

*The Wisdom  
of the Lord Teaches us*

# Mary MacKillop College

## Newsletter

Term 2  
19 June 2020



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

*Mary MacKillop  
1874*

Newsletter on our website  
[www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/newsletter](http://www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/newsletter)  
also available on the College Parent Portal - PAM

### MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

#### *This Weeks Prayer*

*Dear Lord, please embrace your  
loving arms around my  
family and friends.*

*Keep them always protected,  
secured, loved  
and blessed. Amen.*

"We cannot close our eyes to any form of racism or exclusion, while pretending to defend the sacredness of every human life." Pope Francis.

The last few weeks in the United States have been distressing to witness. As they look to overcome the devastating death toll from the Coronavirus pandemic and the economic and social consequences that have followed, the footage of the death of George Floyd and the ensuing protests across the country have been confronting.

George Floyd's death and in particular the circumstances in which it happened, has mobilised many people and initiated much discussion and conversation in the mainstream media and on social media. In Australia we continue to face our own challenges around the treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. While it has the potential to divide people, there is also a striking opportunity to bring the issue of racism and exclusion into the public forum for education, discussion and reflection within safe environments. Schools are one such place where we have a unique opportunity to assist young people in the way they view the world.

Within our Catholic context, we have an unambiguous and hope-filled message to give to our young people in times like these. It comes from scripture and centuries of teaching that brings clarity to human dignity for all people, regardless of cultural or ethnic background. Scripture tells us specifically that we are all created in God's image.

A pertinent message, as this week the College has celebrated Refugee week.

I have had the pleasure over the last fortnight of spending a significant part of each day walking around the College and visiting classrooms. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff and students who allowed me to move around within the class, I was able to witness some fantastic learning and teaching in action. I encourage you, where possible to seek out an opportunity to discuss what transpires in your child's classroom across the course of their day.

This week we the College took ownership of some of the area surrounding our new building. Half of the landscaped area that sits between the library, the Junior school building and the new VCE building is now being occupied by students. This is a small milestone in the journey towards the provision of a contemporary learning space in 2021. I hope you take the opportunity to view the progress on our social media platforms.

I once again congratulate our school community for making term two 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.

Our enrolment process for 2021 is well underway, families who have submitted enrolment paperwork will soon receive acceptance letters from the College. Due to COVID 19 the enrolment interviews that usually happen in Term 3 will be delayed until later in the year. If anyone has any questions about enrolment, please contact Carly Kitchingman through the College Office.

I hope that all staff, students and families have a wonderful break at the end of next week and return refreshed and energised for Term 3.

**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

It was wonderful to see all our students and staff return to onsite learning last week. Even with appropriate social distancing in place and COVID-19 protocols highly visible across the school, you could see the happiness on people's faces as they were back amongst colleagues and friends.

I wish to acknowledge the enormous amount of work our staff have put in during the Remote Learning Program. The professionalism and work ethic displayed has been amazing. Our teachers have done an incredible job in changing their pedagogy in support of remote learning. Their focus was firmly on how to support the students in their classes. It was not only the teachers who helped Remote Learning to be such a success, but the many educational support staff, and school administration staff who went about their work with pride and generosity to ensure everything ran smoothly. Parents and guardians we also wish to thank you for your support and work throughout this period.

### Year 11 Exams - Handy tips for students

#### REVISION AND PREPARATION

- Make a list of the main topics/criteria/key knowledge for the unit of work for each of your subjects
- Prioritise the topics from weakest to strongest in relation to confidence and comprehension - then start from the weakest and work your way through revisiting and refreshing your knowledge of each topic Revision strategies
- Re-read over notes or text book
- Create cue cards, mind maps, posters etc,
- Complete Practice Questions - chapter review questions, workbook questions, relook at past assessments, topic tests etc.

