

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 2012

Through the Mercy tradition we support, acknowledge and strive for personal excellence and achievement.

Although it seems that we have been back at school for some time, a warm welcome to a new term for all Mercy students and families. Although we sit in the middle of winter, there are the first signs in the trees and gardens of the approaching spring and even summer. This annual cycle of life is also being played out in the Mercy community with new arrivals and significant birthdays. Congratulations to Kellie Wilson and her family on the arrival of their new daughter, Edie Mae who came into the world on Saturday 14th July! On my own home front, a very happy birthday to my wife who celebrated her 40th birthday last weekend.

The prayer today celebrates families and gives praise to the unconditional love within them:

*Lord, help my family;
Help us to bear with each other,
To see one another through your eyes,
To think before we speak,
To never allow the love we have for each to become
buried and assumed,
To grow together and stay together.
We make this prayer through Jesus, Your Son,
Amen*

Important Dates

A reminder to parents, families and students of two important dates in the next few weeks:

Friday 3rd August

- **Staff Professional Development day**
- **Student free day**

Monday 13th August

- **Mid-term break (school closed)**

The upcoming staff professional development day will be directed towards continuing this year's teaching focus on differentiation of the curriculum. Teachers have spent some time looking at the theory that underpins altering curriculum and assessment tasks to better meet the learning needs of the students in their class. The next stage will give teachers the chance to work individually or in small groups on their units of work and/or specific assessment tasks.

Insight SRC surveys

An important part of the four year School Improvement cycle that all Catholic schools are required to participate in are the biannual Insight SRC surveys of school culture. These surveys provide an important source of data that details how the school is performing in a range of areas including learning and teaching, student and staff wellbeing, community, leadership and management, and Catholic school culture. Although they are not the only data source or even the most important means by which schools judge their effectiveness, they provide a useful mirror for highlighting the areas we are doing well in and those that need more work.

As part of this process, 100 Mercy families will be asked to contribute to the process and will receive a copy of the Insight SRC survey early next week. The surveys take approximately 30 minutes to complete and need to be returned to the College by Tuesday 7th August. An envelope is provided for families to do this. The selection of families is random and all responses will be confidential, the completed surveys remain in their sealed envelopes and are sent as a package to Insight SRC.

In the feedback we receive later this year, no specific details are included regarding 'who said what'. **As an encouragement for participation, all families**

who return their completed surveys by the due date will go into a draw for a family movie pass.

The survey process will also include all staff completing a staff survey and one class per year level completing student surveys. The College expects to receive the results of this year's surveys in October.

2013 Enrolment Interviews

Next week, a number of Mercy staff will be meeting with those students (and their parents) who have lodged an enrolment application for Year 7 next year. These interviews provide an excellent opportunity for the school to meet our prospective Year 7 students, hear any concerns the students or their parents have about secondary school and to put in place any arrangements necessary to allow them to make a fantastic start at Mercy.

Any parents who have questions regarding the interview process are encouraged to contact Mrs. Sue Bohm on 5593 2011.

2013 Enrolment Intentions

Attached to this newsletter is a proforma for families to complete regarding the enrolment intentions of current Mercy students wishing to continue their education at Mercy in 2013. We ask that these sheets are completed and returned to the College by Friday 17th August.

Postponement of Mercy Dinner

With some regret, the College made a decision last week to postpone this Friday's Mercy Dinner. When this decision was taken, we had sold less than 40 tickets and the night would not have been viable. I believe that the annual Mercy Dinner provides an opportunity for the school to celebrate its wonderful sense of community and pay credit to staff and past students who continue to nourish this sense of community.

Although this year's event has been postponed, we are still investigating the running of the Mercy Dinner later in the year and I will be discussing this option with the College Board at the next Board meeting.

Central Australia trip

The preparations for this year's Central Australia trip begin in earnest this week with currently 79 students from Years 9 – 11 and ten staff due to depart on Wednesday 19th September for the Red Centre.

The tour will be led by College Chaplain, Fr. Matthew Thomas and Head of O'Keeffe Campus, Mr. Tony Wynd. Other staff going for all or part of trip are Ms. Sophie Carr, Mrs. Lynn Wadley, Mr. Graeme Wadley, Mrs. Jenny O'Neill, Mr. Ben Brisbane, Mrs. Freya Egberts, Mrs. Jenny Phillips and Ms. Kirsten Gibson.

Students and their families will receive detailed information about the trip in upcoming meetings and a Parent Information Evening early in September.

Athletic Excellence

Special congratulations to a number of Mercy students who have excelled in recent weeks in state, national and international competitions:

- Declan O'Connor (12B) and Nathan Stevens (9A) travelled to Canada in the holidays as part of a Sports Travel Australia Track and Field tour. While over there, they competed in a number of meets with Declan participating in the 100 m, 400m, 800m and hurdles events while Nathan competed in 200m, 300m, 800 m and long jump. Nathan was also part of a winning 4 X 100 m relay team.
- Last week, Amy Hammond (7D) participated in the State Cross-country titles in Bundoora. In a very tough competition, Amy finished 23rd out of 56 competitors. Well done, Amy!
- In recent weeks, Lewis Taylor (12 C) and Nick Bourke (12A) were members of the Vic Country under 18 AFL side. Congratulations to both Lewis and Nick.

