ISSUE 4-1

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 2010
Justice and Mercy: Through the Mercy tradition we seek to act with love, fairness, tolerance and compassion to all.

FROM THE CANONICAL ADMINISTRATORS
(Fr Eugene McKinnon & Fr Matthew Thomas)

New Principal
It is with great pleasure that we announce to you the appointment of Dr Darren Egberts as Principal of Mercy Regional College, to take effect from the beginning of the 2011 school year.

Dr Egberts is currently Deputy Principal; Director of Mission at Mt Lilydale Mercy College.

Dr Egberts’ appointment was made after an extensive advertising and consultation period. His academic and professional qualifications include a Bachelor of Science, Graduate Diploma of Education, Graduate Diploma of Religious Education, Master of Religious Education and a Doctorate of Education.

Dr Egberts is married to Freya and they have two daughters, D’Arcy 4 years and Stella 9 weeks. Darren and his family are currently parishioners of St Timothy’s in Vermont.

Dr Egberts is looking forward to returning to the country. He grew up in Colac and was educated at Trinity College.

As Canonical Administrators of the College, we congratulate Dr Egberts on his appointment and look forward to working with him in 2011 and beyond.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Mary MacKillop – St Mary of the Cross

Sunday, 17th October, will be a significant day in the history of the Catholic Church as we will celebrate the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia’s first Saint. Mary’s life has certainly captured the imagination of the nation of the last weeks and will no doubt continue to do so in the future. Mary’s story is of a life lived in the service of the poor providing educational opportunities to those who did not have the ability to access formal education. This is certainly what we, as Catholic educators, strive to continue to do today.

Mary MacKillop was a young woman, with a dream, to make a difference in our world. Her dream encompassed opening simple schools where there was no class distinction, offering refuge to the most neglected and bringing practical help to families. Mary felt very strongly about the widespread ignorance of the whole of the spiritual dimension of life and therefore dedicated her life to bringing the message of God’s love to all whom she encountered. She was a passionate woman whose youthful spirit has touched the ‘heart and soul’ of the Australian people. She embodies all that is best in our Australian nation and its people. Her spirit and values continue to inspire young people to make a difference in these times.

One of the appeals that ‘saints’ have for people in the world today is that they are or have been ordinary people who have looked at life and in their daily circumstances succeeded in becoming special people who touched the deepest yearnings of the heart. Mary MacKillop was no exception.
She was an ordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life. She was a woman who dared to love. She knew that God loved her and she responded to this love with confidence and courage.

Mary Mackillop believed that God was active in her life and in the lives of her early companions and was calling them to the service of others. She expressed her trust in the loving Providence of God, our Father, by founding a Congregation which was dependent on Providence for its support and was devoted to the service of the poor.

Its members were women who worked in a simple, ordinary way to bring to the poor the message of their human dignity and of Christ's saving love.

Mary Mackillop believed that in this way God's compassionate love, symbolized for her by the Sacred Heart, would become a reality for her Sisters and for the people with whom they shared their lives. Her call as foundress was to be one with Christ, faithful in life and in death, to the will of the Father.

She called her Sisters to be open to God's action in and through their weaknesses in a joyful and generous spirit, for in fidelity to the Cross they would be open to love and freed for mission.

Text From: Constitutions of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.


Mary has been described as a:

- Woman of Compassion
- Woman of Courage
- Woman of God
- Woman of Action

In each newsletter during this term, I will provide a short reflection on each of the above. This week's reflection on page eight will be on Mary, a Woman of Compassion.

I have also provided below information about the coverage of the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop over the course of the weekend.

**ABC’s COVERAGE OF THE CANONISATION OF MARY MACKILLOP**

**Sunday 17 October 7pm**

**ABC NEWS**

ABC News will cross live to the ABC’s Europe Correspondent Philip Williams at the Vatican for the latest coverage of the ceremony conducted by Pope Benedict.

