

# MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

**ISSUE 4-5**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2014**

## **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 2014**

In the Mercy tradition, we seek to act with love, fairness, tolerance and compassion to all.

Yesterday, we celebrated the second Sunday of Advent and the gospel reading saw John the Baptist in the wilderness calling all to "Repent...(and) Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord". It highlighted the fundamental purpose of the Advent season, a time of preparation, a waiting time, a time for reflection. Waiting, reflection, patience. These are qualities often not seen in our busy lives and, especially, as the year moves rapidly towards Christmas. But waiting is a natural and essential part of life. We are required to wait for many things – the nine month wait for a new baby, the wait for end of year exam results, and the considered wait when saving for a holiday or a home improvement.

Our prayer today is taken from Caritas Australia's Advent calendar:

*Lord, as we remember John the Baptist's words today  
and how he prepared the way for Jesus,  
we thank you for people who are 'trailblazers' –  
those who are forward thinking  
and who prepare the way for greater things to come.  
We thank you for those who challenge us to grow as  
human persons,  
who worked to build a more equal relationship  
and uphold the dignity of all those involved,  
according to our Gospel values.  
Amen.*

## **End of Year Thanksgiving Mass and Awards**

Last Thursday evening, the College community celebrated the 2014 school year with our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass at St Thomas' Church, Terang followed by the presentation of our College awards.

I would like to thank Fr. Gerry and Fr. Matthew for celebrating mass with us, Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders for her work in preparing the mass and the SVDP gift giving (see below), the College's staff for their work in organizing the many student awards and the students, parents and families who joined us on the night.

Two aspects of the evening are of particular note:

- The generosity of the College community in purchasing and wrapping so many gifts for the

local St Vincent de Paul conferences; we hope and pray that these gifts bring some joy and hope to families across our local communities.

- The genuine warmth, applause and gratitude offered to Mr. Lachie Lee on being awarded Mercy Regional College's Teacher of the Year. He was a most humble but worthy winner.

A full list of award winners is on pages 3 - 7.

## **Important Dates**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** - Final day for teaching staff.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 12 VCE results.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - St Patrick's Parish Carols evening.

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - College Reception closes.

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** - College Reception open on these days.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January** - All College staff return.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January** - Book collection day.

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January** - All students commence.

## **St Patrick's Parish Carols night**

Next Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, members of St. Patrick's Parish as well as students and families from St. Patrick's School and Mercy Regional College will gather on the Mercy Oval for Christmas Carols at 6pm. Please join us for what has been a lovely evening in recent years. Bring a picnic tea, seating or rug and drinks. Santa may be joining us at some stage!

## **Staff Movements**

With this being the final newsletter for 2014, I would like to say thanks to the following staff:

- Mr. Ryan Casey who has enjoyed a great year in our Junior and Middle Schools, Ryan returns to St Patrick's School in 2015;

- Mr. Joe Kingston who completes his AFL traineeship this week. He has been an excellent support for Stacey Hillman and the College's sports staff. We wish him well as he takes on a new traineeship at Thomas Carr College's Coragulac Campus in 2015; and
- Mr Bill Bohm who after many years driving one of the College's bus routes retires;
- Mrs Rebecca Rees is taking twelve months leave as her family relocates to Warrnambool.

In other staffing news:

- Bethany O'Sullivan has been employed as the College's AFL trainee for 2015;
- Mrs. Sarah Gellie has resigned after being appointed to the staff of St Teresa's College, Noosaville.

This week has heralds the move of two senior Mercy staff out of leadership after many years. After eight years as the College's Head of School Operations, Mrs. Jenny Phillips is moving away from the challenges of managing staff absences and the school's daily program to spend more time in the classroom and as Career's Coordinator. Friday saw Mr. Tony Wynd complete six years as Head of O'Keeffe Campus; the heartfelt thanks offered to Tony reflected his enormous contribution to the Campus and its growth in recent years.

With the 2014 school year coming to a close, I would like to thank the students, parents and families of Mercy for the significant year we have enjoyed at Mercy. Each day at this College is a joy and a privilege and that is in most part due to you, the community that supports us.

