



Important Dates

Year 9, 10 and 11
Subject Counselling
Session
Tuesday 15 August

Wakakirri
Performance
Wednesday 16 August

Principal's Tour
Tuesday 22 August

Year 7 2024 Winter
Transition Morning
Thursday 24 August

Good News
Assembly
Thursday 24 August

Come 'n' Try
MacKillop Day
Wednesday 30 August

Father's Day
Sunday 3 September

'Alice' Arts
Production
Wednesday 6 September

Student Free Day
Thursday 7 September

Student Free Day
Friday 8 September

Principal's Tour
Wednesday 13 September

Acknowledgement of Country

Mary MacKillop College acknowledges the Kurna people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and study. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Opening Prayer



Loving God, you filled the heart of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop with compassionate love for those who are in need at the margins of our society. Grant that through her example we may reach out to our brothers and sisters in need. Give us generous hearts to respond to the cries of those who are poor in our community and in our world.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Courage and Leadership

From the Principal

Sonia Nelson



A warm welcome back for Term 3. As usual, we have started the term with energy and purpose! Activities over the last few weeks include Year 12 exams, Year 10 immunisations, Year 9 Retreat, Knockout Sport and the Subject Information/Future Pathways Expo. A highlight, of course, was our marvellous JJAMM Week, filled with fun and opportunities to connect. Fittingly, the week culminated with the College community gathering with Sisters of St Joseph, families and some special guests in a beautiful Mass to honour St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, followed by a morning tea and the much-loved M-Factor Talent Quest! Please enjoy the many photos and articles in this newsletter that elaborate on these myriad activities.

Being new to MacKillop this year, it was a delight to be part of this special JJAMM Week and witness the sense of connection and celebration throughout the College. This also meant that I was required to join other new staff and students in the jam doughnut eating competition on Tuesday. Needless to say, there was much fun and mess, but no prize for my slow eating attempt! Our Wellbeing Dog, Bonnie MacKillop also made her first appearance on the day and was well-received and totally spoiled by the girls and staff. We look forward to Bonnie visiting regularly in the weeks ahead to spread her puppy joy and energy.

If you have visited the College recently, you would have noticed the rapid progress in the Tenison Centre building project. Now that the roof has been installed, it is 'full steam ahead' for the internal works, exterior cladding and brickwork. Exciting times for Mary MacKillop College, as we look forward to enjoying the learning spaces ready for the start of the 2024 school year.

Every blessing to all in our community as we reflect on and celebrate the life, works and legacy of our founder St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. May her values of courage, compassion, justice and hope continue to be an inspiration for us as we strive to make a positive difference in the world.

Sonia Nelson

Principal

[View this article online to read more](#)

Welcome Bonnie MacKillop



Introducing Bonnie MacKillop, Mary MacKillop College's newest community member and wellbeing dog!

As indicated in recent research, a wellbeing dog in school settings has been found to have a positive influence on the morale and wellbeing of students and staff. We know that Bonnie's friendly, affectionate and out-going nature will likely be warmly welcomed in our College community.

Bonnie MacKillop is a young Cavoodle who is comfortable in social situations, with a temperament that is well suited to engaging with young people and adults. She has been vet-checked and is up to date with vaccinations and common preventative treatments. Fortunately also, Cavoodles are classified as a 'low allergenic' breed, having a non-moulting fur coat rather than hair like regular dogs which can affect some people with hair-based allergies.

Bonnie will visit the College on occasions, as approved by the Principal or main dog handler. This could include time in the yard or common areas, at special events, in classrooms and other areas as appropriate and with permissions.

We look forward to the positive impact and joy Bonnie will bring our College community.

From the Deputy Principal

Jasmin Eckert

JJAMM Week 2023

We were filled with excitement as we celebrated JJAMM (Joseph, Julian and Mary MacKillop) Week, a testament to the vibrant culture and strong community spirit of Mary MacKillop College. This annual celebration of compassion, courage, joy, creativity and camaraderie brings together our entire school community for a week of unforgettable experiences and meaningful connections.