**Sunday 17 October 10.10pm**

**COMPASS – MARY, CANONISATION SPECIAL FROM THE VATICAN**

Geraldine Doogue presents a Compass special, on the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop, from the Vatican, in Rome. She will be joined by expert commentators from the Catholic Church to analyse the ceremony’s significance and impact. This special will include pre-packaged stories featuring the large Australian contingent travelling to Rome for the event, the mass Honouring Mary and a Vatican pilgrimage following in the footsteps of Mary’s 19th century journey to Rome.

**Sunday 17 October 3pm**

**ABC NEWS 24**

**COMPASS – MARY, MIRACLES & SAINTS (replay ABC1 broadcast of Sunday 10 October)**

**Sunday 17 October 6pm**

**NEWS SPECIAL – THE CANONISATION OF MARY MCKILLOP**

A special two-hour program: live coverage of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Catholic Saint. ABC News 24 will broadcast the ceremony conducted by Pope Benedict live from the Vatican. The news special will also include live crosses to the ABC's Europe Correspondent, Philip Williams, in Rome, as well as to reporters around Australia where revellers will gather to join in the celebrations. These sites include: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney; Mary MacKillop Chapel, North Sydney; significant sites in Penola, South Australia; the Exhibition Centre, Melbourne; and St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral, Adelaide.
The Hampden Catholic Schools Network (Mercy, St Patrick’s, St Thomas and St Colman’s) gathered as a community on Tuesday to celebrate the forthcoming canonisation of Mary MacKillop.

Fr Matthew led the Eucharistic celebration followed by the creation of the human mural in the shape of the Josephite symbol, involving all students, from Prep to Year 12.

In the afternoon our students were entertained at a Christian rock concert, featuring Scott Darlow and band from Melbourne, thanks to the generosity of the Parishes of Camperdown and Terang.
Central Australia Trip
On Wednesday, 29th September, at about 6.30am two Christian’s Coaches returned to Noorat and Camperdown completing a wonderful journey to the centre of our country. The 80 students, 8 staff from MRC and four staff from Christian’s enjoyed the opportunity of traveling through South Australia, experiencing two nights in underground accommodation at Coober Pedy and the sights of Alice Springs along with camel rides. There is no doubt that the natural wonders of Kings Canyon, the Olgas and Uluru always remains a highlight of the Central Australia Trip.

Bus 1 raised a total of $818.55 and Bus 2 raised a total of $899.80. Congratulations to all the students on this effort.

I must commend all the students who participated in the tour on their behavior, co-operation and good humour. This certainly made the trip most enjoyable.

Thanks are also extended to the staff who gave of their own holidays to make it possible for our students to enjoy this experience: Stacey Hillman, Wayne and Rose Henry, Luke Bourchier, Melanie Sadler, Rebecca McGrath, and Ben Logan.

Year 9 Camp
Our Year 9 students commenced the new term with their annual city experience camp in Melbourne. The visit to Melbourne included the Titanic Exhibition, a visit to The Academy of Mary Immaculate where the Sisters’ of Mercy first school in Victoria, the Shrine of Remembrance, MCG and the Victoria Markets. From all accounts a healthy dose of shopping in the city was also included. Thank you to the following staff who again gave of their time for the benefit of our students: Sarah Gellie, Melanie Sadler, Darren Cheeseman, Jenny Phillips, Lisa Pope, Fr Matthew Thomas, Kerin Glennen and Sarah Hinkley.

Student Achievement
Congratulations are extended to Xavier Darcy on his outstanding achievement at the 5th Down Syndrome Swimming World Championships held in Taipei, Taiwan from 1st to 8th October.

Xavier was awarded four gold medals and five silver medals, eight personal best times and a world record in the 50 Meter Breaststroke.

An outstanding effort. Congratulations Xavier!
Digital Education Revolution
This week has seen the arrival of 120 new laptop computers, new Smart Boards, data projectors, screens and beginning of the installation of new wireless infrastructure as part of the Digital Education Revolution grant from the Federal Government, to ensure that we move to a 1:1 computer to student ratio from Year 9 to 12.

