



## Important Dates

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**Year 12 Retreat concludes**

Friday 11 April 2025

**Term 1 concludes**

Friday 11 April 2025

**Good Friday**

Friday 18 April 2025

**Easter Saturday**

Saturday 19 April 2025

**Easter Sunday**

Sunday 20 April 2025

**Easter Monday**

Monday 21 April 2025

**Term 2 commences**

Monday 28 April 2025

**Awards Assembly**

Thursday 1 May 2025

**Parent Teacher Night**

Tuesday 6 May 2025

**Principal's Twilight Tour, 5.00pm**

Wednesday 7 May 2025

**Year 11 Retreat**

Thursday 8 May 2025

**Mother's Day**

Sunday 11 May 2025

**Year 7 Retreat**

Thursday 15 May 2025

**Discover MacKillop Day - Specialist Dance - Years 3 to 6**

Thursday 15 May 2025

**Year 11 Formal**

Friday 16 May 2025

**Year 7 2026 Autumn Transition Morning**

Tuesday 27 May 2025

**Good News Assembly**

Thursday 29 May 2025

**Principal's Tour, 9.30am**

Friday 30 May 2025

## Acknowledgement of Country

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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

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"I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though they die they will live,  
and whoever lives and believes in me  
will never die." (John 11:25)

We pray,

Creator God,

We come before You with hearts full of gratitude,

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ over death.

We praise you for loving us so deeply  
that you sent Jesus to save us.

We remember his suffering,  
his dying, and his rising.

May we walk in the light of His love,  
Spreading His peace and hope to the world.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Courage and Leadership

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# From the Principal

Sonia Nelson



## Wrapping Up a Wonderful Term

As Term 1 draws to a close, there is much to celebrate and be grateful for in our College community. It has been a busy start to the year, filled with learning, connection and joy. Our students have embraced opportunities in the classroom and beyond, and it has been a pleasure to witness their growth and enthusiasm.

Two recent events were particular highlights—each one showcasing the spirit and strength of our College.

Our Open Night was a wonderful celebration of all that makes MacKillop special. With over 200 visitors attending, the evening was a vibrant showcase of our beautiful facilities, dynamic learning programs and welcoming community. Our students were outstanding, serving as tour guides, performing with energy and skill, and assisting across learning areas. Many proud alumnae also returned to support the event, reminding us of the deep sense of belonging that continues after graduation.

We were also delighted to welcome primary students to our Discover MacKillop Day, where they had the chance to experience some of the exciting learning opportunities on offer at the College. From Food Technology and Music to Drama and Digital Technology, the day was filled with fun, creativity and curiosity. Bonnie MacKillop was also there to welcome the girls, adding a little extra fun to their day and our young visitors left with smiles and stories to share.

Earlier this term, a group of our students had the privilege of assisting with the Sisters of St Joseph Jubilee celebration, an event honouring eight Sisters celebrating significant milestones since their first profession. It was a beautiful occasion hosted by the Sisters themselves, and our girls were warmly thanked for their help with serving at the luncheon with enthusiasm and genuine care.

Congratulations to the following Sisters of St Joseph:

**40 years Maryann Casanova**

**60 years Mary McNamara, Maureen Featherstone, Meg Goodfellow, Margaret Cresp and Margaret Faulkner**

**70 years Geraldine Stringer**

**75 years Judith Murnane**

As we begin a well-earned break, I would like to thank all members of our community for your energy, commitment and support throughout the term. Students, families and staff have each played a part in making Term 1 such a positive and successful start to the year.



May this Easter season bring peace, renewal and hope as we look toward the joy of the resurrection.  
Go well and God bless.

**Sonia Nelson**  
Principal

Discover MacKillop Day







# Sisters of St Joseph Jubilee Celebration





## From the Deputy Principal

Jasmin Eckert



### **Celebrating Leadership and Community at Mary MacKillop College**

The past few weeks have been filled with moments of leadership, service and community spirit at Mary MacKillop College.

Following our St Joseph's Feast Day Liturgy, we gathered to formally induct our 2025 Student Leadership Team. This special occasion marked the official beginning of their leadership journey, as they pledged to serve with integrity, compassion and a commitment to our Josephite values. The induction ceremony was a meaningful reminder of the role student leaders play in fostering a supportive and inclusive school community.

