

Media Release

6 August 2021



MELBOURNE
ARCHDIOCESE
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Primary school principals – we celebrate and thank you!

Today, on national [Primary Principals Day](#), we celebrate the contribution of the 263 Catholic primary school principals in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, and all principals across the country.

‘The role of a Catholic primary school principal is complex, challenging and rewarding’, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) Executive Director Jim Miles said.

‘However, the past 18 months of the pandemic have stress-tested the capabilities of our principals like never before and they have responded magnificently.

‘In the face of the challenges presented, we have seen strong and decisive school leadership, innovation, care and compassion in abundance as our principals have worked tirelessly to maintain learning continuity and support the wellbeing of their students, staff and families.

‘Schools have had to alternate between onsite and remote learning, sometimes with only a few hours notice. Principals have assisted with contact tracing, overseen deep cleans, and cared for sick students and staff.

‘Stories of principals going above and beyond the call of duty are common across the community.

‘The pandemic has also shone new light on the central leadership role principals play, not just within their schools, but also within the fabric of their parish and wider communities.

‘Today, we pause to congratulate and thank our principals. Their contribution already stands as a legacy of Victoria’s efforts to support and protect children in the face of this insidious virus.

‘I encourage everyone to take the opportunity today to say “thanks” to their primary school principal’, Mr Miles said.

Media contact: Gerard Delaney on 0413 274 176 or gdelaney@macs.vic.edu.au