The installation of this equipment will now see banks of laptops (commonly referred to as COWS (Computers on Wheels) located in four different locations across the McAuley Campus ensuring that all classes have easy access to this new technology.

The receipt of the DER grant has then allowed the College to redirect the usual information technology budget to the O’Keeffe Campus. At this Campus an additional two Smart Boards have been acquired for the additional Year 7 and 8 classes for next year, along with the refurbishments of the Old Church into a new computer lab, housing 30 new computers, for use by our Year 7 & 8 students in addition to the lab located adjacent to the library.

State Election
The State Election will be held on Saturday, November 27th. Funding for Catholic schools will again be an issue for all political parties. We are seeking to link state funding to Catholic schools to 25% of the cost of education in a government school.

Victoria is the only state in Australia that does not link government funding to Catholic schools in this way. It is estimated this would mean around $60 million extra in state government funding, to Catholic schools, each year and ensure our government funding keeps pace with rising costs.

To ensure this issue receives serious attention, we will need the help of all parents to raise the issue with MPs and candidates from all parties. Please ask your local MPs and candidates:

Will you support state funding to Catholic schools linked to 25% of the cost of education in government schools?

School Uniform & Hats
A reminder to all parents that the summer uniform is to be worn during term 4 and that part of the summer uniform is the requirement that all students must wear the approved College hat when in the sun. The College hat is available from our uniform suppliers.

Car Raffle
Wednesday, 1st September, marked the beginning of the 36th year of the Mercy Regional College Car Raffle. The car raffle is certainly now the most important fundraising effort of our PTFA. Raffle books and rosters for selling tickets have been posted home to all families.

This year’s prizes are as follows:

1st Prize:
2010 Ford Focus LX Hatch valued at $27,999 including on road costs (Auto, prestige paint, air conditioning, power steering, cruise control CD player, alloy wheels 6 air bags and ABS) supplied courtesy of McKenzie Ford, Colac and Supported by Manifold Motors, Camperdown.

2nd Prize:
Travel Voucher valued at $2000 supplied courtesy of Harvey World Travel, Camperdown.

3rd Prize:
Electrical Goods Voucher valued at $1000 supplied courtesy of Camperdown Retravision.

4th Prize:
Nutrimetrics Pamper Pack valued at $250 supplied courtesy of Helen Bourke, Kolora.

5th Prize:
Fuel Voucher valued at $250 supplied courtesy of Steven Lucas, BP Camperdown.

6th Prize:
Jewellery Voucher valued at $200 supplied courtesy of Showcase Jewellers, Camperdown and Colac.

7th Prize:
Dinner Voucher valued at $100 supplied courtesy of Madden’s Bar & Bistro, Camperdown.

This year we have again selected a more fuel efficient car which will ensure the running costs for the eventual winner will be more economical.

The College is indeed grateful to our abovementioned suppliers of raffle prizes for their generosity. Where possible, it would certainly be appreciated if our school community could support these businesses.

I look forward to a very successful car raffle result, which can be easily achieved if ALL families work together to sell their book of raffle tickets and assist with the selling roster.
**PTFA Meeting**

The next PTFA meeting will be held on Monday, 25th October, at the McAuley Campus, Camperdown in the Staffroom, commencing at 7.30pm.

This is the second last meeting for the year so I would encourage parents to give some thought and consideration to assisting that small band of parents who give of their time for the benefit of all our students.

**Staff News**

Congratulations to James Castles on his run in the Melbourne Marathon last weekend. For those into marathon's here are James' times.

Overall - 3hr 44min 40sec, James finished 183rd in his category of 826 runners and 1434 overall out of 5637 runners.

Splits:
- 10K - 00:53:03
- 21K - 01:43:57
- 42K - 03:44:40

Top effort, well done James.

**Westvic Donation**

Each year, Westvic provides the opportunity for community organisations to submit funding proposals for projects that would benefit young students or apprentices. MRC's submission for a fully equipped 'portable' tool box was accepted and funded by Westvic at a function on 6/10/2010. Kirsten Gibson (Building Construction teacher), was there to accept the funding on behalf of MRC.

