



**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,

As we come to the end a very busy Semester, it's timely to say a sincere thank you for your support and contribution to our College. Your involvement in our school is of paramount importance. We manoeuvre through these times of rapid change and growth and increasing demands more easily with the help of our wonderful parent body. A perfect example of this support was the number of people supporting the V8 Supercar clean-up.

We spend most of our life planning. From an early age our hopes, dreams, efforts and energy revolve around our future – where will we study, where will we work, who will be involved etc, etc. And as I sit here planning for Term Three I am thinking of the scripture from Jeremiah 29:11... "For I know well the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future full of hope." His idea of success is very different than ours. While we get caught up in the snares of things that don't really matter God cares about what really matters: our future, our potential to love, eternal life. We are constantly being called into His plans for our life.

Our Catholic Identity is very much part of the core business at MacKillop. Further to this, our Year 7 Retreat will be held in week 2 and our Year 8 & 9 Camp will be held in week 4. Please mark these in your diaries as compulsory school events. Attached to this newsletter are the expectations associated with these events.

Our Pastoral Care Program this Term will be mapped out by our Year Coordinators giving students the necessary skills to be more successful; students, teachers, parents and all involved in our community can benefit from this. Presently, the College Board is working on a Pastoral Care Policy. Mr Neil Forsyth is leading this process and if you would like to have an input into this policy please contact him through the College.

One of the most valuable skills we can develop through our Pastoral Care Program is emotional resilience. Emotional resilience is defined as the ability to fully recover from life's tougher challenges and to navigate with inner flexibility through the minor ones (*Institute of HeartMath, 2003*). David Viscott in his book *Reading Emotional Resilience* (1996) recommends we:

- Tell the truth;
- Face life openly;
- Say what we mean, feel, believe;
- Accept other as they are;
- Accept ourselves as we are;
- Know and accept our weaknesses;
- Stop trying to prove ourselves;
- Let go of the past;
- Give up false expectations; and, Take responsibility for our life and how it turned out.

With no student free day at the beginning of the term, all staff and students will start Term Three on Monday 22nd July. Our student free day for Term Three will be held on Monday 9th September. This day will be conducted for all staff by Fr Elio Capra SDB. In-service days are great opportunities for staff learning.

I hope the next few weeks are restful and you find some time to do those special family outings. May God bless you and your families and keep you safe. Please keep our College and its staff in your prayers as we plan our way into Term Three and beyond. Thank you. *May God continue to protect and bless your families,*

Lauretta Graham, Principal

"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"



Goals for Retreats, Overnight Stays, College Trips and Camps

- To learn more about yourself and your capabilities.
- To enjoy yourself.
- To build better relationships between members of our community.
- To build a stronger college community spirit.
To strengthen your relationship with God.

EXPECTATIONS

- ◆ School Rules and the College Code of Behaviour apply.
- ◆ Students need to respect all property.
- ◆ The curfew must be observed.
- ◆ Teachers must know where students are at all times.
- ◆ At a retreat/camp/sleepover there should be no reason why a teacher has to control a student. Students are told the expectations and these are strictly observed.
- ◆ The atmosphere at the retreat/camp/sleepover should be one of cooperation, involvement and a community working together.
- ◆ Teachers care for students and Students need to care for staff; without a doubt staff work for many hours preparing these events.
- ◆ In the event of a student not abiding by the rules and expectations of the retreat/camp/sleepover the student causing the disruption will be immediately reported to the Principal who will contact parents to collect students from the retreat/camp/sleepover location.
- ◆ We believe that no student/s have the right to disrupt the whole community at any time. These disruptions cause others to miss out and we consider this to be serious.

Homework Benefits: *All teaching staff at MacKillop believe in the benefits of **homework**. They believe that regular homework, when managed and planned properly, is a valuable aspect of the teaching and learning process.*

In setting homework the class teacher aims to:

- Encourage the development of independent study habits;
- Give parents an opportunity to share in their children's learning;
- Refine the student's skills of time management and organisation;
- Develop the student's sense of responsibility; and
- Practise skills and reinforce work learnt in class.

To assist your son/daughter in homework, parents may find the following of some assistance:

- ✦ Arrange a regular time in a suitable room or area which is free from distractions, for example, the television;
- ✦ Check the standard of work produced and that an adequate effort has been made;
- ✦ Praise for good work and encouragement for effort, are more important than censure. Be positive and supportive at all times;
- ✦ When helping and facilitating parents must be careful not to do the thinking for the student;
- ✦ With Middle Years students, parents are encouraged to check the College diary regularly; and always encourage additional reading.

Homework is given at the discretion of the class teacher with regard to the age and ability of the students and at no time is it meant to be an onerous task. Teachers are willing to negotiate homework expectations with parents so as to cater for the needs of individual students. Parents are encouraged to consult with class teachers if they are in anyway concerned about homework causing untoward anxiety.

With parents and teachers working in partnership, let us make term three a time of solid academic achievement through class work and homework consolidation.

May the Holy Spirit guide us through this term in our pursuit of knowledge and understanding.

Laretta Graham
Principal



**Marie Butt
APRE**

From the RE Department



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal

Reminder: a deposit bin is located at the College for your donations of clean blankets and clothes. Thank you!



**Elizabeth Mountford
Deputy Principal
Academic Studies**

Teaching and Learning at MacKillop

We held an Egypt Exhibition on Thursday Week 10, June 20 between 4 and 6 pm. This showcased innovative and creative Year 7 student pieces and will run during the holidays; the product of some integrated work we are doing with the year 7 Religious Education and History classes. Did you know that "Egypt" is mentioned 614 times in the Bible, "Egyptian" 37 times, and "Egyptians" 91 times?





IT Manger
Vanaja Arakkal

From the IT Department –Look what we can do!

Dear Parents\Caregivers and Students,

Laptops

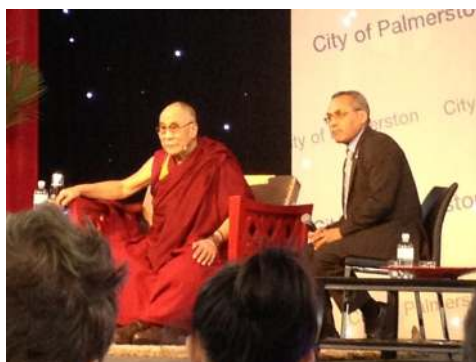
Have a safe and enjoyable holiday. I am giving the responsibility to students and parents to look after the laptops. If parents prefer to keep it safe, please take the necessary steps to ensure this. If the laptop is misplaced, or damaged our College has to charge the student, depending on the issue. Please consider this as an important responsibility, and respect the 1:1 laptop program we have in place for our students.

Please contact the college if you have any concerns about this.

Robotics Semester 1



The Dalai Lama comes to Palmerston: a group of MacKillop Catholic College students attended the function on Saturday 22nd June, all dressed in our full College uniform, their behavior was a credit to the College and they enjoyed the event. Well done to them!





LOTE Co-ordinator
Miss Zoe Saliba

<http://www.jpf.org.au/grants/recipients.html>

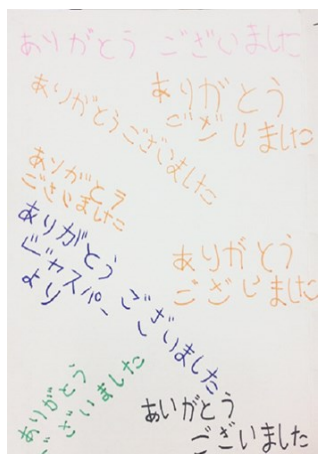
LOTE - Japanese - From strength to strength!

The following article and accompanying photos about MacKillop Catholic College and our growing Japanese program is currently featured on the Japan Foundation Sydney website.



Japanese Programs in Schools Grant – Establishing New Programs

Earlier this year, MacKillop Catholic College in the Northern Territory set up a Japanese program with the assistance of a Japanese Programs in Schools Grant from The Japan Foundation, Sydney. This enabled them to be reimbursed for the necessary resources and materials purchased to establish their program.



They now have Japanese classes for Years 7 to 10. The beautiful 'ありがとうございました's were written by the Year 8/9 group, who have been working hard at mastering reading and writing hiragana.

MacKillop Catholic College opened last year and is located 20km outside of Darwin. They believe that offering the students the opportunity to study Japanese language and culture will encourage them to not only learn a new language but to also celebrate differences and become more tolerant and open minded. The Japanese teacher, Zoe Saliba, is looking forward to further encouraging Japanese study, as well as making connections with the local community and participating in any Japan-Australia events.

**Congratulations to Miss Saliba on being appointed
MacKillop Catholic College LOTE Co-ordinator!**

Textile Elective

YEAR 7 TEXTILE ELECTIVE



YEAR 8 / 9 TEXTILE ELECTIVE



Introducing Mr Patrick Barry our Maintenance Officer

Raised on a sheep property in Narrabrai, NSW. First school: St Francis Xavier: learnt the Mass in Latin as an Alter Boy! First job: University of Sydney, Tech Officer, Plant breeding in wheat research. Served 3 years with the Australian Defence Force and posted to SE Asia.

Came to Darwin in 1975 for 3 weeks to help my brother fix his house! I've been here ever since! I joined the NT Government in 1977 and held a variety of jobs from Stock & Meat Inspector to Tech Officer Animal Health, and travelled all over the NT for 26 years.

My wife and I have 3 children, all grew up in the NT. We have 5 grandchildren and one expecting. My eldest son is currently serving with the Australian Defence Force in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

My interests are travelling bush to remote locations fishing, camping, playing golf, gardening and time with my family.



Finance

Thank you to those parents who have already paid or organized



payment of their fees!
Please only use the BPAY facility when paying SCHOOL FEES. For all other payments, for example ski trips rugby trips etc, if using the internet please use the transfer facility.

Thank you!
Michelle Chambers
Business Manager

Staff members leaving at end Semester One

It is with regret that we say goodbye and all the best in their new endeavours to the following staff members:

Melanie Voakes who is going to be starting her own business here in Darwin

Andrew Pawley who is going to concentrate in the Social Justice and Community Service area

College Calendar of Coming Events

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE	LAST DAY OF TERM 2 - End of Term Liturgy 2.20pm
MONDAY 22nd JULY	FIRST DAY OF TERM 3
2nd July	P&F Meeting—7pm Tuesday
29th-31st July	Year 7.1 & Year 7.3 Excursion
31st-2nd August	Year 7.2 & 7.4 Excursion
Week 4-5th-9th August	Years 8 and 9 - details to be advised