Student Activities

A number of activities have occupied the time of students outside the classroom in the first two weeks of term three:

- All O'Keeffe campus students travelled to Mortlake College this week to see the school's production of "Beauty and the Beast".
- All Unit Two Outdoor Education students and a number of VCAL students have travelled with four Mercy staff to Mount Buller for the annual Mercy snow camp.
- Mercy teams have competed in local HSSSD Basketball and Netball competitions and many have progressed to Barwon South West finals in Geelong next week. Good luck to all involved.

ACARA Privacy note

Attached to page 10 of this newsletter is a circular from ACARA, the organisation responsible for the National Curriculum and a range of other Federal Government education programs. They have requested access to student information held by the Catholic Education Commission Victoria (CECV). This information will be used as part of the calculation of a school's funding needs with students not identified. Parents have the right to ask not to have this information passed on and can do so by contacting Mrs. Sue Bohm at the College on 5593 2011 by next Friday 3rd August.

PTFA Meeting

A reminder to parents that the next PTFA Meeting will take place on Monday 6th August at the McAuley Campus, Camperdown.

Car Raffle Prizes

This year the College is investigating adding some smaller prizes to the draw. If families who have their own business or holiday accommodation would like to donate a prize, I would be very pleased to hear from you, please contact me at the College office.

Yours in Mercy,



DR. DARREN EGBERTS

PRINCIPAL

Deputy Principal - Teaching and Learning

Mr. Chris Grant

Teaching Staff Learning to Learn

All teaching staff across both campuses are currently undertaking a school wide professional development activity titled Learning to Learn BINGO. There are 9 possible professional development activities that can be undertaken by staff, with the aim of the game to get as many squares signed off as possible. With the game well underway, there is a great level of excitement, and many staff are already well on the way to finishing. Activities include observing the learning of a particular student, observing a passionate staff member in their class, gaining inspiration from a class that uses ICT very well and joining in a practical class such as Food Technology, Woodwork, Textiles or Physical Education.

VCE, VCAL and VET Information Night and Subject Expo

This night will be held on Tuesday 7 August from 7:30 in the Multipurpose area at the McAuley campus. The evening will begin with a presentation from Mr Lachie Lee, Head of Senior Teaching and Learning, about subject selection and general expectations of the VCE. Ms Jo Williams, Head of VET and VCAL, will provide information on VET courses available and VCAL options for students in 2013. Senior VCE, VET and VCAL teachers will be available to discuss subjects with parents and students in the Library at the conclusion of the discussion. Parents and students from years 10 into 11 and 11 into 12 in 2013 are encouraged to attend.

Australia-wide competitions

All Year 7, 8 and some Year 9 and 10 students will undertake the Australia-wide English and Mathematics competitions on Tuesday and Thursday next week respectively. Students have already completed the Geography and Science competitions earlier this year. It is a great indication of a student's level of knowledge in the particular area. Results are now back for the Science competition with some very pleasing levels of achievement. Certificates will be awarded at an assembly shortly.

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Jo Saunders

Social Justice News

Both our Senior and Junior Social Justice teams have been working tirelessly of late, meeting and sharing ideas. The purpose of our Social Justice Teams is to seek to support others within and beyond our school; to be more aware of issues both locally and globally that we may be more like Christ, reaching out to help those in need.

Shave for a cure

Following in the footsteps of Caitlin Wallis from Year 11, Rebecca MacDonald from O'Keeffe Campus, Year 7B (Tindley House) is going to have her beautiful golden locks shaved on Wednesday August 8th during Pastoral Care at 9.20 am. Rebecca has known a number of people who has suffered from different forms of Cancer or Leukemia and would like to support this great cause. There will be the opportunity for students to donate money for this wonderful effort up until the big day! Please be generous and support Rebecca.

Scarves from Lima Peru

Supporting the Mercy Sisters in the poorest suburbs of Lima Peru to help young women earn a wage in a positive and safe way is proving a wonderful and warm experience. The lovely scarves which are permitted to be worn at school are double thickness, knitted by a small cooperative of women. We have sold more than half of the original 100 we purchased and look forward to selling the rest in the coming weeks. Beginning on Wednesday 1st August the scarves will be for sale at recess in Multipurpose Room at the McAuley Campus, and the foyer at O'Keeffe Campus. They are a bargain at \$18. Keep warm, look stylish and support this great cause. They could make a great FATHERS DAY gift! Many thanks to Laura McKenzie for her initiative in ordering these scarves for us.

