in each Year group went to Year 7: Silongo-A-Tonga Kolo (Penola) and George Kaifa (Temuka) / Year 8: Sth Sudan: Achol Lual (Fitzroy) / Year 9: Thailand- Violet Rodenbaugh (Fitzroy) / Year 10: Australian Indigenous- Ryan McCarthy, Dominic Bunyan, Chase Wells (Kincumber) / Year 11: Australian

- Jordan McKinnon (Fitzroy) /Year 12: Australian Indigenous - Blake Escott (Gesu)

- Also on Wednesday the students donated \$585 for the flood victims through a gold coin collection.
- Students listened to stories from Uncle Phil who told his and his parents' stories growing up Aboriginal in the 1900's, Refugees Kalik (Afghanistan), Thanash (a Tamil from Sri Lanka) and Mehdi (an Hazare from Pakistan), Phocion, the Greek Leader on the Central Coast who has fought for the rights of migrants in Australia, Pam from South Africa who spoke of her life as a black woman in her country and Australia and Tatiana, a Russian, who had to fight to live in Australia.
- Over 200 students ordered lunch on Wednesday with sausages from around the world and raised approximately \$1200 for Project Compassion.
- Some of the most enjoyable moments were watching the sporting competitions that occurred between the year groups in futsal, basketball and netball and in the handball competitions. Great participation and huge crowds watching and cheering.
- The culmination was the Athletics Carnival raising more money for Project Compassion, having a fun-filled day including traditional 'Ole' English games with egg and spoon races, sack races and 3 legged races.

We are so proud of all our students for a wonderful week of learning about other people's stories and working towards ensuring everyone belongs and making it very obvious that all people should be treated with respect and compassion





Ready... Set... GO!

Maisie Tenev says *it has been an action-packed Term for YMCC.*

THERE HAS BEEN a lot happening in **YMCC** and we are so grateful to be back in the full swing of things at school. The **YMCC** students have been so generous with their time and have been encouraging and supporting each other to step out of their comfort zones to try new things.

This term we have been running the Alpha Film series and students from Years 7-11 have been engaging every Monday afternoon with a range of questions about life and faith. Students from Parliament and **YMCC** also participated in the Pastoral Discernment Project. Each session, the students were given two themes to discuss in small groups and the students are hopeful that the voice of young people in our Diocese will be heard. In the second-half of the term, **YMCC** students completed a number of formation sessions to become Altar Servers. Special thanks to Fr Philip, to Leo and Ryan (Year 10) and to Sr Jiji for organising and facilitating the sessions.

Almsgiving is one of the focus actions during Lent and the Year 7 **YMCC** students worked together to prepare for **YMCC's** Lolly Land. \$470 was raised over three days and the money will be split to be donated to Caritas for Project Compassion and St Vincent de Paul for the flood victims. Thank you to Jordan and Tessa (Year 11) and the teachers who assisted the Year 7 students each day. Towards the end of term, **YMCC** students used a number of break times to prepare for the Palm Sunday Liturgy. A number of Primary students were also involved in the photos for the liturgy. Thank you to the students for your

commitment and to Mr Wallis for assisting with the music and singing of the liturgy.

Developing leadership skills was a recurring theme for the **YMCC** students in Term 1 and a number of Year 10 students participated in a Youth Leadership Conference. Originally booked to go to Sydney, we decided to be COVID-safe and take the online option but hopefully next year we will be able to attend in person. So many **YMCC** students volunteered to assist with the College's Open Day and did a great job to promote youth ministry at the school. The highlight for the term was the **YMCC** Leadership Camp. Students from Years 8-11 attended an overnight camp in Toukley where they participated in a number of workshops and camp activities like Laser Tag and Archery. Samantha, Bianca and Tayla from Year 12 gave up their own time to prepare and run icebreakers and the first workshop. The staff were so proud of their session, where they shared their own experience of being part of **YMCC** and gave the students an opportunity to voice their suggestions of what they would like to do in youth ministry. Special thanks to Mr Tomsett and the staff that visited to support our group.