Day One - Monday 7 August - "Joseph": Joyful Spirit Day

The week kicked off with a visit from some of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. The Sisters and the Student Representative Council members discussed the extraordinary journey of Australia's first saint and her profound impact on education, social justice and compassion for all. It was a great opportunity for some of our student leaders to engage with the Sisters and find out more about the meaning of JJAMM. Our school community then came together to celebrate some 'jammin' beats at lunch time.

JJAMM Week Morning Tea



Day Two - Tuesday 8 August - "Julian": Jam Doughnut Day

The Jam Doughnut Eating Competition has been a longstanding tradition at Mary MacKillop College; with students from each year level competing to see who could eat a jam doughnut the fastest. Staff didn't want to miss out on the fun and got in on the action with students encouraging and supporting one another as they took on the challenge.

Meanwhile some of our Year 7 students connected with students from St Monica's Parish School, one of our partner primary schools, as they attended Mass and shared their experience of being part of a Josephite community in a high school setting.

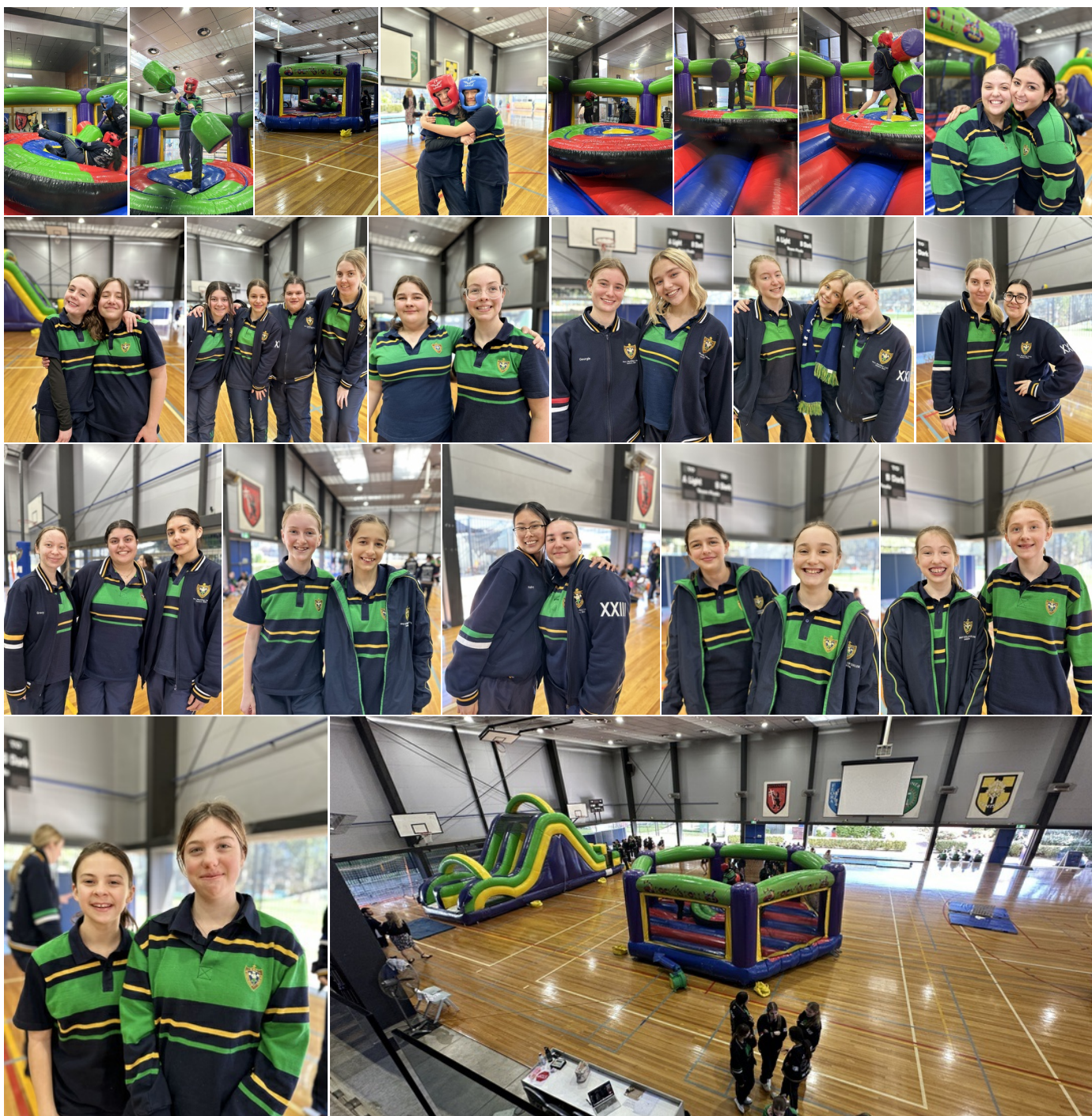
JJAMM Doughnut Day



Day Three - Wednesday 9 August - "and": Activity Day

The College Gymnasium was full of giant games and inflatables on Wednesday as students cheered each other on during friendly inflatable competitions. There was a sense of freedom and release of pent-up energy with students sharing joy and laughter as they raced down the giant slide.

JJAMM Week Activity Day



Day Four - Thursday 10 August - "Mary": Memories Day

Thursday saw the classic Family Feud reinvented with the Student Leadership Team creating their own version of MacKillop Feud. Students competed, testing their knowledge of Australia's first saint, Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, JJAMM Week and other College traditions. As we face new challenges and navigate an ever-changing world, Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop's message of love, humility and service to others provides a guiding light. Students were encouraged to participate in small acts of kindness. We remember that even the smallest acts of kindness and compassion can have a profound impact on those around us and in society.

JJAMM Week Memories Day



Day Five - Friday 11 August - "MacKillop": Mega Celebration

The grand finale, Mega Celebration Day, is an explosion of faith, joy and festivity. The day started with a whole-school mass to celebrate our College values and give thanks for the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the legacy of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Students wore a teal ribbon on this day in honour of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and raised money for the Mary MacKillop Today organisation. Later, students and staff enjoyed some entertainment with our very own talent show 'M-Factor'. The theme for M-Factor this year was 'Games Night'. Hosted by our Student Leadership Team, students and staff demonstrated courage as they showcased their skills and talent.

