



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear Members of the MacKillop Catholic College Community,

As the year draws to a close and the season of Christmas, I want to take a moment to reflect on the journey we have shared this year as a College community.

2024 has been a year of growth, achievement and deepening faith. Together, we have celebrated milestones, overcome challenges, and witnessed the remarkable talents and generosity of our students, staff, and families. From our classrooms to our sports fields, from our College production

and Art exhibitions to our liturgical celebrations, the spirit of MacKillop has shone brightly. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us embrace the profound message of Christmas: a message of love, peace, and hope. In the midst of the busyness that often accompanies this time of year, may we all find moments of stillness to reflect on the birth of the saviour. I extend my gratitude to every family for your support and partnership throughout the year, your dedication to our College community, and the values we hold dear. May this Christmas be a time of togetherness and joy for you and your loved ones. Whether you are staying close to home or traveling afar, I pray that your holidays are filled with laughter, love, and warmth. As we enter the new year, I look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for another year of learning and growth. Until then, may the blessings of the Christ Child be with you all, and may the New Year bring

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peace and happiness to your homes.
Have a safe and holy Christmas!

With warmest wishes,

Lucas Hurley

Principal

SCHOOL CAPTAINS' ADDRESS

Hip, hip, hooray! It's the end of the year. As your 2024 school captains, we wish you a joyful and safe Christmas! Allow some time for reflection, rejuvenation and community over the holiday break.



The Year 12's have completed all of their final duties and have successfully graduated! Thank you for helping us celebrate this milestone at our Graduation Mass

upon them and wish them success in their leadership! And now, for the perfect quote to sign off as your 2024 captains:

**"It is finished."
- Jesus Christ**

Merry Christmas!

**Hannah Tornsey and
Dan Murphy**

ceremony. We thank you, Mackillop, for choosing us as your school captains for 2024, and helping us lead you to success! We hope that you had

a fantastic year, just like we did. We now hand off to the school captains of 2025, Amber Netherwood and Louis Shepherd, and we pray blessings





IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1, 2025 WEEKS 1-5 (subject to change)

WEEK 1

- Students Commence

Thursday, 30th of January

WEEK 2

- Opening Mass

Wednesday, 5th of February

WEEK 3

- No events
-

WEEK 4

- No events
-

WEEK 5

- Year 12 Retreat

24th to 28th of February

- PAARS Volleyball Middle

Friday, 28th of February

- Year 7 Welcome Dinner

Friday, 28th of February

STUDENT RECOGNITION



In Week 7, Stage 1 Health & Wellbeing students put together and distributed food packs to the homeless community around Darwin City. The lunch packs included an orange, muesli bar and a sandwich. This was an enriching community service experience for our students and was highly successful, with all 60 lunch packs distributed very quickly. Thank you to Food Bank & Darwin City Woolworths for their donations.

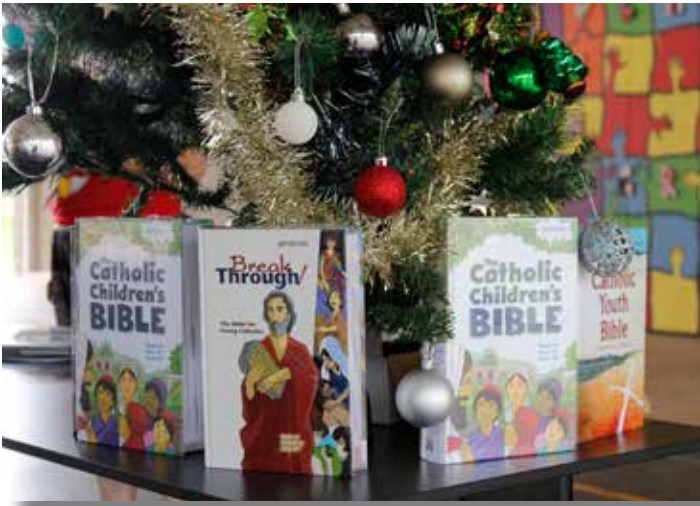
Year 10 student Isaac did his work experience with the army, where he completed drills, activities and challenges to see what it might be like to train with the army! Well done Isaac on your achievement!



Farewell Mr Dimmick!

