



ISSUE 4
18TH MARCH 2020

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Canteen (08) 9249 9190
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

Uniform Shop:
Tuesday 8:00 - 10:30am
Thursday 2:00 - 4:00pm



*Mary MacKillop
Catholic Community
Primary School,
Ballajura, as a
growing faith
community seeks to
be enlivened by
Christ to live in
truth, love and
dignity.*

In 1861, Mary MacKillop went to work in Penola, a small town in South Australia. Here she met a Catholic priest, Father Julian Woods. Together they opened Australia's first free Catholic school. At that time only the rich could afford schooling.

Penola

Principal's Post

Dear Parents

We certainly are living in extraordinary times! Only a few weeks ago, we were concerned about bushfires in our country and now, nobody is talking about them at all. The rapidly changing landscape with the Coronavirus is having a huge impact on all aspects of our lives. It seems as though the information is changing by the hour as more and more disruptions are happening. Without any doubt, these disruptions followed by precautionary actions will flow down into our community in order to protect us as much as possible. I can reassure you that we are following the guidelines very closely from the Health Department of WA and CEWA as they are made available to us. A response team consisting of myself, Lisa Liebregts, Jacki Tucker, Lisa Mueller, Barbara Burton, Sue Haynes and Jane Coniglio are currently devising a response plan in the event there is a confirmed case of the virus or if I am advised to close the school.

As you know the Prime Minister has made all travellers returning to Australia from overseas self-isolate for 14 days from the time they land. Many major events around the country have been cancelled or postponed and schools have been asked to implement changes to help slow down the spread of the virus. As of today, I haven't heard anything about school closures, however, that could change at any time. Once any major decisions are made, I will inform the community as quickly as I can. Some of the changes that will have an impact on us are:

- All assemblies on Fridays will be cancelled for the rest of this term
- All school Masses will be cancelled until next term.
- Assembly night on 1 April postponed
- Year 5 sleepover postponed
- Year 3 First Reconciliation retreat cancelled
- Passion play cancelled
- Parent/teacher interviews are ok to proceed
- Board and P&F meetings are ok to proceed
- Hymn singing cancelled until the end of the term

Unfortunately, I can't give you the new dates yet for the postponed events, but will get them to you once things become clearer. I am aware that a few families are currently self isolating as a precautionary measure. In this instance, we are happy to continue to give your children their normal homework via class Dojo. However, the teachers won't be setting extra work unless there is an extended school closure. A new link has been added to our website providing you with the latest updates from CEWA. Thank you for your patience, support and understanding during these challenging times.

Some Perspective This message was sent to me by one of the Irish priests I met in Jerusalem last year. I hope you enjoy it.

Yes, there is fear. Yes, there is isolation. Yes, there is panic buying. Yes, there is sickness. Yes, there is even death. But, they say in Wuhan after many years of noise, you can hear the birds again. They say that after just a few weeks of quiet, the sky is no longer thick with fumes, but blue and clear. They say that in Assisi, people are singing to each other across the empty squares, keeping their windows open so that those who are alone may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the west of Ireland is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound. Today, a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number through the neighbourhood so that elders may have someone to call on. Today, churches, synagogues, mosques and temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick and the weary. All over the world people are waking up to a new reality to how big we really are, to how little control we really have and to what really matters. To love!

So we pray and we remember that yes there is fear, but there does not need to be hate. Yes, there is isolation but there does not need to be loneliness. Yes, there is panic buying, but there does not need to be meanness. Yes, there is sickness, but there does not need to be disease of the soul. Yes, there is even death, but there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now. Today, breathe. Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic, the birds are singing again. The sky is clearing, spring is coming, and we are always encompassed by love. Open the windows of your soul and though you may not be able to touch across the empty square, sing!