In the spirit of service, our Student Leadership Team also hosted a memorable Night at the Movies on the oval. With picnic blankets spread under the stars, students enjoyed a screening of Shrek, delicious popcorn and a community BBQ. The event was not only a fun-filled evening but also a wonderful opportunity to raise funds for Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. A heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors for donating gifts for our raffle and to our Parents and Friends volunteers for their invaluable support in cooking the BBQ.

These events reflect the strong sense of leadership and community at Mary MacKillop College, where students are empowered to lead with purpose and make a difference.

**Jasmin Eckert**

Deputy Principal

## Leadership Induction 2025









# Our Josephite Heritage

## From the Religious Education Coordinator

Adriana Sotira



"So it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead." - Luke 24:46

"God gives me strength for what is necessary." - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

### St Joseph's Feast Day Liturgy

"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." - Matthew 1:24

On Thursday 20 March, the Mary MacKillop College community gathered to celebrate the Feast Day of St Joseph with a meaningful and sacred liturgy. This occasion allowed us to honour the life and legacy of a humble and faithful man who protected and cared for Mary and Jesus, always placing their needs above his own. St Joseph was a man of deep faith, constantly turning to God for guidance and strength. As part of the celebration, a Sister of St Joseph, Sr Maryellen, shared a heartfelt reflection on the quiet strength and unwavering trust of Joseph, encouraging us to embody his humility, faith and devotion in our own lives.

This day was also particularly special as our 2025 Student Leaders were formally presented to the College community. Sr Brigitte Sipa,



Regional Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph CentreWest, offered a special blessing over the new leaders, reminding them to lead with hearts grounded in love, humility and service. We congratulate our Student Leaders on their commitment to providing responsible leadership and we wish them every success as they grow in confidence in their leadership abilities. May they continue to lead with courage and compassion, inspiring positive change within our school community.

### **Celebrating the Season of Easter**

As a caring, connected and faith-filled community, we now enter the joyous season of Easter — a time of celebration, hope and renewal. Easter reminds us of the triumph of life over death and the promise of new beginnings through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This sacred season invites us to carry forward the reflections of Lent and embrace the spirit of joy, love and transformation in our everyday lives. The message of Easter encourages us to be people of hope, spreading kindness, compassion and peace within our school, homes and wider communities.

At Mary MacKillop College, we continue to be inspired by the words and actions of our patron saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, who faced challenges with faith and chose to act in love. Just as Mary responded to the needs of those around her, Easter calls us to be a light for others and share in the joy of the Resurrection through our actions.

Wishing you all a joyful, peaceful and blessed Easter filled with love and hope!

"May God bless you and keep you strong." St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1875

With Blessings

**Adriana Sotira**

Religious Education Coordinator

## **From the Social Justice Captains**

Asha and Gurmanna



### **JJAMM Sydney 2025**

Asha and I were incredibly grateful for the opportunity to attend JJAMM 2025, a leadership retreat that brought together twenty-five Josephite schools from across Australia and New Zealand. Over four days, we explored the Josephite Charism, reflected on the leadership of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Fr Julian Tenison Woods and St Joseph, deepening our commitment to social justice. A huge thank you to our school for this incredible experience, we had an unforgettable time, made lifelong friends and left feeling inspired to lead with purpose!

Our journey began at Mary MacKillop Place, where we asked ourselves, “How are we united in spirit but enriched in many different ways?” We explored the Mary MacKillop Museum, gaining a new appreciation for her vision and leadership. Seeing where she walked and how she responded to challenges brought her story to life in a powerful way. As the day unfolded, we ended with a ferry ride through Sydney Harbour, taking in the stunning cityscape and making lasting memories.

Day two began with a touching reflection at Mary MacKillop’s tomb, reminding us of the privilege of life and the responsibility to live it with purpose. We then explored how our unique gifts as leaders contribute to the shared Josephite mission. Through workshops, guest speakers and engaging discussions, we learned how we can put faith into action. The night ended at Kincumber, where the JJAMM Jingles took centre stage.