MRC would like to extend a big thank you to Westvic for funding our toolbox for B&C to the value of $2745.00.

**Closure of Henderson Street**

As from Tuesday, 18th October, 2010 the Corangamite Shire will close Henderson Street between Bowen Street and Wall Street, to all traffic except local residents. This will enable the reconstruction of Henderson Street to be completed.

The closure is estimated to last between six to eight weeks.

As a result, I would ask all parents to pick their children up from Dimora Ave. The buses will pick up and drop off students in Walls Street outside St Patrick's Church.

Once students have disembarked they **MUST** then use the designated school crossing and enter the College via Dimora Ave.

Staff and parents will be asked to park in the parking bays, in the side street, adjacent to the Church.

I thank all for their co-operation, patience and understanding with these changes, while the road works are in progress. The result will be of great benefit to all the school community.

**Along the Track**

I have attached to this newsletter, for your interest, on page 10, a reflection titled “Righteous or Self Righteous” written by Jim Quillinan from the Diocesan Catholic Education Office in Warragul. I hope you enjoy this reading.

**Mary MacKillop Prayer**

*Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary Mackillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and constant in bringing hope and encouragement
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence
and through the intercession of
Saint Mary Mackillop
We ask that you grant our request.
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit
so that we too, like Mary Mackillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.
Ever generous God hear our prayer.*

**Andrew Watson**
PRINCIPAL
### Coming Events

**Term 4**

**Sunday 17th October**
- Canonisation of Mary MacKillop

**Tuesday 19th October**
- Board Meeting 7.30pm

**Thursday 21st October**
- Year 12 Farewell Assembly

**Friday 22nd October**
- Junior School Oratory Competition

**Monday 25th October**
- PTFA Meeting 7.30pm McAuley Campus

**Thursday 28th October**
- VCE Exams commence

**Monday 1st November**
- School Board Holiday

**Tuesday 2nd November**
- Melbourne Cup Holiday

**Wednesday 3rd November**
- Outdoor Ed Camp commences

**Friday 5th November**
- Outdoor Ed Camp concludes

**Tuesday 9th November**
- Finance Committee meeting 3.00pm

**Tuesday 16th November**
- Board Meeting 7.30pm

**Wednesday 17th November**
- Arts Night and Car Raffle Draw commencing at 7.30pm

**Friday 19th November**
- Year 11 Exams commence
- VCE Exams conclude
- Graduation Mass & Dinner commences at 6.00pm

**Wednesday 24th November**
- Year 11 Exams conclude & Year 11 to 12 Transition commences

**Thursday 25th November**
- Instrumental Concert

**Friday 26th November**
- Year 11 to 12 Transition concludes
- Year 11 students conclude

**Monday 29th November**
- Year 7 2011 Orientation Day (no classes for current Year 7 students)
- Leadership Camp
- Leadership Camp

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**Tuesday 30th November**
- Leadership Camp
- Year 7, 8 & 10 Exams

**Wednesday 1st December**
- Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 Exams

**Thursday 2nd December**
- Year 9 & 10 Exams

**Friday 3rd December**
- Year 7 - 10 students conclude

**Monday 6th December**
- Year 7 2011 - On Demand Testing

**Tuesday 7th December**
- Year 7 2011 - On Demand Testing
- Mass of Thanksgiving & Presentation of Awards commencing 7.00pm

**Friday 10th December**
- Teaching Staff conclude

**Wednesday 15th December**
- Non Teaching Staff conclude
- Office closes

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**Mercy Awards**

**Junior School (Yr 7 & 8) Mercy Award**
- Steven Krybolder, Jessie Johnson and Ben Saunders for helping with the luggage on the Central Australia Trip.

