

*The Wisdom
of the Lord Teaches us*

Mary MacKillop College

Newsletter

Term 2
22 May 2020



*"So great is the
strength we possess
in our unity".*

*Mary MacKillop
1874*

Newsletter on our website
www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/newsletter
also available on the College Parent Portal - PAM

MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

This Weeks Prayer

Prayer for Hope

Almighty God,
You are my hope, and you are my
strength. You are guiding me
toward your will, and I will follow you.
I will walk in amazing faith this day.
I will declare that my enemies will
not triumph over me. Sickness will
not triumph over me. I was created
to be powerful. I was created to be
victorious. Today I will walk in the
power, purpose, and peace of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The College is buoyed by the decision by the Victorian Government, acting upon the advice of the Chief Health Officer to allow a gradual return of students to school. The Remote Learning Program offered by the College has been a great success, but it cannot fully replace the school experience.

Return to School Measures

A return to school does not yet mean a return to normalcy. We as a school community need to have in place a number of protective measures designed to minimise the risk of illness. These will include:

- Restricting access to the College to only students and staff. Please note: Parents are asked during drop offs and pickups to only use the top carpark thereby limiting onsite access.
- Extra cleaning of the school during the day and on a nightly basis.

- Regular use of hand sanitiser by students and staff during the course of the day. Students are welcome to bring their own personal sanitiser.
- Social distancing guidelines enforced.
- Restricting those with flu-like symptoms from attending the College. Please note: if your child is exhibiting any of these symptoms, he/she is to remain at home. If he/she does not attend, you will be contacted and asked to collect him/her.

Timeline

Consistent with government guidelines the return to school process will be as follows:

- **Monday 25 May** - Student Free Day. All staff will be preparing for students to return.
- **Tuesday 26 May** - Friday 5 June - Students in Years 11 and 12 return to the campus and all other levels continue with the Home Learning Program offsite.
- **Friday 5 June** - Student Free Day.
- **Monday 8 June** - Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 9 June** - Years 7-10 return to learning on campus and the Remote Learning Program concludes.

Years 7-10 Onsite Supervision (Tuesday 26 May-Friday 5 June)

There may be a requirement to change the arrangements to your child's learning during the period of Tuesday 26 May to Friday 5 June. Whilst Year 11 and 12's will return onsite, I would ask that any students in other year levels who need to access onsite supervision continue to register their intention to follow for planning and supervision requirements.

I once again congratulate our school community for making our Remote Learning Program such a great success. Our teachers and those who support them have been very dedicated and creative, the students have embraced the model with enthusiasm and our school families have been a great support along the way. We all certainly miss our students and look forward to seeing them back with us.



Kieran O'Dwyer
Acting Principal

"So great is the strength we possess in our unity" - Mary MacKillop 1874

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - TEACHING AND LEARNING

We would like to thank you for your support of the College's Remote Learning Program. The feedback from the survey completed last week was overwhelmingly positive. We are very proud of the way our students are continuing to engage with their learning in this context. Your support and feedback are invaluable.

Year 7-10 Students - continuation of Remote Learning

Students in Year 7-10 continue with Remote Learning until they return to the College on Tuesday 9th June. We will continue to refine our Remote Learning to ensure it meets the needs of all our students and continues to challenge students to be the best they can be.

To further support you at this time we offer the following from psychologist and educational specialist, Andrew Fuller:

Three Big Things Parents Can Do To Help with Remote Learning

Three key factors predict long-term success and results and they are inter-linked: emotional regulation, motivation and academic self-efficacy. These are all factors that parents can make powerful impacts on.

- **Emotional regulation** is the ability to calm yourself down when you are upset and rev yourself up when you feel dejected. This helps you succeed in careers, in relationships and keeps you on track in the senior years of school. This is keeping kids emotional 'ship' steady. Calm, kind parenting.
- **Motivation** is a slippery commodity that is largely driven by passions and experiencing success. Unsurprisingly, we are more motivated in areas where we taste the sweet fruits of success and less so in areas we find dull and difficult. Little kids have an enormous motivation for learning and then often it lessens. Parents who have watched their interests and passions over years can use this time to rekindle motivation.
- **Academic self-efficacy** is the belief that students have that they can do well. Kids who feel they can be successful are more likely to succeed.

All staff are trying to stay as connected as possible with all students, to give them the support that they need. If you find that your child is struggling, please make contact with their teachers. Teachers will not know that a child is having difficulty unless they are informed; they do not have the opportunities that occur in a classroom to observe the child, picking up subtle clues as to understanding or frustration. The more you communicate with us, the clearer the support we can give your child.

