



### PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear Members of the MacKillop Catholic College Community,

As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, a time of reflection and renewal, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May this season be filled with hope, joy, and a deep

sense of spiritual connection. In the spirit of Easter and the exploration of faith, I'd like to share some insights from the Stage 2 Spirituality, Religion and meaning students on their recent Task, which sought to an-

swer the profound question: "Why do Christians Believe in God?" Throughout their research and discussions, students explored various facets of Christian belief, drawing upon theological, philosophical, and historical perspectives. Here are three potential answers they uncovered: **Argument for Design by St. Thomas Aquinas:** St. Thomas Aquinas, a prominent theologian and philosopher, presented five philosophical proofs for the existence of God, known as the "Five Ways". One of

these proofs, the Argument for Design, suggests that the intricate order and complexity observed in the universe imply the existence of an intelligent designer, namely God. This argument posits that the existence of natural laws, patterns, and the fine-tuned balance of the cosmos point towards a divine creator who imbued the universe with purpose and design. **Personal Encounters with Jesus:** Another compelling reason why Christians believe in God is through personal encounters

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with Jesus Christ. Countless individuals throughout history have reported transformative experiences of encountering Jesus in their lives, leading them to a deeper faith and conviction. One notable example is the conversion story of Fr. Don Calloway, who went from a life of crime and addiction, including running drugs for the Japanese Mafia, to embracing the Catholic faith and ultimately becoming a priest. His encounter with Jesus sparked

a profound transformation that radically changed the course of his life and beliefs.

**Historical Testimony:** Non-Christian historians, such as Flavius Josephus, have provided historical documentation that corroborates key aspects of the Christian faith. In his work "Antiquities of the Jews"- Josephus mentions Jesus, acknowledging his existence, his crucifixion under Pontius Pilate, and the reports of his resurrection. While Josephus himself

did not convert to Christianity, his writings serve as external evidence supporting the historical reality of Jesus' life and the events surrounding his death and resurrection. These three perspectives offer different avenues through which Christians come to believe in God, highlighting the diversity and richness of religious experience and inquiry.

May this Easter season be a blessed and joyous time of deep reflection, growth, and spiritual renewal for each member of our community.

*Lucas Hurley*

Principal

## SCHOOL CAPTAINS' ADDRESS

After organising multiple charity events, we saw a massive success with our Project Compassion Fundraisers. An honourable mention to the Year 7's, whose contributions were through the roof!

Last week we celebrated Holy Thursday. Well done to our peers for performing the Stations of the Cross for the whole school. It is

Have a safe school holidays!



really important that we stay positive role-models for our younger peers. Term 2 is big for sporting events! These days are truly ones we

remember throughout our years at school, so make sure you're getting involved and supporting your houses. Participation is key!

**Hannah Tornsey and Dan Murphy**

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*May your journey always be filled with blessings, and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service.*

# IMPORTANT DATES

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## TERM 2, WEEKS 1-5

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### WEEK 1

Students Return

Monday, 15th of April

Dolphins League Tag Gala Day (7-9)

Wednesday, 17th of April

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### WEEK 2

PAARS - Senior Basketball

Wednesday, 24th of April

College Tour

Wednesday, 24th of April

Public Holiday - ANZAC Day

Thursday, 25th of April

ANZAC Day Service

Wednesday, 24th of April

Public Holiday - ANZAC Day

Thursday, 25th of April

Free Dress Day

Friday, 26th of April

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### WEEK 3

Whole School Cross Country

Wednesday, 1st of May

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### WEEK 4

Public Holiday - May Day

Wednesday, 1st of May

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### WEEK 5

Year 10 Retreat Week

13th to 15th of May

15th to 17th of May

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# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Easter is of utmost importance to the Catholic Church as it commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It is the most significant event in Christianity as it affirms the core belief that Jesus, the Son of God, conquered death and offers the promise of eternal life to all who believe in Him.

Easter is a time of joy, hope, and renewal. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and to celebrate His resurrection. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus offers forgiveness of sins and the opportunity for new life in Him.



The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis, is a devotional practice that allows Catholics to meditate on the Passion and death of Jesus Christ. It involves reflecting on fourteen specific events or 'stations' that occurred during Jesus' journey to Calvary, from His condemnation to His crucifixion and burial.

Our year 12's, offered all students the privilege of understanding Jesus' suffering through actions and prayer, this was a wonderful experience to be a part of with an abundance of affirming feedback from the student body and staff at the College.



On Holy Thursday our year 12s students delivered an Easter liturgy with twelve of our students having their feet washed by Father Tom English and all the year 12s then presenting the College with the re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross.

The practice involves walking from one station to another. At each station, prayers are recited, and reflections on the specific event are offered. This allowed for our students to journey alongside Jesus, to witness His suffering, and to unite their own sufferings and challenges with His.



Kind regards,

**Stella Wallis**

# AT MACKILLOP

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## Harmony Day

We have had many fun events at the college during our first term back, including Harmony Day! Many students and staff dressed fabulously in cultural dress. Thank you to everyone who participated and for promoting the diversity of our college!

