



MACKILLOP
Catholic College

TERM 2, WEEK 10 NEWSLETTER



MR LUCAS HURLEY
PRINCIPAL

ISSUE 12, 2025:

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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear MacKillop Catholic College Community,

On Thursday 30 May, the staff of MacKillop Catholic College gathered in faith and fellowship for our annual Catholic Identity Day, centred around the profound and timely theme: Pilgrims of Hope.

Throughout the day, we delved into what it truly means to be pilgrims: people on a journey, guided by faith, grounded in love, and moving forward with hope. The day provided a sacred space for our staff to pause and reflect — on our individual and collective journeys, on our

and unites us in challenging times. Moments of shared storytelling, personal reflection, and communal prayer served as powerful reminders that we do not walk this path alone. In every classroom,

In this Year of Jubilee, marked by renewal, reconciliation and rejoicing, we came together to explore the virtue of hope — not as wishful thinking, but as a confident assurance in God's promises.

relationship with God, with ourselves, and with one another. Through prayer, discussion, and spiritual reflection, we were invited to reconnect with our purpose as Catholic educators and deepen our understanding of hope as a virtue that sustains, uplifts, and

in every act of service, and in each encounter, we are called to be living signs of hope for our students and for each other. As we continue our work in the College and in our wider community, may the spirit of this day inspire



us to walk forward together — as Pilgrims of Hope — trusting in God's unfailing love, and bringing light to those we serve.

Lucas Hurley

Principal



SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S ADDRESS

We are nearing the end of Term 2 and are at the halfway mark of the school year! Term 2 was packed with plenty of activities and events, like the Anzac Day Liturgy & Parade and the Athletics Carnival.

Between the major events, various year levels initiated fund raising activities. This resulted in the first ever Mackillop Catholic College Fete raise funds for the Year 12 graduation!

Have a safe break!

Amber Netherwood and Louis Shepherd



LOUIS
SHEPHERD



AMBER
NETHERWOOD

They had live bands, ice creams, snags and even a car wash! Now that the holiday is just around the corner, we hope you have an exciting break and are well rested for the upcoming Term 3.



IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 3, WEEKS 1 - 5

WEEK 1

▣ Student Free Day
Monday, 14th of July

▣ 2026 VET Applications Open
Tuesday, 15th of July

▣ Cross Country
Wednesday, 16th of July

▣ Senior Males Catholic Cup
Wednesday, 21st of May

WEEK 2

▣ College Tour
Wednesday, 23rd of July

▣ Interschool Sports Tennis
Wednesday, 23rd of July

▣ Darwin Show Public Holiday
Friday, 25th of July

WEEK 3

▣ NAIDOC Week
28th of July - 1st of August

▣ Senior Males Palmerston Cup
2nd - 6th of June

WEEK 4

▣ Picnic Day Public Holiday
Monday, 4th of August

▣ Australian Science Exams
Tuesday, 5th of August

▣ Immunisations
Wednesday, 6th of August

▣ MacKillop Feast Day
Thursday, 7th of August

WEEK 5

▣ National Science Week
11th to 15th of August

▣ Year 9 Camp
11th to 15th of August

▣ Darwin Careers Expo
Tuesday, 12th of August

▣ College Tour
Wednesday, 13th of August

RECONCILIATION WEEK

To kickstart Reconciliation Week, we hosted a beautiful morning tea for staff and guests, followed by a special ceremony to officially open the new Gunamidjindawa (Saltwater) room. The room was warmly blessed by Bishop Charles and traditionally smoked in by local Larrakia man Trent Lee. At lunchtime, students enjoyed a delicious BBQ featuring kangaroo skewers, crocodile, beef, and buffalo sausages!



Overall, the week provided an important opportunity to reflect on the past, celebrate culture, and strengthen our commitment to reconciliation for a more inclusive future.

Kind regards,

Donald Boddington



The week also included a 'Sorry Day' event, where staff and students from O'Loughlin and MacKillop came together for another special BBQ luncheon with members and descendants of the Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation. Thank you for taking the time to visit our College grounds and speak to our students.