**Middle School (Yr 9 & 10) Mercy Award**
- Emily Walsh for consistently striving for excellence.

**Senior School (Yr 11 & 12) Mercy Award**
- Lauren Carlin for helping with the Year 12 fundraising.
School Fee Accounts
Reminder to parents

Parents are reminded that the due date for payment of the 2010 school fee accounts will be the - 29th October, 2010.

Payment of outstanding amounts that are not on a payment plan may be made by one of the following options:

- Cash / Cheque / Credit Card in person at the McAuley Campus office.
- Cheque / Credit Card notification by mail.
- Direct Credit into NAB account in person at a branch or via Internet Banking.

Account details are as follows -
National Australia Bank
BSB number 083 523
Account number 5288 99931

Thank you to all parents who have met this deadline already and to those who will after completing their payment plans.

Lynn Wadley
Business Manager
ALL WELCOME!

Come along and explore Penola, Casterton, Portland and Hamilton as we retrace some of Mary Mackillop’s journey throughout parts of the Ballarat Diocese.

Reflect upon who she was, her call to vocation, her family and her enormous dedication to her faith!

Discover more about this woman who is for the Church and the World. Truly the people’s Saint.

This Pilgrimage is open to families and young adults - under 18’s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Basic Pilgrim accommodation provided - so bring your sleeping bag and a pillow!

The Pilgrimage for 2010 is being fully sponsored by Catholic Church Insurance. Places are limited so get in early and contact Stéf at the Diocesan Youth Office if you are interested.

Remember we are but travellers here.
1867 (25)

Diocesan Youth Office
Ph: 03 5337 7126
Mob: 0457 931 232
E: youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Pilgrimage Timings **

Day 1:
Depart Ballarat 9.00am
Arrive Penola 2.00pm
Depart Penola 7.30pm
Arrive Casterton 8.30pm

Day 2:
Depart Casterton 9.00am
Arrive Portland 10.30am
Depart Portland 5.30pm
Arrive Hamilton 7.00pm

Day 3:
Depart Portland 8.00am
Arrive Hamilton 9.00am
Depart Hamilton 11.00am
Arrive Ballarat 2.00pm

** Times are approximate only

Ballarat Catholic Diocese
October 29 – 31
2010

A Pilgrimage for Families and
Young Adults.

DAY 1: FRIDAY - 29th OCT
(Ballarat - Penola - Casterton)

Ballarat Cathedral - 9am

Meet and greet other Pilgrims taking the journey for a general introduction session, Pilgrim Prayer and Blessing in the Cathedral before departing to Penola.

During our trip to Penola we will be stopping several times for prayer and reflection. Time for stretching - both physically and spiritually will be the aim of this day!

Upon arrival in Penola we will go to the places Mary travelled and lived and immerse ourselves in the story of the Stabilo School. Mary’s dream realised.

This evening we will retire in Casterton where we will be hosted by the generosity of the Casterton Presbytery.

DAY 2: SATURDAY - 30th OCT
(Casterton - Portland - Casterton)

Casterton Presbytery - 9am

This morning we will have morning prayer before heading south to Portland to discover more about the place where Mary made her decision to dedicate her life to God.

Portland is the place in 1864, where the Mackillop family finally gathered to live together. Father Julian Tenison Woods also got to know a young Mary here and together they dreamed of how they could educate the poor.

We will discover more of the Mary Mackillop story as we visit All Saint's Church and spend time exploring the places Mary spent over three years in.

Heading back to Casterton for the night we will partake in more of the Parish’s great hospitality.

DAY 3: SUNDAY - 31ST OCT
(Casterton - Hamilton - Ballarat)

Casterton Presbytery - 8am

Our Pilgrimage concludes today as we head back to Ballarat from Casterton. We will be stopping for prayer and reflection in Hamilton - at the Graveside of Mary Mackillop’s father Alexander.

We will then complete our Pilgrimage journey as we return to Ballarat and celebrate at the 2pm Diocesan Mass being held in the Cathedral in Ballarat to commemorate Mary Mackillop’s sainthood!
Righteous or Self Righteous

Jesus’ parables are timeless gifts. Even though they are situated in a different age, a different culture, a different religious tradition, their meaning still resonates today. These multi-layered stories are rich sources of reflection leading us to a greater understanding of God and our relationship to God and to others. They also help us to understand ourselves.