#### WELLBEING

- Ensure you get plenty of sleep the night before your exam
- Ensure you have a healthy breakfast and/or lunch on the day of your exam
- Bring the appropriate materials - check with your subject teacher about what you can bring
- Be confident - use the exam as an opportunity to showcase your knowledge

#### READING TIME

- Use reading time productively - try and read the whole paper at least once
- Take note of the questions they feel most comfortable with and respond to those first
- Confirm which is the last page of question and answer booklet

#### INTERPRETING QUESTIONS

- Read the whole question at least twice to ensure they have interpreted it correctly
- Take note of how many marks are allocated to each question - this is usually an indication of how many pieces of information they are required to give
- Never leave a question unanswered - especially a multiple choice question
- Decode the question - use a highlighter to identify action words in the question to inform what length of detail your response requires - eg: explain, discuss, compare, describe, state, define, rank, list, identify, etc

To assist with social distancing students who do not have a schedules exam are not required at School. If parents are not able to provide supervision at home, or students are not able to get home, the College will provide a supervised study venue for any students at school without an Exam.

	<b>Tuesday 23rd June (Week Two)</b>	<b>Wednesday 24th June (Week Two)</b>	<b>Thursday 25th June (Week Two)</b>	<b>Friday 26th June (Week Two)</b>
<b>Exam Session 1 (Periods 1 &amp; 2)</b>	Normal Classes	<b>General Maths</b> <b>Maths Methods #1</b>	<b>Biology</b>	<b>Chemistry</b> <b>Legal Studies</b> <b>Visual Comm</b>
<b>Recess</b>	<b>Recess 10.45 am to 11.10am</b>			
<b>Exam Session 2 (Periods 3 &amp; 4)</b>	Normal Classes	<b>Health &amp; HD</b> <b>Psychics</b> <b>Economics</b>	<b>Business Manage</b> <b>Geography</b> <b>History</b> <b>Physical Education</b> <b>Vet Music</b>	<b>Psychology</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch 12.50pm to 1.35pm</b>			
<b>Exam Session 3 (Period 5 &amp; 6)</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Literature</b> <b>VET Sport &amp; Rec</b>	<b>Art</b> <b>Math Methods #2</b> <b>Theatre Studies</b>	<b>No Classes</b>

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - TEACHING AND LEARNING

### End of Semester Reports

Teachers are currently working on completing the end of Semester Summary Reports.

Due to the remote learning environment we were working in, in addition to their usual Homeroom Report only the following subjects will require a summative report in Years 7-8.

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education
- French
- Art/Technology **Term 1 only** (No Term 2 report due to Remote Learning)

Years 9-12 reports will remain as per usual as the students study semester long subjects. Please remember when reading your child's report that for many of the student's half of the semester was undertaken as remote learning and therefore your child's report and growth may look different from previous reports due to the impact of remote learning.

**Report for students in Years 7-9 will be available at 4pm on Monday 29 June.**

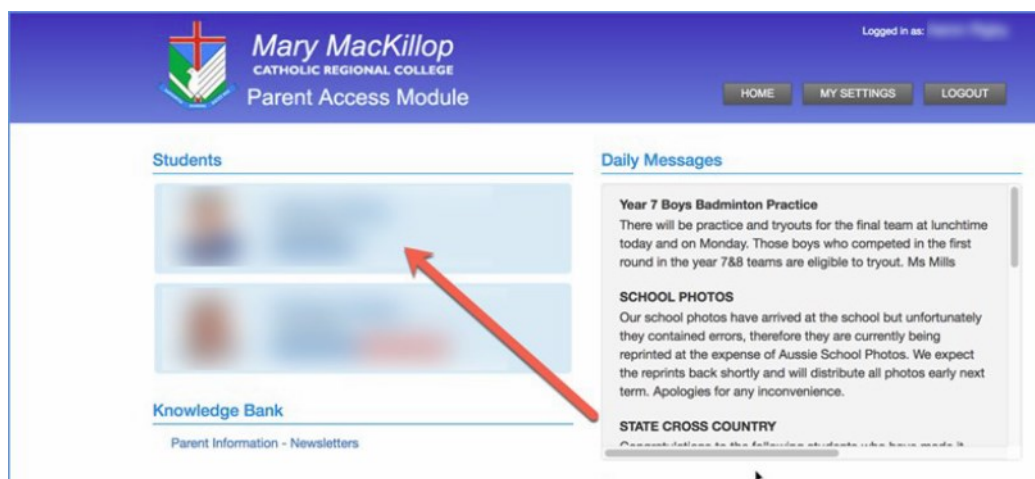
As the Year 11 Exams will be held in the last week of Term, and many Year 12 subjects also had School Assessed Coursework Tasks in the last week of Term, the **Year 10 and VCE reports will be finalised over the first week of Term 3 and will be made available to parents at 4pm on Monday 20 July.**