On Monday, we participated in leadership workshops that encouraged us to refine our goals and strengthen our sense of purpose. Engaging discussions and activities helped us understand how to live out the JJAMM values in our roles. That evening, we gathered one last time as a group, celebrating the friendships we had made and reflecting on the lessons we would take back to our schools.

Our last day was spent in prayer and reflection, allowing us to appreciate the incredible journey we had been on. During the closing session, we committed to carrying the JJAMM spirit forward, ensuring that the inspiration and wisdom we gained would shape our leadership. With gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose, we said our goodbyes, ready to put our insights into action.

JJAMM 2025 was an experience we will carry with us always. It reminded us that leadership is about action, compassion and staying true to our values. As we returned to school, we were excited to bring the JJAMM spirit into everything we do!

**Gurmannat and Asha**

Social Justice Captains



JJAMM Sydney



# From the College Captains

Jennifer and Chiara



## What a Term! What a Team!

As we come to the end of a busy and rewarding term, we are grateful and proud to reflect on the incredible contributions of our 2025 Student Leadership Team. Comprising 18 dedicated Year 12 students, our team has embraced every opportunity to lead with integrity, passion and commitment to our College values.

A highlight of our leadership journey as College Captains this term was attending the National Student Leadership Summit. This experience allowed us to collaborate with student leaders from a range of schools, sharing ideas and reflecting on what it means to be an effective leader. Through a series of workshops, we explored self-leadership, community engagement and the importance of aligning our values with our leadership mission. One of our key takeaways was the significance of understanding ourselves as leaders before being entrusted to guide others. We also delved into effective problem-solving strategies to create positive change within our community. We returned from this summit inspired and eager to apply our newfound knowledge in the College.

Our Student Leadership Team has had an exceptionally active term, balancing our leadership responsibilities with maintaining our academic pursuits. Our Sports Captains kicked off the year by preparing and leading a fantastic Swimming Carnival, setting the tone for an exciting year of House spirit and competition, which was followed with a highly successful Athletics Carnival, later in the term.

Early Term 1, the entire Student Leadership Team gathered for a two-day Formation Camp at West Beach, where we developed our leadership vision for the year. This was followed by our Social Justice Captains' trip to Sydney for JJAMM Week, where they connected with other Josephite leaders from around the country, reinforcing our commitment to social justice and service.

Throughout the term, members of the Student Leadership Team have played a pivotal role in key College events. From assisting with Principal's Tours and visiting partner primary schools to leading the College Open Night tours, our team has demonstrated dedication to fostering College spirit. We also proudly represented Mary MacKillop College at the International Women's Day Breakfast, taking the opportunity to celebrate and advocate for the empowerment of women.

A significant moment in our leadership journey was the Student Leadership Team Commissioning, held after the St Joseph's Feast Day Liturgy. This special occasion reaffirmed our commitment to serving our school community. Following this, some of us were honoured to support the Sisters of St Joseph Jubilee celebrations, demonstrating our gratitude for the legacy of Mary MacKillop.

The Student Leadership Team has also been instrumental in fostering community initiatives and raising money for Project Compassion through events such as Shrove Tuesday, facilitating a raffle and our first ever Night at the Movies during which we took on the role of MCs, helping to create a memorable event for all involved. Our Wellbeing Captains made International Women's Day even sweeter by



selling cupcakes, while our Prefects played a key role in leading a Formation Afternoon with the Student Representative Committee. Each morning, members of the Student Leadership Team have been at the College gates, warmly greeting students as they arrive—a small but meaningful way to enhance our sense of community at Mary MacKillop College.

As we reflect on the term, we are incredibly proud of all we have achieved. The passion and dedication of our Student Leadership Team have been evident in every event, initiative and interaction. We look forward to building on this momentum as we continue to serve our College with enthusiasm and purpose.