Beyond Blue

On Wednesday during Pastoral Care time, the year 11 and 12 students met at the Church to share information from the Beyond Blue organisation. The Social Justice team including year 9, 10 and VCE students at McAuley Campus, were busy on Wednesday morning creating give away bags for the VCE students which contained lots of support materials that families may value. Issues covered included: How do deal with lack of sleep, anxiety, depression, cyber bullying, supporting friends etc. Many thanks to Kerry Geppert for her initiative and organisation of this Social Justice activity.



RYPEN

On Wednesday during Pastoral Care assembly for VCE students three of our senior students spoke of the Rotary funded RYPEN camps they had experienced earlier in the Year. Liana Collins, Laura Mason and Emmelie Nijkskens were all sponsored by local Rotary Clubs to be part of the RYPEN Camp and shared their wonderful memories and experiences with the other VCE students. Also attending were members of the Camperdown Rotary Club.

Mercy Regional College would like to thank the members of the Terang, Cobden and Camperdown Rotary Clubs, and particularly Graeme Fisher for their encouragement and sponsorship of local students.



Tournament of the Minds

Mrs. Leesa Henriksen & Miss Sophie Carr

Our work on our Challenges has begun! The following students will work over the next 5 weeks to solve their Long Term Challenge and compete in the Regional Tournament Day on Sunday August 26th at Deakin University Geelong:

Year 7:

Mitchell Wyss, Louis Cain, Sarah Van Der Schans, Cheyanne Beaver, Year 8: Julian Hill, Angus Place, Jordyn Hickey, Jacoba Mungan

Year 9:

Marti McKenzie, Alex Cameron, Mia Cain, Darcy Collins

Year 10:

Ailish Glennen, Jen Rowan, Henry Kissick, Katie Kenna

The Social Sciences Challenge 'The More Things Change' will involve students exploring aspects of society that have changed, but we can still recognize features of society that seem familiar.

The Applied Technology Challenge 'Past, Present, Future Solutions' will involve students exploring the development of a current technology and researching

the history of how the chosen technology has developed and suggest how the chosen technology could change into the future.

Students will work over the next few weeks to write up a script and rehearse for a 10 minute dramatic performance that includes a 'creative' solution to these problems. They can only perform in a 3 metre x 3 metre square and can only use props, costumes and materials from a given list

We are looking forward to see the development in their co-operative problem solving skills, and their creative and critical thinking.



Running Club

The 2012 Running Club kick started on Wednesday 25th July Wednesday. It was great to see heaps of numbers participating, 55 students, parents, staff, and friends of the College hit the streets of Camperdown.

If you are interested in joining the Mercy Running Club please come along, we meet at the McAuley Campus Stadium every Wednesday morning at 7.20am.

If there are questions please don't hesitate to contact James Castles the College.

Grampians Outdoor Ed Camp



This above photo was taken in the Grampians. The Unit 3 Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies students visited McKenzie Falls in the Grampians National Park.

Head of Junior Teaching & Learning O'Keeffe Campus

Mrs. Fiona Sargeant

Students at the O'Keeffe Campus have been settling back into routine after all those late nights and morning sleep-ins. We have re-visited some of our earlier guidelines and reminded all students to respect each other's property, personality and physical person. It might also be a good time to replace those misplaced or often used items; rulers, glue-sticks, erasers, pens and pencils. As the flu season approaches, it is advisable that students use only their own materials.

We were very fortunate to have been invited to view a musical production performed by another local school. The amount of preparation, rehearsal time and team work was evident in their Dress Rehearsal. We hope that our students recognise this and, having seen the result for themselves, will consider the range of

opportunities presented to them at Mercy and value the work of those who support them.

Watch this space for news on upcoming events:

- Junior Debating
- Chess Club
- Gardening
- Visiting Authors
- grandfathers
- and so much more...

National Science Week 11th - 19th August

National Science Week provides a chance to focus on the impact that science, engineering, technology and mathematics has on our lives, our economy, our society and our world.

This year has been designated by the United Nations as the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All. More information can be found at www.scienceweek.net.au.

Our theme at Mercy will be Energy Evolution. There will be quizzes, movies, creations, investigations and competitions. We would be pleased to accept donations of clear, plastic bottles for use in our activities. Please rinse them thoroughly and leave them at the office at either campus.

Stay tuned for more exciting details and involve yourself in this year's Science Week fun!!



"Beauty and the Beast"

Report by: Annie Kenna 8A

This week the Year Sevens and Eights went to a musical production performed by Mortlake College students. The play was 'Beauty and the Beast'.

This was the first performance that the College had done of this play and they were great. They were all involved and danced and sang very well. The music and the backgrounds were vibrant and looked just like the sets in the movie. The clock, 'Cogsworth', was funny as he was giving out jokes here and there.

All in all, the play was a success and I think everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

Library News

Mrs. Maureen O'Loughlan

Book Review

Caitlin, what book have you chosen to review today? Why?

I have chosen to review Pan's Whisper because I really enjoyed it. It was very well written and had a great story line. It was written by Sue Lawson, a Colac author who recently visited our school.

