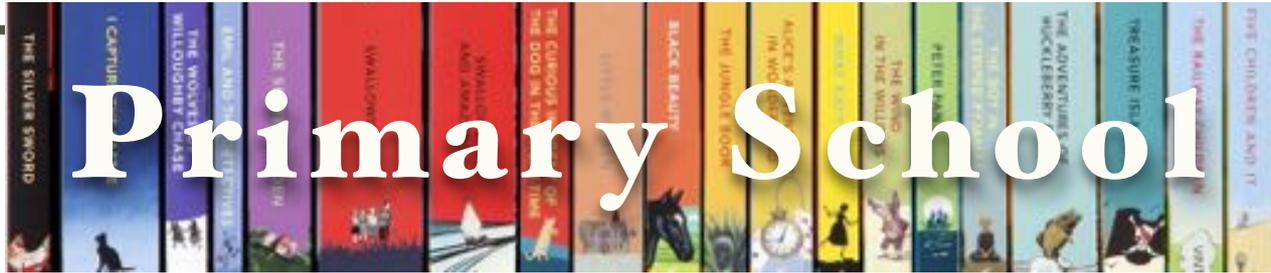


# NEWSLETTER



## From the Primary Principal

Dear Parents and Members of the School Community,

It has been a wonderful start to term 3.

Some of our students have just sat the final two University of NSW ICAS exams which were English and Mathematics. I am pleased to say that we had quite a good uptake of the exams this year in the primary school. Next year, I would love to see even more students participating in these exams. These exams have two main benefits. The first is that they give students valuable exam practice. The second, more important benefit, is that they provide students the opportunity to test him/herself against a broader population of students from all over Australia. Congratulations to those students who participated in the exams this year.

On Wednesday, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption. The Catholic Church teaches that we must attend Mass on this day and rest from servile labour. The school has always taken the guidance of the Church on Holy days of Obligation very seriously. This is why we close the school on this day. We see it as very important for students' understanding of the Faith

that they fully live the liturgical calendar. The Assumption is a very special feast day and devotion to Our Lady is invaluable to us. Saint Hilary says the following regarding devotion to Mary. "No matter how sinful one may have been, if he has true devotion to Mary, it is impossible that he be lost." Saint Alphonsus explains that "Mary is our mother and what mother would not do everything to save her son." Sometimes in the trials of life, things may seem to be too hard. May we all have true devotion to Mary, that we may attain eternal salvation.

The remainder of the term is very busy with great events such as the KPF, the fundraising gala dinner, the MacKillop Cup, 24hours Adoration and the Year 12 Graduation. I encourage you to support the school in all of these events and help us to continue to build our wonderful community. I wish you all a very happy weekend. As always, you are in my prayers. Please keep the school in yours.

God bless,  
John Burton  
*Primary Principal*



## Term 3 2018 Upcoming Dates

- **27th-31st August-** Book Week Activities
- **30th August -** Book Week Cake Stall Fundraiser. Selling homemade cakes and muffins!
- **30th August -** Key Parent Function
- **31st Aug -** Father's Day Raffle Drawn
- **Sep 5th-**The Annual 'MacKillop Cup' Details coming soon.
- **September 8th- GALA DINNER.** This is an important fundraiser, so please encourage friends and supporters of our school who would enjoy a special evening. See Flyer.
- **14th September-** Grandparents & Senior Friends Day
- **20th September-**Footy Colours Day
- **21st September -** Retreat Day for all of High school.
- **21st-22 September:** 24hr Adoration
- **26th August:** Principal's Morning Tea
- **27th September:** Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

## AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

**Foundation** - In Mathematics, the students have been honing their subtraction skills and becoming familiar with number lines. They are creating more detailed texts in writing and are practising an increasing number of digraphs.

**Year 1** - Enjoying the study of Mem Fox books. In Mathematics, the students have examined pan balance scales and subtraction strategies.

**Year 2** - Beginning preparation for Holy Communion, enjoying times tables challenge & creating procedures and masks (see below).