**Jennifer and Chiara**

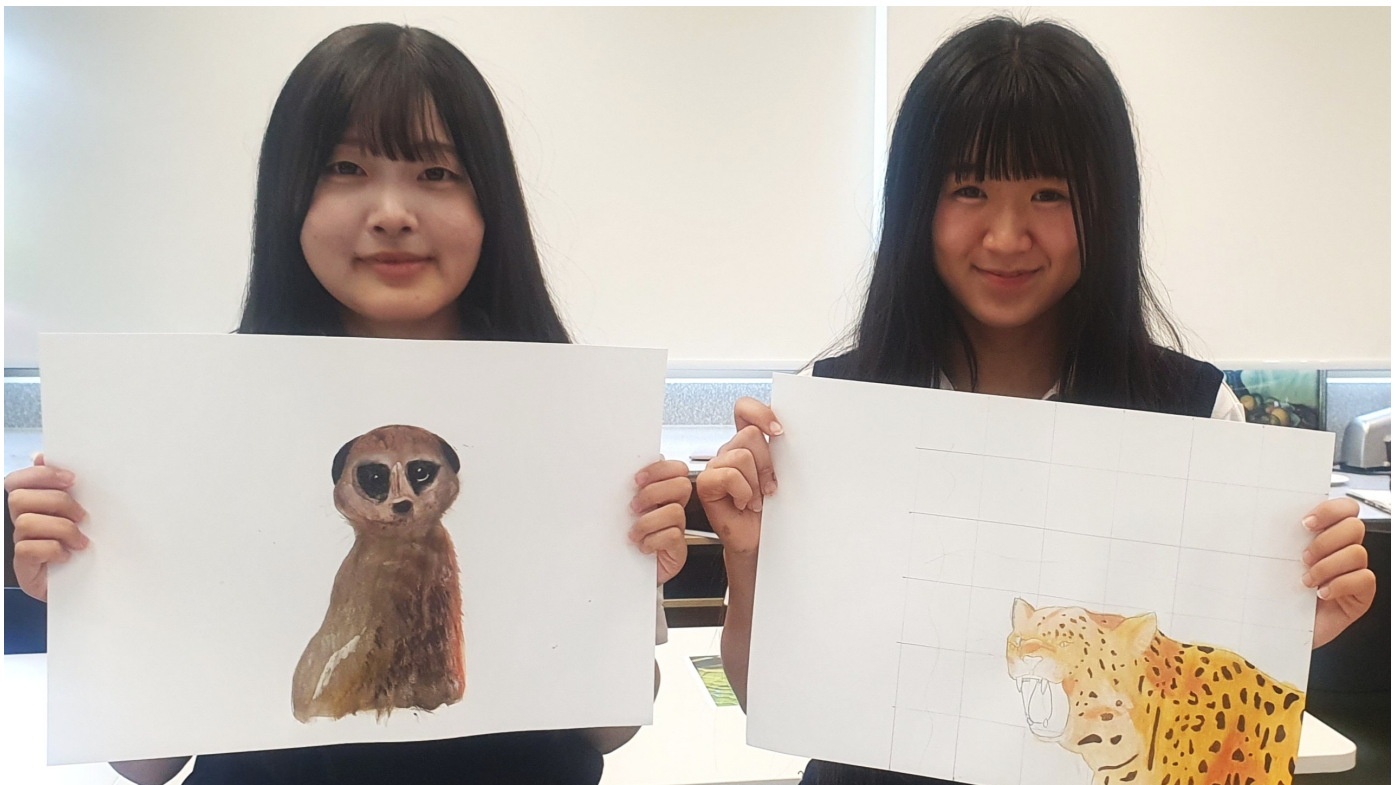
College Captains

## Teaching and Learning

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### From the Arts Leader of Learning

Linda Di Blasio



Once again, a very busy Term 1 in the Arts. We have achieved great things with awards and Art Shows.

Artworks, music, dances and theatre for the Term 3 Arts Production are progressing. Beautiful landscapes are emerging from the Year 9 Art students as well as African imagery emerging through Year 10 acrylic paintings. Year 7 artists have created African basket drawings developing skills in line and texture. In Dance and Drama, students are well underway with characters and dances, preparing for 'The Circle of Life'. Music students are also rehearsing songs for the production. The Years 7 and 8 Drama classes have made masks and puppets as part of the props for the production.

Congratulations to the performance choir who performed a beautiful rendition of Soldier, Poet, King by Oh Hello for our Good News Assembly last week.

Our visiting Japanese students from St Capitanio Girls' High School enjoyed developing their painting skills and techniques with our Year 10 Art students. They worked on the Arts production theme of 'Africa' by creating studies of animals from the continent. They also worked with the Year 10 Design students with fashion studies. They created outfits from Japanese and Australian landmarks and flowers.

