FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Vision
Mercy Regional College serves a wide rural community which values growth and diversity in Catholic Education in the Mercy tradition.

Our Mission
In the Spirit of the Gospels we commit ourselves to the core values of community, inclusiveness, learning, care, justice and mercy, excellence and achievement.

Our Focus for 2011
Through the Mercy tradition we seek to act with love, fairness, tolerance and compassion to all.

Prayer
“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven”.
(Matt 5: 43-45a)

The challenge of loving one’s neighbor is amongst the most difficult of Christian principles and therefore sits at the heart of what it means to live a fully human life. In this last section of Matthew’s account of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus highlights that there are no limits on love. The Christian ideal of agape, unconditional love calls us to take personal responsibility for our actions, to forgive those who have wronged us (even grievously) and to reject the temptation to retaliate. Venerable Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy wrote to her sisters saying, “never let the sun go down on your anger”. Her message of forgiveness and humility is one we should reflect on constantly.

In the last twenty-four hours, I have been shocked by the devastation and loss of life in the earthquake in Christchurch. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to anyone in our College community affected by the tragic events.

A Prayer for Victims of the Earthquake
We mourn the death and destruction in New Zealand, O Lord, and we pray for those who died in this recent disaster.

May their souls rest in peace.
May their families be comforted.
We pray for the living survivors.
Be with them, Lord, in this traumatic time.
May they experience Your healing,
In their spirits as well as their bodies.
We pray for the communities affected.
May they come together in solidarity
To rebuild and to affirm new life
that arises from the dust and ashes of before.
Amen

Over the last few weeks, I have been reflecting on what it means to be a leader in a Catholic school such as Mercy Regional College. The challenges of last week’s gospel certainly offer something in this: the unequivocal call by Jesus to love, to forgiveness and to compassion. This theme of unconditional love is explored by Jim Quillinan in his article which is attached.

However, it was a question made most real when posed to me by a Year 5 student at St Thomas’ School, Terang. I was there accompanying the College Captains, Bridget Glennen and Charlie Bradshaw, who had been asked to talk to the Year 5 and 6 students on leadership, as the children prepared to elect their school captains for 2011. The visit was most enjoyable as both the questions posed by the St Thomas’ students and the answers provided by Bridget and Charlie reflected careful thought and real knowledge about this important area. On a similar theme, the address given by the College Captains at the first Whole School Assembly two weeks ago has been included.
College Activities
The College has been abuzz over the last three weeks with a number of different activities underway or completed:

- The College Swimming Sports were completed on Friday 11th February and, despite the grey skies, it was a delight to see so many students contributing to the success of the day in the pool, through cheering for members of their house or by assisting staff with the running of the program. It was fantastic to see and meet the many parents, families and friends of the MRC community present on the day. Congratulations to the many staff who worked to make the day a success with particular thanks to the Head of Sport, Mr. James Castles for his leadership, enthusiasm and energy.

- Last week, our 99 year seven students travelled to Portland for their Year 7 Camp. I had the pleasure of being a part of the Cape Bridgewater walk section on Thursday. The excitement, teamwork and fun that was evident on the walk and back at the camp bodes well for a great start to secondary education for all our Year Seven students. Thanks to all year seven staff who assisted with the camp under the leadership of Mr. Tony Wynd.

- This week, the McAuley Campus is very quiet with only Year Nine students in attendance for the whole week. I look forward to reporting on the success of the Year 10 Work Experience placements, the Year 11 Camp program in Melbourne and Noorat and the important Year 12 Retreat at Dunkeld.

School Photos
Wednesday, 2nd March, will be school photo day.

We will again use Arthur Reed Photos from Geelong. The photographers will commence taking photos at the O'Keeffe campus at 8:45am. If parents wish to have a family photo of all their children, transportation will be organised to get students to McAuley and back. Family photo envelopes are available from the office of either campus.

Year 9 – 12 students will have their photos taken at the McAuley Campus from approximately 12:00pm.

Students are to be in Full Summer Uniform on the day, which includes having their Jumper on. They are to be well groomed and have clean shoes.

Please assist us by making sure that your child brings their photo envelope with the correct money in it on the day to hand to the photographer, they are not to ask at the office for change, as they will be refused.