Briefly describe your favourite character and tell us why

I like Pandora because she is mysterious and quiet. She has had a troubled childhood and the way she acts shows this.

Did you find the ending appropriate?

Yes the ending was appropriate.

What major emotion did the story evoke in you as a reader?

The major emotion was sympathy. Pandora's troubled childhood and the loss of her mum and sister has shaped the person she is. I am also sympathetic towards Hunter because of the loss of his mum and the way Pan sometimes acts towards him.

Name your favourite part of the book

When Pan decides to go see her sister Morgan, who is in a coma.

Your least favourite part

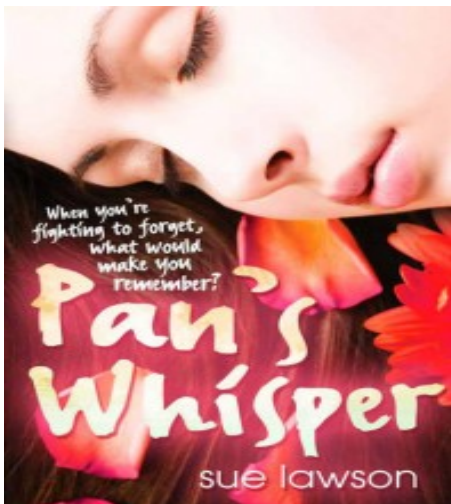
When Zara destroys the house.

Would you recommend it?

Yes absolutely!

Rating:

Excellent – couldn't put it down!



From the Head of Sport

Miss Stacey Hillman

Student Sporting Achievements

Callum Wellwood-Kane entered the Corangamite and District Junior Golf Championship held at the Warrnambool Golf Club on the 9th & 10th July. Callum won the Student 18 hole event which played over the two days.

His score was 111 scratch (as played) and 77 net (adjusted for handicap). He was in second place at the end of day one. He played very well on the second day, in often difficult conditions, to take out the competition.



State Cross Country

Some of you may be aware, some others not but Amy Hammond (7D) competed in the State Cross Country in Bundoora on Tuesday in the U/13 girls section.

She came 23rd out of 56 competitors and ran a time of 11.29 minutes which is an outstanding achievement, and a very quick time!!

If you see her around can you congratulate her as she was the only student from Mercy to progress onto this stage.

Christian Outreach Program

Mrs. Sharyn Grinter

These photos are of our Year 10A students doing the Christian Outreach Program (formally called Community Visiting).



Brianna Justin at St Pat's



Cindi Unwin at St Pat's



Jayden Parker at St Pat's



Emma Sargeant at St Thomas'

Instrumental Music Coordinator

Mrs. Janet Backhaus

The Instrumental concert is coming up!

Week 8 Thursday 6th September - Keep this date free!!! It will be a fabulous Concert.

7.00pm till 9.30 in the Multi-Purpose Room at the McAuley Campus. This is a great opportunity for us to showcase our instrumental students We would love to see you there!!!!

Instrumental Lessons

We have a couple of spaces at the O'Keefe Campus for Piano Lessons with Mrs Michele Mackinnon. If you are interested please contact the school and Ms Backhaus will contact you to arrange lessons. Please note - at this stage we do not have any spaces available for guitar lessons as our teachers are fully booked. If you would like to go on a waiting list, please send your details to the school and Ms Backhaus will keep you updated re possible lessons.

Coming Dates

TERM 3

31 July

* Year 7 – 2013 Enrolment Interviews @ Noorat

1 August

* Year 7 – 2013 Enrolment Interviews @ C'down

02 August

* Australian Maths Competition

03 August

* Student Free Day - Staff PD

06 August

* PTFA Meeting 7:30pm at Camperdown

07 August

* VCE Information Night 7:30 PM-9:00 PM

08 August

* Year 10 Retreat

* Year 9 - Careers Talk on the Racing Industry

09 August

* Year 10 Retreat

10 August

* Year 10 Retreat

PUBLIC NOTICES

FOR SALE

Local phone books are available for sale from the Camperdown Office at \$5 each.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Married couples, we encourage you to prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around catholic values but you don't need to be catholic to attend. There is no group sharing.

Our weekends in 2012 are: **10-12 August** and **12-14 October** in Melbourne.

For further information and bookings contact Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk (03) 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ARE YOU NOT QUITE READY TO GO ON AN EXCHANGE?

Or. Do you want your family to share in your exchange experience and return the favour of being hosted by a family while on your exchange?

WELL, IT'S EASY...BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY!

Each year there are hundreds of students from around the world who choose to visit Australia. You can be a part of the experience by welcoming an exchange student into your home.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Your whole family....and your relatives and friends....will grow and learn as you all get to know your new 'son' or 'daughter' from another land. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia log onto www.studentexchange.org.au or call us on 1300 135 331.

Along the track

Year of Grace II: Taking things for granted

Years ago people in the country seemed to know where to build houses. Old farm houses were located, sheltered from the wind, able to catch the sun and very often, taking advantage of the view. The old farm house where I spent my childhood was one such place – the view from the kitchen window was spectacular. It is one of my fondest memories. Some years ago I mentioned that to my brother who lived in the house and he was quite surprised. ‘I never looked at it,’ he said.