## Chrism Mass

In the last 5 weeks, our student leaders represented our school at the Chrism mass, where they accepted the blessed oils on behalf of the Palmerston Parish. Each year, the Bishop blesses enough new oils for every parish. There are three oils blessed:

- Oil for the sick
- Oil of the Catechumens
- Holy Chrism oil

Well done to our students for attending this event and for setting an excellent example.



## Drama

Additionally, our college Drama students have been working extremely hard on their assessments and putting on shows for the school! In the last 5 weeks we've had a range of shows in D Block, including our Stage 1 "Shark Tank" performance, consistent Seussical rehearsals and a Year 10 spectacle called "Pieces", demonstrating physical theatre. Amazing work, team!

# FROM THE MIDDLE YEARS CURRICULUM COORDINATOR

Thank you to the families that attended our annual Year 7 Welcome Dinner. The evening proved to be a wonderful event that helped further our school's sense of community with many connections made between staff, students and families. A highlight of the event was the Art exhibition run by Mr. Retief and his art students, which received many positive reviews.



With NAPLAN now out of the way for another year, we look forward on our academic calendars towards PAT testing in English and Mathematics that will occur during Week 2 of Term 2 for all Middle Years students. These simple on-line tests, hosted by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), provide our teachers with another quality data source to help guide forward planning. More information about PAT testing will be available early next term.

## ART EXHIBITION



# SAINTS NEWS

The Eels Cup campaign for 2024 kicked off firstly for the Boys with a qualifying tournament held at TRL Stadium in Week 9. Our boys team topped their pool following a win and a draw against Katherine High and an all-school invitational team respectively, before going down to SEDA College in a golden point thriller in the Grand Final qualifier. Our Saints Boys lost 5 starting players to injury after the first game in what became a tournament of attrition for the team. 2024 will be the first Grand Final the Saints Boys team won't be involved in since 2019.



Fortunes were far more favourable for our Girls team who have qualified for another Grand Final against Casuarina Senior College. The Girls will represent the school in a curtain-raiser match to be held before the Eels vs Dolphins NRL match to be held at TIO Stadium on Friday 19th April 2024. We hope to see many MacKillop faces in the crowd to cheer our Girls team on to glory.



## EXTRACURRICULAR

### ARTS

MacKillop Dance Company

Miss Abigail Hatton

abigail.hatton@nt.catholic.edu.au

Instrumental Music

Ms Kathryn Ezzy

kathryn.ezzy@nt.catholic.edu.au

Art Club

Mr Jaques Retief

jaques.retief@nt.catholic.edu.au

### SPORT

MacKillop Saints Rugby

Mr Matthew Sharp

matthew.sharp@nt.catholic.edu.au

### OTHER

Chess Club

Mr Jaques Retief

jaques.retief@nt.catholic.edu.au

# YEAR 12 RETREAT

The Year 12 Retreat was a great success this year with excellent participation from all of our wonderful Year 12 students. The NET team, along with our Youth Minister Tina, did an amazing job of organising the Retreat and engaging the students. It was an emotional time for many of us as our last big outing together as a cohort, but the students made it one to remember. Whether it was the group games, the small-group discussions, or the creation of our affirmation jars, the students gave it their all.



In addition to the NET team and Tina, we'd like to thank Ms Syme for coming over on two days to supervise time at the pool, the PC team and Bianca Potts for their support (and late nights), and all the staff who came to visit us. A particular thank you

to Father Tom who joined us for our last Year 12 Mass. The Year 12 Coordinator would like to reiterate that he is especially proud of the way the students conducted themselves, showing respect to the teachers and NET team, the resort staff, and each other.



Well done Year 12's!

Kind regards,

**Mr Michael Cunningham**





# FROM THE ARTS

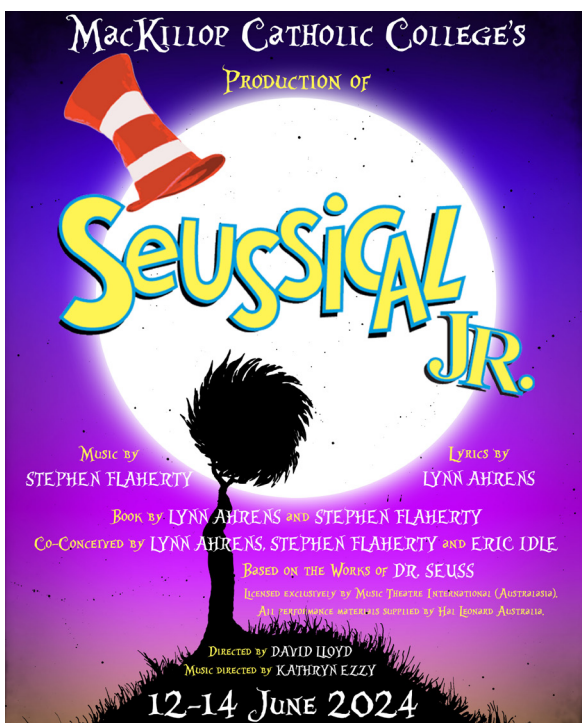
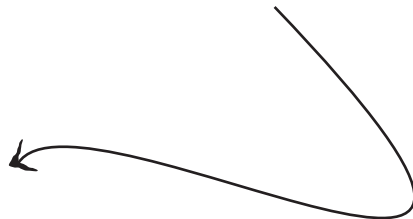


The coordinating staff and cast behind Mackillop's production of Seussical Jr. the Musical have been hard at work perfecting the show. Full days of rehearsals, costume testing, detailing and polishing are all happening in the Arts block.