**Year 3** - Exploring the theology of the Mass, and examining the use figurative language in the "Wind in the Willows"

**Year 4** -Studying the 10 commandments in Religion and examining the moral themes and literary device in "A Little Princess."

**Year 5/6** - Reading and writing ballads in the poetry unit and constructing and interpreting timelines and timetables in Mathematics.

## **R.A.S. ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Over the past few years, many editions of our newsletters have mentioned RAS Competitions. So, what exactly is RAS and why is it a significant part of our School's calendar year? RAS Athletics Carnival (Riverina Association of Schools) is an annual event and is one of three inter-school sport competitions (Swimming, Cross Country & Athletics) for Independent Schools of the Riverina. Students from our school are selected to attend based upon their results at or swimming lessons, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals. Being selected to attend these events is an honour because it allows students to represent SMMC. Any Student who places in the top section at these events then qualifies to attend CIS (Combined Independent Schools) where they represent the Riverina against other independent schools from NSW. If a student places in the top section at CIS



competition, they qualify for the CIS team which versus teams from Catholic and Public Schools. If successful at this level, a student progresses to the state team. Over the past few years, many of our students have qualified to attend CIS Athletics in Sydney (trials for CIS Team). Our students attend and represent the school with pride at these events.

The Final RAS event for the year was held in Albury, last Tuesday, with 27 students attending. The day was bitterly cold, damp and windy. We had a number of successes in both track and field events. As expected, each student represented the school well. Congratulations to all students who attended this event. Our gratitude is owed to the parent volunteers for the day.

In Term 1, 2019, we will be selecting students from our own Athletics Day to be part of the RAS team. By selecting early, these students can better train for RAS Carnivals in advance and improve our overall results at future events.



### **Masks & Procedures**

Anyone walking past the Year 2 Classroom recently may have noticed some unfamiliar faces. These animal faces are a result of a classroom activity requiring student to create a procedure on making a mask. The students were then required to make the mask by following only what

the procedure said. The lesson was a wonderful way to discover the importance of specific details in procedures while also making some masks!



### **To a Friend - Religion Yr 5/6**

Students were asked to respond to a letter asking about some aspect of the Faith. In their response they were to give some explanation and encouragement to seek further answers from a reliable source. Nidhin received a postcard from Paris, where his 'friend' is surprised at the attitude that faith is invisible and therefore it is normal that people shouldn't wear religious signs or objects.

Nidhin gave the best response.



Dear Friend,

I hope you have a good time in Paris and I'm looking forward to your painting. You mentioned a problem and I think you should say to your friend that if we can't see visible Catholics, how will we know the witness that proves the life of Jesus Christ? Priests, nuns and sisters wear special clothing to show their gratitude and love for God. It shows us that they give their life to God. Without these physical signs, witnesses that point to Jesus Christ will fade away. If you need more information I recommend you visit your nearest priest, or have a read of the Bible.

Kind regards,  
your friend Nidhin

# Secondary School

## Coordinator's Column

Dear Parents,

I hope the term has begun well for you and your families.

Term Three brings with it some exciting opportunities for our secondary students.

Our boys will have the opportunity to take part in a one-day course run by Fr Murphy entitled Wild Hearts on September 21st. On the same day, Anna Krohn from the John Paul II Institute will run a one-day course for the secondary girls, aimed, as with Fr Murphy's course, at educating students in virtue. Both these courses should be a fantastic opportunities for our secondary students, and support the work that families and the school do in forming the characters of our young people.

This term also marks the last few weeks for our year twelve cohort. They have just completed their trial exams, and are busily putting the finishing touches on their preparation for their HSC exams. Please keep these young men in your prayers as they prepare for the next stage of their lives.

On the interschool front, staff and students have been busily preparing for the Mackillop Cup, to be held at our school on September 5. St Mary Mackillop College Jindera will travel to Wagga for a day of sporting and cultural competitions and fellowship. Any parents who would like to come along on the day to help out or just to watch are most welcome.