M-Factor was followed by a sausage sizzle lunch and our fundraising event of the year 'Slime Spectacular'. The 'monster' staff members were slimed by the Ghostbuster SLT team in honour of the funds raised earlier in the year for Project Compassion.

The activities and traditions of JJAMM Week would not be possible without the students who take the lead in planning and executing many of these activities, showcasing their creativity, leadership skills and dedication to making a difference. May the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and all the activities of JJAMM Week be a reminder of the power of love, compassion and selfless dedication to making our community and the world a better place. Together, let us continue the remarkable journey of service and leave a positive impact on the lives of those we encounter. It is our hope that JJAMM Week, carries the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop in our hearts and continues to spread positivity and celebrate the essence of our community, creating unforgettable memories for everyone present.

Jasmin Eckert

Deputy Principal

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day Mass







M-Factor









Slime Spectacular





Our Josephite Heritage

From the Religious Education Coordinator

Adriana Sotira



Our Retreat program aims to provide the opportunity for each year level to participate in a Retreat.

Year 9 Retreat 'In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop' - Catholic Mission, School Mission, Our Mission

On Thursday 3 August our Year 9 students were given the opportunity to explore how Mary MacKillop's message of Social Justice for Australia is contained in her belief that 'all is gift' from the creator, to be shared, because all human beings have the same basic right before God to be treated equally with Justice and dignity. This can be seen through the Catholic Mission organisation's Socktober Challenge. During the retreat, Tony Johnson (Archdiocese Director of Catholic Mission), spoke to the students on how the work of Catholic Mission is grounded in the Catholic social teachings and how they share in God's mission to reach out and give life. This is done through the partnership with local churches and school communities by engaging young people in the Socktober Challenge, a journey in mission to bear witness to the stories of their brothers and sisters.

Students also learnt how the game of soccer is played by many in developing countries as it brings them joy and fun when played with friends. However, these children sometimes don't have access to the soccer balls we have here in Australia. They are talented and keen soccer players who will use what they have to make their own soccer ball. Therefore, the Year 9 students embarked on this challenge by making their own 'sock balls' out of all things plastic, paper, socks, t-shirts, foam and tying them together with string so that they can be involved in a penalty shout out next term. Students had a lot of fun making and testing their sock balls and realised that it is harder to play soccer with these types of balls. Nevertheless, they rose to the challenge, and we had two students, Melissa and Sofie who managed to juggle 12 times with this ball, which is amazing.

