

# From the Head of Primary Campus

## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

The acknowledgement of Reconciliation Week at MCC has been celebrated in a variety of ways across the Primary Campus classes in the past week:

### Receptions

In Reconciliation Week, the students in Reception have been learning about what Reconciliation means. We have been discussing how it can mean 'to come together' to be kind and friendly people. Through stories, we have been learning about the important meaning that the act of reconciliation holds in our country between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. We have been connecting this to our own lives, by role-playing practical ways that we can reconcile with a friend.

Another important way we have been supporting Reconciliation Week has been learning about Aboriginal culture. In Religious Education studies this term, our students have been learning about the wonder of God's creation. Through listening to Dreaming Stories, our Reception students have been learning about the deep connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People have to the land, seas, and sky and have been developing a deep responsibility to take care of the land. One of our stories read this week was, 'The Heartbeat of the Land' written by Cathy Freeman. Our students were then invited to imagine them running across the vast lands of Australia and connecting to Country through illustrations.

#### Year 1

The Year 1 students have looked at how they could use their voice

to show awareness, appreciation, and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The students were able to summarise their knowledge of our history and how we can learn from the past.

During discussions, students made a connection of seeing Indigenous celebrations while watching AFL on the weekend.

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7-12

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## **Diary Dates**

JUNE 2024

- 10 King's Birthday Public Holiday
- 11 Mid-year Reception Transition Visit 1 of 3
- 12 R-6 VIP Visit (2.15pm)
- 18 Mid-year Reception Transition Visit 2 of 3
- 18 College Tour Secondary Campus (4pm)
- 18-20 Year 11 Mid-year Exams

Further dates are available from our website at www.mcc.catholic.edu.au

### 2024 TERM DATES:

Term 1: 29 Jan - 12 Apr

Term 2: 30 Apr - 5 Jul

Term 3: 22 Jul - 27 Sep

**Term 4:** 14 Oct - 10 Dec



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### Student Absences/ Late Arrivals

When a student is absent or going to be late, parents should notify the school by 9am on that day by texting the Absentee Line on 0438 368 846 (SMS) or phoning (08) 8447 0500. You will need to state the following:

NAME OF CHILD, YEAR LEVEL, REASON FOR ABSENCE eg If late approximately what time will your child arrive etc.

A medical certificate is required if a student is away for more than 3 days. For any planned extended absence, a letter to the Principal is required to explain circumstances.

For any planned extended absence, state government legislation requires a parent to send a letter or email to the Principal, via <a href="mailto:registrar@mcc.catholic.edu.au">registrar@mcc.catholic.edu.au</a> seeking permission to be absent from school.

### **Head of Primary Campus Continued...**

Students noticed the change in their favourite football guernsey and requested to design their own.

### Year 2

In Year 2, the students have been learning the meaning of Sorry Day. We created a hand to show a representation of Sorry Day which is displayed on our classroom window. We also focused on the theme of 'now more than never' and after watching some videos and reading, we brainstormed ways that we can help reconciliation in Australia. The students then drew pictures and wrote sentences about how they can walk the path of reconciliation in Australia. During our mindfulness time, we spent time reflecting as we coloured.

### Year 3

The Year 3 students have focused on the theme 'Now More Than Ever'. Discussions were had about the significance of this, by watch BTN videos of local students explaining how this year's theme impacts them. We also read part of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and how Eddie Mabo's influence has impacted this Statement. From this learning students wrote a class pledge and their own individual pledge. This work will continue into the coming weeks.

Year 3 have also had a focus on the Importance of Country to Aboriginal people this term. Our learning has focused on the variety of Aboriginal nations in Australia and what country meant to them. On our class map we have added significant Aboriginal people like Eddie Mabo and members of our class with Aboriginal heritage.

We have had a particular focus on Kaurna nation and the significance of the Port Adelaide area. A variety of picture books related to Aboriginal country have been read including 'Country' by Aunty Fay Muri and Sue Lawson.

#### Year 4

In Year 4, students have focused on the meaning of this year's Reconciliation Week theme and explored the importance of why we acknowledge and develop our understanding about the events of this very important week. They have engaged in activities that centre on the effect of legislation enacted by past governments on Indigenous communities, and how these decisions have and still do affect Indigenous Australians.