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's Homeroom Teacher or Classroom Teacher via email.

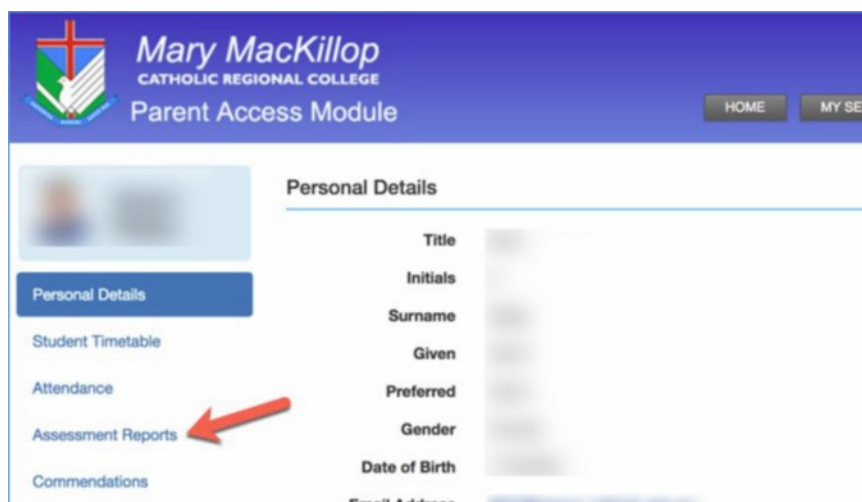
### Accessing Reports

Step 1 - Log into PAM

Step 2 - Click on any student



Step 3 - Click on any of the available report to download and view the report.



## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - TEACHING AND LEARNING

PAM (Parental Access Module) can be accessed via the following:  
[www.pam.mmrc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pam.mmrc.catholic.edu.au)

OR

[www.pam.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au](http://www.pam.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au)  
Or via the College Website

Parents can choose to either download a copy of the report and save it to the home computer or print a copy. If accessing these reports causes some difficulties then please contact the school to discuss options.

If you have misplaced or have forgotten your PAM Code please email the Office [info@mmrc.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@mmrc.catholic.edu.au).

### **Formative Assessment**

Providing Formative Assessment is one of the best ways for ways to help students learn. It is a process in which both teachers and students collect information from the assessment and use it collaboratively to plan for future academic success. It looks at what students have learned, haven't learned, and gives us an idea of 'where to from here'.

Researchers have found that good use of formative assessment strategies in class can add an extra 6 months growth in learning during a year of teaching. Therefore, it is an exceptionally powerful tool in promoting student achievement. However, Formative Assessment is only successful if students understand the outcome they're looking to achieve, the standard against which the work is assessed, and the ways in which they can improve.

Formative Assessment can happen both formally and informally (sometimes just via a classroom conversation!). This is why we refer to Formative Assessment as assessment for learning. Comparatively, Summative Assessment (assessment of learning) is how we measure outcomes against a set criteria at the end of a learning period. On the learning continuum, both Formative and Summative have their place as measures to understand the growth of each student.

As parents, there are a number of things you can do to help promote a Formative Assessment mindset at home.

1. Go to PAM regularly to see what assessment your child has undertaken.
2. Look at the feedback provided on PAM together with your child - what can your child make/say/write/do. What are they ready to learn next? What do they need to do to improve their work?
3. Refer to assessment instruction - have all components been completed?
4. Reach out to your child's teacher - communication between home and school is crucial in helping your child understand that you are a team.
5. Check in with your child whilst they are working and ask clarifying questions like 'what are you working on?' or 'tell me how you're going to find out the answer to this one!'.
6. Encourage your child to engage with self-assessment.