Heartfelt thanks to the students, staff and parents who encourage the **YMCC** students. Term 1 has been a busy but fruitful start to the year, and we are so grateful for the support of the MacKillop community.



Generosity of Spirit

Michelle Baxter says we share our 'gifts' joyously without expectation of anything in return.

I AM NEVER surprised by the generosity of spirit our students at MCC demonstrate. Generosity of spirit is the openness and willingness to share our 'gifts' freely and willingly with others, joyously and without expectation of receiving anything in return. Generosity of spirit is created through respect and compassion for others, and it helps us to make a difference, to lead by example and to foster peace and harmony. As a result, we connect, we build relationships and we grow; spiritually and emotionally.

So many of our students have engaged in numerous outreach initiatives this Term with all of our fundraising pledges donated to Project Compassion. The Mini Vinnies initiated a very funtastic fundraiser for Valentine's Day, seeking messages of love and kindness which were read over the

College PA system, whilst other messages were handwritten for a more personalised touch. On Shrove Tuesday, JUMP students in Year 8 served pikelets to all of Stage 4 as a yummy offering in the lead up to Lent. We have enjoyed being able to attend Lakes Food Care and Coast Shelter once again, serving the community, socialising with other volunteers and clients who attend these centres.

We have been so impressed with the huge number of students volunteering; at the Big Chair project at The Entrance, Open Day, during Harmony Week, promoting Clean-Up Australia Day during the Athletics Carnival, the list just goes on and on. The generosity of spirit at MCC is ever present. We are simply just so proud and blessed for all that our students and community do. Thank you.





Indigenous opportunities

Marilyn Fraser *celebrates an exciting start to Term 1.*

ON 11 FEBRUARY Babana Aboriginal Men's Group invited Kerrie Pearce (Careers/VET Teacher) and Marilyn Fraser (AEW) to their 'Aboriginal Employment and Connections' event to network and discuss opportunities for our MacKillop students. The community event is held for potential employers to speak about careers, workplace support services and professional development opportunities for our youth. We had the privilege of listening to special guest speakers such as the Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt, Gail O'Brien the wife of the late cancer surgeon Professor Chris O'Brien, Mayor Baker from North Sydney Council, and Uncle Mark Spinks was

the wonderful MC for the day. The Babana Aboriginal Men's Group was proudly partnered with NRMA, Serco, Asuria, City Indigenous and Babana Traffic Control. The Day was held in the Retort House at the historic HMAS Platypus in North Sydney on Cammeraygal Country.

During our Open Day, the Deadly Didge Group proudly performed and were well received by the audience. The boys are always keen to practice every Tuesday morning before school with their school leaders. They enjoy the opportunity to practice and perform in our school events.



Proudly venturing into the Wild!

MacKillop presents Madagascar Jr. and The Lion King Kids, shares Sharon Baird.

REHEARSALS ARE WELL underway for two musicals in 2022.

This is a first for MacKillop and we hope you will join us for Dreamworks Madagascar Junior, a musical presented by our Secondary students from Years 7-12, and Disney's The Lion King Kids, presented by our Primary school students from Years 2-6.



6 and 7 May, 2022

Sr. Irene McCormack Theatre @ MCC

7pm

With a largely new cast and a very short rehearsal period, the high school students have been smashing out everyone's favourite songs like, 'I Like to Move it, Move it!' and 'It's Showtime every Thursday afternoon'. They are building their characters and practising some very exciting and energetic dance routines. Please join Marty, Alex, Gloria, Melman and the penguins from New York's Central Park Zoo on this crack-a-lackin adventure into the wilds of Madagascar, where King

Julien reigns supreme over the lemurs and is afraid of nothing - except the foosa!



Thursday, 16 June 2022

Sr. Irene McCormack Theatre @ MCC

4:30pm and 6:30pm

It's a very exciting time for 110 children in Years 2-6 and the K-12 Performing Arts teachers as we embark on our very first Primary School only musical. Due to the incredibly high interest in this musical, we have decided to have two casts. Each cast will have a mix of Year 2 - 6 students. The first show will be at 4.30pm and the second show, with an alternate cast, will be at 6.30pm. Journey to the Pridelands with us as Rafiki tells the story of 'The Circle of Life'. With all your favourite songs - 'Hakuna Matata', 'Can You Feel the Love Tonight' and 'I Just Can't Wait to be King' - these primary students will be singing up a storm!