Though not a student, this year we farewell Mr Paul Dimmick, known as our 'Founding Father', who has been with the College since it's opening in 2012. We give huge acknowledgement and thanks to Mr Dimmick for his impact on the College over the last 12 years. We pray for his journey interstate, and may his adventures be filled with love, laughter and many blessings!

AT MACKILLOP



Middle Years' Final Assembly

The middle years had their final assemblies last week, where they shared prizes and gifts, recognised the hard work of their peers with awards, played some fun games, and farewelled their teachers that won't be returning next year. A special way to say goodbye!



Nativity Play & Middle Years Leaders

For our final assembly of 2024, Miss Rebecca De Zylva organised a beautiful play of The Nativity, the birth story of Jesus Christ. The play featured staff, students, and even live animals! Lots of thought went into the play, like making fantastic costumes, practicing roles with the students and the preparation of a choir. Thank you Miss De Zylva, and well done to all involved! The play was loved by the whole College. A special mention also to the elected Middle Years Captains and SRC Members for 2025!



International Food Fundraiser

Thank you to our school community for your generous support of our international food fundraising lunches from Week 6 to Week 9! It was a great success, and it was wonderful to see the students enjoying the food from all different cultures.

YEAR 12 SASH CEREMONY

in Week 7 this term, we celebrated the Year 12 Sash Ceremony, recognising the achievements and cultural heritage of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.



We congratulate these students on their remarkable achievements and the journey they have undertaken. We pray for blessings over their future endeavours and continued success.

Kind regards,

Donald Boddington, AIEW



During the ceremony, 12 graduates were presented with their graduation sashes in the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. The students also signed a sash that was signed by previous Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates of MacKillop Catholic College. On their official graduation night, the students proudly wore these sashes alongside the College graduation sashes.



TALKS WITH TINA



In the last few weeks, we've had the privilege of celebrating our Year 12 students of 2024, Congratulations—you made it! Keep chasing the good, the true, and the beautiful. Be kind, be brave, and always remember: you are deeply loved—by God and by all those around you. community with faith in one another, in Christ.



As we head into the break, I want to wish everyone a blessed and safe time with family and friends. This season is special, as Christians around the world enter into Advent, a time of preparation and reflection leading up to the Birth of Jesus (Christmas) we take a moment to reflect on hope, peace, joy and love.



We also said farewell to the 2024 Darwin NET team, five faith-filled servants who gave up a year of their lives to serve God and His people. We are so grateful for their dedication and the example they set for all of us. On November 17th, we had our Youth Festival, and it was such an awesome experience! We had tons of fun and great moments of connection. Thanks to everyone who joined in.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas!

Kind regards,

Tina Dib

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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.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Extracurricular activities in 2024 at MacKillop was a huge success! Such a great range of events with masses of student participation all year round.

If you're interested in getting involved, see below the current extracurriculars run at the school and have a chat with the relevant teacher in charge!



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

Ms Margarette Kean Ramos

margarettekean.ramos@nt.catholic.edu.au

NEW

Mackillop Drama Society

Mr David Lloyd

david.lloyd@nt.catholic.edu.au

SPORT

Mackillop Saints Rugby

Mr Matthew Sharp

matthew.sharp@nt.catholic.edu.au



SAINTS NEWS



The MacKillop Saints Year 7/8 Boys Rugby League team showcased their dominance with a 36-16 win over Taminmin College, replicating their previous encounter's scoreline. Jack Tilly's early defensive efforts set the tone, leading to Gabriel Te Maro's opening try. Bryce Morley and Zaiden Smith added quick back-to-back tries, building an 18-0 lead by the first break.



Despite a brief Taminmin comeback, stand-out plays from Harry Liddle and Caleb Barry sealed the Saints' victory. Coach Sharp praised Year 7 prop Zaiden Smith for his exceptional performance. The Saints' teamwork and depth promise an exciting future for the team.

Kind regards,

Matt Sharp



ARTS WEEK

In Week 7, we had our Arts Week, which included Dance Night, Drama Night, Music Night, and the brand new MacKillop Short Film Festival! Dance Night was a great success with two shows, that featured a range of contemporary and hip hop performances from Years 7-11.