I hope and pray that each of you has a safe, happy and holy Christmas and New Year.

Yours in Mercy,



**DR. DARREN EGBERTS**  
PRINCIPAL



## **SMS Global Notice**

Parents please note that the College has recently changed its SMS provider for sending home SMS text messages from the College. This new service sends the messages from a pool of various numbers. We will endeavour to precede all SMS messages with @mrc followed by the message so you know it is a legitimate SMS from the College.

## **2015 SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION**

### **2015 BOOKLISTS**

Reminder to parents to send their son/daughter's booklist into Warrnambool Books by the due date.

### **UNIFORM SHOP OPERATING HOURS**

<b>DECEMBER 2014</b>
Normal Trading days and hours Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 – 2:00pm Up to Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>JANUARY 2015</b>
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January, 12:00 – 2:00pm Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> January, 9:00am – 4:00pm
<b>FEBRUARY 2015</b>
Normal Trading days and hours Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 – 2:00pm

### **BOOK PARCEL COLLECTION DATE**

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 10am-2:30pm.

### **2015 STUDENT DIARIES**

Will be distributed to students on the first day of school.

## **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

### **TERANG/MORTLAKE**

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

5:00 pm Terang  
7:00 pm Mortlake  
9:00 pm Terang

Christmas Day – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December

9:00 am Caramut  
10:30 am Terang

### **CAMPERDOWN**

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

6:00 pm Cobden  
7:30 pm Camperdown  
9:30 pm Lismore  
Midnight Mass Camperdown

Christmas Day – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December

9:00 am Camperdown

**MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE**  
**2014 STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENT AWARDS**

**ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*This award is presented to the student who achieved the highest academic marks in their homeroom when all subjects are taken into consideration.*

Class	Recipient of Award
7A	Georgia Vick
7B	Tully Watt
7C	Nina Parker
7D	Tess Harris
8A	Sophie Rowan
8B	Eliza Johnstone
8C	Luke Lenehan
8D	Joshua Newcombe

**HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARDS**

*This award is presented to the student who has demonstrated individual achievement during the course of the year and has demonstrated effort and commitment in their school work.*

Class	Recipient of Award
7A	Maddison Hickey
7B	Brodie Humphrey
7C	Taylah Casson
7D	Brooke Cecil
8A	Sian Jehu
8B	Isabella Giblin
8C	Libby Moloney
8D	Demby McKenzie

**HEAD OF O'KEEFFE CAMPUS EXEMPLAR AWARDS**

*The Head of O'Keeffe Campus Exemplar Award recognises one boy and one girl from across the Junior School for their outstanding leadership and example.*

Class	Recipient of Award
8B	Tate Tregea-Copeland
8D	Meg Kenna

## **YEAR 9 STUDENT AWARDS**

### **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*These awards are presented to those students who achieved the highest result in each subject for the year level.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Stella Baker Campbell	Religious Education
Cheyenne Beaver	English
Sarah Van der Schans	Mathematics
Sarah van der Schans	Science
Bradley Lucas	Health & PE
Tara Suri	History
Ryan Marquand	Ag Studies
Samuel Bath	Computer Applications
Millicent Parker	Food Technology
Sarah Van der Schans	Woodwork
Samantha Evans	Textiles
Ripley Watt	Dance
Cheyenne Beaver	Active Learning Program
Stella Baker-Campbell	Art
Tara Suri	Graphic Design
Georgia Mannix	Music
Erin Robertson	Art Journaling & Scrapbooking
Cheyenne Beaver	Electronics
Cheyenne Beaver	Personal Development
Bradley Lucas	Football
Kaitlyn Atkins	Year 9 Pathways

### **HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARDS**

*A student in each homeroom is also recognized for their outstanding endeavour by receiving a Highly Commended Award.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>	<b>CLASS</b>
Rebecca MacDonald	9A
Dimity Moloney	9B
Tara Suri	9C
Nick Krybolder	9 Pathways