Visitors to the College
With a new Principal on deck, there have been a number of significant guests visiting Mercy Regional College over recent weeks. Their presence provides a great opportunity for us to promote our achievements, our growing enrolments and, in some cases, our plans for future building projects. These guests have included:

- Mr Larry Burn and Ms Mary Lovelock from the Ballarat Catholic Education Office;
- Mr Dan Tehan, newly elected Federal Member for Wannon; and
- Mr Andrew Mason, CEO for the Shire of Corangamite.

Mobile Phone and other Electronic Devices
A concerning trend has been evident in recent weeks of students carrying and making inappropriate use of mobile phones and related electronic devices such as iPods at school. The College has publicized its policy on the appropriate use of these devices widely and it is available to read on the College website under School Documents. While we recognize that mobile phones are necessary for students in their travel to and from the College and that some subjects are able to utilize other electronic devices such as iPods as learning tools, the possession and use of these during recess and lunch is unacceptable. Recently, we have seen electronic devices such as these being used to film students and incidents in the schoolyard; this development is a great concern with such use being viewed by the College most seriously.

Yours in Mercy,

DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

A Message from Chris Moloney
Welcome to the 2011 school year, amazingly we are already 3 weeks into Term 1. In my role in Family Support I plan to make contact with all the families with students new into the school.

My role enables me to be another form of communication between yourselves and the school. I am available for any question you may have concerning all aspects of school life and any answers I don’t have I will try and find for you.

I look forward to catching up with you soon but if you wish to contact me you can leave a message at 55922017 or through the school. Cheers Chris.
Wellbeing Workshop in March  
*Kerin Glennen*

This is a compulsory experience for all Year 9 and 10 students.

All Year 9 and 10 students will be attending various activities in periods 1 and 2 on Tuesday 15th March. The girls will be attending a play titled “The Shape of a Girl” which focuses on the bullying that does occur in this age bracket. The presenter will both challenge and confront the girls about how they treat and support each other. This activity will take place in the stadium from 9:20am until 10:45am.

Whilst this is taking place, the boys will be working with several members of the community regarding what it is like to raise boys and how risk-taking at this age is dangerous (not that it is not at any time). The presenters are a mother who will highlight the challenges and joys of raising boys and Fr Matthew will speak regarding what happens when a risk goes wrong and the affect that this has on family, community and school. The third presenter is a Police Officer who will share some stories from his experiences regarding when boys push the boundaries.

The cost to the students for this experience is $4.00 each payable to the office through the Homeroom “tub” system no later than the 11th of March.

Year 9 Issues Day  
*Kerin Glennen*

This is a compulsory activity for all Year 9 students, details for Year 9 Issues day are presently being finalised.

On 31st March all Year 9 students will go through the Ambulance Drug and Alcohol Program for Teenagers. The program provides the students to hear first-hand accounts of emergency situations and learn to identify risks associated with drug and alcohol use and abuse. Also, when and how to call an ambulance for assistance as well as basic first aid and safe partying tips.

Kate McLennan will work with the students. Kate has appeared in several stage shows and has gained critical acclaim as a one woman show. She will be working with all the Year 9 students regarding several issues such as treating each other with respect etc.

Students are able to wear casual clothes for the day, the venue and cost for the day is yet to be finalised, students will need to bring their own lunch.

More information will be forwarded on to parents as time gets closer.

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Message from the Business Manager

Thank-you to families that have returned the Tuition Fee Arrangement Form.

There are still a large number of families who have not returned this form. The details on this form allows the College to budget our cash flow more effectively and also not to have to contact families unnecessarily regarding unpaid school fees.

Should you have any queries regarding completion of this form, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the McAuley Campus.

*Lynn Wadley*
From the Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning
Mrs Lisa Pope

At Mercy, most of our students undergo an accelerated program in Year 10 by starting a VCE or VET program early. The curriculum offerings, especially in Years 9 -12 provide a wide variety of learning pathways, and the first couple of weeks of school can often result in students redirecting their studies. We have now finalised all subject changes. To limit disruptions to the classroom environment and enable all classes to focus on the year ahead, we ask that no further changes to subjects be made beyond this point.