For our Discover MacKillop day this week, primary students enjoyed Music and Drama classes. In Music, students learnt part of Love Story by Taylor Swift. They sang Karaoke and tried the basic Rock Drum Beat as well as instruments like guitar, bass and piano to play along with the karaoke recording.

In Drama, students developed a postcard holiday scene tableau where they learnt how to create still and moving scenes which tell a story.

Read more below regarding some highlights from our Art and Dance specialist teachers showcasing the amazing work they have developed and are working on this term.

### **Linda Di Blasio**

The Arts Leader of Learning

## **Visual Arts – Art and Design**

On Monday, 17 March, the Adelaide College of the Arts hosted the opening event of the 2025 SACE Art Show, celebrating the creativity and dedication of South Australia's emerging young artists. The exhibition showcases selected Stage 2 Art and Design works from across the state, highlighting the incredible talent of this year's students.

It was a privilege to celebrate the achievements of two Mary MacKillop College students, Anna (Class of 2024) and Sophia (Class of 2025), whose outstanding artworks were selected for display. Their hard work, artistic vision and dedication to their craft have been truly commendable. We are incredibly proud of both Anna and Sophia for their exceptional efforts and artistic achievements. Their success is a testament to their passion and commitment to the Arts.

Congratulations to Sophia, whose remarkable talent was acknowledged with an Eckersley's Art and Craft Encouragement Award. Her piece captivated audiences with its intricate detail, technical skill and creative expression.

Sophia also won the Secondary School category of the Adelaide Parklands Art Prize this week. Her artwork titled Nankeen Kestrels in the Urban Wild was the first out of 100 pieces to sell!

It will be hanging in the Festival Theatre for the next month, open to the public from 10am until 3pm Fridays and Saturdays.

### **Romina Penna**

Art and Design Teacher

## **Dance and Drama**

Our 'Circle of Life' Arts Production theme has been a continual source of inspiration for students in Drama and Dance.

Like the sun and the moon, everything has its time and everything returns, completing the cycle of existence. "Everything you see exists together in a delicate balance. As King, you need to understand that balance and respect all the creatures, from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope." Mufasa, The Lion King.

Year 7 Drama students are excited to share some progress they have been making when designing and creating African animal puppets.

"We experimented with using our arm as the long neck of the flamingo and made beak puppets designed to be held on our fingers." Milly, Mackenzie, Immanuella, Estella and Ella.

"The gazelle puppets we have made will be held on our forearms as we leap, giving the illusion of a herd of leaping gazelles." Harper, Isla, Zoe and Audrey.

"We included African patterns and fierce yellow eyes on our wilder beast faces, designed to give the effect of an angry stampede." Kiana, Hayley and Eloise.

"Our bird puppets are almost finished. We will then look at how to create the illusion of flight". Adeline, Imogen, Emily, Kaitlin, Ava and Teegan.

### **Rachel Scott**

Dance and Drama Teacher





# Pastoral Care

## From the Rite Journey Lead Teacher

Natalie Baack



### Reflecting on the Rite Journey So Far

The Rite Journey has been an incredible experience for our Year 9 students in 2025. It all began in Week 3 with our camp at Woodhouse, where students embraced challenges, such as sleeping in tents and abseiling down the side of a tower. A significant moment during the camp was our first Rite Journey ceremony, ‘The Calling’. This ceremony marked the start of our journey, encouraging students to reflect on leaving childhood behind and stepping into a new stage of life with greater responsibility and maturity.

In Week 7, we held a special parent ceremony at school known as ‘The Departure Ceremony’. This event provided an opportunity for parents and mentors to learn more about the Rite Journey and the experiences students would undertake throughout the year. A highlight of the evening was the candle-lighting ceremony, where parents and mentors acknowledged the journey ahead and offered their support. It was a meaningful and emotional moment, reinforcing the strong connections between students and their families.

Looking ahead, students will continue to face new challenges that will shape their growth. In Terms 2 and 3, they will participate in the mentor program, where they will spend time with an adult mentor who will help guide them through this transformative journey. Then, at

the end of Term 3, students will take on one of their biggest challenges yet—climbing Mount Lofty. This physical and mental challenge will symbolise the resilience, perseverance and personal growth they have developed throughout the year.