There’s an old saying that familiarity breeds contempt. We think we know, we think we understand, we think we have things figured-out. We have fallen into the trap that everything can be explained – we can ‘Google’ what we want to know. But the surest way to suppress our ability to understand the meaning of God is to take things for granted, to fail to recognise the greatness and wonder of things, especially those things so familiar to us. To see what I mean, take a look at the words of the hymn, ‘All things bright and beautiful’. Our world is graced with God’s presence if only we have the eyes to see. In the words of Scripture:

Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. God has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Why is it that God has made everything beautiful for its own time? The world, creation itself reveals the mystery and presence of God. It is a vehicle of God’s revelation, God’s grace. Why? Because it is in seeing creation as God’s gift to us, in Pope Benedict’s words, “it is in contemplating the beauty of creation that we are inspired to recognise the love of the Creator. In that way we are helped to understand our vocation and worth as human beings” (Message for World Day of Peace, January 2010). God making everything beautiful is another way of saying that within creation lies God’s invitation to relationship. We are attracted to beauty, yet it is hard to describe what beauty means for each of us. Different things attract different people. That’s a mystery. Because God is mystery, however, is not an excuse to abandon the search for greater understanding – rather exploring mystery is the birthplace of curiosity and wonder. The visible, tangible and historical material of the world around us can reveal the intangible, invisible presence of God! The world is full of the wonder, the grandeur, the presence of God – the sunrise, the rhythms of the seasons, the beauty of the sea and the mountains, the laughter of children, the smile of a friend, the love of husband and wife – all those things which we see and feel and touch each day are the seeds of eternity planted by God in our hearts. In that way we can call our world ‘graced’. When we begin to appreciate the wonder of the familiar, the daily gifts of God’s grace in our lives, we begin to realise that the world’s beauty and power are as nothing compared to God – they lead us to their Creator; through them God invites us into a deeper friendship.

God has planted eternity in our hearts – a yearning for complete fulfilment, a yearning for more than the sum of all our experiences can satisfy – in other words, a yearning for God. We all want to be happy – we describe Paradise as eternal happiness. God has placed the desire for happiness in the human heart in order to draw us to the One who alone can fulfill it. True, some may not notice their desire for God, and others may even oppose it, and for various reasons, rail against it. But ultimately that desire cannot be repressed. Money will not satisfy it, nor will power or possessions. Ultimate happiness can only be found in the gift of God’s grace which invites us to look again at things familiar, to look at the things that God has made ‘beautiful for their time’. That’s not just material things but the love of each other, the joy and satisfaction to be found in the service of one another.

God’s grace leads us to this wondrous experience of God. Grace does not limit freedom but reveals to us where real freedom lies. Grace opens up other layers of reality – it enables the ordinary to speak to us of God, and makes the ordinary, the familiar events and places in our lives into vehicles of God’s invitation to friendship.

God, in his greatness, uses a pedagogy to reveal himself to the human person: he uses human events and words to communicate his plan; God does so progressively and in stages, so as to draw even closer to us (General Directory or Catechesis #38).

A pedagogy means that, like any good teacher, God communicates with us at times when we are ready and in ways we can understand. By looking again at the familiar, the everyday events of our lives, ‘the human events and words of each day’, we can begin to see and feel the presence of God. We begin to live at a deeper, more satisfying level. Through the gift of God’s grace we can begin to see what at times may appear to be a cold sterile world but in reality is a world of God’s warmth, tenderness and love. “We begin to see that there is a time for everything” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15). The gift of grace enables us to see God’s presence and action in our world and in our lives. Is it any wonder that St Paul prays:

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.
My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen. (1 Cor 16 23)

Regards
Jim Quillinan

Phone: 0401 933 023
Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au

Information required to determine the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) for schools

PRIVACY NOTICE

This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that we have requested your child's school provide us with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child's gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address and parental occupation.

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the *ACARA Act 2008* for the purpose of:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and/or
- assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this information to any other person or body.

Further information about ACARA can be obtained from: www.acara.edu.au

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION REQUIRED
FOR
'LAST NIGHT AT THE PROMS'
Includes Welsh and Scottish Songs

Friday 7th September 2012
7:30pm
at
Thomson Memorial Church, Terang
Come along & join in an evening of easy entertainment

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR CUSHION!



If you love to sing and would like to be part of a singing group to support the evening's entertainment please contact Marion and Robert Craven by 30 July 2012.

Email: mcrav@westvic.com.au or phone: 5592 1989.

Participation in the singing group will involve rehearsals on Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st August.

Rehearsals will be at the Terang Pres. Hall for one hour between 7:30pm – 8:30pm.

FINAL rehearsal will be on 7th September at 5:30pm.

All music will be supplied.

If interested we look forward to hearing from you.