Jesus’ story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15) is about a father who loves unconditionally. Christians have rightly taken this father to be an image of God. He is forgiving, generous and perhaps even somewhat indulgent in his love.

The first half of the parable is a graphic picture about rejoicing over a wayward son who returns home. In Jesus’ story the father is overjoyed to welcome home his son no matter what he may have done—he rushes out to meet him and organizes a great feast. He says to his other son, ‘we just had to celebrate!’ rejoicing about the return of a lost soul is not an option. Like this loving father, God comes out to meet us, to embrace us. God doesn’t wait for a full and formal apology; God knows when we desire to change our attitude, to repent. The parable is a timeless message about God who rejoices over (hence the celebration) and welcomes (the robe, ring and sandals) every sinner who repents.

The second half addresses the situation Jesus faced: constant criticism about his willingness to be with those regarded as sinners, visiting them, talking with them, eating with them, forgiving them. To some, He appeared to seek their company more than the company of those who saw themselves as the faithful ones, the custodians and bearers of the true religion. Jesus uses the elder brother in this story to question each of us on our own willingness and capacity to forgive and forget. At first sight he appears to be treated in a rather shabby fashion, even unjustly or at the very least in a rather offhand, insensitive way. The father neglects to include in his welcome this faithful son who had remained at home, working the farm, supporting the father. He could have sent another servant to let him know what was to happen. At the end of the day this son returns from his labours and finds his home ablaze with celebration for his wayward brother. The son felt unappreciated and unrewarded. He became quite angry and refused to go in. Is that how we feel? We have worked hard, prayed hard, been faithful, yet we don’t get the honour and respect we deserve—others seem to prosper, others are taken back and forgiven, others seem so much better off when, at least in our judgment, they just don’t deserve to be treated so well. They have not been as ‘good’ as us.

The elder son’s attitude contrasts with his father’s compassion. The father welcomes his wayward son and, as soon as he hears of the elder son’s reaction, he reaches out again, just as he had done for the younger son. He pleads with him to come in, to take part in the celebrations, to share his joy. But the elder son vents his frustration and impatience—‘I have been slaving for you, I have never disobeyed. The father replies, you know that I love you, everything I have is yours. The older son may have inherited his father’s estate, but not his attitude of mercy. Have we failed to learn this lesson about God— we get upset because we feel so and so ought to be punished or not as well off. Sometimes we think the harder we work, the more we will be rewarded—it deserves more than others. Like the older brother, we sometimes need to blame someone, be angry at someone, or resent someone. We can spend too much time and energy being angry and frustrated with each other over something that basically we cannot control or change.

We shouldn’t blame and resent each other for what we perceive to be treated differently by God. In our judgment, “they” don’t deserve to be treated so well—the rules say they should be punished or excluded. We can come to resent others. Our own bitterness and resentment can become a source of division, anger and recrimination. But the message of elder son in this timeless parable asks us to look at our own selfish-righteousness and to consider our own need for forgiveness. All of us need that. There’s no such thing as a person who has no need for repentance or forgiveness.

The parable teaches the wonderful message that forgiveness is possible and that God welcomes us back—we are not just tolerated but there is rejoicing. In other words God is not just forgiving but God’s welcome is warm, loving and generous. And there’s the challenge. How people experience that warmth and generosity of God’s welcome comes through us—our non-judgmental attitude, our lack of resentment, our having the attitude of ‘rejoicing’ like the father in this story. Since God is gracious, so should we be.

The fact that we also need to be forgiven stops us from feeling superior or self-righteous! We all need God’s grace, but God’s grace cannot be earned, God’s love is unmerited—we don’t have a right to it, we don’t deserve it more than anyone else, no matter how much we think we ought to. As the father went out to the disgruntled elder son, so God is One who always continues to seek after us, regardless of the state we are in. We can humbly recognize that we are all in need of God’s generosity or, in the words of Paul, “do you show contempt for the riches of God’s kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that it is God’s kindness that leads you toward repentance?” (Romans 2:4).