The Year 9 students also engaged in a range of activities such as meditation, prayer, group discussions and chants to learn about our call to discipleship, which is our call to action.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the students for engaging in the retreat program wholeheartedly and to the staff who attended for their valuable contribution and their support in the retreat. Special thanks to Jayne, our Canteen Manager, for ensuring we had a

delicious Morning Tea to accompany our pizza lunch organised by Ms Thomas; and to Jess, our Marketing and Communications Coordinator, for taking some wonderful footage and photos of this very special day.

“We have much to be thankful.” - Mary MacKillop 1873

With Blessings

Adriana Sotira

Religious Education Coordinator

Year 9 Retreat



Teaching and Learning

From the Art and Design Department

Linda Di Blasio and Romina Penna



On 23 June the SA Refugee Week Youth Poster Awards Exhibition was attended by student and exhibitor Ally. It showcased the work of 56 schools and SA universities at the Children's Art Space Gallery at the Adelaide Festival Centre. Well done, Ally!



“There were so many people and schools involved who all came to the opening event. The Minister for Education, The Honourable Blair Boyer MP, gave a speech about the importance of supporting refugees in Australia and welcoming their contributions and culture to the community, which I felt was very positive. There were so many different interpretations of art across many age groups, I felt proud to be a part of it.” - Ally

Some wonderful MMC students, Quincy (Year 8), Michaila (Year 7) and Sophia (Year 10) entered the 'Artists of the Year' competition presented by STAEDTLER stationary products who asked young artists to use any Staedtler product to create an artwork of their choice. In early July they announced the winners and Sophia was awarded one of the three highly commended awards for her artwork of four exquisitely detailed birds (pictured above). Congratulations, Sophia!

We are encouraging all students to please enter the Fringe Poster Competition which is celebrating their 50th year of the Fringe. They are asking for a design that captures the spirit of the Fringe, inclusivity and “ARTS UNLIMITED”, entries close 13th August.

[adelaidefringe.com.au/postercompetition?](http://adelaidefringe.com.au/postercompetition?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2024_adelaide_fringe_poster_competition_is_now_open&utm_term=2023-07-26)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2024_adelaide_fringe_poster_competition_is_now_open&utm_term=2023-07-26](http://adelaidefringe.com.au/postercompetition?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2024_adelaide_fringe_poster_competition_is_now_open&utm_term=2023-07-26)

For more information about upcoming competitions please listen to the morning notices and check the Visual Art notice board outside Room 218.

Year 10 Design



In Term Two Year 10 Design students attended the Norwood studio of artist/designer Tiff Manuell. This was an exciting opportunity for the students to speak with a designer and learn about the processes and production of textile design, giving them an insight into the design industry and inspiring them to produce their own digital and hand painted fabric designs. Students translated digital collage designs using Photoshop on printed fabric and painted canvases with patterns relating to the theme of the city or nature and created lap top bags incorporating their own designs. The results were outstanding! A special thanks to Ms Witton's sewing machine expertise!

Linda Di Blasio and Romina Penna

Art and Design Teachers

Sport

From the Sport Coordinator

Zoe Duffy



We are thrilled to announce the arrival of a sports extravaganza that will undoubtedly captivate students, families and staff alike: Intercol Netball!

Intercol Netball, short for Intercollegiate Netball, is a premier team sport that showcases the talent and sportsmanship of young athletes from Mary MacKillop College and Loreto College.

The inaugural Intercol Netball Championship is set to kick off on **Wednesday 23 August** at Loreto College. Games will commence at 4pm, with Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 teams competing and then finishing with the Open Netball showcase at 5pm. We invite you all to be a part of this exciting event.

Mark the date in your calendars and together let's cheer for Mary MacKillop College at the 2023 Intercol Netball Championship!

See you at the courts.