Year 12 Exam timetabled has been released please refer to:

<https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/administration/Key-dates/Pages/VCE-exam-timetable.aspx>

I hope everyone enjoys the holidays and has a well deserved break. We look forward to seeing everyone back at the College on Tuesday 14th July.

**Jodie Connell**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**Teaching and Learning**



### THANKYOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT TERM 2

As we conclude the unprecedented experience that has been Term 2 - 2020, I would like to share with you the Wellbeing focus for Term 3. We are encouraging the students to consider the positive behaviours that contribute to making respectful and safe classroom environments. And we invite you to partner with us as we explore the behaviours surrounding respectful relationships.

The most influential people in a teenager's life are the adults around them, even though sometimes it seems they listen to everyone but us parents! As teenagers they are still learning, which means they always say or act in positive ways that build respectful relationships. Therefore, the single most important thing we can do is to be positive role models, by having respectful relationships with the friends and family that we, as adults, care about.

As we partner together and begin thinking about how to build students' capacity for building respectful relationships we may wish to reflect on the principles outlined below and think about how they can be applied in our own relationships - with other adults, and with your child.

#### Communication

It is never assumed that others know what we are feeling or thinking, or that we know what is in their head. The only effective way to know and to be understood is to ask questions, share calmly, and talk openly.

#### Consent

Anything that occurs in friendships, and with other interactions at school always happens with the active agreement of the people involved.

#### Recognising

The effects of our behaviours and actions. Does it encourage the other person and build their sense of self in a positive way? Or will it cause someone to be hurt, or create conflict.

#### Respect

We are always respectful of each others feelings and choices. If we're not sure how someone feels, we ask, we don't assume.

#### How to talk to your teenager about respectful relationships

##### Encourage conversations about feelings, friendships and family relationships

This will help them understand and look for important qualities in relationships.

##### Practice active listening

Listen to what your teenager says and ask the open questions - (What, how, why, where, when or who?) Repeat back some of what you have heard or what you think they mean, to check you understand.

##### If they want your opinion

Tell them how you see the situation and ask them if they can think of ways to address the issue in a way that is respectful and ensures their own safety and the safety of others.

##### Build their self-efficiency

Encourage them to be clear about what they need for their own safety and ensure they build self-efficacy in knowing how to respect themselves and others.

Interested to know more ? Go to <https://au.reachout.com/>

**Meg Steenholdt**  
Acting Deputy Principal  
Wellbeing and Organisation





## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

### CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND MISSION

In 1986 I was lucky enough to be chosen to assist with the security and welfare of St John Paul II, then the Pope of the Catholic Church. His security was vital as five years previous there was an attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, which took place on Wednesday, 13 May 1981, in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. The Pope was shot and wounded by Mehmet Ali Ağca, while he was entering the square.

He spoke at many venues during his papal visit of Australia and on this occasion, he spoke to young Catholic educators at the Melbourne Entertainment Centre now owned by Collingwood Football Club in the heart of Melbourne. Luckily there were no security issues on November 28, 1986. His words were far more important and still apply for our staff today. Here is part of what he said.

*"I welcome you into that chosen group called by the Church to educating young Catholics in the faith. In a very special way, you share in the Church's mission of proclaiming the good news of salvation. Not all of you may be teaching catechetics, but if you are on the staff of a Catholic school, it is expected, and it is of the utmost importance, that you should support the whole of the Church's teaching and bear witness to it in your daily lives ... Certainly your work demands professionalism, but it also demands something more. Your professionalism as teachers involves tasks that are linked to your Baptism and to your own commitment in faith ... No matter what subject you teach, it is part of your responsibility to lead your pupils more fully into the mystery of Christ and the living tradition of the Church ..."*

We use this quote in every contract we enter into with staff committing to teach in a Catholic College. This week we can easily reflect John Paul's words. It is **Refugee week**. Last Sunday was feast of Corpus Christi. On this day we remember our call to be eucharistic. Please take time to engage in the stories attached to the College Prayer each day. Discuss the importance of the Christian invitation to those who are vulnerable, remembering Jesus and his family were refugees. Let us look for those on staff, students in our classes seeking refuge love and support.

