

Heart, Mind and Spirit – news from MacKillop Catholic College

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples and ongoing custodians of this land, the Gimuy Nulbura Yjindji people

Always with heart ...

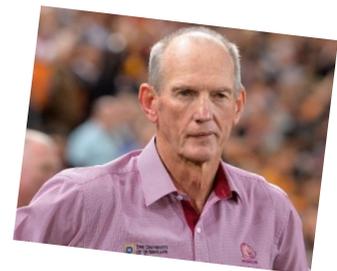


Our College community commenced the season of **Lent** a few weeks back with the pledge to be a community of “**Helping Hands and Loving Hearts**”.

Throughout Lent we are called to examine our hearts, opening ourselves to God so that we may be changed from within by the experience of Divine merciful love. Perhaps the greatest challenge is to overcome the fear that somehow the Christian life might restrict or diminish us. On the contrary, the wisdom of lived experience over the centuries is that the Christian life lived authentically is a pathway to full human living. The experience of great human beings like our patron St Mary MacKillop shows us this; but not only ...

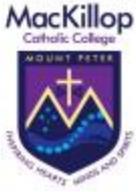
Counted amongst the greatest Rugby League Coaches of all times, Brisbane Broncos’ **Wayne Bennett** is widely admired for his personal coaching style and his humble approach in life. As foundation Coach of the Brisbane Broncos, and now recently returned to that key position, Wayne has been rightfully applauded for his contribution. For Broncos’ first twenty one years he was a consistent presence, both to the team and within the club.

Perhaps foundation Broncos Chairman, Barry Maranta said it best when Bennett announced he was leaving at the end of the 2008 season; “*Wayne Bennett is the heart and soul of the place. I just can’t imagine the Broncos without Wayne Bennett.*”



Central to Bennett’s passion about life, which has been so well expressed in his coaching, is his insistence that he and the players have ‘heart’ in all they do. Some years ago the team Captain of the day, Alfie Langer, resigned midseason with the full personal support of Coach Bennett. Alfie spoke of his loss of passion for the role and his belief that to carry on as captain would be a gross injustice to his team. Wayne Bennett himself said at another time that it would be far better to leave a year early than a year too late.

In these weeks we enter more deeply into the season of **Lent** – a time for spiritual renewal; a time to review and take stock of what truly matters in our lives; a time to give renewed expression to God’s gift of love for us. Lent calls us to pray, to fast, and to serve others.



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In the same vein as Wayne Bennett, St Paul calls us as Christian people to live our lives with ‘heart’. In writing to the community at Corinth, St Paul affirms that love puts the heart into the spiritual life. Even the most seemingly pious and selfless of acts, if devoid of love, ring hollow.

Though I command languages both human and angelic—if I speak without love, I am no more than a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. And though I have the power of prophecy, to penetrate all mysteries and knowledge, and though I have all the faith necessary to move mountains—if I am without love, I am nothing. Though I should give away to the poor all that I possess, and even give up my body to be burned—if I am without love, it will do me no good whatever.
(1 Cor 13)

If we take on the practices of Christianity without these being authentic expressions of our soul and spirit, in the end they will be of small benefit. By our own power or force of will we find we are able to accomplish little. The spiritual experience of Christians though is that if we allow the gift of God’s love to move through us, much is accomplished.

The season of Lent that lies before us is an opportunity again to hear and experience God’s love. It’s the season of ‘heart’; to be encouraged in the living in the manner God intended us to live. Lent is a time to be decisive; to make a thought-filled decision for something, rather than acting and responding in ways that by habit can often seem to be automatic, especially if those ways led us to be less than what we can be.

Wayne Bennett always encouraged his players to be positive and to intentionally become the best player they could become for the sake of themselves and their team. We too can choose to become the people God created us to be. We need only to allow God’s gifts to work within us – most especially the gift of love. Such a gift of ‘heart’ in any one of us enriches us all.

May God give renewed ‘heart’ to our College and our families this Lent.

LUKE REED : College Principal

INDUSTRIAL ACTION AND ENTERPRISE BARGAINING

MacKillop Catholic College is unaffected by industrial action occurring in some Catholic schools. All school activities will continue as scheduled.

