



## Newsletter - Term 1, Week 3 February 2015



**Laurretta Graham**  
Principal

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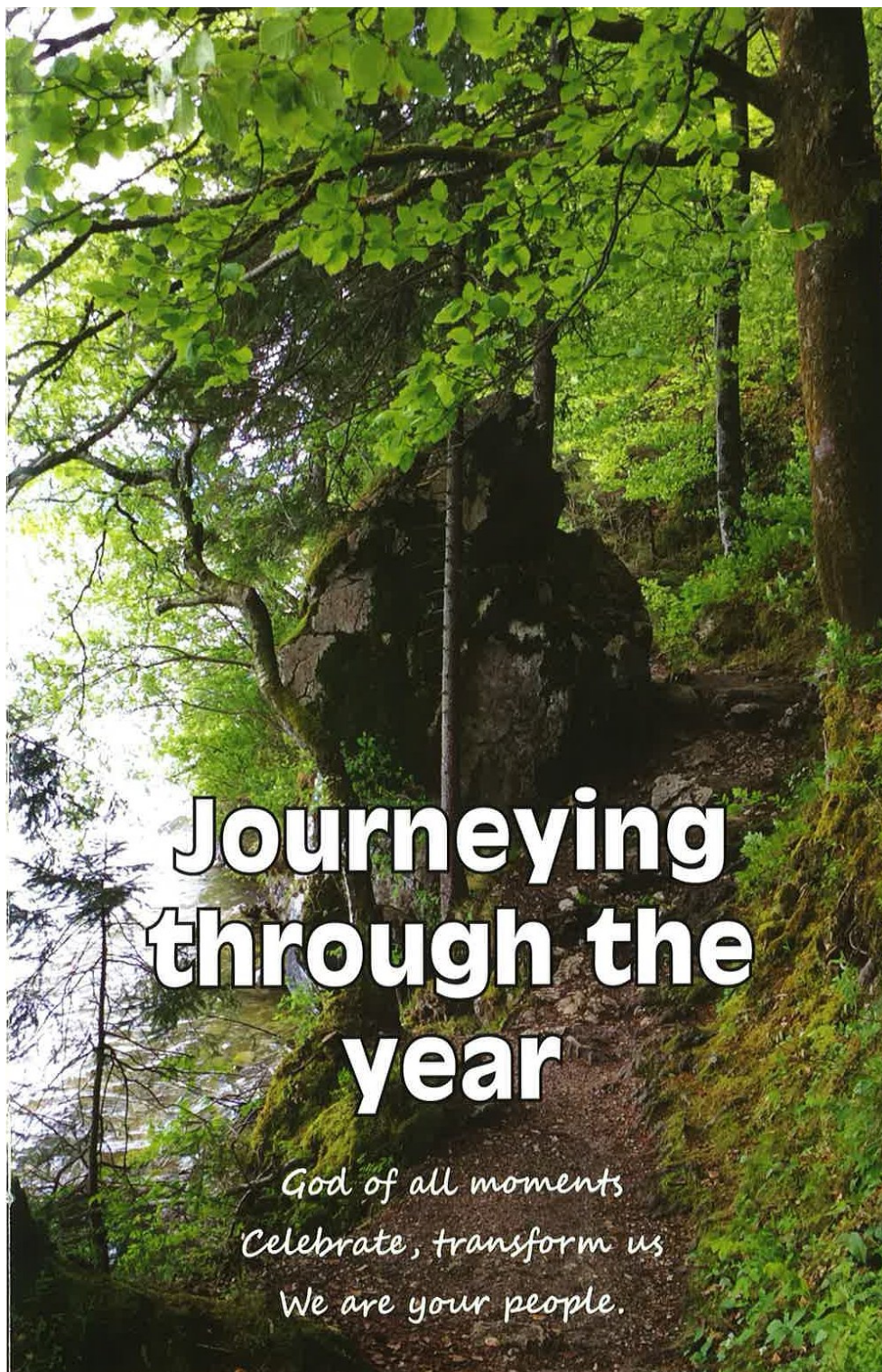
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**"Never see a need without  
trying  
to do something about it"**

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## Welcome back to MacKillop Catholic College for 2015



**"May your journey always be filled with blessings, and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service"**



## From the Principal's Desk



Dear Members of MacKillop College Community,

"They are so happy and they love coming to school" and "our seniors are so enthusiastic to do well". Overwhelmingly, these have been the words from parents this week. Keep up the good work and stay focused year 12's!

**Welcome to 2015**, a new year at MacKillop which, no doubt, will have a surprise or two to reveal to us; we can but hope that any surprises will be happy ones. To all families and to our wonderful College community we offer the warmest of welcomes. We hope that any smouldering embers of regret about the passing of the holiday period will soon be extinguished by the renewing of old friendships and the making of new ones.

We hope that throughout the year, our college will be a place where staff, students and families have opportunities to experience God's presence in our lives. Although he lived about two and a half thousand years ago, the prophet, Jeremiah, has words that are still relevant for us at the beginning of this new school year: ***"The Lord says, I know the plans I have for you ..... Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*** Jeremiah 29:11.

This year is particularly exciting as it is the year we graduate our first Year 12 students. This is a very important time for our new College and for these students. They are certainly excited by the challenges ahead and they appreciate their responsibility as the leading cohort. We are honoured by the trust which leads parents to send their children to MacKillop. I have no doubt that all members of the college staff have the professional capacity and determination to respond to this honour by providing generous, able and carefully considered service aimed at securing the greatest possible development to the young people who have been entrusted to them.