DRAMA NIGHT

Mackillop's Drama Night was a brilliant celebration of student talent, creativity, and dedication. Audiences were treated to powerful performances from the MacKillop Drama Society, who brought to life the timeless tragedy of Romeo and Juliet and the stylish noir of Murder La Mod. These senior productions reflected countless hours of rehearsal and a strong commitment to ensemble work and theatrical craft.



A highlight of the evening was the Year 9 Drama class's hilarious performance of Snow White and the Dreadful Dwarfs, a clever and comedic twist on the classic fairy tale. Their energy, timing, and enthusiasm lit up the stage and had the audience laughing throughout. Thank you to all the students, staff, and families who supported these productions! Drama Night was again, a hugely successful evening.

Doing these events gives us a powerful reminder of the joy and connection live theatre can bring to our community. We can't wait for our next one in Semester Two!

Kind regards,

David Lloyd





FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Week 2025 – “Book an Adventure” at MacKillop!

Join us for a week of creativity, imagination, and literary fun as we celebrate Book Week in Term 3, from 18–22 August 2025! This year’s theme, “Book an Adventure”, invites students to dive into stories that explore travel, discovery, and the magic of reading. We’re so excited for you to join us!



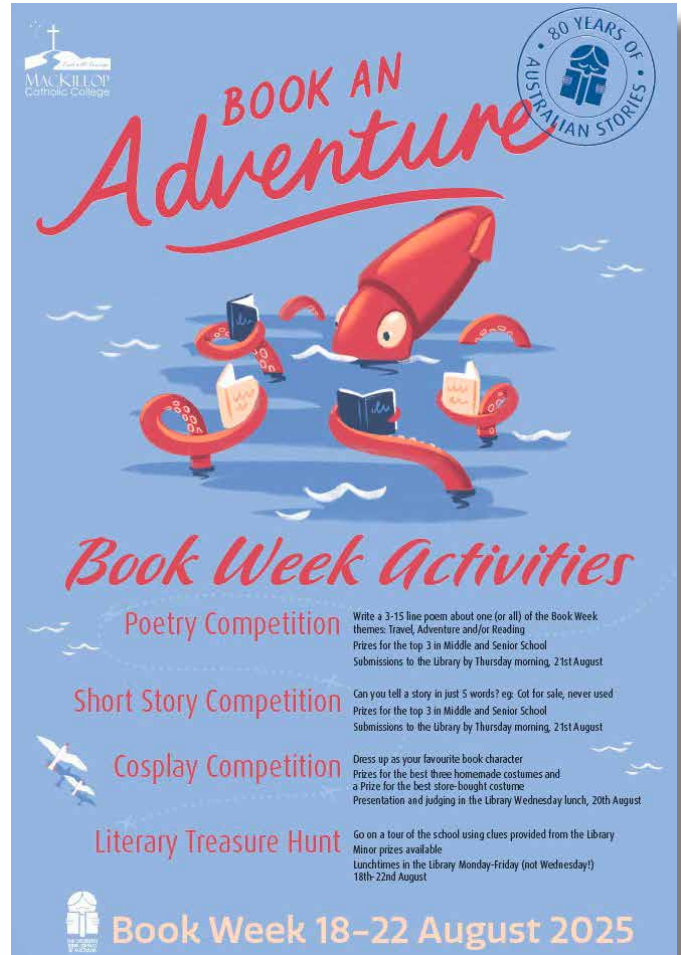
Here’s what’s happening:

Poetry Competition – Craft a 3–15 line poem on travel, adventure, or reading. Prizes for top entries in both Middle and Senior School.

Short Story Competition – Tell a tale in just 5 words! Submissions due by Thursday 21st August.

Cosplay Competition – Come dressed as your favourite book character. Judging will take place during Library lunchtime on Wednesday 20th August.

Literary Treasure Hunt – Follow clues and explore the school in this fun daily challenge. Minor prizes up for grabs!