It has also been a busy time for staff professional development with several of our staff attending conferences in Melbourne for their respective VCE subjects. Mr Dean Ludeman (Physics), Mrs Chelsea Ludeman and Mrs Lisa Pope (Biology), Mr Lachie Lee (Literature and History), Mrs Rebecca Rees and Ms Sophie Carr (Psychology), Ms Kirsten Gibson (Design & Technology and VET Building & Construction) and Ms Lyn Davies and Ms Sarah Hinkley (Cert II Hospitality). These conferences are a great opportunity to gain updates in advances in our teaching areas and share ideas with colleagues from other schools.

There has been some concern relayed from parents regarding books for 2011. This issue has mainly come about due to increasing student numbers at each year level, limiting the number of second hand books available for purchase. Consequently, many students purchased new texts, some of which are updated editions, resulting in two or three different editions within the classroom. We have asked all teachers to work with both editions as there are often few differences between them. However at VCE, some textbooks change to meet the requirements of a new study design and it is important our students are working from a textbook which meets the requirements of the new study design. We have also asked staff to be mindful of the costs to families regarding textbooks and to ensure the students have the opportunity to use these resources to their advantage. If you have any concerns in relation to this area, please contact your child's subject teacher.

It is great to see VCE Unit 3 and 4 Literature taught by Mr Lachie Lee running this year, which I do not believe has run in the school for over seven years. Mr James Castles has also introduced VET Certificate III in Fitness, which we are offering in conjunction with the Australian Fitness Institute. This certificate has been incorporated in the Year Ten elective program, and provides a VET subject that can be used as an extra study towards students VCE/VCAL program. At Year Nine, we have introduced four Integrated Project Units, the purpose of these cross curricula units is to challenge students to present their understandings of their knowledge in a form of design project. Students at Year 9 will study one unit per term in the following areas: The History of our Local Produce; Environment and Sustainability; Tourism; and Volcanic Land forms. I would like to thank our Year 9 Integrated project teachers - Mrs Sarah Gellie, Mrs Rebecca Rees, Mr Ian Nicholson, Mr Brendon Normon, Ms Kirsten Gibson, Ms Danae Fraser and Ms Tina Jenkins - who have worked well together to develop these units.

End of Semester Report Survey
Over the coming weeks, we will be releasing a survey regarding student reporting and formal communication to parents. Last year, we were very pleased with the response to our survey on Parent Teacher Interviews which has led us to investigate and change some of our usual procedures. We hope this survey will provide valuable information for our staff on how we can continue to produce reports that effectively describe your child's progress and achievement. Whilst there are a number of aspects of the reporting process which are mandated by the Government, the overall Report package needs to provide effective feedback to you and your son/daughter on their progress in each subject. One aim of student reporting is to provide an effective partnership between the school and our parents in supporting the learning of your child and therefore your input will be greatly appreciated.

Parent Teacher Interviews
This year we have decided to put into place an online booking system for Parent/ Student/ Teacher Interviews. We are currently developing the system which will allow parents to make their own interview times that best suit their needs. Each parent will be given a password to gain access to the booking system or they can ring the school to ask a staff member to assist. The booking system will enable parents to see the availability of their child's subject teachers and make arrangements accordingly.

The Parent Teacher Interviews will take place on Thursday 7th April from 4.00 – 8.00 pm and Friday 8th April from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm. Please note that Friday 8th April is a student free day. For staff that may be on leave at this time, there will be an opportunity made available early term 2 to follow up.

To assist with the booking process an interim report will be mailed home on 29th March outlining your child's progress to date.
**Academic Competitions**
This year we would like students in Years 7 - 12 to have the opportunity to sit the following academic competitions.

**Australian Maths Competition - Thursday 4th August**
**English Competition - Tuesday 2nd August**
**Science Competition - Wednesday 8th June**

These competitions are not compulsory; however, we encourage students who wish to participate to register their names. Whilst the competitions are not for some time, due to budgeting we ask those students who wish to enter one or all of the competitions to register their names by the 4th March on the entry sheet below and return to the College Office. Spare entry forms can also be obtained from the appropriate Heads of Teaching and Learning.