*Dear Lord,*

*Make us people who love and stand up for the most vulnerable. and invite them to our table. Transform our hearts that we may remember to always pray, seeking your wisdom and grace.*

*Through Christ our Lord,*

*Amen*



John Ryan  
Deputy Principal  
Catholic Identity and  
Mission







Our first day back started with a whole school assembly .... remote style ! Live streaming to all our classrooms !



### A report from Zara Borg - Year 7

I've been doing Athletics and Cross Country since I was roughly 8-9 years old and love it so much !

I used to compete for my Primary School but now have moved to Secondary School and haven't got to start this season due to Covid 19 !

I started training in Grade 3 running with my School Teacher and my Mum.

Last year I competed in hurdles at Region and came 2nd in my heat and around 4th overall.

I then competed in another event the relay which we placed 1st and went on to State !

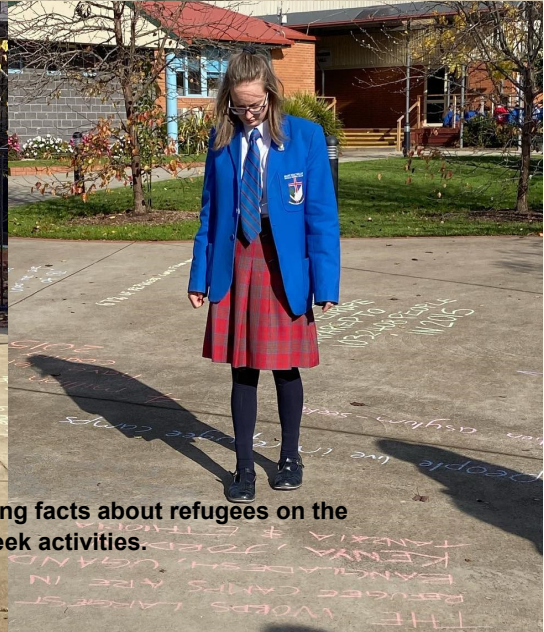
I'm the small one by the way haha.

**ALMOST READY FOR THE ROOF !!**

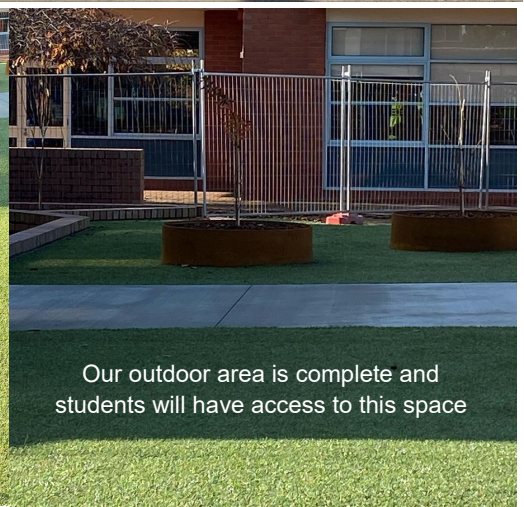




It's estimated that 50%  
of refugees are  
under the age  
of 18!



Some of our Year 12 students and leaders have written some very interesting facts about refugees on the concrete for everyone to read as part of their Refugee Week activities.



Our outdoor area is complete and students will have access to this space







# 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](mailto:info@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au)**.

Please include the name of your child in the email.

### 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](http://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.

### IMPORTANT DATES

23 June	Tournament of Minds Training & Workshop
23-26 June	Year 11 Exams
26 June	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM 2 school finishes at 2.05pm</b>
13 July	<b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
14 July	<b>TERM 3 commences</b>
15 July	Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisations
21 August	<b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
12-13 Sep	Tournament of Minds - Judging

### 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 and 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](mailto:ckitchingman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au)

**OFFICE USE ONLY:** Payment Processed Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_