Submissions for competitions are due to the Library by Thursday morning, 21st August, so don't miss your chance to showcase your creativity and be part of the fun. Whether you're a budding poet, a master of micro-fiction, a costume enthusiast, or just love a good mystery, there's something for everyone. Let your imagination run wild and help us make Book Week a celebration to remember!

Kind regards,

Mrs Shirley Lee Donnelly



YEAR 7 RETREAT



our Year 7 Pastoral Care Teachers, and the NET team. The students participated in a variety of activities designed to foster personal growth, build community, and deepen their understanding of themselves and their peers. A huge thank you must also go to the incredible NET team – Arabella, Ella, Kait, Ky and James – whose energy, enthusiasm, and engaging sessions truly brought the “Rise Up” theme to life.



Our Year 7 students recently embarked on day retreats at the Halls in Howard Springs, embracing the uplifting theme of “Rise Up.” Our newest cohort had the invaluable opportunity to connect, reflect, and grow in a supportive and engaging environment. The beautiful sunny weather throughout the retreat perfectly complemented the bright spirits of our students. Guided by the dedicated leadership of Rebecca Love (Head of Year 7),



The retreat culminated in a beautiful Mass held on Friday at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, a wonderful opportunity for reflection and spiritual connection. Following the Mass, the celebrations continued with a BBQ lunch at Leanyer Water Park, providing fun and relaxation after an enriching few days. The Year 7 Retreat was a success, and we’re excited to see our young students “Rise Up” throughout the year.

Kind regards,

Mr Carlo Di Donato



MACKILLOP SPORTS



We have many Interschool Sport events coming up in 2025! MacKillop uses the Try-Booking platform to collect funds and consent for all Interschool sport events, which allows us to keep the price as low as possible. These events are often quite popular and spots can fill quickly. We recommend students and families collect forms and book places as soon as possible once information is released.

COMING UP...

- 23rd Jul.** - Mixed Years Tennis
- 15th Aug.** - Top End Cross Country
- 27th Aug.** - Mixed Years Golf
- 29th Aug.** - Mixed Years Orienteering
- 10th Sep.** - Mixed Years Rugby Union



KEY DATES

- 16th Jul.** - Cross Country
- 18th Sep.** - Swimming Carnival



MCC ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The 2025 Athletics Carnival was a record-breaking event in every sense – the biggest in Mackillop Catholic College history! With over 600 students participating, the energy and excitement throughout the day was electric. Despite it being the hottest carnival day on record, our students rose to the challenge with incredible resilience, showcasing not only their athletic talents but also outstanding sportsmanship and integrity.



The level of competition was truly inspiring, with students pushing themselves to new heights across a wide range of track and field events. An incredible 14 records were broken on the day – a testament to the hard work, training, and determination of our young athletes. We extend our sincere thanks to the dedicated staff, volunteers, and the many families who came to support and assist on the day.

Your presence and encouragement helped create such a positive and memorable atmosphere for our students. The 2025 Athletics Carnival was more than just a sporting event – it was a celebration of community, commitment, and the Mackillop spirit. Congratulations to all involved on an unforgettable day of achievement!

Kind regards,

Mrs Tahnee Lawrence



COMMUNITY NOTICES



**CALLING
FIRST NATIONS,
MELANESIAN
AND POLYNESIAN
ARTISTS**

The Dolphins invite artists and designers to submit culturally inspired football designs for three uniquely themed balls.