Weekly Career News

TERM 3

24 July 2012

FOCUS ON MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS APPLICATIONS

If you are considering applying for a course in music or performing arts starting in 2013, chances are you will have to consider other selection criteria than just your ATAR. You may need to submit an application form and undertake an audition and/ or interview with the university, private college or TAFE institute.

If your course requires you to do this, make sure that you get **organised early**. You will have to apply for your course through the states Tertiary Admission Centre (i.e., VTAC) by the closing date or apply direct for some private colleges. You will then need to meet any additional selection criteria by the due date.

It can be very difficult to get into your dream course via auditions and interviews. The University of Melbourne Victorian College of Arts (VCA) have provided the following tips to assist you.

Get involved and be inspired by the creative life of your city. Most arts organisations publish online newsletters that will let you know about forthcoming performances, concerts, public talks, workshops and exhibitions. VCA distributes a free e-newsletter, which is full of information about student performances, ticket giveaways and events for prospective students. Subscribe at: <http://cms.unimelb.edu.au/vcamenews/subscribe>



FOCUS ON MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS APPLICATIONS

Understand the entry requirements: Every discipline and institution is different so it's essential to prepare accordingly.

Practise, practise and practise... Then rehearse your audition pieces in front of your friends and family to help settle your nerves.



Enroll in an audition technique workshop. VCA offers school holiday short courses to help get the best out of your solo performance. Visit www.vcam.unimelb.edu.au/shortcourses for more information.

Broaden your creative mind by exposing yourself to artistic disciplines outside of your specific area. This will also give you some perspective on the broader arts industry.



Talk about your art form, your career aspirations and learn to articulate where you see the place of the artist in the world – this preparation will help in your interview.

Visit music and performing arts faculties on open days. Talk to the staff and current students to get a feel for the institution and see if it's right for you.

For information on music and performing arts courses, either check the relevant state Tertiary Admission Centre or speak to your career adviser.

- Victorian Courses – www.vtac.edu.au
- NSW Courses – www.uac.edu.au

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Applying to the University of Melbourne?

Students who are eligible for Access Melbourne and are from disadvantaged financial backgrounds or rural and isolated areas are guaranteed a Commonwealth Supported Place in their chosen course at the University of Melbourne, provided they meet course prerequisites and achieve the minimum ATAR:

- 78 or above — guarantees a place in Arts, Environments or Science
- 88 or above — guarantees a place in Commerce
- 95 or above — guarantees a place in Biomedicine.

For more information, go to www.access.unimelb.edu.au



Elite Athletes and Performers (EAP) Program at UNSW: The EAP Program supports students with a flexible entry process that considers both academic and elite achievements, as well as flexible study arrangements while at UNSW.

Students who have excelled in areas of sport, academia, performance, leadership, and/or music at a national or international level can be awarded up to five bonus points. For more information, go to www.unsw.edu.au/eap



New English entry scores at Swinburne

University: Swinburne University has just announced new English prerequisites for their Associate and Bachelor Degrees. From 2013, all students applying for degree programs must have received a minimum study score of 30 for English Second Language (ESL) or 25 for any other English.



UPCOMING EVENTS

New Bachelor of Applied Public Health at Australian Catholic University: Public Health is the science of protecting and improving community and population health via education, advocacy, healthy lifestyle promotion, and research for disease and injury prevention.

This is an excellent course for students interested in community health and well-being, social justice, geography, economics, statistics, law, politics and environmental sustainability. For more information, go to www.acu.edu.au/courses/429165



Information Technology Cadetships and Scholarships: La Trobe University have just released information on their 2013 Information Technology Cadetships and Scholarships at the Bendigo Campus. Applications for cadetships are now open and will close 30 September. Information evenings will be held Tuesday 28 August and Wednesday 12 September. For detailed information, go to www.latrobe.edu.au/iibit



SCHOLARSHIPS

Passionate about the Dairy Industry? The Gardiner Foundation's Tertiary Scholarship supports Victorian rural students who have a strong potential to make an impact for the dairy industry. Two successful scholars will receive \$5000 per year of study. To find out about the eligibility criteria, please go to www.gardinerfoundation.com.au. Applications close Friday 7 September.



SCOLARSHIPS

John M. Green Scholarship in Law: This scholarship is available to students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds to undertake a combined Bachelor of Law degree at UNSW in 2013. The scholarship will cover costs of tuition, accommodation, books and equipment up to the value of \$20,000 per annum for 5 years. For more information, please go to <https://scholarships.online.unsw.edu.au/scholarship>



Law Scholarships at Australian Catholic University: ACU Law will be offering two scholarships to commencing students in 2013 – the Executive Dean's Scholarship and the ACU Law Equity Bursary. These scholarships will be available to students studying either the four-year Bachelor of Laws, or a five-year law dual degree with arts, business administration, commerce, global studies or theology. Each scholarship is capped at a maximum value of \$40,000. For further information visit www.acu.edu.au/law

UPCOMING EVENTS

Australian Engineering Week: Every day of the year, Australian engineers are working hard to make our world a better place, and push the boundaries of what is possible. Between 6 – 12 August, Engineers Australia are running events in each state, which you are able to attend. To find out what events are running in Victoria, go to www.makeitso.org.au/aew

Marcus Oldham College offer courses in Horse Business Management, Agribusiness and Farm Business Management. The College is located at Geelong, Victoria and is a private college. Their Open Day will be held Sunday 12 August. For more information, go to www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au



MARCUS OLDHAM COLLEGE
Developing Professionals in Agriculture and the Horse Industry

JULY EVENTS

- 26: La Trobe Year 10 and Parent Information Evenings, Bundoora Campus, www.latrobe.edu.au/school/events
- 25, 26: Parent Information Evenings, Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront (25) and Melbourne Burwood (26), www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/parents/parents-info.php
- 29: Open Day, Brighton Bay Art, Design and Photography, www.brightonbay.net/

AUGUST EVENTS

- Open Days- August is the month of Open Days. For a calendar of dates, please see your Career Adviser.
- 2: Behind the Scenes Aviation Tour, Swinburne University, www.swinburne.edu.au/engineering/aviation/tours/management/
- 3: School of Medicine Taster Day, University of Tasmania, www.utas.edu.au/medicine
- 3 – 4: Get into Games Expo, Ballarat Mining Exchange, www.ballaratgig.com.au
- 5: Open Day and Trial-a-Trade, William Angliss, South Melbourne, www.anqliss.edu.au/
- 6 – 12: Australian Engineering Week, www.makeitso.org.au/aew
- 28: Information Technology Cadetship Information Evening, La Trobe University, Bendigo Campus, www.latrobe.edu.au/iibit





Middle School Disco

Year Levels: 9 and 10

Date: Friday September 7th

Time: 7.30pm – 11pm

Venue: Five Star Function Centre, Camperdown

Cost: \$10 per ticket

Tickets will be available to purchase from the office in
coming weeks



More details to come....



GARDINER TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2013

Two scholarships of \$5,000 per year for the duration of a scholar's University or TAFE course

Scholarships play a vital role in supporting rural students who otherwise may not be able to pursue tertiary studies. The Gardiner Foundation is proud to offer tertiary scholarships in 2013 to two first year University or TAFE students from Victorian dairy communities.

Rural students often face much greater barriers to participation in higher education than their metropolitan counterparts. Many must move to a new city, which can cause significant financial anxiety for students and their families, as the cost of living independently is added to that of purchasing the required materials, equipment and books. Added to the financial anxieties are the challenges associated with adjusting to a demanding self-directed study regime, navigating around a new city, and developing new social and support networks.

The Gardiner Foundation's Tertiary Scholarships 2013 will support rural students who have strong potential to make an impact for the dairy industry and its communities. Successful scholars will receive \$5,000 per year of study in their approved course, subject to the Gardiner Foundation's terms and conditions.

Successful applicants will be:

- Australian citizens residing in rural Victorian dairy communities
- Commencing their first year of full-time tertiary study in 2013 (University or TAFE)
- Required to move away from home to take up their chosen course
- Through their chosen course, pursuing a career that will either:
 - directly benefit the dairy industry; and/or
 - benefit small dairy communities, and is currently included on the Australian and/or Victorian [skill shortage list](#) and rated as R, D or S
- Not receiving any other scholarship

Please visit www.gardinerfoundation.com.au/programs/scholarship.htm to read the guidelines and access the online application form.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 7th September, 2012.

For more information about these scholarships, please contact:

Patricia Burke

Program Administrator, Community and People Development

(03) 9606 1900

pat.burke@gardinerfoundation.com.au

Net Negotiations™ Parent Workshop

Navigating cyber safety issues with children & teenagers

Come along and find out:

- > What kids are doing online
- > Benefits and hazards of cyber space
- > Creating a Cyber Deal – managing mobile phones and the internet
- > What to do if things go wrong



Held over 2 evening sessions: Monday 6 August & Monday 13 August

Time: 7.30pm to 9pm for both sessions

Where: St. Thomas' Primary School - Community Room, Terang

Cost: Free

*Presented by Leeona Van Duynhoven of School Focused Youth Service
and Sen. Constable Trudy Morland from Victoria Police.*

RSVP: Terry Harney at school on > principal@stterang.catholic.edu.au
or phone: 5592 1925 by August 2 to confirm your attendance.



VICTORIA POLICE

**Open Day - 19 August 2012
10am - 3pm**



Visit Glenormiston College's Open Day and take a guided tour of the campus and check out our training facilities, equine centre, working farm, student recreational facilities, accommodation and much more.
Specialising in agriculture, agronomy, equine, racing, environment and horticulture studies, traineeships and short courses. Come and view our facilities, speak with our staff and gain an insight into the Glenormiston College experience.