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**Academic Competition Entry Form**

I ____________________________ Homeroom ________________ wish to register for the following academic competitions.  
(Please indicate by placing a tick in the box/s below)

- [ ] Maths Competition
- [ ] Science Competition
- [ ] English Competition

Student Signature: ________________________________________________

Please return this entry sheet to the College Office by 4th March

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Finally, I would like to share with you the Year 12 Class Creed developed in our Year 12 Religious Education Program. This set of belief statements was a collaborative effort from 12C. After witnessing some wonderful efforts by our students over the last few days, it makes us really proud to be able to work with your children. Teaching, like parenting, can at times become challenging, especially when you often don't get the response that you hoped for. However, when you see the kind and caring gestures of support and encouragement our students give to our community, you realise the privilege placed in front of you.

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**Year 12C Mercy Creed**

- We believe in the right to a good education
- We believe through hard work and determination we can achieve our goals.
- We believe in the fair treatment between one another
- We believe MRC encourages developing education
- We believe we should respect each other equally within our community
- We believe that people have the right for personal choice
- We believe we should wear our Mercy uniform with pride
- We believe in strength through understanding
- We believe that knowledge is power
- We believe that friendships are an important part of our school life
- We believe we have the right to be free of prejudice and stereotypes
- We believe we have the right to express our opinions
- We believe the importance of helping and supporting our mates
- We believe we are here to learn and understand how to stand up for what we believe in.
- We believe in a positive attitude towards all aspects of school
- We believe our environment reflects our way of life
- We believe that the Mercy Spirit is comprised of the individual
- We believe our education is preparing us for our future
- We believe Catholic education helps shape our values and morals
- We believe in us!
Good Morning Staff, Students and friends of Mercy.

I’m Bridget Glennen, this is Charlie Bradshaw, and we are your college captains for 2011.

I began my schooling at St Thomas’ primary school in Terang prior to commencing my high school studies at the O’Keeffe campus in Noorat.

I’m Charlie Bradshaw and I joined Mercy in year seven after finishing my primary schooling at St Pat’s in Camperdown.

Firstly, we would like to personally extend a warm welcome to all of the new staff and students joining Mercy Regional College this year. We wish them all the best for their experience at Mercy, and trust that their time here will be enjoyable and worthwhile.

Bridget and I are thrilled and honoured to be given the opportunity to be student leaders at Mercy Regional College and we promise to try our best as role models, but ultimately as representatives of the student body.

Charlie, our fellow student leaders and I were allocated leadership positions towards the end of last year due to our desire and effort directed towards maintaining the spirit of Mercy. Mercy holds a reputation largely developed through school spirit which we wish to promote and encourage all students to maintain during their time at the College.

Although our leadership positions have only just began, we have already shared great experiences and been presented with a number of opportunities. We strongly encourage all students to consider the prospect of becoming student leaders in the future.

Our first duty as leaders was to attend a leadership camp in Apollo Bay in November last year. As an extended leadership group, we spent two days together discussing leadership qualities and goals that we wish to achieve this year as representatives of Mercy.

We left Apollo Bay with three goals for 2011:

1) To encourage contribution to the MRC community but also to the broader community to which we all belong. Mercy students need to continue to represent the College in a positive manner, both within and outside of school grounds. We want students to realise they are Mercy representatives all of the time and that the maroon jumpers recognised down the street symbolise a College that is proud of its rich heritage.

2) This year the leadership team, with the support of the entire student body, hope to promote house colour pride. Sports days are a good way to develop healthy competition but we wish to extend this rivalry throughout all aspects of the Mercy culture and develop more house competitions. Whether it is fundraising days or in-class diary checks, we want to create a sense of belonging within each of the house teams that encourages all students to get involved academically, athletically, musically and creatively.

3) In 2011, we wish to raise the profile of student leaders across both campuses. It is hoped that with more visits and interaction with the junior campus, student leaders will be recognisable, and more importantly, approachable.

At Mercy Regional College through the Mercy tradition, we support, acknowledge and strive for personal excellence. It is worthwhile mentioning that you only get out what you put in, so throughout this year and the duration of your time here at Mercy, we strongly encourage all students to get involved throughout various happenings at the College.

On behalf of both of us, welcome again and we look forward to your co-operation and enthusiasm throughout 2011.
WELLBEING FORUM
17th March, 2011

Time: 7:00pm - 8:15pm
Venue: St Pat’s Church
No Cost

On 17th March Mercy Regional College will be hosting an evening Wellbeing Forum for our VCE students, parents and teachers. The forum is aimed at sharing information with Students, Parents and Staff on how to make VCE as stress free as possible for all participants as well as offering advice to all involved about dealing with concerns before they become an issue.