PRIZES
Each chosen design will receive a 2025 signed jersey

They will also receive a ball once they are manufactured

SUBMISSIONS
Submissions close:
Monday 28th July 2025

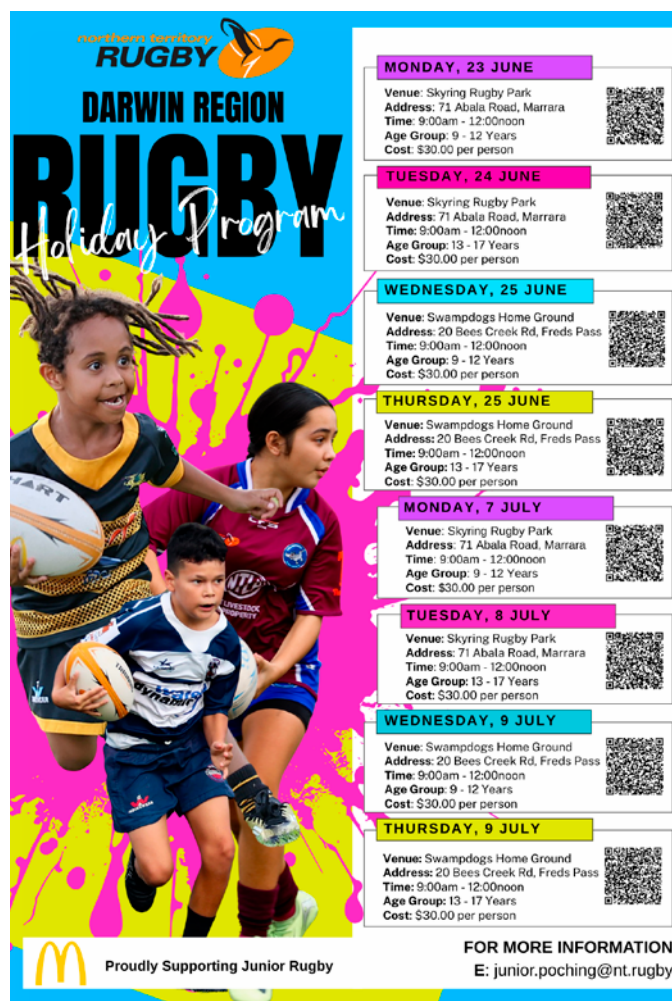
Submit all files to
community@dolphinsnrl.com.au
with header -
'Dolphins Football Design'

BUANGAN

KINGS

Dolphins Artist Competition

The Dolphins Team are calling all Melanesian and Polynesian artists for their newly themed ball designs! Winners will have their design printed on their season balls, receiving one once they are manufactured - and will also receive a signed jersey!



NT RUGBY
DARWIN REGION
RUGBY
Holiday Program

MONDAY, 23 JUNE
Venue: Skyring Rugby Park
Address: 71 Abala Road, Marrara
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 9 - 12 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

TUESDAY, 24 JUNE
Venue: Skyring Rugby Park
Address: 71 Abala Road, Marrara
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 13 - 17 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE
Venue: Swampdogs Home Ground
Address: 20 Bees Creek Rd, Freds Pass
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 9 - 12 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE
Venue: Swampdogs Home Ground
Address: 20 Bees Creek Rd, Freds Pass
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 13 - 17 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

MONDAY, 7 JULY
Venue: Skyring Rugby Park
Address: 71 Abala Road, Marrara
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 9 - 12 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

TUESDAY, 8 JULY
Venue: Skyring Rugby Park
Address: 71 Abala Road, Marrara
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 13 - 17 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

WEDNESDAY, 9 JULY
Venue: Swampdogs Home Ground
Address: 20 Bees Creek Rd, Freds Pass
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 9 - 12 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

THURSDAY, 9 JULY
Venue: Swampdogs Home Ground
Address: 20 Bees Creek Rd, Freds Pass
Time: 9:00am - 12:00noon
Age Group: 13 - 17 Years
Cost: \$30.00 per person

FOR MORE INFORMATION
E: junior.poching@nt.rugby

McDonald's Proudly Supporting Junior Rugby

Rugby Union Holiday Program

NT Rugby Association are running a holiday program from the 23rd of June to the 9th of July! This is a great opportunity for youth to improve their skills and have some awesome holiday fun with friends. Registrations essential!



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TO STAY UP TO DATE AND BE A PART OF OUR
COLLEGE COMMUNITY



MACKILLOP
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TERM 2, WEEK 5 NEWSLETTER