OPEN DAY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Course information sessions
- Traineeship information sessions
- Student tours
- Race Horse training demonstrations
- Steer competition demonstration
- Machinery displays
- Training facilities
- BBQ lunch
- Guided historic mansion and garden walk
- Bus tours around the campus
- Wedding and conference facilities

www.swtafe.vic.edu.au/glenormiston

**Open Day - 19 August 2012
10am - 3pm**

LIFE AT GLENORMISTON COLLEGE

- On campus accommodation for students. Individual rooms with shared lounges are fitted with flat screen televisions and wireless internet.
- Agist your own horse on campus with access to equine facilities including indoor arena.
- Swimming pool, tennis courts and exercise room



Glenormiston College,
333 Glenormiston Rd
Glenormiston South
Victoria, 3264

Ph: (03) 5557 8200
Email: glenormiston@swtafe.vic.edu.au
Melways - Map 626 ref G7
Vic Roads - Map 90 Ref H4

www.swtafe.vic.edu.au/glenormiston

YOUNG ENDEAVOURS

Australia's national sail training ship *Young Endeavour* is now accepting applications for youth to join eleven day voyages departing between January and June 2013. Young Australians aged 16 to 23 can apply for the ballot at www.youngendeavour.gov.au until 31 August 2012. No sailing experience is required.

A voyage in *Young Endeavour* is a challenging adventure at sea, and an exciting opportunity for youth to develop teamwork and leadership skills through a world recognised organisation. The current ballot includes voyages departing from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, which will be crewed by youth from around the country.

17 year old high school student Sarah Honeycombe sailed *Young Endeavour* from Gladstone to Mackay in April this year. "The voyage was completely not what I expected – it was so much more amazing," she recalls. "It truly tests your abilities when you try something completely new with a team of amazing, supportive people. It's a once in a lifetime experience."



During each voyage, youth crew learn the skills to successfully sail a square rigged ship. They climb the 30 metre mast, set and furl sails, and maintain a 24 hour watch on the bridge. They also learn to navigate, take the helm, keep lookout and help the chef in the ship's galley. At the end of the voyage, youth crew will take command of *Young Endeavour* for 24 hours, sailing the ship along the Australian coast. On their last day at sea they will host a local group of youth with special needs, sharing their new found knowledge and experience.



19 year old Michael Darton joined a voyage in *Young Endeavour* shortly after completing his HSC exams. "My time aboard *Young Endeavour* was an absolutely wonderful experience which no doubt changed my life, if only in terms of self-confidence, decisiveness, and the amazing people that I met on board," says Michael. "Command day was a fantastic and invaluable experience which really instilled in the crew the value of teamwork, communication and leadership skills, and that we could achieve anything we set our minds to".

Since 1988 the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, in partnership with the Royal Australian Navy, has provided challenging training voyages for over 11,000 young Australians in the tall ship *Young Endeavour*. The specially designed program delivered aboard the ship increases the youth crew's self awareness, develops teamwork and leadership skills, and fosters a strong sense of community spirit.

For more information, including voyage dates and fees, please visit www.youngendeavour.gov.au or contact our office on 1800 020 444.

Dear Parents,

ENROLMENT INTENTIONS FOR 2013

At this stage of the year, we are busy planning for 2013 in terms of staffing, budgeting and timetabling arrangements for students currently enrolled at Mercy Regional College.

To assist with this, could I ask that you fill out the attached form regarding your enrolment intentions in 2013 for your child(ren). Please print their name and current year level, and then tick the most appropriate box regarding their intentions in 2013.

**Do not include your son / daughter if they are currently in
Year 12 as they will be leaving the College.**

This indication is merely a statement of intention and, in no way, final and binding. But to assist with 2013 planning, we need indications which are as accurate as possible at this stage.

I also ask that you inform me if a change occurs to the information you provide to us, as this will directly affect our planning for next year.

Please complete and return the 2012 Enrolment Intentions Form [**one per family**] to the College office by no later than;

Friday 17th August, 2012

Yours sincerely,



Dr Darren Egberts
PRINCIPAL

2013 ENROLMENT INTENTIONS

(Please fill out a separate section for each child you have at Mercy)

STUDENT NAME: _____ **CURRENT YEAR LEVEL:** _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> Returning to Mercy in 2013 | B. <input type="checkbox"/> Attending another school |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for employment | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school to do TAFE course |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for an Apprenticeship | |

For (B) (C) (D) (E) please give further details.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **CURRENT YEAR LEVEL:** _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> Returning to Mercy in 2013 | B. <input type="checkbox"/> Attending another school |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for employment | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school to do TAFE course |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for an Apprenticeship | |

For (B) (C) (D) (E) please give further details.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **CURRENT YEAR LEVEL:** _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> Returning to Mercy in 2013 | B. <input type="checkbox"/> Attending another school |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for employment | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school to do TAFE course |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving school for an Apprenticeship | |

For (B) (C) (D) (E) please give further details.

Parent Name(s): _____

Parent Signature(s): _____

**Please sign this form and return it to the College office by
Friday 17th August, 2012**