We have three highly qualified guest speakers who have vast experience in this area;

- Ms Jac Van Velson from the Catholic Education office
- Mr Michael Harris from the Early Intervention Team
- Ms Lorri Chandler from Centre Care Warrnambool

**Topics to be covered**

- The importance of students taking care of themselves both physically and emotionally.
- The need for students to strike the balance between study and family/person free time.
- Resources available for both students and families to access if a concern arises.
- The importance of open and honest communication between students and their family.

Each speaker will speak for approximately 15 minutes and questions will be taken from the floor at the conclusion of each session.

The speakers will also be available to talk with once the forum has concluded. At the conclusion of the forum each family will receive a number of resources.

I do urge parents and students presently in VCE to attend, as well as any other students and parents from Mercy.
Rights or Needs

In Australia, as in many other countries, religion is viewed largely as a private choice made by some individuals. Religion is tolerated, sometimes welcomed. One recent Governor General, for example, welcomed the introduction of chaplains to schools because religion helped with discipline and character formation. But this private choice does not extend to influencing the functioning of society – politicians are expected to leave their religious beliefs at the door of the parliament. Religion or religious beliefs, it is said, must not influence personal choice and must not be allowed to limit the rights of individuals in any way. Religion is often parodied as always saying ‘no’, opposed to human freedom, outdated in its views, not part of a progressive society.

Our age seems to be dominated by the desire to place the individual first – individual rights before all else. As a result, some of our most basic structures such as marriage and family are now being redefined. While every person has the right to the same opportunities as everyone else, placing the individual first is not always the best course of action. Sometimes, however, our drive for individual rights, our desire to do whatever we want may be expressions of a much deeper need.

We are, in reality, not isolated individuals simply intent on our own survival, on satisfying our own needs and desires. Fundamentally our humanity is relational, that is it finds its meaning and flourishes best of all in relationships with other members of its family and its extended community. We came into existence with a humanity that makes us part of a global family firstly in our own country, and then in the world. What we need for ourselves and what we would like to do must always be moderated by the needs of the larger community and indeed the poorest and neediest of our global family. We were created to find meaning and happiness by living in community.

The Catholic Church believes that human beings cannot be properly fulfilled unless they discover a relationship with God. St Paul often spoke passionately from the heart, not the least in this passage which reminds us of our common bonds:

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge— that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (Eph 3:15-20)

It is that Fatherhood that binds us together, that unites us as a human family. It is this family which binds us together and gives life meaning – not just our few short years on this earth but well beyond that! We find real meaning when we look beyond ourselves, when we seek to be, in

Paul’s words, rooted and established in love. It is then that we begin to grasp the extraordinary love of God, a love which surpasses our knowledge and understanding, a love which encompasses the whole family of people on earth and in heaven. Jesus who surrendered himself completely for us shows us that, of its essence, love seeks others. Religion, rather than truncating personal rights, urges us on to a deeper reality, a deeper satisfaction. When we begin to look beyond ourselves, we can see that what we regard as our rights are often the most basic needs of our ‘inner being’. Our own desire to feel wanted and needed, our desire to do what we like can often flow from a much deeper understanding of our humanity.

- Our own desire for the right to be respected may help us recognise the value and dignity of every person. It may help us to recognise our responsibility to care for all with whom we come into contact with justice and compassion no matter what the circumstances. It may require us to stand up for what we believe and challenge behaviour which is contrary to our values.

- Our own desire to feel wanted and to belong is a reminder of our responsibility to extend this to all with whom we come in contact, by a sense of welcome especially to those who are poorest, most vulnerable and most in need. It is a reminder of our call to promote connectedness.

- Our own desire for health and happiness may lead us to an understanding of our responsibility to value and consider others by caring for their spiritual, psychological and physical well being and to build relationships and healing through reconnecting, reconciling.

- Our desire for possessions may help us recognise that as individuals and as a community all we have has been given to us as a gift. We cannot possess everything – others have needs and rights too. In the words of the American Indian proverb: We do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. We do not have a right to everything, rather it is our responsibility to manage these precious resources effectively for the future.