Music Night had a variety of high quality performances that lasted 2 hours! It was amazing to see so much talent from our students as they've been hard at work this year perfecting their craft. Thank you to Mr Matthew Holt, Mr Aden Mackay, Ms Lynette Guy and Ms Elizabeth Latimer for preparing the students with outstanding music performances, to Miss Abby Hatton for your stellar work with the dance students and to Mrs Jane Marshall for being backstage dance mum. More details on Drama Night and MacKillop Short Film Festival over the page.



Kind regards,

Mrs Kathryn Ezzy





DRAMA NIGHT

The Drama Department has had a massive year this year. A special well done to all the Drama Department for their incredible work this year.



Kicking off with Seussical Jr. the Musical being nominated for the People's Choice Award for the NT performing arts awards 2024! Congratulations all!



For Drama Night, we had a massive show at 2.5 hours with Years 8 - 11 performing a variety of work including, skit comedy, Midsummer Nights Camp, Lord of the Flies and Shark Tank. On top of this we had our first ever MacKillop Short Film Festival, where 10 students from Years 9 - 12 entered films for the competition. A massive well done to Caitlyn Fry for winning both the Audience Choice Award and overall 1st place, scored from our judges. We are looking forward to delivering some exceptionally high quality performances in 2025!



Kind regards,

David Lloyd

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day Liturgy: Honouring Service and Sacrifice

On Remembrance Day, we pause to honour and remember those who have served and sacrificed their lives in war and conflict. At MacKillop Catholic College, we commemorate this significant day through a solemn and reflective Remembrance Day Liturgy. In a Catholic context, this Liturgy of remembrance holds a special place. It's time where we :

- Pray for the souls of the deceased, particularly those who have fallen in service to their country.
- Offer support and gratitude for veterans and their families, acknowledging their courage and sacrifice.
- Reflect on the Gospel values of peace, justice, and reconciliation, which call us to be peace-makers in our own lives and communities.

This gathering not only helps us remember the profound cost of war, but also fosters a spirit of gratitude and prayerful reflection. It is a reminder of our collective responsibility as a Catholic school community to work toward peace in our world, grounded in our faith and commitment to serving others.

Our Liturgy also included a powerful reading from Pope John Paul II, reminding us of the urgent need for peace and justice in today's world: "Many problems darken the horizon of our time.

We need but think of the urgent need to work for peace, to base relationships between people on solid premises of justice and solidarity, and to defend human life from conception to its natural end. And what should we say of the thousands of inconsistencies of a 'globalised world' where the weakest, the most powerless and the poorest, appear to have such little hope! It is in this world that Christian Hope must shine forth."

As a school community, we stand united in prayer and remembrance, inspired by the example of those who have gone before us. We are called to live as instruments of peace, bringing light and hope to a world in need.

Prayer for Peace

The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

Kind regards,

Carlo Di Donato

FROM CAREERS



The MacKillop Careers Office is available every day for all students at recess in the Flexible Learning Centre.

Resumes

Courses

Career opportunities

As we farewell 2024 in the MacKillop Careers HQ, we reflect on a busy year and prepare for 2025. Year 10 EIF classes presented their Learning Projects and experienced what it was like to participate in real interviews with employers. More

MacKillop Catholic College has a very useful website available for all students and families.

<https://www.mackillopcareers.com.au/>

Feel free to explore the careers information and other useful tips found on the website.

Lots more is planned in this space. Please email

jane.marshall@nt.catholic.edu.au

or phone 89305725 for ques-

Kind regards,

Jane Marshall

Upcoming Events (Dec - Jan)

Defence Careers - Information Session

5:30pm Thursday 12th December

Darwin ADF Careers Centre

Young Achiever Awards

Registration closes Sunday 15th December

Northern Territory Sports Awards

Registration closes Wednesday 15th January

Tertiary applications for 2025 are open Australia-wide! Get your applying to uni survival guides now to help you with basic uni knowledge! These can be found on your university of choice's website.

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

The Graduation celebrations for 2024 were a huge success. On Wednesday, we had a beautiful mass celebrated by Bishop Charles, Fr Shehan, Fr Tom, and Fr Mick. The whole school turned out with their singing voices ready to farewell the Class of 2024 with a final rendition of our school song Cross of Stars.