The Rite Journey continues to be an enriching and rewarding experience, helping students reflect on who they are, who they want to become and the support they have around them. We look forward to seeing their continued growth and the lessons they will carry with them into the future.

**Natalie Baack**

The Rite Journey Lead Teacher

## From the Director of Students

Liz Stewart



## Good News Assembly – Term 1, 2025

The Term 1 Good News Assembly was a joyful celebration of the many achievements and experiences of the Mary MacKillop College students throughout the term.

### The Arts

The Arts Captains proudly announced that Anna Porrovecchio and Sophia Guth had their artworks selected for the prestigious 2025 SACE Art Show. In addition, Sophia was honoured with an Eckersley Art and Craft Encouragement Award. Students and staff were treated to a presentation of photographs from the recent excursion to the Chihuly exhibition, attended by Year 9, 11 and 12 Art students. A highlight of the assembly was a video showcasing the Dance Academy's participation in an energetic African Dance Workshop.

The Performance Choir, under the direction of Ms Marina Olijnyk, captivated the audience with beautiful renditions of I Have Seen the Light and Soldier, Poet, King.

### Careers

Certificates were awarded to Ava Abnett and Mary Lourdes in recognition of their participation in a one-day workshop with Zoos SA, highlighting their initiative and enthusiasm for exploring future career pathways.

### Year Seven

Year 7 students spoke about the exciting experiences of their camp at El Shaddai and the much-loved Special Person's Day, which provided a meaningful opportunity to connect with family and friends.

### Year Nine

The Year 9 students shared reflections on their involvement in The Rite Journey program, including details of the 'Calling and Departure'



ceremonies and their enriching camp experience at Woodhouse.

### **Sport**

The Sports Report provided a vibrant summary of the term's major sporting events, including the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, celebrating the dedication and team spirit of our student athletes.

### **Social Justice**

Social Justice Captains Asha and Gurmanna gave an inspiring account of their time in Sydney at the JJAMM Leadership Retreat. They also shared information about Caritas and its mission to address inequality and poverty through sustainable development and community support.

The assembly concluded on a heartfelt note with a performance by the visiting students from St Capitanio, marking their final day at Mary MacKillop College and celebrating the friendships and cultural exchange fostered during their stay.

It is always a joy to bring together such a wide array of accomplishments and highlights at each Good News Assembly. These moments remind us of the vibrant and inclusive community that makes Mary MacKillop College a truly special place.

## **The Importance of Attendance**

As we end a very busy term one, I wish to share some research indicating the importance of students attending school all day, every day.

Research confirms a strong link between attendance and student outcomes meaning that students who attend school regularly tend to perform better academically compared to those with frequent absences.

Non-attendance has a variety of effects on students, both academically and socially. Absenteeism can increase social isolation, including alienation and lack of engagement with the school community and peers, leading to emotional and behavioural difficulties (Carroll, 2013; Gottfried, 2014)

Poor school attendance can be linked to a number of short and long-term adverse outcomes for students including lower academic outcomes, early school leaving, substance use, poverty, unemployment and negative health outcomes.

A student's regular absence from school may be a critical indicator in disengagement, leading directly to some of these adverse outcomes. Regardless of the nature of the relationship, poor school attendance, particularly with a high number of unexplained or unauthorised absences, is a readily observable warning sign for potential longer-term adverse outcomes.

We want the best for our students and this starts with attendance. If there is an issue preventing your daughter from consistently attending school please contact your daughter's Pastoral Care Teacher, Pastoral Care Coordinator, myself or Jasmin Eckert as we are all here to support our students.

**"Every day counts and there is no 'safe' threshold for absences" – Hancock et al., 2013**

Further reading:

Lifting School Achievement through Attendance

<https://www.aitsl.edu.au/docs/default-source/research-evidence/spotlight/attendance-matters.pdf>

**Liz Stewart**

Director of Students

# Farewell to Our Friends from St Capitanio Girl's High School, Japan

Jeanene Corbo



Over the past three weeks, we've had the joy of welcoming twelve students from St Capitanio, Japan, as part of our Cultural Exchange program. From cooking Aussie classics like ANZAC biscuits and sausage rolls, to preparing fairy bread and immersing themselves in school life through our buddy system, their warmth and enthusiasm lit up our community. Highlights included creative jewellery making, interactive Maths lessons and fun excursions to the Norwood Pool, Hoyts Cinema and Kingpin Bowling. A standout moment was their moving performance at our Good News Assembly, an acapella version of The Power of Your Love. This reminds us of the deep connections that can grow across cultures. These students embraced every opportunity with joy, openness and curiosity, building friendships and lasting memories along the way. As we say farewell our new friends, we do so with full hearts and gratitude. *Arigatou gozaimasu* - thank you very much - for sharing this special time with us.

