

Saint Mary MacKillop College

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"Run, jump, have all the fun you want at the right time, but, for heaven's sake, do not commit sin!"

– Saint John Bosco

Week 1, Term 1

Friday 31st, January 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for entrusting your children's schooling to the teachers and staff at St Mary's. Our role is to support parents who are the first and primary educators of their children. It was exciting to see their smiling faces at yesterday's first day back. In spite of the heat, St Mary's is well and truly open-for-business.

2020 promises to be a rich and full year. I'm looking forward to getting to know you and discussing your children's learning needs.

I'd like to congratulate Joseph Ryan who is the 2019 College dux. Joseph achieved an ATAR score of 94.45, just pipping Maria Chandrasegaran who achieved an ATAR of 92.45. .

Congratulations also to our band 6 achievers:

Maria Changrasegard for Mathematics

Rosalee Murphy for Visual Arts

Bernadette O'Brien for Agriculture

Joseph Ryan for Mathematics

The class of 2019 are models of consistent effort and an inspiration to each of us to strive for excellence

Ian Smith

Principal

Welcome Back BBQ

We invite families to our school's Welcome Back BBQ and blessing of the new food tech room and school grounds this **Sunday 2nd February at 12:00pm**. The BBQ is a great way to get to know the current and new families in our school community. Sausages and bread as well as cordial will be supplied by the school. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Parent Evening

The first Parent Night of the year will be held on **Wednesday the 12th February at 7.00pm** in the college hall. The evening will include a Principal's address, information about the college virtuous behaviour program and an opportunity to meet with your child's teachers.

Text/Library Books

We ask that students who still have school text books or library books from last year please return them as soon as possible. These books are only on loan to the students and remain the property of the school.

Secondary Swimming

The years 7-10 Secondary Swimming begins again on **Wednesday 5th February**. Student permissions have been sent to parent's PAM accounts and must be responded to by the 4th February. Each session costs \$2 per student which can be paid at the school office.

PAM Accounts

As of the beginning of this term we are now using a new database system. The new system includes a Parents Access Module (PAM) that allows parents to update their child's medical information, notify a child's absence and give excursion permissions as well as access the school's calendar.

All parents received an email last year inviting them to log in and verify their PAM account. If you are having trouble logging into your account, please contact the office for assistance. Once logged in parents must complete the medical information required for each of their children. We ask that parents also include at least one emergency contact person in their child/ren's medical profile. Please note that if your child has a medical action plan, it must be uploaded and included in your child's medical details. If you are unable to scan and upload documents, please bring in any documents to the office and we can do this on your behalf.

Student Absences

If your child/children are away for any reason, absences must now be notified through your PAM account. Students who arrive to school late or leave early still need to report to the school office where a late/early pass will be generated through the new PAM system.

Lost Property

The lost property baskets are very full from the end of last year. We ask that families please check the lost property for any missing items. Any unclaimed items will be cleared out of lost property within the next few weeks and we would prefer that items are returned to their rightful owners.

2020 Dates for your diary...

Term 1 – Thursday 30th Jan -

- Sunday 2nd Feb – Welcome Back BBQ
- Wednesday 5th Feb – Secondary Swimming
- Wednesday 12th Feb – Secondary Swimming
- Wednesday 12th Feb - Parent Evening
- Wednesday 19th Feb – SMMC Swimming Carnival
- Monday 24th – Thursday 27th Feb – School Smiles Dental Visit
- Friday 28th Feb – Whole School Assembly
- Wednesday 18th March – SMMC Athletics Carnival
- Friday 3rd April – Whole School Assembly
- Thursday 9th April – Last Day of Term

Curriculum Corner



New Food Technology Room

Over the Christmas holiday break, many workers were working hard getting the new Food technology Room ready for the students to use.

The room is now ready to go. The kitchen will be used for the Year 3-6 Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and the Year 9-10 Food Tech Elective Class.