Regards
Jim Quillinan
Phone: 0401 933 023
Email: jquillinan@dcs.net.au

Righteous or Self Righteous 5 October 2010
**Relay for Life 2011**
Mercy Regional College has registered a team for the Corangamite, Relay for Life, March 5th and 6th 2011. All staff, students and families are welcome to join in. To do so, simply visit the Relay for Life website: [www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) follow the links to the Corangamite Relay then join our team. “Mercy Regional College” it costs $15 to register and you will receive the 2011 GREEN relay for life shirt. So join in the fun and be part of this wonderful event. Early next year we will meet to plan our “tent” and “supplies” for this overnight adventure at the Cobden Recreation Reserve. There will be some fundraising involved of course, so let’s see that Mercy spirit in action and join today.
For more information please contact Mrs JoAnne Saunders. Why Will You Relay For Life? To fight back? To remember? To Celebrate?

**SRC Report**
Late last term the SRC held a footy colours day to raise money for the Fight Cancer Foundation.

The day was a success with all students wearing their footy colours and donating a gold coin. To raise a little extra money the SRC also decided to run a tipping competition to pick the Brownlow Medal Winner, Premiership team, Runners-up and the final margin in the Grand Final. Collingwood supporter Lachie Lee was able to win this by tipping Collingwood to beat St Kilda by 30 points. No one picked the Brownlow Medal Winner.

Well done to all staff and students for supporting the day and raising a total of $521.80.

**Young cyclists shine alongside world’s best**

*James Castles*

VSCC State Final, October 2, 2010, Geelong.

Just hours before the professional cyclists took to the nearby streets to contest the 2010 UCI Road World Championship, the future of Victorian cycling was on show with the VSCC 2010 State Final held in Geelong.

After qualifying through one of nine zone finals throughout Victoria over the past few months, a record 350 students from over 150 schools contested the Final at the new 2.4 kilometre Criterium Circuit at Belmont Common.

Congratulations to all Mercy students for their participation in this special event.

**Junior School Oratory Competition**
The final of the Junior school (O’Keeffe Campus) Oratory Competition will be held at 1.25pm on Friday, October 22nd, 2010. Anyone interested is welcome to attend and listen to the seven finalists compete. We wish all our finalists good luck.

**Equestrian Wisechamp Results**
On Friday, 17th September, members of our equestrian team competed at Warrnambool against 24 schools from Melbourne all the way to Portland.

The following are the results from the event.
- Meaghan Bone won the Grade 4 Horse Trials
- Sarah Bone won the Grade 4 Combined Training.
- Elle Price and Briony Kent also had a good day but were unplaced.

Sarah received a medal and sash for her achievement and her sister Meaghan received a rug which was donated by Warrnambool Bowls Club and a sash.

Well done to all students who participated in this event and thank to all the parents for their continued support.
Big thanks to Westvic Staffing Solutions

Our Building & Construction Cert II students have had a terrific year with all sorts of diverse projects. We have been busy concreting paths at Noorat, building theatre sets for St Pat’s and seating/tables for Mt Leura walking trail. Our B&C team are so capable and willing that we are extending the course from one year to a two-year full Cert II course. Community projects are continuously being offered for us to complete externally. With our school expanding in student numbers again next year and the success of the B&C course extended, this has put pressure on the Woodwork classroom resources and it was definitely time for the B&C students to have their own gear.

Each year Westvic provide the opportunity for community organisations to submit funding proposals for projects that would benefit young students or apprentices. MRC’s submission for a fully equipped ‘portable’ toolbox was accepted and funded by Westvic at a function on 6/10/2010.

Kirsten Gibson (Building Construction teacher), was there to accept the funding on behalf of MRC.