As we commence the New Year, let us reflect on the words of Pope Benedict XVI: "The greatest expression of freedom is not the search for pleasure. The greatest expression of freedom is the search and fulfilment of authentic love; to be respected, listened to, cared for, nurtured, and to be committed to someone or something outside of ourselves". Sounds like the type of young people we are working to graduate. Once again, congratulations to all our continuing staff, on a successful 2014. Thank you, to our new staff and families for stepping into MacKillop, welcome and God bless.

We all know that children receive the best education when parents and teachers work as a team. Parents' enthusiasm, support and involvement are integral to the success of our college as are the skills, dedication and professionalism of teachers. Together, staff and parents can provide educational excellence for every student, so that they can achieve their personal best. Together, we can support one another to provide a friendly academic environment and, when appropriate, celebrate our achievements.

And, in the words of Pope Francis: "Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: He is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do."

*"God, our Father, we ask that Your Spirit be a constant influence in the lives of all who make up our College community, during 2015. Help our students to be discerning, so that the outcomes of their choices will be in accord with Christian values. Amen."*

May God bless us all with growth and happiness this year.

**Lauretta Graham – Principal**

**You are invited to two upcoming events**

**Our College Opening Mass**

**Wednesday 11th February 2015**

**To commence 9am**

**Mini Night**

**Thursday 12th February 2015**

**6.30pm-8.30pm**

Our College is a community and belongs to all of us. I encourage parents to attend all information evenings in the coming weeks; as these relationships and connections go a long way towards building a successful year for everyone involved. May we all build community by extending a welcoming hand of friendship and support to everyone we meet making our new families transition into our College as effortless as it can be. As a community we all have a part to play.

*In the mid-1800's, when engineers began work on a suspension bridge across Niagara Falls, the first problem they encountered was how to get the huge iron cables across the soaring chasm. After studying and rejecting countless ideas, they came upon the solution: **A kite.***

*Engineers attached a slender thread to a paper kite flown by a ten year old (who had proven himself a master at kite flying) and flew it across the falls to the opposite shore. Once the thread was fastened to a tree, workers used the thread to draw across a string, and then a rope – finally the immense steel cable that was the beginning of the new bridge.*

We may only be thread, but perhaps we can soar to heights others cannot; we may be cable weighted to earth, but we can support others on their journeys across life's treacherous divides. We are called together to be a community to build God's kingdom together; to use our individual gifts to work for whatever time we have, employing whatever skills and resources we have been given. To be the best we can.

**Thank you**  
**Lauretta Graham**

**College Photos**  
**Thursday 26th February 2015**  
**Envelopes will be sent out soon**

**We Welcome our New Staff to the MacKillop Catholic  
College Community**



**Dale Gleeson  
Deputy Principal  
Pastoral Care**



**Catherine Jolley  
Religious Education**



**Sara Gagliardo  
Year 7.3 Homeform  
Teacher; English & SOSE**



**Welcome to New Staff continued..**



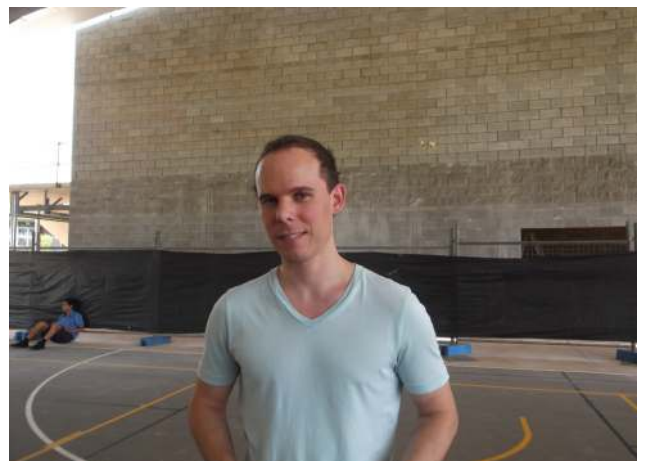
**Tim Francis  
Year 10 Coordinator**



**Tammy Woodward  
Year 9.3 Homeform Teacher**



**Graham Williams  
Year 11 Coordinator**



**Brook George  
Year 9.1 Homeform Teacher**



**Matthew Kleidon  
Year 9 Coordinator**



**Robyn Wright  
Year 9;2 Homeform Teacher**

**Welcome to New Staff continued..**



**Natalie Hafsteins  
Performing Arts**



**Aroi Terupo  
Support Officer**



**Mark Wilson  
Year 11 Homeform**



**Bev Garside  
Art**



**Michelle Rafferty  
Classroom Support**



**Imelda Indrawati  
Indonesian & Music**



**Welcome to New Staff continued..**



**Sara Teoh**  
**Year 9.5 Homeform Teacher**



**Stephen Thornton**  
**Pre-Service Teacher**



**Michael Kingston**  
**Pre-Service Teacher**



**Caitlyn Arnold**  
**Science Laboratory Technician**

**Save the Date**

**Year 7 Family Welcome Dinner - Wednesday 25th February 2015**

From the Sports Department

# What's coming up with sport in term



Brodie McCutcheon  
Sports Coordinator

## **PARCS INTERSCHOOL SPORTS EVENTS**

**Indoor Cricket- Week 5 Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Feb  
(Mr Plumber)**

**Hockey-Week 5 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February  
(Mr Dimmick)**

**Netball- Week 7 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March  
(Mrs Boyd)**

**Australian Rules Football- Week 8 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>  
March (Mr Francis)**

**Rugby League-Week 9 Friday  
27<sup>th</sup> March (Mr Graham)**



**Basketball- Week 10  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April (Mrs Boyd)**  
Please see Mrs Boyd for more  
Information