Yours sincerely
Laurie Bechelli

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday	19 th March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Friday	20 th March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Monday	23 rd March	Board Meeting 6pm
Monday	23 rd March	P&F Meeting 7.30pm
Tuesday	24 th March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thursday	26 th March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Friday	27 th March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wednesday	8 th April	Dental Screening Pre Primary, Yrs 3&6 9am
Thursday	9th April	Term 1 Ends
Friday	10 th April	Good Friday
Sunday	11 th April	Easter Sunday
Wednesday	29th April	Term 2 Begins for Students



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the D'Souza family (Eliza PPA) on the safe arrival of their new baby brother James Matthew.

Leading the way for children during the Coronavirus pandemic

If you're like me, the news of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has your head spinning and your heart pumping. That's only natural as life as we know has taken a seismic shift in recent days.

International travel bans, cancellation of sporting and cultural events, shopping frenzies and talk of school closures continue to dominate the airwaves. Terms such as social distancing, self-isolation and social lockdowns have entered our vocabularies and may soon become part of our daily lives.

Coronavirus is having an unprecedented impact on our daily lives, and will probably do so for some time. While keeping ourselves and children healthy and safe is our main concern, it's also essential to address the anxieties of children and young people during these changing times. Here are some ideas to help inform, reassure and keep children and young people safe.

Build on what your children know

Children and young people have already been exposed to a great deal of information about corona virus through media, digital means and direct social contact. Their understanding will vary depending on their age and also the quality of their information sources so you probably will need to help kids process what they already know.

Casual conversations with teenagers and older children can be useful ways to glean their understanding. You could ask questions like "What are you hearing about Coronavirus? Is there anything you're not sure about?" Younger primary age children may need a more direct approach with parents addressing their specific concerns without giving too much information that can overwhelm them.

Check your own thoughts and feelings

Check your own frame of mind and emotions about COVID-19 before talking to kids. Most children are astute mood detectives and they'll gauge their safety by the way you communicate with them. If you tell a child, "You've got to wash your hands or you'll get infected," you are communicating your own anxieties, making it difficult for them to maintain a healthy state of mind. Have a think about how you can frame your instructions and their importance in a way that doesn't heighten your child's anxieties.

Stay informed

It's difficult to work out fact from fiction, correct from incorrect, information from exaggeration when the news is changing so fast. However you need to educate yourself about the virus itself, including how it's transmitted and how to stay safe. Get information from trustworthy sources such as The Australian Government Health Department website and the current federal government corona virus information media campaign.

Answer questions truthfully

It's important that parents and teachers answer children's questions honestly in age-appropriate ways and within context of what is happening at the given time. If their sport or hobby has been temporarily cancelled empathise with their concerns, while helping them maintain a sense of perspective.

Initiate positive action

One way to reduce anxiety and allay children's fears is to involve them in planning and preparation for their personal and group safety. Positive activities such as maintenance of personal hygiene, greeting people with an elbow tap and getting plenty of sleep can help restore a sense of control, that is so important for their wellbeing.

Find refuge in rituals

Regular rituals such as mealtimes, bedtime stories and regular one-on-one time provide both an anchor to normality and a sense of connection for kids at times of change. Consider reconstituting favoured family rituals at this time if they have lapsed due to lack of time, or lifestyle frenzy.

Look outwards

In difficult times there is a tendency to look inwards, which is a natural protective strategy. The alternative is to establish a sense of connection and community spirit by focusing on generosity and togetherness. Help children see past their own needs and look for ways to assist others whether it's shopping for an elderly neighbour, helping a younger sibling occupy themselves, or planning an indoor movie night for the whole family.

The Coronavirus presents many practical challenges to parents and other important adults in the lives of kids. Staying calm, keeping informed, and adjusting our own habits are just some of the challenges we face. However a significant challenge is one of personal leadership. That is, during these difficult times we need to be civil to each other, look out for each other and be mindful of the common good in everything we do. In this, we can all take a significant lead.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY BALLAJURA

New members are urgently required to join the Ballajura Conference of Vinnies. Members meet every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7.30pm at Charis House. All are welcome.

Our members meet to discuss how best to meet the needs of people in need in our local community. We provide assistance through food, material aid, utility bills, as well as friendship and support.

If you would like further information, please contact Gerry on 0417187240.

“The power to feed, heal, shelter, nurture, inspire - the power to change lives - is in everyone.”

Maria Beaney

Free Access to URSTRONG Family Membership

The URSTRONG Friendology program is a valuable friendships skills program that we introduced last year to our year 1,2,5 and 6 classes as part of our school's wellbeing program. You may have already heard your children talk about the 4 Friendology Friendship Facts:

1. No friendship is perfect
2. Every friendship is different
3. Trust and respect are the 2 most important qualities of a friendship
4. Friendships change....and that's okay

URSTRONG have generously offered to provide parents with **free lifetime access to our URSTRONG Family membership** as a way of supporting families throughout the COVID-19 outbreak. This includes their Language of Friendship video series as well as our Parent Resource Centre with extensive activities, articles, and videos for parents to share with their kids. To access this complimentary membership please visit [here](#) and use the coupon code **URSTRONG**.

I strongly encourage you to take up this offer while it is available and to use the resources to provide support to your child with their school friendships. Children will experience many challenges with their friendships throughout their school life. Knowing how to respond when your child is upset or struggling can help you to confidently support them with the next 'friendship fire' or a friendship that seems to be in the 'unhealthy zone'.

Thank you to URSTRONG for providing this valuable resource!

Lisa Mueller
School Counsellor

MSP PHOTOGRAPHY

On photo day speciality group images (eg Netball, Faction Captains) were taken at your school. These images can be viewed and purchased at a unique website, which is DIFFERENT to where you order the portraits and class photos online.

1. To place your Order online simply go to <https://msspphotography.shootproof.com/>
2. Click **Specials 2020**, then select the album titled: **Mary MacKillop CCPS Specialist Groups - 2020**
3. You will then be required to enter a password to view the Album. The password for this **VMDJSWK20**
4. Please ensure that you use your child's name at the checkout
5. The images you are viewing are uncropped and will be cropped to fit to a 10x8 print (as per the first image in your gallery, a sample of layout & colour)

- The online orders will be open until **midnight on Thursday 26th of March 2020 – for the Bulk Pricing Offer**
- **The Bulk Pricing Offer is \$20 per print and these will be delivered to the school BY CLASS GROUP**
- After the \$20 pricing expires, the photos will remain available online, but the photos are now at a cost of \$35 per image and delivered to a preferred address.

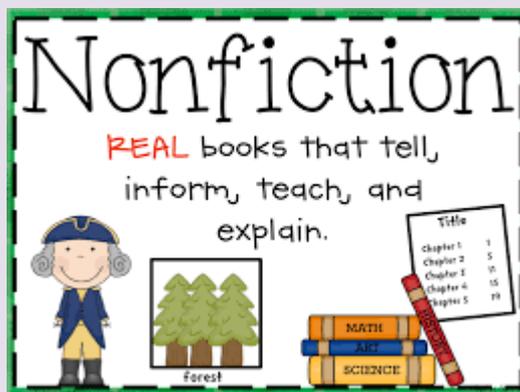
If you have any queries please contact MSP Photography on **9240 8000** or via email on ordering.perth@msp.com.au

Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with Coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused [from 20 March 2020](#) until the start of **Term 2**. Please **do not** bring your deposit book with your weekly banking into school and we will notify you when banking will recommence.

LIBRARY NEWS

The next time you come to the Library how about investigating the Non-Fiction Section. We have many fantastic books to make you think.



CANTEEN NEWS

The new Semester 1 CANTEEN MENU for 2020 is available on the MMCCPS website or alternatively if you require a hard copy, at the office or canteen. Please refer to this new menu ONLY, as many changes have taken place, with freshly made products. The canteen operates on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. To alleviate using money, **Mary MacKillop Catholic Community Primary School has an online ordering system for Canteen orders. This enables a more efficient and effective service available to you and your family.**



You can visit quickcliq.com.au to register.

If you have any queries, please come and see either myself or Kath and we will be happy to help.

Regards,
Sylvia Iggleden.

UNIFORM SHOP

Tuesday
Morning 8.00am-10.30am

Thursday
Afternoon 2.30pm-4pm

EFTPOS AVAILABLE

Julie
Uniform Shop Manager



SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

If you would like to purchase any second hand uniforms, please contact Mrs Anita Andrews 0412 866588.

If you have any unwanted uniform items, please drop them into the office to be donated to our shop.

Thank you

KINDERGARTEN 2021 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS

If you have a child born between 1st July 2016 – 30th June 2017, they are due to attend Kindergarten in 2021.

Application forms are available at the office or online at our website www.mmccps.wa.edu.au

Please return application forms to the school office ASAP.

All sibling applications need to be lodged as enrolment process is now beginning.

We don't want you to miss out.

WASTE WISE

Recycling at Mary Mac

We have a number of recycling projects going at our school and we encourage our families and community to join us in our efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle and to minimise the amount of waste from going into landfill.

Our recycling projects include:

1. Batteries – In partnership with Battery World Malaga
2. Old mobile phones and accessories – In partnership with Mobile Muster
3. Oral hygiene products (Toothpaste tubes and caps, manual toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads, toothbrush and toothpaste tube plastic packaging, floss containers. **Not accepted:** Cardboard - Please recycle your cardboard packaging in your kerbside recycling bin.) – through Terracycle
4. Soft plastics – part of Redcycle
5. Aluminium cans – through Auscon (so far we have raised \$12.60 for our Cash for Cans)
6. Plastic bread tags – through Terracycle
7. Old pens, textas, whiteboard markers – Terracycle.
8. Old printer and ink cartridges – Planet Ark

Our **worm farms** and **compost tumblers** are collecting all leftover fruit and vegetable scraps on a daily basis. Even the Canteen saves their food scraps for our worms.

'Worm Wizz' For Sale at Assemblies

We have been able to collect some amazing 'Worm Wizz' which is great for the garden. Please have a look as we will have some bottles available at assemblies so first in best dressed. A gold coin donation will give you a bottle of 'nature's nutrients' that your garden and plants will love.

Community Garden

Our community garden situated between the parish and the school is up and running, we have a selection of fruit trees and six vegetable beds, our children are enjoying tending to the garden and being a community garden, everyone is welcome to contribute if they wish.

Kindy/Pre Primary Garden

Our Pre Primary/Kindy area is also up and running with some beautiful fruit trees and a mix of vegetable and flower plant beds.

Can are to be placed outside the office in the bins provided

Batteries to be collected in the front office

All other items are to be taken to the Library and placed in appropriated boxes

Waste Wise Team.

P&F NEWS

Our school community at Mary Mac is fantastic! We are so lucky to have such a strong community who are eager and happy to help out whenever needed. IF YOU NEED HELP during these unprecedented times, please reach out to our community. If you need a chat, if you need help getting groceries, or you're on your last roll of toilet paper, then please let us know and we will try and help. If your small business is struggling, let us know and we can advertise it to our school community, free of charge. If you are a front-line health care worker, let us know how we can help you to help others! You are not alone. We will get through this together as a community. Catch me around school, send the P & F an email, or post to our Facebook page.

It was great to see so many parents at the year group MORNING TEAS. There were lots of great conversations and connections made. Thank you!

The annual P & F EASTER RAFFLE & COLOURING IN COMPETITION has begun! A note has gone home with raffle tickets and colouring in competition. We have already received a number of raffle tickets and competition submissions so don't miss out! Donations of Easter themed items (Easter eggs/bunnies, Easter crafts etc.) can be brought into classrooms up until Monday 6th April. Raffle ticket sales and colouring in competition submission are also due Monday 6th April. Winners will be announced on Thursday 9th April (Wednesday 8th April for Kindy). Thank you for your support!

