



**Newsletter - Wednesday 21st March, 2012**

**MacKillop Catholic College**

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

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**Dear Members of MacKillop Catholic College Community**

**The Cross – One View of Spirituality.** We constantly try to be good parents, teachers and leaders and give our children or the children in our care, all they need to develop into well-rounded and successful adults and effective citizens. We may however be missing the very core of our children’s being: their spirituality. The scientist Thomas Edison, once said, “the greatest discoveries will be along spiritual lines. This is the field where miracles are going to happen. Spiritual power is the greatest underdeveloped power and has the greatest future”. In this time of Lent and the preparation for Easter, when we take time to review and renew our lives and practices consider this view of spirituality through the imagery of the Cross:



- The Cross is a symbol of love and a reminder that in all things lead with your heart.
- The upright beam signifies your relationship with God.
- The cross beam signifies your relationship with others and the demands of life.
- Working out the balance between these two dimensions is not easy but it is critical.
- If there is a slender upright then the crossbeam must be proportionately slender.
- If you gradually increase the weight of the crossbeam – carrying a heavier and heavier load on a weak upright of prayer and relationship with God – the cross might hold it for a while, but eventually it will buckle against the strain and fall. Basically you burn out.
- Make the upright of your cross strong and solid – prayer will do this and striving to live the way of Jesus is essential. Once this has been achieved, then you can support a heavier crossbeam. It will be God carrying the load, not you.

Throughout Lent, what actions can we take to nurture our own spirituality and that of our children? My hope for our Community is that when we see our Cross we remember the importance of prayer and reflection in our lives and as parents & teachers be people who lead with our heart.

Blessings to you. *Lauretta Graham, Principal*

**STUDENT VACANCIES — ENROL NOW!**

Enrolments are currently being taken for  
Years 7—9, in 2012 & Years 7—10, in 2013

**Sunday Mass Times for:**

- Our Lady Help of Christians Palmerston** - Sat 6pm; Sun 8:30pm & 6pm.
- St Francis of Assisi** – Sun 9:30am & 6:00pm
- St Barbara's Batchelor** — Every 2nd Sunday 8:00am

## Moving to our New Campus



Finally our big move is on the close horizon.

Over the next few weeks we will prepare to move into our new College. The following serves as a 1st Draft timetable for the end of this term:

**Monday 2nd April**—First Day at our New College, Orientation and Tours, and Swimming Carnival from 12 noon onwards.

**Tuesday 3rd April**— College Orientation, Holy Week Liturgy and visit to the Cathedral and Museum.

**Wednesday 4th April & Thursday 5th April** - The start of the Easter Holidays for students. Final set up of classrooms and work areas. If you prefer your son/daughter to attend school on Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th March please notify us on 0408194775 or by email:

[lauretta.graham@nt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lauretta.graham@nt.catholic.edu.au)

To acknowledge the difficulty experienced by both staff and students over the past weeks our Catholic Education Office Director Mr Michael Avery has granted the staff and students at MacKillop an additional two days holiday break attached to the Easter Vacation. However, we acknowledge that for some families this may cause additional hardship and we will accommodate students on both Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th if parents need this. Some staff will be setting up the classrooms for the new term during this time. Those students who need to attend school are most welcome to help with this set up of classrooms & activity areas. Some students have already expressed an interest to do this. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

### Official College Telephone Numbers:

The following are the official College numbers: Mobile 0408194775 and Phone: 0889305757

**Parents, please do not use other private numbers when contacting MacKillop College.**



### Instrumental Music Department

### Term 2 Applications for Instrumental Music close shortly.

Forms are available from the College Office or email: David Graham on: [david.graham@nt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:david.graham@nt.catholic.edu.au)



**Lauretta Graham**  
Principal

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## Supercharge your memory

All brain functions are made up of a group of neighbouring neurons (nerve cells) that fire together – these are called patterns.

A memory is a pathway of neurons that have been strengthened long after the original “firing”.

A memory is formed when a pattern of firing along a pathway is repeated often. Each time these neurons fire together in a pathway, the path-

way is **supercharged** and so is your ability to use it again.