In Science, students have explored how First Nations Australians have had a continued shared living culture with their environment for thousands of years. With this deep connection to Country, First Nations Australians see themselves as part of the environment, just like the entities of the waterways, animals, plants, climate, skies, and spirits, and believe that people are no more or less important than other entities.

#### Year 5

To deepen our understanding of Reconciliation Week, the Year 5 students led our Primary Campus in our Reconciliation Week Liturgy. As well as taking part in this, we have been studying the novel, 'Black Cockatoo' by Carl Merrison and Haekea Hustler; "The white cockatoo's mountain was on fire. As the cockatoo flew over the fire, the smoke and soot covered the cockatoo, turning its feathers black. As the cockatoo continued to fly over the fire the sparks from the strong flames gave the black cockatoo its distinct yellow or red markings on his tail. The black cockatoo's squawk is a cry to bring the rains".

We have taken our research further by learning about the Stolen Generation and looked at former Australian Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd's apology in 2008.

Continued page 3.

### **Head of Primary Campus Continued...**



### Year 6

During Reconciliation Week the Year 6 community has delved into the history and contributions of Eddie Mabo, whose tireless advocacy led to the landmark Mabo decision in 1992. The classes have linked this to their work on Persuasive Writing and have written letters and speeches to the Government advocating for Indigenous Land Rights. The students have developed a deepened understanding of the ongoing struggle for justice and equality. The students have read several picture books including 'The Rabbits' by John Marsden and Shaun Tan, and created a new illustration that could be included in the book describing what it shows and why it is important to the story. We have also explored the 2024 theme 'Now More Than Ever' and written statements about what we can do to support Reconciliation.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 WINTER APPEAL:

Mount Carmel College is supporting St Vincent de Paul for their annual Winter Appeal. We are seeking for donations of any non-perishable foods (eg Canned or packet soup, pasta, rice, tinned fruit, cereals, baked beans, to name a few. As we draw closer to winter there are many in our local community who will struggle to keep themselves and their families clothed, fed and warm over the coming months. Any donations to the Winter Appeal are directly supporting those most in need in our local community. Together we can provide essentials to resolve dignity in times of need. Your donation can help remove a major stress for families. Your support also helps dedicated volunteers to work with people living in poverty, and provide assistance when life is challenging.

We will continue collecting donations up to and including Friday 1 July. Students can take any food donations to their classroom.

## CRAZY SOCK AND HAIR DAY FUNDRAISER:

The Parents and Friends committee organised a 'Crazy Hair and Sock Day' last Friday. It was an amazing sight to see so many 'crazy hair' creations and a coloured assortment of socks. Students donated a gold coin to support the annual St Vinnies Winter Appeal; Donations raised \$318.00. We are grateful to the Parents and Friends

committee for their ongoing involvement and support on the Primary Campus.

### **INSTRUMENTAL SOIREE:**

There are a significant number of students on the Primary Campus who learn a musical instrument. On Wednesday evening, between 6.00pm -8.00pm on the Secondary Campus, they showcased their musical talents.

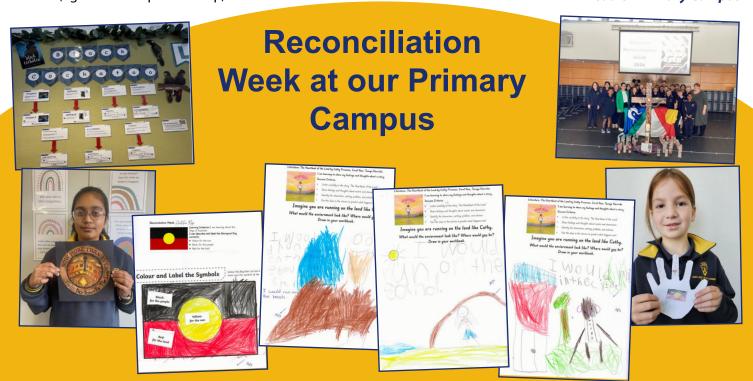
## MID-YEAR RECEPTION TRANSITION VISITS:

We are looking forward to 28 new Receptions joining our MCC community in Term 3. They are scheduled for three weekly transition mornings, commencing next week on Tuesday.