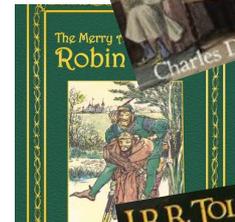
Lastly, please keep our inaugural Fundraising Gala Dinner in your prayers. It is very much open to those parents who might like to spend a lovely evening dining, socialising and dancing in support of our school.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any school-related matters on your mind.

God bless,

Steve Vieira.

*Secondary Coordinator*



Check out the Notice Board for this year's Book Week competitions - Find Your Treasure!

## URGENT: Please keep Your USED Stamps for Us!

We, the Year 7 students, are collecting Used Stamps to send to My John Atham, who prepares them for auction in Sydney. He is a helper of Mary MacKillop International (now called Mary MacKillop Today) and the money goes to help people in poorer countries.

They need to have a decent margin around them (about 1-2cms) and Year 7 will empty the containers from the classrooms every Friday. Older stamps are worth



more. Please ask your grandparents to keep their stamps too.

## 'Mary MacKillop Today' - Where They Work

This charity works with communities across Australia and internationally, in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea and Fiji, empowering people to address the poverty and injustice they face. We focus on countries where the Sisters of Saint Joseph have left the legacy of St Mary.

## What They Do

In Peru they help organise the selling of the traditional knitted garments the local women make to support their families. They also help children and adults with disability have access to health services. In East Timore they have a bus that is a Mobile Learning Centre will give the poorest and most neglected children the opportunity to access books and education, and they teach hygiene and healthy

## FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS

Once again we remembered the heroic Australian Sister who in our first canonised Saint. The children revised their knowledge of her, and to mark the day the Sisters organised a few fun activities at break. Classes had quizzes and games, and the whole school participated in a beautiful Mass.

### Hymn to St Mary of the Cross

by Sr M Augustine

Unto you, our nation's honour  
Truest daughter, dearest saint,  
Hopeful hearts we raise today,  
Tho' love be cold and faith be faint.  
Selfless woman, pure and simple,  
Soul uncowed by pain or loss,  
Share with us your dauntless spirit;  
Keep us there beneath the Cross.

Through long days of toil and striving  
Through long years of rending care,  
Caught in snares of lies and slander  
It was your abiding care  
That God's Will be ever cherished,  
Loved and lived with all your might;  
That His Church be ever honoured -  
All Her truth, Her every right.

Brave defender of your children;  
Loving mother to them all.  
Open-hearted and forgiving,



Special friend to those who fall.  
Look upon our ailing country;  
See its wounds so deep, so dire.  
By your loving intercession  
Draw us nearer to the Fire.

To the Father, Son and Spirit  
Fount of sanctity and love,  
Give we honour now and ever  
With the saints who reign above.  
There in deepest adoration  
Our own saint rejoices too.  
May we follow her example  
And be humble, kind and true.

## CREATING POEMS - YEAR 7 ENGLISH

Poetry is important for literacy and affective development. SMMC has a strong culture of poetry from K - 12; here are some creative beginner pieces:

### Loneliness

by Adrianna de Castro

Loneliness skulks in, unnoticed,  
Harmless he seems.  
Yet his motives are over shadowed in fog,  
And his plans, unclear.

His home is isolated and secluded.  
The air is acid,  
And the ground is covered in shards of  
glass.  
There, he shackles you solitary.

He whispers to you that you are forgot-  
ten,  
Draining you of all your happiness.  
Pretending to be your friend,  
But his true intent is to drive you insane.

### Wulf

by Viktoria Kabulugan

I see you when you look up the moun-  
tains,  
You look down upon me, as a king from  
his throne.

Blue glares pierce my heart like a sword.  
A shadow through the forest, a rustle of  
the shrub.  
You pull me from my slumber through  
the night,  
to watch you, observe you.

Midnight comes, you bellow,  
While facing towards the shining globe  
in the stars- a howl.  
You prowl through the fields,  
Guided by the man in the moon.

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## Help us WIN \$150!

The school with the most entries per capita wins! Enter the Wagga Show by the 24th August.

### 154TH WAGGA WAGGA SHOW

FRIDAY 7TH AND SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER