



# MACKILLOP NEWS

TERM 4 WEEK 10 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020

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*"Never see a need without trying  
to do something about it"*  
St. Mary MacKillop



Laurretta Graham  
Principal

### Dear Families of MacKillop Catholic College,

There is a legend that after God had created all of the animals of the wood, the newly made animals walked around, happily discovering what it was like to be alive and getting used to their new bodies — all except the birds.

While the other animals had legs so they could run or fins so that they could swim, the birds could just hop a few steps. They didn't know what to do with these awkward appendages on their shoulder. Why has God punished us? they wondered. Why do we have struggle to get around with these "things" on our backs?

But then one bird managed to move those "things" on its back and discovered by flapping them up and down the bird could lift itself off the ground higher and higher and higher into the air. Then another bird began to flap its appendages. And then another and another and another. The birds discovered that they could soar into the sky — something no other animal could do.

The birds discovered that what they thought was a "heavy burden" was actually a wonderful gift from God.

Whether we believe it or not, each one of us has been given something unique and special from God that we can use to contribute to the work of creation. Sometimes the very "thing" that we consider to be a burden or disadvantage leads us to discover the particular gift we (or another person) possesses. But, as Jesus teaches in the parable of the talents, such grace demands work on our part, the faith to "flap our wings," and a willingness to place our "wings" at the service of others. Our greatness lies not in the greatness of our talents in themselves but in the greatness of our love to use them to build the Kingdom of God in our time and place.

As we swiftly draw close to the end of a school year like no other, I would again like to thank you for your support, cooperation, understanding and willingness to share your talents. In this week alone we have the musical WICKED, last week Year 12s Graduated, and all the other things that make up a busy school at this time of year.

We together, struggled with the challenges of COVID and survived by working together and sharing our talents and doing what we can do best. This year has been extraordinary in that staff and students have so willingly adapted to new ways of teaching and we have all grown through that experience. What we may have lost in some formal schooling we have more than gained in accepting new responsibilities and finding a capacity to rise to challenges. And along the way we have discovered new talents and abilities to share with each other. We are all stronger and wiser for that experience. I welcome you to email me with your thoughts and comments, your gratitude for the efforts of staff, or if you wish, to arrange a time for us to talk on the phone if you have suggestions for 2021.

I acknowledge the tremendous effort our school leaders, teachers, and support teams have put into ensuring activities and events continued and the opportunities for different forms of learning and assessment, were successfully delivered to your children this year.

As always, but particularly this year, we are committed to learning the lessons from our experience so that we can use this platform to provide improvements and do better in the future.

Looking forward to seeing you at WICKED, our Awards Assemblies, and end of year activities. And finally, in entering the school grounds, we ask you to comply with your school's COVID-safe practices.

*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*

Every Blessing for a smooth run to the last day of term, Thursday 17th December.

**Lauretta Graham**  
Principal

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY

### Advent and Christmas - Reason for the Season

Advent (from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming") is considered to be the beginning of the Church Year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest 30 November, and ends on Christmas Eve (24 Dec). If Christmas Eve is a Sunday, it is counted as the fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas Eve proper beginning at sundown.

The season is for most Christians one of anticipation and hope, although at its beginnings the emphasis was much more on penitence, fasting and sin. For most Christians it is not just a celebration of a moment in time when a baby was born, but also looks beyond to a time when the Bible tells us that Jesus will come again, not as a weak and vulnerable baby but in power and with authority. The traditional Scripture readings for this time emphasise both the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and our accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin and the hope of eternal life.

Advent is also a spiritual journey that Christians take, through the truths of Scripture that point to the birth of Messiah, to a reaffirmation that he has come, is present in the world today and will come again in glory. It mirrors the journey of faith that Christians make after that moment of realisation and acceptance of who Jesus is, in that we take that first step of faith in commitment, continue hopefully to walk the road of faith and increasing understanding.

According to the Catholic encyclopaedia the celebration of Christmas (or the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord) is not known before the end of the fourth century when, according to Duchesne it was celebrated throughout the whole Church - by some on 25 December, by others on 6 January. There are hints of a period of preparation prior to the celebration of Jesus' birth - in a ruling in 380 that no one should be allowed to absent themselves from church from the 17th December until the feast of Epiphany - but it is not until the end of the sixth century that a prescribed period of time was set aside as preparation for Christmas. This was from 11th November, being the feast day of St. Martin of Tours, (the fast became known as "St. Martin's Fast," "St. Martin's Lent" or "the forty days of St. Martin") until Christmas Day. This observance of a period of fasting was later relaxed in Anglican, Lutheran and later the Roman Catholic Church - although still kept as a season of penitence by some.