Tickets will be going on sale soon so stay tuned!



In the studio... using iPads in the classroom

Jillian Young shows us how still life drawing comes alive.

YEAR 9 VISUAL Arts classes have been learning about colour pencil techniques used in drawing. The unit 'Colour My World' has been designed for students to work sequentially at their own pace, practicing techniques while drawing alongside with their teacher. Using their iPads and headphones, students have access to pre-recorded demonstrations whereby they can listen to instructions, watch the visual explanation, stopping and starting the clip as needed. This is all in preparation for the final large still life drawing where students put into practice the skills they have learnt.



An example of a student drawing a value scale in white pencil while listening and watching a recorded demonstration by their art teacher.



"Ice-cream, Ice-cream!", drawn by Evie Davis-Fullick, Year 9.

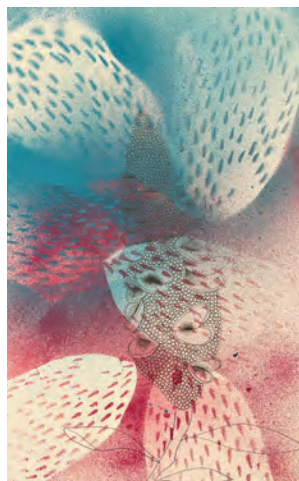
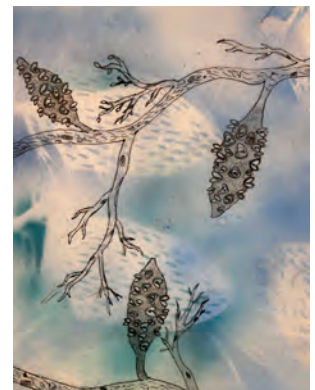
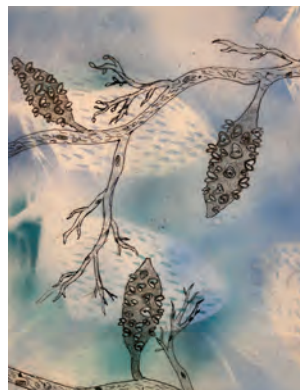
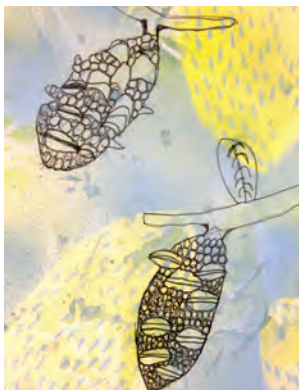


"Apple" by Dylan Winkler, Year 9.

Artists of excellence

Jillian Young showcases how students are exploring different ways to make marks on a page.

STENCILS, SPRAY PAINT and observational drawings have been used to make banksia seed pod inspired works.



Big Chair Community Art Project

Belinda Wells is proud of the JUMP Art students who explored the Big Chair Community Art Project.

CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL and Youth 4 Youth formed a partnership to deliver Big Chair Projects across the Central Coast. Five Big Chairs are located at Toukley, Budgewoi, Umina and Terrigal.

The Big Chairs are being built by a local Men's shed and have artworks designed and painted on the chairs by local artists and young people across the Coast.

Two emerging community artists have been selected to work with the Lead Artist (Mackillop's Art Teacher Mrs Wells) in

guiding young people from the community to develop designs for the NEXT Big Chair in the Art Trail that is growing each year across the region. Students from the Mackillop JUMP Art Program and art students have been busy designing ideas for the big chair in art workshops. They were given the opportunity to engage in skill development and experience in wider community art projects.

The collaborative project will be ready for installation on 1 April. We look forward to seeing the finished product and taking a seat in the Big Chair on the Entrance Foreshore.