This is what gives religion its special role in human living. To feel drawn by God does not set us against others, rather it highlights their importance. It highlights the fact that our lives can be so much richer and more fulfilled if we draw closer to God and to find God and God’s purpose in the service of others. In that way we may find the happiness which surpasses all knowledge – the happiness we all desire.

Regards
Jim Quilliman
Phone: 0401 933 023
Email: jquilliman@dcs.net.au

Rights or Needs 15 February 2011
**Sports Report**
*Report by: Frayne House Captains*
*Tonya Molan & Tyson Osborne*

Last Friday 11th February, the college held their annual swimming sports in drizzly cool conditions. The lack of sunny weather did not dampen the spirits of the students as they continued on with some outstanding results. Frayne followed up last year’s win with another to make it back to back.

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<tr>
<th>Age Group Champions</th>
<th>Spirit Awards</th>
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<tr>
<td>U/13 Female: Annabelle Nash</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/13 Male: Lachlan Spicer</td>
<td>Moloney</td>
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<td>U/14 Female: Haylee Davis</td>
<td>Lucretia Bell</td>
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<td>U/14 Male: J ack Williams</td>
<td>Best Dressed:</td>
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<tr>
<td>U/15 Female: Dana Rhode</td>
<td>James Keough</td>
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<td>U/15 Male: Ben Saunders</td>
<td>Ashlee Dendle</td>
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<td>U/16 Female: Elizabeth Steel</td>
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<td>U/16 Male: Dylan Lee</td>
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<td>U/17 Female: Caitlyn Mitchell</td>
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<td>U/17 Male: Daniel Unwin</td>
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<td>U/20 Female: Samantha Alexander</td>
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<td>U/20 Male: James Devlin</td>
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1st Place: Frayne 1,341  2nd Place: Markey 1,021  3rd Place: Tindley 926  4th Place: Ryan 914

The day ran smoothly thanks to all the teachers, captains, students and parents, with a special thanks to Mr. Castles.

We would like to thank everyone for their support, encouragement and enthusiasm towards the day; it was great to see so many students participating and getting involved. Congratulations to all students who participated especially the age group champions.

Well Done to Frayne competitors for contributing to your house win. GO FRAYNE.

**Lions Youth of the Year**

This year three students from Mercy Regional College represented the College at the Lions Youth of the Year Competition. Natasha Heyden and Chris Almond competed in the Terang Competition.

Monique McKenzie competed in the Camperdown competition and won in her division. This then enabled her to go onto the District final which was held on Tuesday night. Unfortunately Monique was beaten overall by a very worthy winner from the Terang Club who will go onto the State finals in Williamstown.

Well done Monique for your outstanding effort, and as well we thank Natasha and Chris for their contribution to the competition.

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**Careers Report**
*Mr James Castles*

**VOCAATIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS**

**Calling all tech savvy girls!** Robogals members train female university students in robotics and then send them into primary schools to teach girls about careers in science, technology and engineering. If you are in primary or secondary school, you can join the ‘Little Engineers Digest” which is a monthly newsletter that contains information about the latest in science and tech info, how to videos, competitions and profiles on women in tech to inspire you! If you would like to sign up to the monthly digest, email your name, grade, date of birth, school name and postcode to jia@robogals.org

**Do you need to sit the UMAT?** The term UMAT stands for Undergraduate Medical and Health Science Admissions Test. If you are looking to enroll in Medical or specific Health Science programs then you may need to undertake the UMAT. In 2010, applicants for selected programs in Medicine, Medical Laboratory Science, Physiotherapy, Dental Surgery, Dental Science, Oral Health, Optometry and Pharmacy had to sit the UMAT as part of the selection process. To find out whether you need to sit the UMAT, check the following website regularly-http://umat.acer.edu.au if you would like to undertake a preparation program for the UMAT test, companies such as Med Entry and National Institute of Education run fee for service workshops up until the UMAT in July 2011. Contact them at info@MedEntry.edu.au and enquiries@nie.edu.au respectively.

**Courses at the Coffee and RSA School Melbourne:** The school runs courses in coffee art, barista, responsible service of alcohol, responsible service of gaming and work place hygiene. The campus is located two minutes walk from the Victoria Street Markets, Melbourne. Call 03 9329 6550 to book.