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES: We are still looking for class reps for KA, 1P, 4A, 4P, 5O, 6P & 6O. It's a really easy way to do your little bit for your child's class and the school community. Fill out the form outside your child's classroom or send us an email at pandf@mmccps.wa.edu.au. A massive thank you to all those parents who have already become class reps. We are so appreciative of your input and help!

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: The P & F are again offering families Entertainment Books this year. There are no hard cover books anymore and all Entertainment Books are now digital. If you are interested, please visit <https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/861g83> or send us an e-mail pandf@mmccps.wa.edu.au and we can send you the link. There are more details on the March offer below. Proceeds go back to our school community.

Our NEXT MEETING will be on **MONDAY 23rd MARCH at 7:30pm**. Everyone is welcome!

Follow us on Facebook: Mary MacKillop P&F, or send us an e-mail at pandf@mmccps.wa.edu.au.

Stay safe and look after each other in these turbulent times.

Alyce Hofmann-Fritz
P & F President 2020



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dining

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PLUS

- ★ Up to 3 months extra Memberships FREE on Single & Multi City Memberships*



20% off your Membership sale goes directly to Mary MacKillop Catholic Community Primary School P&F Association

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PERTH

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PERTH

Shy John Brewery & Yum Cha

25% off up to \$40 value



up to \$25 value

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Jus Burgers

25% off up to \$25 Value



up to \$40 value

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Health Freak Cafe

25% off up to \$40 value



up to \$40 value

WANNEROO

Kapitool Kitchen

25% off up to \$40 value



New offers added regularly for year round value

Buy now

Get up to 3 months extra Membership on Single City & Multi City*

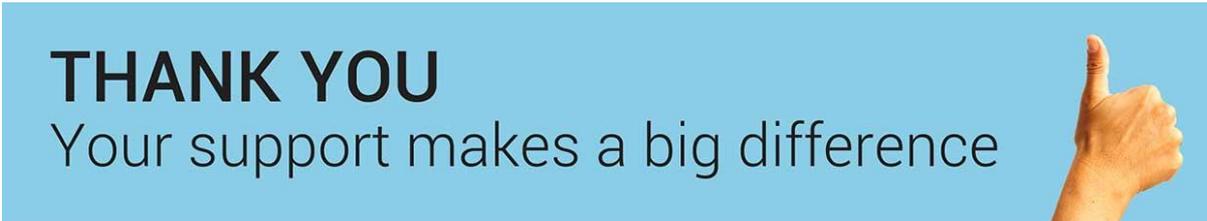
Buy now

15 months Membership when you buy in March*

Meet your New Memberships

<p>Single City</p> <p>\$69⁹⁹</p> <p>1 Year</p> <p>Discover all the best savings in your city</p>	<p>Multi City</p> <p>\$119⁹⁹</p> <p>1 Year MOST POPULAR</p> <p>Enjoy savings across all of Australia, New Zealand and Bali</p>	<p>Multi Plus</p> <p>\$229⁹⁹</p> <p>2 Years BEST VALUE</p> <p>2 years of savings across Australia, New Zealand and Bali</p>
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Buy now



^JB Hi-Fi eGift Cards will be sent by email within 30 days of purchase. \$10 JB Hi-Fi eGift Cards issued when promo code GIFTME is applied at checkout. Limit one per order. Offer valid for Entertainment Digital Memberships purchased online between 12:00am Sunday 1st March and 11:59pm Tuesday 31st March 2020 AEST using promo code GIFTME. Offer excluded Entertainment Waitstaff and Corporate Partner offers. JB Hi-Fi eGift Cards do not expire. *JB Hi-Fi eGift Cards Terms of Use. Lost or stolen cards cannot be replaced.

Up to 3 months extra Membership applies to activated Single City and Multi City purchased between 1st March and 31st March 2020. From time of purchase, an Activation Code must be activated within two months. If activated within two months, the Membership will expire 15 months from the Activation Date. If not activated within two months, the Membership will expire 17 months from the Purchase Date.



Alyce Hofmann-Fritz
P & F President 2020