VET Arrangements

- Students doing an offsite VET Course through AGA or Gippsafe, remain working with remote learning until further notice.
- Internal VET courses for Year 11 and 12 students will resume as of Tuesday 26 May
- Internal VET Courses for Year 10 students are as follows
 - VET IMDT with Mr Letendrie - classes resume onsite as of Tuesday 26 May
 - VET Sport and Rec with Mr Maskell - continue remote learning
 - VET Fashion with Mrs Steenholdt/Mrs Muranty - classes resume onsite as of Tuesday 26 May
 - VET Building and Construction with Mr Henwood - continue remote learning.

Years 11-12 Students - return to College

Years 11 and 12 (VCE and VCAL) students return to the College as of Tuesday 26th May. Any Year 10 student studying a VCE subject is encouraged to come into the College for their timetabled VCE Class.

Daniel Andrews announced on Thursday night that the first VCAA exams will begin in the week commencing Monday 9th November, and all exams will be finished by Wednesday 2nd December. VCE and VCAL results as well as ATARS will be given to students before the end of the year. The date for the General Achievement Test (GAT) has also been confirmed as Wednesday 9th September.

As the students are about to return, it is timely for some advice for VCE students on how to get the most out of their studies so that they can achieve their best at the end of the year.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - TEACHING AND LEARNING

1. **Organise your time well:** If you have not yet drawn up a schedule for yourself, I recommend doing so. You should include the classes for the day and then what extra study you are going to do in the evening to prepare for SAC's, mid-year exams and the end of year exams. Don't forget to include breaks in your schedule for relaxing, time with your family and online catch-ups with your friends. These are all important parts of balancing your time.
2. **Prioritise the things that will make a difference:** Required work is the work set by your teacher or SAC's and SAC preparation. Non-required work is the review of class notes, practicing the areas you have difficulty with, general revision of content from previous topics in class, extra practice, practice exams and many other ways of studying. Those people who are extremely successful on their VCE exams are often those who prioritise the non-required work. Those who prioritise the required work, find that all their time is spent making sure they are up-to-date with their classwork and assignments. When the non-required work is prioritised, then students still end up completing the required work but have found time to do more study than many of their peers, which gives them an advantage.
3. **Communicate with your teachers:** Every teacher wants to be able to help their students achieve their best. It is important to send emails when you have difficulties, ask questions in class and generally keep in touch with us about how you are going. That way, we can more effectively help you.
4. **Keep aware of advice from your teachers about any changes to courses:** The VCE Study Designs have been altered for all Unit 4 subjects and so it is crucial that you follow instructions from your teachers rather than rely on what students say that they did in previous years. This year is different !

MID YEAR EXAMS

This year, mid year exams will only be occurring for VCE Unit 1 students. A timetable for these exams will be published in the next Newsletter.

Jodie Connell
Deputy Principal
Teaching and Learning



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - WELLBEING AND ORGANISATION

Tackling back-to-school anxiety

Returning to school after any long break can be an exciting time, but also an anxious one. In these unprecedented times students may feel more unsure than usual. Lots of teenagers will feel nervous in the build-up to their first day back. This is really common, but that doesn't make it any less stressful.

The teachers at Mary MacKillop College have been planning for the student's return and are aware that some students managed working remotely easily and others found it very challenging. Every student's learning matters to the teachers and we are eager to see the students and reassure them that they are safe and respected in the classroom and we can work through any challenges together.

Parents can partner with the College to make the transition back to school easier. Preparation is key to dealing with situations where there are lots of unknowns. The more things feel familiar and controlled, the more your teenager can relax and feel confident about what's happening.

Beyond Blue provides some helpful strategies and tips to make the transition back to school a positive experience. Here is a modified version of some below.

- The same benefits of setting a routine apply whether you're 5, 15 or 50. Encourage your teen to take responsibility for getting back into the swing of things the week before school starts, which unfortunately means an end to any late-night Xbox marathons and the beginning of 8 hours of sleep nightly.
- Help your young person set some realistic, achievable goals for returning to school. A steady, consistent approach will assist students to feel in control and focused.
- Talk through any issues or fears they might have - whether these are about friends, grades or teachers. Instead of focusing on hypothetical 'what ifs', try and steer them towards 'what is'... and what they can do to change the situation. Sometimes emailing that teacher who they need to catch up with before being back at school provides a positive return.
- We want our students to respect themselves because they are worth it! Presentation is part of this. Now is the time to hunt out the winter school uniform and leave the 'day pyjamas' at home! Prior to their first day, ask your teenager to gather all of their school equipment, prepare themselves some healthy snacks and set the alarm.

If you would like to find out more go to <https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/age-13>.

Meg Steenholdt
Acting Deputy Principal
Wellbeing and Organisation



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND MISSION

Laudato Si this Week

"The Spirit of life dwells in every living creature and calls us to enter into relationship with him" (Laudato Si', 88)

Francis' papal encyclical published five years ago offers us an opportunity to reflect on the world around us, and to respond to the signs of the times. We are called to reject the contemporary 'throwaway' culture and to open our eyes to see how God is present throughout creation. We bear witness to the reality facing many of our sisters and brothers across the world, who are being pushed deeper into poverty due to the changing climate.