**LAST TICKETS REMAINING!** It's time to purchase, now or never! Don't miss out on this stunning production! See the QR code below to purchase your tickets now!



SCAN ME FOR TICKETS!



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

As MacKillop cannot monitor sales outside of the booking site, name changes cannot be issued, and tickets will be checked at the door, please ensure that you are following the due process of buying/refunding your tickets.

### IF YOU NEED A REFUND:

Contact us through the try booking website at the bottom of the booking page.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CPESW>

### IF YOU MISSED OUT:

Contact us to add your name to the waitlist, or watch our space for announcements of extra tickets.

# MACKILLOP SPORTS

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We have many Interschool and whole-school sport events coming up in 2024!

MacKillop uses the TryBooking platform to collect funds and consent for all Interschool sport events. This allows us to keep the price as low as possible.

Please see the following list for important sports dates for Term 2:

**Dolphins League Tag Gala Day**  
(7-9)

Wednesday, 17th of April

## **Whole School Cross Country**

Wednesday, 1st of May

## **Athletics Carnival**

Tuesday, 11th of June

PAARS Soccer (7-9)

Wednesday, 12th of June

PAARS Soccer (10-12)

Friday, 14th of June

More information on these events will be provided closer to the date.

Kind regards,

**Miss Chloe Syme**



# FROM CAREERS



Expression of Interest for VET courses in semester 2 is open. The MacKillop Careers Office is available every day for all students at recess in the Flexible Learning Centre.

Resumes

Courses

Career opportunities

Upcoming opportunities for Term 2 will be shared via SEQTA Notices, MacKillop Catholic College Courses and Careers Facebook page.

Thank you, Charles Darwin University, for presenting the Australian Defence University Sponsorship program. More information about this opportunity here. <https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/students-and-education/defence-university-sponsorship>

MacKillop Catholic College has a very useful website available for all students and families. <https://www.mackillopcareers.com.au/> Feel free to explore the career information found on the website.

Lots more is planned in this space. Please email [jane.marshall@nt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jane.marshall@nt.catholic.edu.au) or phone 89305725 for questions, ideas and opportunities.

Kind regards,

**Jane Marshall**

## Upcoming Events

UniSA Lunch time presentation

1.20pm Tuesday 16 April 2024

Great information about applying for university.

VET Careers Expo

9:30am Friday 17 May 2024

Excursion forms available in Term 2.

Australian Defence Force Work Experience

See link below to explore opportunities and dates or contact Jane Marshall for more information.

It was a great experience for the students that attended last year.

<https://www.defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways/defence-work-experience-program>

# COMMUNITY



**NORTHERN SHARKS RUGBY LEAGUE**  
**PLAYERS WANTED!**  
 Join the Sharkies for the 2024 Season.  
 The following teams still with a few spots available;

<b>U6</b>	<b>U7</b>
<b>U8</b>	<b>U9</b>
<b>U10</b>	<b>U11</b>
<b>U12</b>	<b>U13B</b>
<b>U17G</b>	<b>U18</b>

PLAYRUGBYLEAGUE.COM

Northern Sharks Rugby League Club is looking for players! A wonderful, family friendly club with plenty of game time. Training locally at Moulden oval Palmerston on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 5:30pm. For more details, please contact the club via Facebook or email on [northernsharksrlfc@outlook.com](mailto:northernsharksrlfc@outlook.com)

Come and join this community event for Territory Fathers. Raising Fathers is all about unpacking practical advice for thriving in today's fatherhood landscape, sharing stories that are powerfully important, impactful and informative, and real discussions with others navigating this frontier. Open invitation to Men from ALL backgrounds. Come alone, or as a group!



**Territory Fathers!**  
 Could you be a better Father figure, Father to be, Son, Grandfather, Mentor, Community leader?  
 Join Founder, Author & Nationally acclaimed speaker for an Exclusive Event Series in April!



**Spriggy Schools**  
**Introducing Spriggy Schools for online ordering**  
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 2. Create a profile for your child  
 3. Conveniently place orders online  
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 Check the T&C's and TMD for further information

Spriggy Schools is our Online Ordering Provider for our Canteen! See the following information to set up your lunch ordering for school.

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[HTTPS://WWW.MACKILLOPNT.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU/NEWSLETTERS/](https://www.mackillopnt.catholic.edu.au/newsletters/)

TO STAY UP TO DATE AND BE A PART OF OUR  
COLLEGE COMMUNITY

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**MACKILLOP**  
Catholic College

TERM 1, WEEK 10 NEWSLETTER