MRC would like to extend a big thank you to Westvic for funding our toolbox for B&C to the value of $2745.00.
From the Director of Teaching & Learning
Lisa Pope

Careers Report

Wannon Water
Wannon Water awards one Engineering Scholarship per year to a student from their service region. Applications are invited from students who will study Civil engineering at a Victorian University in 2011. The scholarship will be awarded for a four year period and consists of:

- Vacation employment with Wannon Water as a Civil engineering Cadet at the end of the second and third years of study; and
- An annual cash amount of $5,000 for educational expenses as defined in the Wannon Water Scholarship Agreement.
- A minimum of two (2) years post graduate employment.

For more information contact: info@wannonwater.com.au or 1300 926 666.

University of Ballarat - Harold Carroll Memorial Scholarship
Applications close on 29th October and further details may be viewed on the website: http://www.ballarat.edu.au/vco/legal/Policies/Information Privacy Policy.pdf

VTAC
More than 100 scholarships - 8 universities – One application – www.vtac.edu.au. To check out the range of scholarships, get your copy from Mrs Pope or Ms Davies. Scholarship applications close on 29th October.

Monash University
If you are thinking about study at Monash in 2011 the website will provide you with up-to-date information and resources. You will get the opportunity to speak one-on-one with Monash advisers at the Change of Preference Expo on Wednesday 15th December 11am to 3pm. For more information: www.monash.edu/monash2011

Victoria University - Information Sessions
Tuesday 14th December, Wednesday 15th December & Thursday 16th December
Find out about Victoria University courses, prerequisites, extra requirements, learning pathways, scholarships, accommodation, career and graduate outcomes. Details of course-specific information sessions are included under course entries in the VTAC Guide.
Course Hotline – 9919 6100. Monday 13th December – Friday 17th December 9am – 5pm Monday 20th December 9am – 12 noon.

For more information on information sessions: www.vu.edu.au

Faculty of Health, Engineering and Science Undergraduate scholarships
At Victoria University you only need an ATAR (previously ENTER) of 70 or above to qualify for a scholarship in the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Science. Scholarships are available in:

- Bachelor of Science (specialisation)
- Bachelor of Science (Nutrition, Health and Food Science)
- Engineering Degrees: including Bachelor of Engineering Science (sports engineering)
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Network and Systems Computing)

Applications close on Friday 21st January 2011 and application forms can be downloaded from www.vu.edu.au/scholarships.

Melbourne University
Additional Scholarships available for those who want to study at Melbourne University and want accommodation at Newman College, plus scholarships for excellent results. Please see Ms Davies.

Apprenticeships Available

- School Based Hairdressing Apprenticeship vacancy at a Camperdown Salon.
- Refrigeration Mechanic apprenticeship has become available in the local area, starting Nov/Dec.

If you are interested in either of the above please see Mr. Castles immediately.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY TO EXCHANGE STUDENTS

A place to call home
World Education Program (WEP) is looking for volunteer host families for international students arriving in February 2011. Our students from Italy, Chile and The Netherlands are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Nikki Medwell
Inbound Exchange Administrator
Toll Free: 1300 884 733
Email: wep@wep.org.au

It’s easier than you think and a fantastic experience for all!
Lismore Primary School

is holding a

Wine & Beer Tasting Fundraising Evening.

Saturday 23 October, 2010

@ Naringal Shearers’ Quarters
(Lismore/Tallai Rd. 20 km from Lismore.)

From 7:30pm

Dress Code: ‘Attire to Inspire’

$25 per head. (Includes entry & tastings, cheese & nibbles. Advance payment includes a glass or stubby holder.) Spot prizes throughout the night.

Featuring Western District wines and the newly released boutique beer ‘The Rat’. 9-6 artwork & stories also displayed.

Enquiries: LPS 5596 2121
E. Brett 5596 3556

Cobden’s

“Big Night Out”

Saturday October 16

7.30pm - $10 entry

Cobden Sports Club Rec Reserve - Parrott St

with

Gary McKenzie &

“Streamline”

Raffle Door prizes Supper available