**Jeanene Corbo**

Years 10 to 12 Pastoral Care Coordinator



## From the College Counsellors

Domenique Violi and Sarah Corbett



### Your College Counsellors Are Here to Help

At Mary MacKillop College, we understand the importance of mental health and wellbeing. Our counselling service offers a safe and supportive space for students to talk, reflect, and feel heard. It's okay to ask for help — whether you're feeling overwhelmed, need someone to talk to, or just want to check in.

To book a session, email Domenique (available Tuesday and Wednesday) or Sarah (available Friday) at [counsellors@marymackillop.sa.edu.au](mailto:counsellors@marymackillop.sa.edu.au).

You can also speak with your teacher or Pastoral Care Coordinator if you would like help reaching out.

Remember, you're never alone — support is always available.

**Domenique Violi and Sarah Corbett**

College Counsellors

## Sport

### COUNSELLING SERVICE

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP.

**TO BOOK** 📧 Email Domenique (Tues + Wed) & Sarah (Fri)  
[counsellors@marymackillop.sa.edu.au](mailto:counsellors@marymackillop.sa.edu.au)  
Or ask your teacher or PCC to help you reach out

**OTHER SUPPORTS**

**Kids Helpline** : 24/7 Phone & Webchat  
1800 551 800, [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

**Headspace** : 9am-1pm Phone & Online  
1800 650 890, [headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)

**Beyond Blue** : 24/7 Phone & Webchat  
1300 22 4636, [beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au)

**Mary MacKillop College**  
Kensington

# Netball News

Jasmin Eckert, Netball Coordinator



It has been a busy and exciting few weeks as we prepare for the upcoming Winter Netball season at Mary MacKillop College. Our Years 7, 8 and 9 Specialist Netball classes have been working hard to develop their skills, participating in trials in preparation for Saturday Sport in Terms 2 and 3. The energy, enthusiasm and teamwork on display has been fantastic.

In Week 11, some Year 9 Netball students and our Year 10 Showcase team proudly represented the College at the Netball SA Schools Challenge Cup. Our Year 9 team competed in the 9/10 Division, while our Year 10 team stepped up to the Open Division. It was a challenging day of competition, but a valuable opportunity to identify areas for growth, celebrate our strengths and build strong team connections.

The following evening, we hosted a special netball event here at Mary MacKillop College, welcoming two visiting community teams, a Crafrers senior team and a representative Hills team, for a series of scratch matches that celebrated school and community spirit.

Our Open team took to the court against Di's Crafrers Senior team. Di is a much-loved figure on the sidelines of many MacKillop games and a valued volunteer coach. Despite missing some key players, our Open team showed great adaptability, determination and courage, playing in new positions and never giving up. While the scoreboard wasn't in our favour, the effort, growth and positivity shown by our players was something to be proud of.

Next, our Year 10 Showcase team faced off against the U15 Hills Representative team in what was a thrilling and evenly matched contest. Both teams gave their all, with the score neck-and-neck throughout the match. In the final moments, the Hills team edged ahead to claim a narrow 2-goal win. It was a game full of passion, skill and resilience, an absolute credit to all players involved.

The winning teams on the night were awarded a very special prize: a Thunderbirds netball signed by the 2024 Championship team. The Best Player of the evening was Ela (Year 10) from MacKillop, who received a signed Thunderbirds t-shirt for her outstanding performance and her sportspersonship.

Thank you to all the players, staff, volunteers and supporters who contributed to these wonderful events. We are so proud of the effort and enthusiasm our students continue to show and look forward to many more exciting netball moments and community connections throughout the year.