**Award winning programs in Design and Tourism at Holmesglen:** Holmesglen has just been inducted into the Hall of Fame after winning the RACV Tourism Awards for the third year in a row. Design students from Holmesglen have won major awards at the Furnitex Furniture Design Expo and the Southern Cross Packaging Design Awards for Graphic Design. An electrical student has also won the 2010 Australian Vocational Student of the Year award. To explore their award winning courses, go to www.holmesglen.edu.au
UPCOMING EVENTS

Folio preparation programs at RMIT: Textile design and development- starting on 5 March and running over 7 sessions until 16 April. The cost is $450. Fashion drawing and design- starting on 9 March and running over 15 sessions until 29 June. The cost is $660. Both are being held at the Brunswick campus. For more information and to register, go to www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au

Would you like to learn more about careers in Hospitality? William Angliss Institute is running their annual Trial-a-Trade program on Thursday 10 March between 5.30 – 8.30pm at their campus, 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne. You will be able to learn about careers in the Hospitality Industry diverse as the following- chef, baker, butcher, waiter, barista, confectioner or patisserie. Apart from learning new skills, you will get to work with other young people to put on a luncheon! It will cost you $28 and you must be between 14 – 18 years of age. To book or find out more, please call 03 9606 2111, email marketing@angliss.edu.au, or visit www.angliss.edu.au.

Free Engineering Careers Expo: The 2011 Engineering Careers Expo will be held at Etihad Stadium at Melbourne on 31 March, 2 – 7pm. You will be able to speak to over 70 exhibitors, attend free seminars, get an insight into the engineering industry, get professional development and career advice, and discover recruitment opportunities. For more information, go to www.engineeringexpo.org.au

Get Real Experience School Holiday Programs- Engineering: If you are in years 10 – 12 and are passionate about Science and Engineering, you have the opportunity to attend a ‘Get Real Experience School Holiday Program’ at RMIT in your area of interest. You can register for any of the following- Environmental Science and Engineering (field work included), Experience Electrical and Computer Engineering, Experience Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Experience Computing and Information Technology. For event dates and to register for notifications regarding program updates, please visit www.rmit.edu.au/seh/experience. Contact Clare Russell at 03 9925 3699, clare.russell@rmit.edu.au

Get Real Experience School Holiday Programs- Health If you are in years 10 – 12 and are passionate about Health, you have the opportunity to attend a ‘Get Real Experience School Holiday Program’ at RMIT. You can register for any of the following- PE VCE Enhancement program, Medical Laboratory visits- behind the scenes tour, Experience Health and Medical Sciences and also Nuclear Medicine Lab Visits. For event dates and to register for notifications regarding program updates, please visit www.rmit.edu.au/seh/experience. Contact Clare Russell at 03 9925 3699, clare.russell@rmit.edu.au

MARCH EVENTS

• Meet Melbourne, University of Melbourne- Geelong (17), Sale (23), Warragul (24) and Bendigo (31), www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/meetmelbourne
• My Day events at Charles Sturt University- Teaching & Education, Wagga Wagga (8), Environmental Science, Albury-Wodonga (10), Communications, Bathurst (15), Nursing/ Paramedics, Bathurst (29). Contact Judy Walsh to register at infoevents@csu.edu.au
• 7: Information session for Certificate II in Hospitality Operations course, William Angliss Institute, call Jane or Liezel on 03 9606 2389 or 03 9606 2301.
• 10: Drawing Techniques for Design course, RMIT, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au
• 11: Defence Technical Scholarships Close, see your Career Adviser.
• 16: Information Evening, Australian International Hotel School and Blue Mountains Hotel Management School, Melbourne, 1800 257 360, enquiry@hotelschool.com.au

APRIL EVENTS

• ‘Meet Melbourne’, University of Melbourne, Ballarat (6) and Mildura (28), www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/meetmelbourne
• 7: My Day events at Charles Sturt University- Allied Health at Albury-Wodonga and Exercise Science at Bathurst.
• 15: Access all Areas, University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus, www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events
• 15: ‘Talk and Tour’, La Trobe University, www.latrobe.edu.au
21: Art and Design Discovery Day, Swinburne University, www.swinburne.edu.au