To keep a memory pattern firing and to supercharge it for long-term memory, the pattern must be used regularly – in fact, research shows the pattern needs to be used firstly within 10 minutes of learning, used again after one day, used again after one week and then used again after one month.

Sleep is also important, to ensure these neural patterns are strengthened and maintained as memories.

**SO—** Why do we give homework? Why do we revise work in the weeks after learning it? Why do we need to complete tasks a month after starting a new learning – to develop **SUPERCHARGED LONG TERM memory pathways!**

## Information Technology Elective

Current topic– Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

Our ICT students investigating the artificial intelligence capabilities of the Line Tracer.



Mrs Vanaja Arakkal  
ICT Coordinator



## Mandatory requirements and reminders regarding student laptops

This is a **school** laptop with minimal contribution from parents.

Laptop Hire is the same as a text book hire scheme.

**No decorations or stickers on the laptop, thank you.**

Safety & care of the laptop is your responsibility at the University and at the College.

**The laptop, accessories and the bag should be kept neat and tidy.**

Be careful when you put the battery pack in the bag, fit it correctly to close the bag.

When you place the laptop in the bag keep the battery side towards the zip.

If purchasing another bag, return the original bag to the College or keep it safe at home ready for return at the end of the year.

Mrs Arakkal

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## PARCS RUGBY LEAGUE

FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL

PALMERSTON RAIDERS, ARCHER FIELDS

Students are reminded to bring Navy blue football socks, mouth guards, headgear, water bottles and lunch. Parental support very welcome! Kick off 9:30am.



### Project Compassion

During Lent, Project Compassion is one way of reaching out to many people who have as their daily realities: distress; hardship; persecution; famine and violence. Through our contribution to Project Compassion

we can bring dignity and hope to those who are suffering in our world. Project Compassion gives us the opportunity to bring new life to all those who suffer and struggle.

### Socks, Shorts, House Shirts & Hats...

Socks, Shorts & Hats are on sale from the MacKillop Office counter at CDU. Parents will be informed as soon as other uniform items arrive. Uniform shop open times will be advertised when these items arrive.

**Uniform Expectations...**Parents, please check that students are meeting the correct uniform expectations. Unfortunately, unacceptable jewellery, socks, and students with no hats are becoming a common occurrence.

## Staff Profile Introducing Erin Mc Cann



Educated in Darwin and then at the Conservatorium in Brisbane. After Yr 12, Erin was granted a NT Government Scholarship for graduating in the Top 20, in the NT. In Brisbane, Erin graduated with – B Mus(Hons), LMUSA, M.AUSTAT, GDTL.. Miss McCann

starting learning piano at the age of 5 yrs and violin at 7yrs. Erin has played with: Darwin youth Orchestra; Darwin Symphony Orchestra; University Chamber Ensemble; and The Australian Youth Orchestra. Recently, Erin has been conducting Professional Development for teachers in the Darwin area in the Alexander Technique. We are proud of our Miss McCann. Congratulations on being a high achiever and much loved teacher.

**SchoolCare Accident Helpline:** MacKillop Catholic College has SchoolCare Accident Insurance for all children for accidental injury 24hours per day.



### Volunteers Wanted

Presently we are seeking volunteers to cover books. Please contact:

Raelene Whiting on: [raelene.whiting@nt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:raelene.whiting@nt.catholic.edu.au)

*ALL HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED!!!*

## News from Around the MacKillop Campus



### You're Invited

#### Parent /Teacher /Student Interviews

To discuss your son/daughter's progress.

When: Tuesday 24th March

Time: 3pm to 6:50pm

Where: CDU—Palmerston

Letter and timetables to follow, shortly.

### Date Claimer !!!!

#### Official Blessing & Opening of MacKillop Catholic College

Date: 22nd May, 2012

Time: 9am Mass & Evening Social

Please place this important date in your diaries.

### Lead with Courage



### PARCS



#### Term 1

Thurs 22nd March—NT Rugby

Netball fixtures

Swimming Carnival—2nd April

12noon to 3pm

#### Term 2

Thurs 14th June—Cross Country

#### Term 3

Athletics

#### Term 4

Swimming