## VIP (VERY IMPORTANT PERSON) VISIT:

Students are looking forward to family members visiting their classes next Wednesday,12 June at 2.15pm. We have responded to parent feedback and alternated the VIP visits from the morning to an afternoon. If available, we look forward to seeing you then.

Jenny DeGilio Head of Primary Campus



### **Year 8 STEM**



During Term 2 in STEM, Year 8 students have had the opportunity to learn new skills, including coding and piloting drones. They explored the various uses of drones, such as mapping and surveying, research, disaster management, photography and entertainment, and considered their potential applications in the

future. Additionally, students gained hands-on experience flying the drones, developing precision and control, and even designing creative challenges and obstacle courses for their peers to navigate.

The Year 8 students have thoroughly enjoyed flying the drones,

demonstrating great enthusiasm and skill as they rose to the challenge! The program has sparked a keen interest in technology and engineering among the students, paving the way for further exploration in these fields.

Nicola Stewart, STEM Teacher













# **Crazy Sock and Hair Day**



### **Mandalas**



In week 2 and 4, students from Years 2-6 learnt more about and began the process of creating their own Mandala with the talented Cathy Gray from Ink Work. She worked with each class focussing on the benefits of how creating Mandalas can support wellbeing and how mindfulness and relaxation can increase mental health. Students will continue to work on these throughout now that they have completed their time with Cathy.

There are many benefits of creating Mandalas. These include:

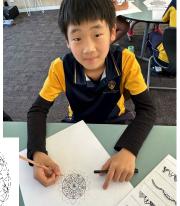
- Reduce Stress
- Help with concentration.
- An easy tool for meditation and relaxation
- Problem solving
- Balancing the left and right brain function

- Increases focused attention
- Learning and teaching through Arts
- Stepping off the path of least resistance
- Pushing boundaries
- Thinking outside the square
- Cultivating creativity
- Creating a calm mindset
- Building confidence.

Towards the end of the term, The Years 2-6 will be sharing their completed Mandalas one afternoon with an Art Gallery for families to come and enjoy. Details will come close to this date

Deb Casburn, Year 5 Teacher























### Year 3

This term our main focus in English has been report writing. Students have learnt the purpose and features of an information report. They have selected an animal found at the Adelaide Zoo. They have selected sub headings and researched facts. Students used modelling clay to design a 3D annotated model of this animal. We are looking forward to our Zoo Excursion in week 6 so we can visit the animals we have studied.









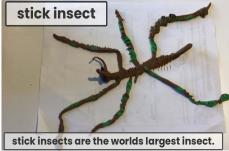


### crocodiles

They can lay upto 10-100 eggs.

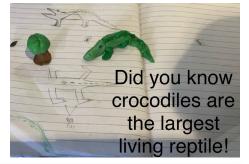






**Turtles** live in water









# **National Reconciliation Week Mass**





























































## **Mary MacKillop Centre**



As a part of Community Connections our Year 7 and 8 Mary MacKillop Centre students have been learning about a range of people in our community that help us. As a part of our learning we were very fortunate to have Dr Andy come and visit us. Dr Andy talked to us about some of the reasons we might visit the Doctor and also demonstrated and explained how some of the equipment doctors use work. We were able to see how equipment such as a Stethoscope, Blood Pressure Monitor and a Finger Pulse Oximeter work and have a turn seeing them in action.

A huge thank you to Dr Andy for taking time out of his busy day to meet with us!

A number of our Mary MacKillop Centre students also had the opportunity to learn some basic First Aid by participating in the St John's First Aid in schools program. We learnt about what to do in an emergency, following the process

- **D**anger
- **R**esponse
- Send for help-call 000
- **A**irway

- **B**reathing
- **C**PR
- **D**efibrillator

Students also learnt how to put someone in the recovery position and the instructor demonstrated how to use the defibrillator. Before we finish the session we all had a go at practicing using the bandages.

It was a very valuable session that has taught us many new skills to use if we ever needed them in an emergency.

> Emma Westwood, **Inclusion Coordinator**









































# **Year 8 Woodhouse Excursion**



# **Year 7 Adelaide Zoo Excursion**



# **Community Noticeboard**



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