### An Advent Prayer

In this season of expectation  
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah  
Into the bustle of our lives  
and the hard to find moments of solitude  
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah  
Into our homes and situations  
along with friends and families  
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah  
Into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives  
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah  
For beneath the surface of your story  
is an inescapable fact  
You entered this world  
as vulnerable as any one of us  
in order to nail that vulnerability to the cross.  
Our fears, our insecurities and our sins  
all that can separate us from God  
exchanged by your Grace for Love.  
We cannot comprehend the reasoning  
only marvel that Salvation comes to us  
through a baby born in a stable,  
and reaches out to a world in need.  
In this season of anticipation  
We prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah

## BUS NEWS



### Bussy's Corner

Issue 5, Nov 2020



WHAT YOU CAN DO.....

- Ask yourself if this free service is a privilege or a right?
- Do you want to be captured on CCTV wilfully damaging bus operator property?
- How will your parents feel when they receive an invoice for the cost of repairing the damage you've done?
- Will your mates and younger kids watching think you're cool or a fool?
- Who will be inconvenienced if you are banned from school bus travel?

**TOTAL = 2,306,781**  
**STUDENT TRIPS PER YEAR**

Buslink provide NT students with a cost free and safe transport service every school day of the year!!

**60,230 SCHOOL BUS SERVICES PER YEAR**

With over 60,000 school bus services per year, it is vital our buses are not parked up in workshops, waiting to have seat belts or seat upholstery repaired, as a result of vandalism.

**Would you do this to your family's car???**

Please consider how vandalism impacts others before wilfully damaging your school bus.

Vandalism is a serious act and can result in a banning from all school bus travel for a period of time.

Please ensure a good understanding of student responsibilities as outlined in the Code of Conduct for School Bus Travel. Click on this link for the Code:

[https://nt.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/547624/code-of-conduct-school-bus-travel.pdf](https://nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/547624/code-of-conduct-school-bus-travel.pdf)

Buslink Berrimah Depot Tel 8944 2444 Buslink Humpty Doo Depot Tel 8988 2762

BUSLINK.COM.AU



## FOOD TECH NEWS

Mrs Graham's Year 7.7 Food Tech class all worked together to prepare themselves a delicious lunch, and then sat down together to enjoy it. No doubt these skills will be appreciated by families come Christmas time!



Graduation Dinner



## YEAR 12 GRADUATION

Graduation Mass



*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*



## Graduation Breakfast and Farewell Assembly



*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*



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### Well Done Khalehla

Congratulation Khalehla Cartwright, who has received an excellence award for Stage 1 Accounting from the Northern Territory School of Distance Education.



## ARTS NEWS

### Wicked 2020

After more than a year of hard work and preparation by students, staff, parents and volunteers from many departments, our 2020 musical, Wicked, took place from the 2nd to the 5th of December over 4 evening shows and two student matinees. The bar was set high in 2018 by 42nd Street, but the performers met the mark by all measures, putting on a spectacular show. Well done to all involved and thank you to our audience, we hope you enjoyed the performance!





## AWARD PRESENTATIONS

### Middle Years



### Senior Years



*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*



## MORE FOOD TECH PHOTOS

### Year 8s - International Deserts



### Year 9s - Finger Food



## CHILDCARE STUDIES NEWS

Year 10 Childcare studies are learning about the benefits of play. Topics covered this term include; sensory play, problem-solving, water play, music and dress-ups. Students have enjoyed exploring activities that allow children to develop cognitive skills, language skills, social interaction and physical development.



## NEW UNIFORM: HOUSE SHIRTS UPDATE





## ATSI NEWS

### Mr Levers Mother Teresa Talk

Mr Roy Levers joined the year 5s and 6s at Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School, who have been learning about Dreamtime. Mr Levers, who is of Tjapukai heritage, is known for his gift for sharing his fascinating in-depth knowledge on Aboriginal culture and history. The students loved hearing Mr Levers' stories and were very engaged.



## Saints u14s Defeat Katherine to End Season on a High

The MacKillop Saints u14s Rugby League team, captained by Zachery Morgan, defeated Katherine High by a comfortable 44 points to 14, in a friendly match on home soil to end the 2020 season on a high note.