Whilst climate change is critical, it is one symptom of a much deeper problem about how we organise our common home. Pope Francis invites us to a change of heart; individually, as a community, and at an international level, so we may truly respond to "both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor" \49. In what the Holy Father calls 'the Gospel of Creation', we are encouraged to bring the Good News of our faith to these situations. We are asked to adopt an attitude of profound respect and care towards ourselves, our neighbours and our beautiful sister earth, as an expression of our love for God. Laudato Si' is a profound invitation to everyone on the planet, and its influence will be felt for many years to come.

Inspired by this encyclical, members of the College Student Mission team met this week to discuss initiatives they can put in place to develop more efficient waste management strategies. We look forward to the development of these protocols. Further meetings will be take place in the coming weeks.



National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June

"... A reconciled Australia is one where our rights as First Australians are not just respected but championed in all the places that matter ..."

Kirstie Parker – Board Member, Reconciliation Australia

The College plans to celebrate the week in several ways.

1. The College has purchased the Torres Strait Islander flag
2. We will fly this flag, the indigenous flag and the National until the conclusion of the day on June 1st
3. The College will have a special Sorry Day liturgy on May 26 shared via google meet to students and staff
4. On Thursday, Years 11 and 12 students will celebrate a Reconciliation Week Liturgy during periods 3 and 4 on the College lawn.
5. Hands of solidarity planted in the lawn during these liturgies.
6. All liturgies will be filmed and share with the broader College community.
7. Special prayers relevant to Reconciliation will be posted on SIMON each day



John Ryan
Deputy Principal
Catholic Identity and
Mission



YEAR 12 CARE PACKAGES

With the announcement from the Andrew's Government that VCE students would resume face to face learning on May 26th, the Senior Team delivered care packages to Year 12's to help them through the last leg of their remote learning journey. During what has been a trying time for all our College families, our Year 12 students have certainly had their fair share of ups and downs during remote learning and we look forward to welcoming them back next week.





Enrolment Year 7 2021

Due by 31 May 2020



Please visit our website for:

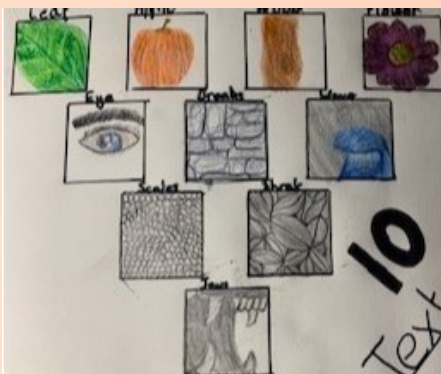
- Application for Enrolment Form
- DOSCEL Enrolment Handbook
- Prospectus—Enrolment Information Handbook
- Information Videos
- Enrolment and Privacy Policies
- Democratic Principles
- Standard Collection Notice

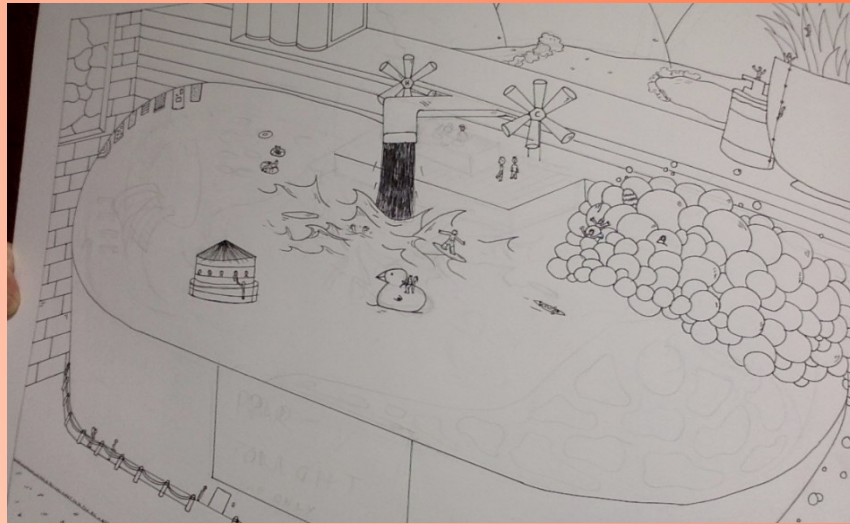
Any questions please contact the College Registrar:
Carly Kitchingman

Year 8 Art

Where's Wally?

Work is done in stages, 2 roughs, 10 textures, fine liner and coloured Pencil.





