

Red letter day for shared education

IN an attempt to revive the dying art of letter writing, Penola's Mary MacKillop Memorial School has teamed up with an Adelaide-based college for a new project.

The school has formed a learning relationship with secondary school Mary MacKillop College.

Both schools had not formed a relationship until last year's 150th celebration of the Sisters of St Joseph.

After Adelaide students attended the celebrations, teaching personnel remained in contact.

The Adelaide college has now scheduled a week-long visit to the area at the end of August.

The trip will include a retreat, study sessions, visit to the Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre, activities with Penola students and a chance to explore the town's historical features.

Mary MacKillop Memorial School principal Maureen Hanrahan said the letter writing project gave students the opportunity to connect before they meet in August.

"Each child has been paired up with one of the senior students at the college," she said.

"They will send letters back and forth during the lead up to the visit



EXCITEMENT: Mary MacKillop Memorial School student Christopher received his first letter from a Mary MacKillop College student last week.

Picture: KYRA SYKES

later this year."

The Penola students were filled with excitement when they received their first letter from the college students last Wednesday.

Students will now learn traditional letter writing skills and methods to write a reply.

"We want to teach the children about letters and how important they were when communicating with friends or loved ones many years ago," Ms Hanrahan said.

"Receiving a letter is such a thrill and we want the children to experience that.

"It is a chance to build a relationship with the Adelaide school for the benefit of our students."