We look forward to the start of the Winter Netball season in Term 2 and encourage all families to show their support by purchasing Mary MacKillop College sport beanies, scarves and umbrellas from the Front Office. These are perfect for keeping warm and dry on the side lines and cheering on our teams in style.

**Jasmin Eckert**





## From the Sport Coordinator

Ava Corrieri

Well done to all teams who competed in Term 1 Saturday Sport. Special mention to Middle MMC 3 Volleyball, Senior MMC 2 Volleyball, Senior MMC 3 Volleyball and Open Basketball who have all been undefeated this season!

Congratulations to Caitlin (Year 9) who has been selected for the Under 15 Little Athletics State Team. Caitlin will compete at the Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships, representing South Australia on the national stage. Best of luck to Caitlin.

Another congratulations is to Sienna (Year 8) upon being selected for the Australian Football 15 Years and Under Girls State Team. Best of luck to Sienna.

Term 2/3 Sport teams will be sent via email. Training will commence in Week 1 and games commence Saturday 3 May. Good luck to all teams.

**Ava Corrieri**

Sport Coordinator

## Be A MacKillop Girl

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## Principal's Tours



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 welcoming community.

### **Term Two**

Wednesday 7 May 5.00pm

Friday 30 May 9.30am

Friday 27 June 9.30am

### **Term Three**

Friday 1 August 9.30am

Tuesday 19 August 9.30am

Wednesday 10 September 5.00pm

### **Term Four**

Wednesday 29 October 9.30am

[Click here](#) for more information or to register.



## Discover MacKillop Days



Mary MacKillop College warmly invites girls in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to spend a day with us as a MacKillop girl.

Discover 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.

### **Term Two**

Thursday 15 May - Specialist Dance Day

Thursday 5 June - Launch into STEM Day

### **Term Three**

Friday 15 August - Masterchef at MacKillop Day

Tuesday 26 August

### **Term Four**

Friday 7 November - Specialist Netball Day

Suitable for girls in Years 3 to 6.

Please [click here](#) to register your daughter for a Discover MacKillop Day.

## References for Attendance Data

Performance Insights: School Attendance, October 2013 <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiativesstrategies/Documents/performance-insights-report.pdf>

Carroll, H. (2013). The social, emotional and behavioural difficulties of primary school children with poor attendance records. *Educational Studies*, 39(2), 223–234. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03055698.2012.717508>

Gottfried, M. A. (2014). Chronic Absenteeism and Its Effects on Students' Academic and Socioemotional Outcomes. *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*, 19(2), 53–75. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10824669.2014.962696>

Hancock, K. J., Shepherd, C. C. J., Lawrence, D., & Zubrick, S. R. (2013). Student attendance and educational outcomes: Every day counts. Report for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Canberra. <https://doi.org/10.13140/2.1.4956.6728>

Outstanding Results from the Class of 2024!

# Congratulations Class of 2024



**266**

**A**  
grades

**100%**

**SACE**  
completion

**95%**

**A&B**  
grades

# Top of the State!

**Caitlyn Grech**  
**College DUX**

**1 of only 3 students**  
**in SA to achieve the**  
**most Merits in 2024!**





# MacKillop Girls Achieve



**21**  
**Merits**

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## MacKillop Girls Achieve

**63%**  
of Year 12 grades  
in the **A band!**

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**Mackillop Girls Achieve**

**95%**

**of Year 12 grades  
in the A&B bands!**

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**Mackillop Girls Achieve**

**33%**

**of Year 12 students in  
top 10% in Australia!**

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# Mackillop Girls Achieve

# 66%

## of Year 12 students in top 20% in Australia!

## See our affordable new fee structure

[marymackillop.sa.edu.au](http://marymackillop.sa.edu.au)



[Learn more](#)

Catholic Schools Parents SA

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[Click here to access the Charter for Parents](#) from Catholic School Parents South Australia.

Child Safe Environments

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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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## 2025 Term Dates

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### Term 1

Concludes 11 April 2025

### Term 2

28 April 2025 - 4 July 2025

### Term 3

21 July 2025 - 26 September 2025

### Term 4

13 October 2025 - 12 December 2025

(Please note, these do not include student free days etc)

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## College Calendar

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A reminder, the College Calendar can be accessed via the SEQTA Portal page.

Thank you.