Scoring at almost a point a minute in what was a 3 x 15 minute shootout in hot conditions, MacKillop's juniors played an expansive and razzle dazzle game of football, highlighted by a hatrick effort from prop forward, Izzyah Pairama. Josh Hanslow also got in on the act, crossing the line for a brace while Pairama's front row partner, Fraser Brown, also kept the scorers busy.

The crowd were left stunned and gasping for air after Brad Tanner scored his try down at the Sacred Site end of the pitch after a miracle play from the very impressive, Will McCallum. McCallum, playing on the right wing, chased down a kick that looked certain to be going into touch before flicking it back behind his body and into the arms of Tanner who would race away another 40m to score.

Academy coach, Mr. Matthew Sharp, was full of praise for the team when interviewed after the match and thanked the visiting team for the great sportsmanship that they displayed. Sharp, who refereed this exhibition match, wanted to pay particular thanks to stand-in coach, Mr. Isaac Dimmick, who capably led the team to victory on what was his maiden game in charge.

The game marked the end of an era for one player in particular, Lachlan Coble, who donned the white alternate strip for the final time. We wish him all the best with his future playing endeavours. The Saints production line of talent continues on though with debutant, Clint Fejo, proving himself to be a project player of great potential during his first outing with the club.

As the sun has now set on yet another successful season of Saints Rugby League, its fitting that we sign off for the year by thanking everyone that was involved in making 2020 a great success. From the front office team, to the match day staff, the Old Boys/Girls to the current players, and from the parents to the sponsors – you have all played your part in making Saints the most successful schools Rugby League program in the Territory. Thank you.

## Eels Cup Winners

In all our years one prize has always eluded us - the Rugby League Eels cup. Our fortunes changed in 2020, when our boys finally brought home the silverware for the Top End's main schools Rugby League event. Congratulations to all involved!



## SAINTS NEWS

### AGM

We invite everyone to the Saints AGM this Thursday, especially if you are interested in getting involved in 2021. The MacKillop Saints Sporting Association provides extracurricular sporting options for MacKillop students in Rugby Union, Rugby League, Basketball and Hockey, as well as strength and conditioning training and occasional social running and touch football.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wed 16 Dec Middle Years Activity Day**

**Thu 17 Dec Last Day of school for 2020**

**Saints AGM 4pm**

**Fri 18 December 2020 - Thu 28 January 2021  
Christmas Holidays**

**Fri 29 January 2021 First Day of Term 1, 2021**

***Have a great Christmas Break!***

## IT AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Harvey Norman Vouchers

Don't forget to use your \$30 Harvey Norman Vouchers if buying a new laptop from there! They have an arrangement with the school.

### Virtual Reality for Education

Anthony Ridolfi in Year 10 Advanced English may look like he's in class, but he's actually exploring the secret annexe in Anne Frank's Diary, a book about a girl hiding from the Nazis in World War II, courtesy of a Virtual Reality headset.

Anthony was helping out trial headsets for school use next year by the Gifted and Talented Unit of the school, who will – after acquisition and use – pass them on for other Departments to utilise. Dr Tom Lewis, who is the co-ordinator of the Gifted and Talented Unit, said VR looks like offering some unique opportunities to students.

"Imagine being able to walk around inside this WWII iconic house" he said. "VR looks like opening up a lot of possibilities in a range of subjects."



## Lego League Robot Challenge

MacKillop won the championship award for the NT division of the Lego League Robot Challenge, and competed in the national competition. The team, under the leadership of Mrs Vanaja Arakkal, excelled in the criteria of robot design, programming, innovation, and core values. Mrs Arakkal says "I am so proud as a coach/mentor and it is a real privilege to work with my team who demonstrated the commitment, perseverance and resilience to win the regionals". Congratulations to team members Lakshya, Mahi, Hayley, Addison, Charan and Ryan.



## VET NEWS

### MacKillop Courses and Careers Facebook Page

Keep up with more opportunities and news for courses, apprenticeships, traineeships and university options by liking the recently launched MacKillop Courses and Careers page on facebook!

### Aircraft Line Maintenance Awards

Leigh, James and Logan have received certificates in Aircraft Line Maintenance from Aviation Australia. James won the Excellence Award. Congratulations boys!





## HPE NEWS

### Middle Years Swimming

To beat the heat in Term Four, Year 7 and 8 HPE students developed their knowledge and understanding of water safety and survival strokes, and were able to transfer these skills to a wide range of practical scenarios. Year 8 students also participated in CPR lessons with Royal Life Saving NT. Year 9 students who selected the water sports and aquatic fitness program developed and learnt about aquatic fitness, this included survival strokes, water volleyball and water polo. It was great to see the students engagement in the lessons and we thank the YMCA for their assistance in running the programs.



## JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CAMP

### Athlete Schedule and Information

19th December 8am - 5pm

20th December - 8am - 5pm

Cost: \$100

### Location: Darwin Netball Centre

Women's Volleyroos Head Coach Marty Collins is returning to Darwin to run the 2020 Junior Development Program Camp. He will be assisted by Steve Luggie, former National Team and professional player along with National Junior Program coach.

### Coach Schedule and Information

18th December: 5pm - 8pm

19th December 8am - 5pm

20th December - 8am - 5pm

Cost: Free (VNT covering level 2 course cost)



## PALMERSTON'S CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

Palmerston is set to sparkle like never before!

GOYDER SQUARE . FREE COMMUNITY EVENT  
18-24 DECEMBER 2020 . 5PM-9.30PM



#PALMYCHRISTMAS2020  
PALMERSTON.NT.GOV.AU



\*Please note that all attendees will be required to check-in for contact tracing when visiting the Christmas Wonderland in Goyder Square. Save time and check-in prior to your arrival online.

## LINTIN GEOTECHNICAL PTY LTD

### LABORATORY TECHNICIAN TRAINEE

Lintin Geotechnical is a Darwin based company. We are currently seeking a Laboratory Technician Trainee, to work in all aspects of soil sampling. This traineeship would suit a school leaver, with all training provided.

This is a permanent position starting in January 2021.

To be successful you must,

- Be willing to complete a Cert IV
- Have a white card, or willing to obtain one
- Have a manual driver's license
- Have a good level of maths
- Be physically fit, lift bags of soil (20kg)
- Be reliable
- Be prepared to get dirty
- Be able to work autonomously, and as a team member

If you require further information please contact Tony or Darryl on 8932 4022, otherwise please send your resume with a cover letter to [admin@lintingeo.com](mailto:admin@lintingeo.com).



# NOTICE: COVID-19 CHANGES

CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF DARWIN



Commencing 30 November 2020 it is mandatory for all Northern Territory venues to collect information for contact tracing.

This means that if you are visiting any of our Churches or buildings for 15 minutes or more, you will need to provide your contact details through The Territory Check In App which can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Technology is not everyone's strong point; in the event you see someone needing assistance in downloading the app, please reach out and help them. Paper forms will be available if you don't have a phone.

Please continue to maintain social distancing, practice good hygiene, use sanitizers provided and stay home if you are unwell.

**Register:**

[downpourdarwin.com](http://downpourdarwin.com)



CATHOLIC  
Diocese of  
DARWIN

## DOWNPOUR

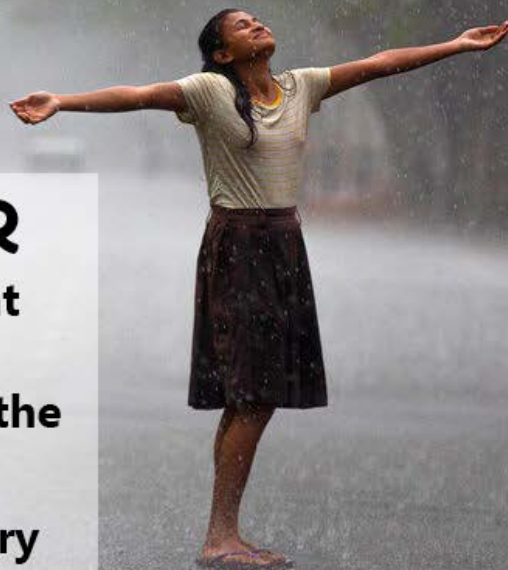
A dynamic retreat  
for families,  
young adults and the  
young at heart

14th - 17th January

**Inquiries:**

0404955170

[downpourdarwin@gmail.com](mailto:downpourdarwin@gmail.com)



Renew Refresh Revive



# Christmas

## Mass Times for

# Palmerston

## 2020



### **OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH**

*Corner of Emery Ave. and Harrison Circuit, Woodroffe • Fr Tom English*

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**Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses** - Every Morning 4:30am Starting Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Reconciliation** - Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 7pm

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**CHRISTMAS EVE - Thu 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**Children's Mass** - 7pm - Kids can dress as shepherds or angels

**Midnight Mass** - 12 Midnight

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**CHRISTMAS DAY - Fri 25<sup>th</sup> December**

Masses at 8:30am and 6pm