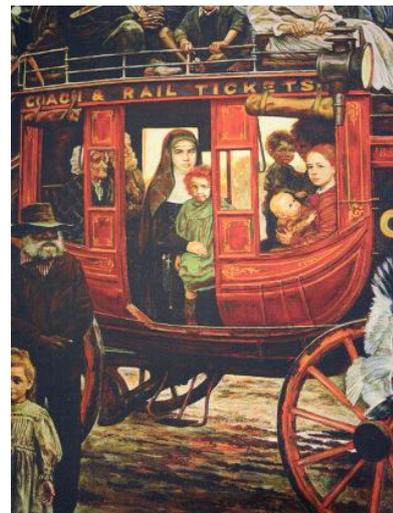
Nevertheless, *Cairns Catholic Education* remains committed to good faith bargaining and reiterates its position that a 2.5% wage increase for all school staff backdated to May 2015 for School Officers and July 2015 for Teachers is a fair offer in the current economic climate and in the context of market conditions in Queensland.

For further information on the facts on current Enterprise Bargaining negotiations and Protected Industrial Action scheduled for February 25, visit www.cns.catholic.edu.au/industrialaction

Prep 2017 Enrolment Interviews

Prep Class Interviews will be held early in March.

Parents are welcome to bring their children to our ‘Come and See’ morning
Wednesday 24th February,
from 9:00 to 10:30.





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News from Assistant Principal, Mrs Lyndal Rick

Liturgy – Celebrating the Commencement of the School Year



This year sees us mark many exciting firsts for the College. On Thursday, we celebrated the first Beginning of School Year Liturgy. During the Liturgy, we asked for God’s blessings for the year and staff, students, parents and carers pledged to work together to build a community of faith, learning and respect based on the message of the Gospel. The students participated with enthusiasm and reverence- showing the MacKillop Way. A special thanks goes to the parents who joined us and to Mrs Faith McDonald and the Grade 3 students, who assisted in leading the Liturgy. What wonderful role models for the younger students. Thanks also to Fr McGrath and to Mrs Rick (senior) for helping lead the beautiful singing.

Year of Mercy Pope Francis has declared 2016 to be the **Year of Mercy**. In order to be merciful, we need to recognise where mercy lies in our own lives. When did someone show us forgiveness, love or compassion when we most needed it? To be merciful is not always easy but it is necessary to create a safe and loving world for our children. In the wise words of Mary MacKillop, **“God wants us by every means in our power to lead others to life”**.



LEARNING AND TEACHING



The best teachers see themselves as learners and constantly work towards improving their craft. Over the last fortnight, some of the teachers have had the opportunity to attend professional learning workshops in Religious Education, Early Years education and the explicit teaching of Literacy. These days provide our staff with the most recent knowledge and skills so that they are providing the very best, contemporary pedagogy to the students. We are so fortunate to have an amazing team of educators at MacKillop.

Lyndal Rick



What's been happening in Year 1?



Lots of SSP learning – duck hands, lines and numbers and decoding



Learning about skip counting in 2's and 5's and number patterns and counting to 20





Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future. You can donate by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal brings thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

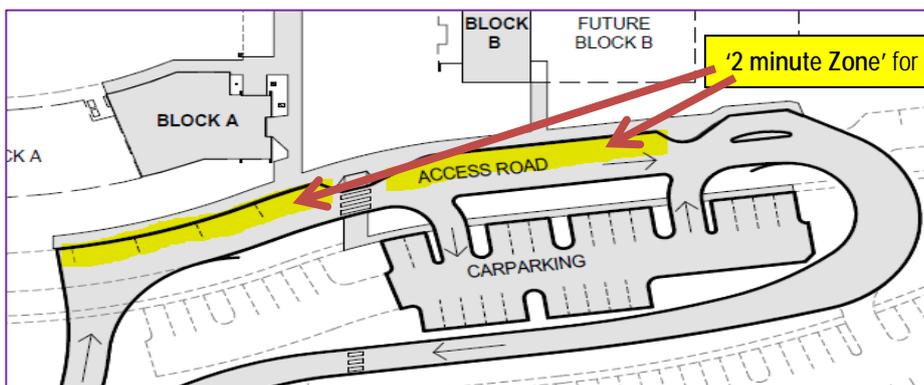
Stop - Drop/Pickup - Go -Zone



Please, let's all do our best to observe the "2 Minutes Max" of the drop-off and pick-up zone at the front of school.

If your child is not ready for collection, please do a 'drive-around' or take a spot in the car-park.

Everyone's cooperation will support a smoother experience at peak times. Thank you.



3M



We are a class
of learners

PICCOLLAGE



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Sharing some happy Family News from our Staff Community

Mrs Elisa Kello, Teacher of Prep M, has recently shared the joyous news that she and husband Brendan are expecting the birth of their second child later this year. This is a special time of preparation and anticipation, and I know the whole College family joins me in conveying our prayerful best wishes and support during this special time.