## **YEAR 10 STUDENT AWARDS**

### **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*These awards are presented to those students who achieved the highest result in each subject for the year level.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Annie Kenna	Religious Education
Ella Kissick	English
Caitlin Williams	Mathematics
Julian Hill	Science
Emma Lucas	Health & PE
Kate Hallyburton	Athletic Peak Performance
Hamish McConachy	Automotive
Michael Rowan	History
Charlie Heath	Media Studies
Tom Grant	Ag Studies
Annie Kenna	Food Technology
Melissa Evans	Art Photography
Tineke Jehu	Computer Applications
Brooke McInnes	Music
Lachlan Bignell	Woodwork
Ethan Domney	Year 10 Pathways

### **HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARDS**

*A student in each homeroom is also recognized for their outstanding endeavour by receiving a Highly Commended Award.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>	<b>CLASS</b>
Brooke McInnes	10A
Chelsea Schmidt	10B
Meg Lenehan	10C
Ryan Brumby	10D
Charlie Unwin	10 Pathways

## **YEAR 11 STUDENT AWARDS**

### **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

*This award is presented to the student who achieved the highest academic result for the subject listed.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Stephanie Lee & Annie Moloney	Religious Education Year 11
Mia Cain	VCE Units 1/2 English
Mia Cain	VCE Units 1/2 Biology
Ebony Reynolds	VCE Units 1/2 Studio Arts
Hannah Fleuchar	VCE Units 1/2 Foundation English
Joshua Rowan	VCE Units 1/2 Literature
Ebony Reynolds	VCE Units 1/2 Business Management
Jack Williams	VCE Units 1/2 Mathematical Methods
Ebony Reynolds	VCE Units 1/2 General Mathematics
Liam Johnson	VCE Units 1/2 Foundation Mathematics
Haylee Davis	VCE Units 1/2 Chemistry
Thomas Ryan	VCE Units 1/2 Physics
Stephanie Hibburt	VCE Units 1/2 Psychology
Joshua Rowan	VCE Units 1/2 History-Twentieth Century
Ebony Reynolds	VCE Units 1/2 Legal Studies
Thomas Ryan	VCE Units 1/2 Accounting
Meg O'Sullivan	VCE Units 1/2 Health and Human Development
Haylee Davis	VCE Units 1/2 Physical Education
Kate Hallyburton	VCE Units 1/2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies
Darcy Collins	VCE Units 1/2 Product Design and Technology
Hayley Turner	VCE Units 1/2 Food and Technology
Stephanie Lee	VCE Units 1/2 Media
Dale Marquand	Certificate 2 Building Construction: Year 1
Meg Lenehan	Certificate 2 Hospitality: Year 1
Brady Green	Certificate 2 Furniture: Year 1
Hannah Fleuchar	VCAL Industry and Enterprise
Liam Johnson	VCAL Personal Development

### **MERCY SCHOLARSHIP**

*The annual Mercy Scholarship is offered by Mercy Education Ltd and recognizes Year 11 students who demonstrate leadership in the Mercy tradition. Students chosen by their schools are acknowledged for their involvement in promoting school spirit, community service, fund raising and for their genuine concern for others less fortunate.*

<b>STUDENT NAME</b>
Amy McKenzie
Martinique McKenzie

## **OTHER SIGNIFICANT STUDENT AWARDS**

### **ADF LONG TAN LEADERSHIP & TEAMWORK AWARDS**

*This award is given to the student who demonstrates leadership and teamwork within both the school and the broader local community.*

Emma Lucas	Year 10
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### **KWONG LEE DOW YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

*Is an academic enrichment program for high achieving students and certificates are presented to the following students who have been accepted into the 2016 program.*

Julian Hill & Emma Lucas	Year 10
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### **SOUTH WEST TAFE AWARD**

Hannah Fleuchar	Year 11
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### **PERFORMING ARTS AWARD**

Gemma Lees	Year 10
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### **MERCY ARTS PRIZE**

Anya McKenzie	Year 12
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### **COLLEGE SPORTS AWARD**

Kate Hallyburton	Year 10
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### **2014 TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Mr. Lachie Lee
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### **SPIRIT OF MERCY AWARDS**

*This award is presented to the student who has demonstrated a commitment to the core values of mercy regional college as expressed in our vision and mission statement.*

Year	Students
7	Zacharia Sinnott
8	Joshua Newcombe
9	Ailie Bateman
10	Emma Lucas
11	Stephanie Lee & Annie Moloney
12	Dominic Cavarsan

## **STUDENT AWARD SPONSORS**

There was over 100 Academic and Highly Commended awards presented last Thursday night.