Zoe Duffy

Sport Coordinator

Old Scholar News

Old Scholar News

Brigette Connery (nee Pierce) Class of 1998

My name is Brigette Connery (nee Pierce), and I proudly graduated from Mary MacKillop College in 1998. My time at the College was filled with immense joy, as I experienced a wonderful high school journey and forged lifelong friendships that I still cherish to this day.

Reflecting on my years at Mary MacKillop College, one of my fondest memories revolves around my passion for music, which was nurtured and cultivated by the talented Mrs Carroll. With her guidance, I was able to grow musically, and my dedication earned me the prestigious Year 12 Music Award. As a



Item by Brigette Pierce

result, I had the incredible opportunity to perform at the Festival Theatre during the College's Awards Night. Sharing my musical talents not only boosted my self-confidence but also provided me with valuable personal growth before venturing out into the world.

While I may not have considered myself exceptionally academic, Mary MacKillop College allowed me to navigate through my strengths, particularly in networking and communication with others. These skills have proven to be invaluable in my journey since graduating. After completing my education at Mary MacKillop College, I embarked on a career in real estate. Initially, I

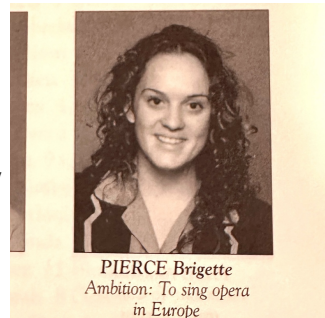
worked as a sales secretary, but due to my dedication and hard work, I quickly rose to the position of Property Manager, where I received comprehensive training in all aspects of the business.

As life evolved, I made the decision to transition into sales, providing me with greater flexibility, especially as I started a family. Over time, I eventually took the courageous step of starting my own business, and remarkably, many of my clients are from the Mary MacKillop College community, even after all these years.

Undoubtedly, Mary MacKillop College laid the firm foundation I needed to succeed both personally and professionally. The lessons, support and encouragement I received continue to positively impact my life to this day. Moreover, the friendships I made during my time at the College have remained steadfast, serving as a testament to the enduring connections formed within the Mary MacKillop College community.

Brigette Connery (nee Pierce), Class of 1998.

[View this article online to read more](#)



Be A MacKillop Girl

Come 'n' Try MacKillop Days



Mary MacKillop College warmly invites girls in Years 4, 5 and 6 to spend a day with us as a MacKillop girl.

Come 'n' Try MacKillop Days are a wonderful opportunity for your daughter to meet our staff and students while being involved in a range of interactive lessons and meeting new friends.

[Click here to book a Come 'n' Try MacKillop Day.](#)

Principal's Tour



Join our Principal, Sonia Nelson, for a tour of the College.

Principal's Tours are a great opportunity for prospective MacKillop girls and families to visit the College and to meet our Principal. You will

meet senior staff and students on an intimate tour of the school and experience our warm hospitality.

Term 3 Dates

Tuesday 22 August, 9.30am

Wednesday 13 September, 5.00pm

Term 4 Dates

Saturday 21 October, 10.00am

Wednesday 8 November, 9.30am

[Book Now](#)

MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE
PRESENTS

Alice

6PM WED 6TH SEPTEMBER @ GOLDEN
GROVE ARTS CENTRE



Book
Now



Mary MacKillop College
Kensington

[Read More](#)

WHERE Dreams BEGIN

Presented by the

Catholic Schools Music Festival

Come along to celebrate and support South Australia's talented youth in performances featuring a 400-voice choir, instrumental ensembles, vocal groups, and remarkable solo artists, all exhibiting an astonishing calibre of musicianship.

An event open to the whole community

**Tuesday 26 to Friday 29 September 2023
Festival Theatre, Adelaide Festival Centre**



[Purchase tickets](#)

MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

KENSINGTON



Join us
for a
College
Tour



marymackillop.sa.edu.au

[Click here to book a tour.](#)

Child Safe Environments

Mary MacKillop College Kensington provides a safe environment for all while valuing the partnership between school and home.

Every year, students are taught the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC) which is a respectful relationships and child safety curriculum for children and young people.

[Click here to read the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy.](#)

[Click here to find out more about the KS:CPC](#)

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