Year 10 Art



**Food
Sculptures**



ONLINE CHESS TOURNAMENT - LAUNCESTON 20TH MAY



The MMCRC Chess Team consisted of 5 Year 9 students - Andrew Martin, Jeffrin Mathew, Harrison Herbert, Will Davies and Ryan Ramsey.

The students were registered as a team by the College and were able to play online from their own homes. The new format of the game was timed, with players having 6 minutes each and a move gaining an additional 2 seconds. The online players could only see a computerised board with pieces. It is a very different game as opposed to sitting across from a person with a board on the table and a chess piece in your hand. The game is still tense, draining, pressurised, cut throat and exciting all at the same time.

The tournament ran two sections, a Primary and Secondary, with the event being based in Launceston, Tasmania. The Open Secondary Section had 11 schools, including Colleges from Perth, Melbourne and then us from little Leongatha.

Our 5 students have a great sense of encouragement and spirit which is wonderful to watch. Our team placed 6th overall.

Well done Andrew and Jeffrin for getting four wins and for taking a couple of those wins against players who had much higher ratings.

Thanks Harry for taking on team captain at the last moment and helping to organise team players. Will, is also encouraging and he took a couple of opponents down with a higher rating. Great to see Ryan, our newest Chess team member have a crack at the online chess world - love your enthusiasm.

Colleen Herbert

ARE YOU TOUGHER THAN YOUR ANCESTORS ?

Episode 10 - Milk Run - Starring Jeffrin Mathew and Harrison Herbert



Every night in 1942 fourteen year old Essendon Milkman Conway Tighe got up at midnight to harness his horse, Katie, to a loaded milk wagon and then run non-stop for 5 hours to deliver 400 litres of fresh milk to 300 households in time for breakfast. He never missed a delivery, not even at Christmas ! Can our modern kids match Conway's dedication and get the job done no matter what so their customers will have milk waiting on the doorstep in the morning.

NEW BUILDING

Roof Trusses have been installed on our new Senior School Building with the assistance of a crane from T & M Southern Cranes Pty Ltd.





Mary MacKillop CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE Parent Access Module

With the increased use of PAM at the College to provide you with important information, we ask you to advise the Office of any changes to your email address or personal details.

You are able to request assistance with PAM or update your details by sending an email to info@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au.

Please include the name of your child in the email.

**Mary MacKillop College
South Gippsland
5662 4255**



**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL
WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT
PRIOR TO 10:00AM BY:**



Phone



Flexibuzz



PAM by 8:45am



Email

attendance@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund payment arrangements

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card as at the 28th January 2020 are eligible to apply for a payment of \$225, which will be paid directly to the College to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs.

Application forms to be completed and lodged with schools. However, the school will be able to accept and process applications up until 26th June 2020.

Regular payment runs will occur throughout terms one and two.

Families wishing to apply for the payment should visit the CSEF website at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef and download an application form, complete and return to school by 26th June, or alternatively pickup an application form from the College office.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the College Office on 5662 4255.

PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

Due to Covid-19, and with Social Distancing rules in place, P & F Meetings will be suspended until further notice.

Keep watching the Newsletter and Facebook for further information regarding when the next P & F Meeting and AGM will be held.

BUS PASSES

A decision has been made to suspend the ability to issue new bus passes for irregular travel for the immediate future in response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. This is designed to minimise the mixing of students who normally wouldn't be in the same immediate vicinity.

We understand that there may be cases of absolute emergency where a student needs to travel to an alternative place of accommodation, and in these situations we will do our best to support these families. Please contact the College if this is required.

Bus passes for students who are getting off at a different stop on their normal bus will still be available.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS UNIFORM SHOP RE-OPENING

The College uniform shop is re-opening. It will be done under strict guidelines. It is by appointment only.

Parents must call the office on 03 5662 4255 to make an appointment. Appointments will be on Friday's (commencing on Friday 22nd May) between 12:50pm and 1:30pm, (10 minutes each). All visitors must enter via the office, sign a declaration, use hand sanitiser and observe social distancing.

New College Sports Jackets have arrived!



Jackets are now available! To assist families and reduce traffic in the uniform shop you are able to order the jacket by completing and returning the form below to the office.



NOTE: The boys pictured are both wearing size small

Student Name: _____ **Homeroom:** _____

I wish to purchase a College Sports Jacket for \$90.

Size: (please circle) **Kids:** 10, 12, 14 **Adults:** XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Parent Signature: _____

Please note payments made via Cheque or Credit Card will be processed within 7 days of receiving this form.

☐ Cash

☐ Cheque enclosed

☐ Payments by Credit Card

☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa

Amount Paid: **\$90.00**

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date _____ / _____

CVV: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

A receipt and jackets will be given to the student at school. Forms are to be dropped off at the office or they can be emailed to ckitchingman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au

OFFICE USE ONLY: Payment Processed Receipt No. _____ Date: _____