Mrs Kello will commence leave at the end of the first week in May. The College has commenced the necessary processes to secure the services of a Teacher of Prep for the leave period.

Once again, we convey our very best wishes and pray God's gracious blessings for Elisa and her family.

Come and See Morning – Open Classrooms

Wednesday, 24th February, 9:00 am to 10:30 am

All MacKillop families are welcome to come and see classes in action. Families considering enrolling children in Prep 2017 are most welcome to attend. Interviews for 2017 will occur in early March.



Please feel free to share this information with families and friends interested in enrolling their children at MacKillop.

"Education is an important mission, which draws young people to what is good, beautiful and true"

Pope Francis

Student Absence – notifying the College

If a student is to be absent from school, please phone the College Office on **4045 5262** to notify the nature of the absence, if possible before 8:30am. A message containing the student's name and the nature of the absence can also be emailed to the College on office studentabsent.mountpeter@cns.catholic.edu.au



If the College has not received notification of a student's absence before 9:00am, we will initiate contact with parents and carers.

Arrive Late/Leave Early



If a student **arrives at school after 8.30 am**, please call through the school office and pick up a late pass to be handed into the classroom teacher. Prep students should be accompanied by their parent/carer.

If a student **leaves school before 2.50 pm**, their Legal Guardian or registered Emergency Contact must come to the school office to sign the student out of class. If you need to **update these details** it would be appreciated if you could provide the school office with this new information.



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OSHC (Outside School Hours Care) is up and running. Both permanent and casual options for after-school-care are available.



MacKillop's OSHC coordinator is Bianca Moloney. Bianca and her team run an *After School Care (ASC)* program from 3-6 pm. They are looking at opening *Before School Care (BSC)* from Term 2 if there is a demand for the service.

Bianca says: *"We run an Educational Program using the Australian **My Time, Our Place** framework for school age. We provide a nutritious afternoon snack for our children and lots of fun activities as well.. Parents, please feel free to pop in anytime to have a chat. I'm here between 11.30am and 6:00pm."*

Enquiries welcome at osch.mtpeter@cclc.catholic.org.au or 4045 5202.



Safer Internet Tips -

"Be smart, Play your Part."

Parental Controls

Parental controls are a great tool to help protect your child/children online. There's plenty of advice available to help you using them, and it may not be as difficult as you first thought. You can also find specific Parent Guides for specific devices on the [Australian Thinkuknow](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/site/parental-control-guides) site <http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/site/parental-control-guides>.



For more information about Parental Controls please take the time to have a look at the [Thinkyouknow](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au) site for Parents. (screenshot below)



MacKillop's Playground is on the way.

Our playground has been designed, the colours selected, and the components are being sourced right now. We are expecting installation to be finalised early Term 2. This cleverly designed space will support children to learn through play. It has a variety of zones and activities, is colourful and engages kids' imaginations.





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St Mary MacKillop and the Year of Mercy

Mary was a prolific letter-writer. Many of her letters, which were treasured by those who received them, have been preserved and published in thematic collections. Threaded through Mary's writings are countless pleas - to her Sisters and others - to be kind, compassionate, forgiving ... to be merciful.

Mary's words, written in the late 1900's and early 20th century, are just as relevant, challenging - and inspirational - today.



*Try to excuse what you cannot understand,
and be blind to the faults around you.*

Mary MacKillop 1887

Planning Ahead

– looking to the possible commencement of Year 7 in 2018



We are in the process of planning for the expansion of the College to have facilities ready for Year 5 and Year 6 in 2018 and 2019. Design and planning will occur in 2016 with construction in 2017.

We have already received a great deal of feedback from families requesting Secondary options be available as soon as possible. In response, **we are exploring the possible early expansion into Secondary School in 2018 (Year 7).**

Students who are currently (2016) in Year 5 would be ready to begin Secondary School (Year 7) in 2018.

Our case for the early commencement of Secondary School would be strengthened by expressions of interest from local families keen to have a secondary school option at MacKillop from 2018. We would appreciate it if interested families would provide us details of children they would strongly consider enrolling at *MacKillop* if the Secondary School option was available.

An on-line, confidential form is available at <http://goo.gl/forms/bWcJfpWidl>. A separate on-line form for each individual child is required.