Library News

Jackie Crowe says *there have been Challenges, Coding, Collaborating and Comprehension Skills in the Library this Term.*

THIS TERM ALL K-6 classes are engaging in collaborative learning lessons in the Library. Students have been learning to code, progressing through the courses in code.org. In these lessons we have focused on working as a team and how 'two heads are better than one'. This has developed the students' interpersonal skills and encouraged awareness of others whilst learning together. A favourite session was the Year 4 Lego Challenge where the students needed to work as a team, taking on specific roles to complete a task.

Year 3 and Year 5 have been having extra weekly sessions in the Library this term run by Mrs Shilling and Mrs Kenney. Mr Cohen, Mr Hanrahan, the classroom teachers and the Teacher Librarians have been able to work with small groups of students to practice their comprehension skills in readiness for NAPLAN in May this year.

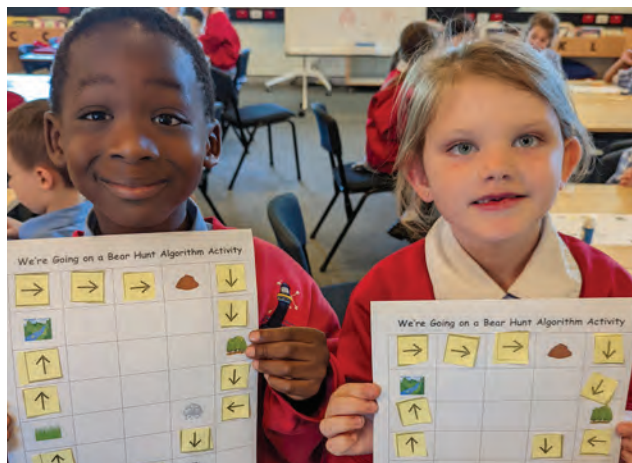
Harmony Week saw the Library welcome several guest speakers who came to share their stories with our students. It was a privilege for those classes who came to the Library to hear from people who have had vastly different life experiences from them.

Over seventy students from Year 5-12 have taken the

opportunity to participate in the Australian STEM Video Game Challenge this term. Over the next two terms, teams of up to four students will meet together in the Library each week to design and create a playable video game to enter into this national competition.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) has once again begun and closes for student entries on Friday 19 August 2022. The Library houses a large collection of PRC books for students to enjoy which can be added to their Challenge Reading Records. Taking part in the Challenge is a great way for students to read a wide variety of books and is open to all students in Kindergarten to Year 10.

The new Makerspace in the Library is being well used by our TAS department. The Year 9 Information Software class "utilise the microbit microcontrollers to code autonomous systems such as an intruder detection system and a smart telecontrol door opener to name just two. The Library Makerspace is perfectly resourced to develop these systems using the makecode software (available on the suite of laptops available within the room) and the application of mechatronics". (Damian Clair)



Primary sport update

Kellie Denneman *provides an update on the sporting achievements in Primary.*

TERM 1 HAS seen some amazing results in Primary sport.

Mackillop Swimming Carnival

We had another successful 2022 Carnival held at the end of 2021. We were delighted to announce the swimming results at our very first assembly this year

Congratulations to the Age Champions for 2021:

	GIRLS	BOYS
8 Years	Reegan Moore	Harrison Smith
9 Years	Sophie Norris	William Curtis
10 Years	Georgia Harris	Jacob Jarrett
11 Years	Krystal Lees	Samuel Hill
12/13 Years	Claire Schumacher	David Kobylarz

The house points were again hotly contested with Penola taking out the trophy this year.

The finals results were:

Penola	1020
Temuka	902.5
Fitzroy	679
Gesu	672
Kincumber	595
Alma	361.5

CCC Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the 34 swimmers who qualified and represented MacKillop with pride at the CCC Swimming Carnival at Mingara in Week 4. Many children swam personal best times and flourished in the improved competition. As a school we finished 8th overall.

We wish **Krystal Lees (Yr 5)** the best of luck as she progresses to the Broken Bay Carnival in Week 8 in 2 events – 11 Yr Butterfly & 11 Yr Breaststroke.

