



Holy Child Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 13, 26 August 2021

St. Mary MacKillop, in full **Saint Mary Helen MacKillop**, also called **Saint Mary of the Cross**, (born January 15, 1842, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - died August 8, 1909, North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia; canonized October 17, 2010; feast day August 8), religious figure, educator, and social reformer who was the first Australian beatified by the Roman Catholic Church and the first Australian to be recognized as one of its saints.

MacKillop was born in Australia to Scottish immigrants. Her father, a former seminarian whose ill health had caused him to abandon study for the priesthood, stressed the importance of education and home-schooled his eight children. When she was 14, MacKillop began working, and she was often her family's main source of support. In 1860 she moved to the small rural town of Penola to serve as governess for the children of her aunt and uncle. There MacKillop provided her cousins with a basic education and soon extended this to the poor children of the town. A young priest, Father Julian Tenison Woods, encouraged her to continue this work, assuring her that educating the poor would be an ideal way to serve God.

In 1866 MacKillop and Woods founded Australia's first order of nuns, the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, and also established St. Joseph's

School in a converted stable in Penola, providing a free education to children from the area. In 1867 MacKillop took vows and became the first mother superior of the sisters. The following year the sisters opened schools in other Australian cities, as well as an orphanage and a refuge for women released from prison.

MacKillop intended that the order be self-governed and devoted to teaching and charity. She and Woods, who composed the rule for the order, insisted that the sisters would accept a life of total poverty, trusting in Divine Providence. Further, her school at Penola and the other schools that her order founded provided secular as well as religious education, regardless of the religious affiliation of the students, and accepted no money from the government, remaining open to all and accepting only what tuition parents could afford, at a time when the government still provided funding to religious schools. Some Australian priests and bishops were openly hostile both to the degree of autonomy that the Josephites enjoyed and to MacKillop's rejection of federal funding. In 1871, perhaps intentionally misinformed by his advisers, Bishop Laurence Sheil of Adelaide excommunicated MacKillop for insubordination. The next year, however, on his deathbed, Sheil acknowledged that he might have been misled, and he reinstated MacKillop.



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

MR ALAN SMITH

Dear Holy Child community.

This community never ceases to amaze me. The resilience and determination shown by our students during remote learning is something we can all be proud of. Many thanks to the parents, grandparents, and families, who are continuing to support our students. Our partnership is very evident. It is alive and well. The situation is a difficult one, but with your support at home, we can ensure that our students can make the best of a difficult situation.

It has come to our attention that some of our students are getting to bed very, very late. This is a concern.

Please talk to your children on the importance of getting a good night's sleep and getting plenty of fresh air when school concludes at 1:00pm.

God Bless you all.



SCHOOL GROUND HOURS

GATES OPEN 8.30AM

GATES CLOSE 3.40pm

Children playing outside the school grounds, before and after school, are not supervised until 8.30am before school and up to 3.40pm after school. Many children are going to the Jack Culpin Car Park\Reserve and Gibbs Reserve, before and after school, to wait for their parents' drop-off and pick-up. We are not able to supervise your children in these areas.

Please ensure that your children are collected from the School Grounds in Area 1. If your child is not collected by 3.40pm they are to be collected from the Reception Foyer.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE is available, contact **Camp Australia** directly on 1300 105 343 or oshc@campaustralia.com.au.

EASY PLAN AHEAD LUNCH BOX IDEAS

Nutrition Australia says that "Packing a healthy school lunchbox will help children to learn and play well and be happy at school." For more information please see <https://heas.health.vic.gov.au/schools/healthy-lunchboxes>

SUN SMART

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world.

In Victoria, from September through to the end of April, average UV levels are 3 and above, which is when UV radiation can damage skin and eyes and lead to skin cancer. When the UV Index is 3 and above:

1. **Slip** on sun-protective clothing
2. **Slop** on SPF30+, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen - put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and every two hours afterwards
3. **Slap** on a hat - that protects your face, head, neck and ears
4. **Seek** shade
5. **Slide** on some sunglasses - make sure they meet Australian Standards.



Holy Child is a SunSmart School and we enforce **NO Hat NO Play**

Children must wear the school hat during the break times at school.

During warmer weather, DRINK MORE WATER

As the weather warms up it is important that our children drink regularly.

Children will need a clearly named and refillable drink bottle.

Please do not send food that needs re-heating. Due to health and safety, we are unable to heat children's food at school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	5	Father's Day
Wednesday	8	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday	10	Online Learning Conversation
Thursday	16	Online Learning Conversation (commencing 3.45pm). Students to attend
Friday	17	School Closure - No children onsite Online Learning Conversations (8.45am-12.30pm). Students to attend online learning conversations Camp Australia closed End of Term 3

NOTICES

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

This experience gives married couples the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living.

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details.

Next **on-line** weekend is on: **10 - 12 September 2021**
Next Non-**Residential** weekend is on: **16 - 17 October 2021**

Information/Bookings:

Telephone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: wwme.org.au

**Holy Child Primary School is committed to the
safety, wellbeing and protection of the children in our care**



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