Our traditional Guard of Honour lined up as the Year 12s left the school for the final time on their way to a wonderful morning tea prepared by Marie Butt and team.



Thursday evening saw the graduates take to the stage at the Convention Centre for the presentation of certificates. It was a wonderful night with some heartfelt speeches, showing just how much these students have left their mark on the College. We had an impromptu 'Best Dressed' competition (Congratulations to Paige and Dallas) as well as Students' Own Awards. Mr Cunningham was very humbled to receive the 'Most Appreciated' award. All the graduates said how much they enjoyed their night. Congratulations to the fantastic class of 2024!



Kind regards,

Michael Cunningham



THRILL SEEKERS

This term, our thrill-seeker students have had an exciting and enriching experience on the water, combining their passion for fishing with valuable life skills. From learning about risk management and sustainable practices to developing leadership and organisational skills, it's been a term full of hands-on learning and fun!



Along the way, students worked on their organisational skills, planning each outing to ensure safety and efficiency. They also explored how to manage risks in outdoor environments, making smart decisions to stay safe while enjoying the thrill of the catch. Leadership qualities were nurtured as students took on various roles, guiding their peers and helping each other succeed. This term has been a great journey for our students, where they've not only had fun fishing but also gained a deeper understanding of sustainable practices and team collaboration. We're excited to see how these experiences shape their future adventures!

Kind regards,

Jade Cole



Students had the opportunity to visit some incredible locations, including the renowned Barramundi Farm, the scenic Stokes Hill, and the picturesque Nightcliff Jetty. At each location, they gained practical experience and learned about the importance of responsible fishing, understanding the balance between enjoying nature and preserving it for future generations.



PRESENTATION EVENING

In Week 9, we held our annual Presentation Evening at the Darwin Entertainment Centre. In a fresh new venue, we congratulated our hard-working students on their achievements with style!



We give thanks to our fantastic teaching team, who have provided guidance our students in such a way that they have achieved great success in their chosen learning areas.



We also congratulate our parents and families, who have nurtured their children to help them reach mountains and climb valleys, through the easy and the tough times.



Most of all, we thank our students, who have worked extremely hard throughout all of 2024 to achieve their academic goals. Your hard work and determination are admirable, and we are excited to see where your studies lead you!





OTHER NEWS

CCD are looking for apprentices for 2025!

For more information, contact
info@ccddesign.com.au



Cabinet Maker & Apprentice Positions

Start date: Monday Jan 13th, 2025

Seeking reliable team members to join our busy company

Full time, Mon – Fri, Above award rates paid

Please call our office or send your resume to

info@ccddesign.com.au



Booklist Ordering Instructions for 2025 School Year

2025 Online Booklist Ordering is now open. We recommend orders be placed by **31st December 2024** to ensure on time delivery for the 2025 school year.

Opening Hours are 8.00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday. We will also be open Saturday morning 9:00am – 12:00noon on the 18/1/2025 and 25/1/2025 for booklist collections. We are located at 2 Nylander St Stuart Park.

Ordering Online:

1. Go to <https://booklist.officebrands.com.au/sba>
 2. Enter 'Mackillop Catholic College' in the search box.
 3. Select 'Create an Order'
 4. Enter Students details and Select student's year level for 2025
 5. Complete order selections by amending required quantity fields
 - a. Quantities shown are the suggested requirements
 - b. If not required make sure to change quantities
- Orders can be paid for through a secure online-payment facility or on collection of textbooks. Zippay facilities are also available online.

Collection:

SBA Office National will contact you once goods are ready for collection. Collection times will vary depending on stock availability and workload but generally allow 48 hours for your order to be packed. Please note orders placed after 17/1/2025 are not guaranteed to be completed prior to the commencement of the school term.

School Vouchers:

School Vouchers Accepted. Please make sure to select 'Pay on Collection' when submitting your order online and bring in your School Voucher at the time of collection.

Delivery:

A delivery option (Darwin/Palmerston Areas Only) is available for \$15.00 for the first booklist and \$2.00 for every kit thereafter to the same address. Home deliveries will be made during business hours Monday to Friday.

To contact SBA Office National email:

sba@sbaon.com.au or phone **08 8944 7979**

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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



MACKILLOP
Catholic College

TERM 4, WEEK 10 NEWSLETTER