Broken Bay Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Krystal Lees (Yr 5) who swam in 2 events at the recent Twilight BB Swimming at Mingara. Krystal came 3rd in the 11 Yr Butterfly & 4th in the Breaststroke – she now progresses to Sydney to compete in the Polding Swimming at Homebush. We are so proud of you.

Broken Bay Winter Trials

A number of students nominated to trial in the Diocesan Winter Sport Trials in Weeks 8 & 9. These trials are particularly competitive and we congratulate all the children who took part across the Netball, Rugby League, Soccer & AFL.

Congratulations to Bryron Koop-Folkes who was selected in the Broken Bay AFL Team, and Rahni Deeley who was selected in the Broken Bay Girls Soccer Team.

They will now proceed to Polding Trials over the coming weeks and we wish them all the best.

Congratulations to Carter Hill of Year 2 who is competing in the Australian Mountain Bike Interschools in Thredbo. Carter is competing in the 11-12 years age group. He is only 7 so this is a massive achievement. Well done Carter and good luck!



Secondary sport update

Duncan Black says *Representative Sport is back in 2022!*

WELCOME TO 2022, with the start of the new year comes new opportunities to represent the College at sport. After 9 weeks, the College students have had some excellent results and opportunities to participate in sport. As the College's major carnivals (swimming, athletics and cross country) have not all been completed, our Age groups champions and house champions are still to be decided. This will be finalised by week 10.

The College has had 4 Touch teams that have represented us at BBSSA Tournaments. While at these tournaments, the students have the opportunity to be selected into Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sport Association (BBSSA) teams, New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC) teams.

BBSSA

This semester the College has entered the Opens Touch Football, 15 Girls and Boys Touch Football, and later this term the 13's Touch, Swimming Carnival and Cross Country.

Touch Football

The boys 15 / Opens teams played extremely well. With both teams making it through to the finals. Our Open's boys team played gallantly against stronger oppositions all day with very close losses and some great wins.

Our 15's boys teams made it through to the semi finals against St Edward's College, going down 5 – 3. Special mentions to the following boys that were selected into the Possible/Probable teams - Tayte Bayley, Archie Black, Joshua Fesolai and Caleb Fesolai for the 15's and Lauchlan Bissaker for the Opens.

The 15's and Open Girls games were rained out but an opportunity for our girls to trial for the BBSSA teams was still available.

On the day the girls played in a number of games with their hopes of being selected into the BBSSA team. I would like to congratulate Anabelle Ross (Open girls) of Year 10 on her selection into this team. She will now travel to Port Stephens later in the term.

Netball

Girls turning 15 years old and girls turning 16–18 years old have an opportunity to trial for the BBSSA Netball team to later to be selected into the NSWCCC team in Term 2. We wish these girls all the best.

Rugby League

On Monday and Wednesday of Week 8 we had a number of boys trial for Broken Bay U15 and Opens teams.

Open selections – Lauchlan Bissaker of Year 12 was selected into the Broken Bay team and trialled in a new look pathway for the Metropolitan squad. This team would then progress to the NSW CCC trials later in Term 2. Congratulations to

Lauchlan Bissaker on his selection into the Metropolitan team.

On Wednesday the U15 boys trialled at Morrie Breen Oval, Kanwal. Over 40 boys trialled for 17 positions to play against the Parramatta Diocesan team to make a Metropolitan to play at the NSW CCC selections.

Congratulations to Archie Black (Yr9), Tayte Bayley (Yr9), Nate Valamis (Yr 9), Blake Field (Yr10) and Tasman Smith (Yr 9) on their selections.

NSW CCC (NSW Combined Catholic Colleges)

Students at the College are able to trial as individuals to gain selection into a NSWCCC team, which will then participate in a NSW All Schools event or Australian All Schools Event throughout the year.

Most sports have an age limit and criteria/ranking depending on the sport. If you would like to look at your child trialling for a sport, please go to the following link <https://cnsnw.sport>.

This website is a primary and secondary site. When looking at the home page we are CCC (not Polding or Mackillop) select your sport and read the criteria. If you are having problems do not hesitate to contact me via duncan.black@dbb.catholic.edu.au.