Completing the on-line form is for planning purposes only and does not commit families to enrolling their children at MacKillop Catholic College. All information provided is handled confidentially in accord with the Privacy Policy of Cairns Catholic Education Services. The Privacy Policy can be accessed at <http://www.cns.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Privacy.pdf>

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING DISCO BEACH PARTY

CHILDREN FROM PREP TO GRADE 7 WELCOME
FULLY SUPERVISED DISCO
FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE



BLUE LIGHT DISCO
SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY
6:00PM-8:30PM
\$5 ENTRY
GAMES, PRIZES, BEST DRESSED
CHILDREN MUST BE COLLECTED BY AN ADULT

PCYC Edmonton
10 Walker Road Edmonton
P: 07 4045 6540 | W: pcy.org.au

St Joseph's P&F presents

HEROES VS VILLAINS TRIVIA NIGHT 2016

\$10
Per person, tables of 10.

Friday 4th March 2016
6.30pm - St Joseph's School Hall

Prizes for: best dressed hero, villain & table.

- ★ Raffles
- ★ BYO snacks & drinks
- ★ Tea/coffee available

Don't forget our historical heroes & villains, Anne Frank, Ned Kelly, Joan of Arc...

Limited tickets - book your table now!

For bookings or for more information contact:
Catherine: 0413 952 223 or jjcbo@gmail.com

Adults only event.

★ 2016 SEASON ★

BROTHERS HOCKEY CLUB

Calanna Park, Sondrio Street, Woree Qld

SIGN ON - Mondays to end of February
6pm to 7.00pm at Clubhouse

Or

Cairns Hockey Association
Corner Rutherford & Lake Streets, North Cairns Qld
Wednesday's from 17/02/16 4.30pm to 6pm

★ Details www.brotherhockey.com.au ★
Or Phone 0413377183

THE FASTEST, SAFEST MOST SKILLFUL TEAM SPORT PLAYED IN THE WORLD TODAY

BROTHERS HOCKEY CLUB
2016 Year Hockey Info

THE FASTEST, SAFEST, MOST SKILLFUL TEAM SPORT PLAYED IN THE WORLD TODAY

JUNIORS 5 YEARS TO UNDER 18 YEARS - PLAY MARCH TO LATE AUGUST

GAMES PLAYED
Cairns Hockey Association Grounds - Rutherford Street, NORTH CAIRNS QLD 4870

Grades 9-12 S1 & S2 - Play Friday Nights 5pm to late
Grades 7 & 8 S3 & S4 - Play Saturday's 9am to 12pm
Grades 5 & 6 - P 5 6 - Play Saturday Mornings 9.00am to 12.00pm
Grades 3 & 4 - P 3 4 - Play Saturday Mornings 8.00am to 9.15am
Grades Prep to Yr 2 - P 1 2 - Play Friday Afternoon 4.30pm to 6.30pm
BBQ Tea Available

Also if you wish for your child to play sport but cannot afford it, please contact me to discuss the matter.
For further info or if unable to attend Sign-On but interested in playing please phone.
KATHY KING 40444225 (W) 8am - 4pm
0413377183 (M) 40360545 (Before and after Hours)
e-mail kci@hkrank@hotmail.com
kking@smcc.qld.edu.au
Fax No 40546617

Website - www.brothershockey.com.au
Calanna Park, Sondrio Street, Woree Qld

★ ★ ★



GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND



FOR FUN FRIENDSHIP AND ADVENTURE

DO YOU ENJOY HAVING FUN?

MAKING NEW FRIENDS

TRYING NEW AND EXCITING CHALLENGES?

THEN GIRL GUIDES COULD BE JUST WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR.
GIRLS BETWEEN THE AGES OF FIVE AND SEVENTEEN CAN BECOME A GIRL GUIDE.

Girls in Guiding achieve goals, improve communities and grow in confidence.

GUIDING IS FOR ADULTS AS WELL

Any woman 18 years and older who is prepared to make the Guide Promise can be an adult member.

Take advantage of the personal and professional development opportunities that Guiding offers. Develop skills in areas such as leadership, event planning, advocacy, communications and more. Mentoring and training programs are available.

Make a Difference in the Lives of Girls and they will make a difference in yours.

To Begin Your Adventure
Contact: Melanie Portelli on 0416041510
Or email melpor26@gmail.com

First Day of School – Gallery



View a gallery of images
of our FIRST DAY
on our website at

<http://www.mackillopcatholiccollege.qld.edu.au/first-day-of-term-at-mackillop/ngallery/slideshow>

Johnnie (Year 2) : ***Ready ; Set ; Learn!***