Parent news

Natasha Harman *shares her excitement to join the MacKillop team.*

IT HAS BEEN an amazing start for me as the new FLO (Family Liaison Officer) this Term, and I have thoroughly enjoyed every day so far as I continue to navigate my way around the school and all the wonderful services and programs that are in place. Everyone I have met; parents, staff and children, have all been so welcoming and I feel right at home here already, so thank you!

I'm very passionate and eager to connect with and support our parents and carers however I can, and I come into this role with ideas and resources to share with you and I also have lots of tips and tricks to help you get your kids on board with less fuss and believe it or not, with less yelling too! I'm also available to source any information on services if I can't help you directly, so please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and all our conversations are confidential for your peace of mind.

I will be offering different parenting programs for the whole school community for Primary and High School ages and plan to find out from you what programs you would like, and I will be more than happy to accommodate requests as best I can. I feel so supported and very blessed that I get to work with an amazing team of professionals here at MacKillop that are on board to help make all these things happen.

You will see me at the kiss and drop zone in the mornings to welcome your children for the start of their day and just being there to say hello brightens my mornings too, so feel free to say hello and I look forward to meeting you sometime either face to face or online in any of the groups I run, and everyone is more than welcome.

I will be working with Sr Marea to support the amazing services that she provides here at the College and I will be looking to arrange a morning tea in the future to provide me with the opportunity to meet you and for you to meet other parents. Some parent's lifelong friendships can blossom from the friends our children choose so please come along if you are available, it would be a wonderful way for us all to meet each other.

I have already had the pleasure of meeting some wonderful parents to discuss the needs in the school and I would be more than happy to hear from anyone if you have ideas on ways for us to do things better, be more inclusive, or even if you have ideas on activities/services that you would like to see in place in the future. I would love to work with as many parents as possible to help make things happen.

I just wanted to share a resource that I have had for a very long time and remind parents/carers that each child has a daily quota of positive feedback they require for healthy development. When we complement our kids on the things they do well and focus on their characteristics, we are helping to build on their self-esteem and self-worth so here is 101 Ways to Praise a Child, a reminder for you to fill up their cup each and every day. Scan the QR code to view.





Showcasing MacKillop

College Principal, Jason Hanrahan, *celebrates a successful Open Day*

ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 9 the College community was excited to welcome prospective and existing families to the College for our annual Open Day, Year 7 and Kindergarten Information Evenings. It was wonderful to be able to have families back on the College campus, and there was a real buzz of excitement from all who were able to join us on the afternoon and evening.

The purpose of the afternoon was to showcase MacKillop, and more particularly, highlight the skills and talents of our students and staff. As you walked around the College during the afternoon, it was impressive to see the opportunities that are provided to our students by our committed and highly skilled staff. Families that were able to join us were able to view aspects such as:

- Tours conducted by our fabulous students (who were all buzzing before the night to show people around the campus).
- Activities in the College Library.
- Visits to Primary classrooms, particularly Kindergarten, with work samples and displays available.
- Technology classes happening, with students working on various major works.
- Hospitality classes providing food for families to enjoy on their tour.
- Science demonstrations and activities.
- Japanese classroom activities and displays.

- Dancing and drama performances from classes and performance groups, including sneak peeks at the musical performances and choirs.
- Music classes occurring, playing musical instruments.
- Gymnasium activities demonstrated and available.
- Other stalls and from Key Learning Areas and a host of school co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Following the afternoon open day, the information sessions were held for Year 7 and Kindergarten 2023. These were very well attended, with hundreds of families staying to listen to the information about our college, specific to the two separate year groups. After the sessions we received a host of positive feedback from parents about the open day and information presented, and this was followed by several emails to the College giving positive feedback about the College and the way our community was presented. There were many enrolment packs collected in the evening, an indication of the potential for strong enrolments for the 2023 school year.

All these activities only happen through the generosity of students and staff, who were more than happy to give of their time after hours to showcase their work. After my first Open Day, I feel so blessed to be in a community of generous and caring staff and have such generous and connected students to work with.

A big thank you to all involved in Open Day, a tremendous success!