The sponsorship money generously given from community groups like yourselves and businesses in our district, allow us to give each student a prize and a certificate.

The College is extremely grateful for your support, for without it we would not be able to acknowledge and indeed encourage student achievement in such a rewarding manner.

<b>Name of Business / Organisation</b>	<b>Name of Business / Organisation</b>
Aitken Buslines	Lions Club of Camperdown
Australia Post Camperdown	Mahonys Transport
Bachelors Building & Joinery	Morton Dunn Architects
Camperdown Clocktower Quilters	Mt Noorat Freighters
Camperdown Football/Netball Club	National Australia Bank Camperdown
Camperdown Lakes & Craters Band	Nexus Service Club of Terang
Camperdown Home Hardware	Ridley Agri Products
Camperdown RSL	RIST (Rural Industries Skill Training)
Catholic Development Fund Ballarat	Rotary Club of Camperdown
Christians Bus Company	Rotary Club of Terang
Corangamite Arts	SLM Law
Corangamite Shire	Star Printing Terang
Fresha Fruit Juices	Terang Lions Club
Gerard Ryan Electrical	Terang & District Co-operative
Grahams Cleaning Supplies	The Loaf and Lounge
GreenCon Concrete & Construction	Warrnambool Books
Gunners Office Equipment	Wheelie Waste



## **Deputy Principal Wellbeing**

*Mr. Kerin Glennen*

If all people could live at peace, it would be a wonderful outcome....

But the question is can we all live together, war comes out of the warlike tendencies of the human heart, and we all share them. Malice, envy, fear, greed, hard heartedness, racism - these and other human traits lead to bad and destructive relationships. The number days we hear a lot regarding bullying at home and in the work places and of course, over the internet. The number of cases of people complaining of the bullying has grown a great deal within a comparatively short time. It seems that all of us can be guilty of behaviour which constitutes bullying. Bullying is war by another name, as people joke for advantage, trying to get the other person to bend to their will by foul means.

If we are looking for world peace, on some level, we could start with our own attitudes and sharing with those around you.

Let us live the values of Christmas, of care and support those who have little.....

## **School Leaders Camp**

*Mrs. Lesa Thornton - Head of Senior School*

In our final week of school I had the privilege to take our 2015 School leaders away to the Good Samaritan Convent in Coragulac. The purpose of this overnight camp is to gather the 18 senior school leaders together to plan what they wish THEIR legacy to be and how they intend to achieve these goals.

Our students learnt about the origins of the College and the struggles and triumphs the school and its families have endured since its inception in 1973. With the help of Lachie Lee, Kerin Glennen, Matt Harkin and Stacey Hillman, students were encouraged to discuss ideas and thoughts about leadership and envisage their journeys.

Whilst on camp, the leadership group were asked to organize and help run the O'Keefe campus summer sports activities for the junior students. I would like to add that both the camp and the activities day were held AFTER Year 11 students had finished at MRC and am very pleased that each of these students made the effort to participate in the camp and most were also available for the activities day.

I am encouraged by their enthusiasm and believe we will have an exceptional group of young people leading our school during 2015.



## **Congratulations**



Congratulations to Catherine Kenna, Year 12 for her acceptance into the Regional Arts Victoria 2015 Creative Leadership Program. The Creative Leadership Program is a professional development program where 12 regional young people participate in a 9 day arts industry intensive program in February 2015.

After the program is finished the participants become youth ambassadors for Regional Arts Victoria.



## **Middle School Report**

*Mr. Ben Brisbane*

Congratulations to Hamish McConachy and Ailie Bateman for winning the 2014 Middle School Award. Ailie was nominated in Term 1 and has shone in her role as Middle School Vice-Captain.

Hamish was nominated in Term 2 and has consistently shown a great attitude to school, teachers and his peers all year.

The above recipients have displayed some if not all the traits listed below:

- Very high motivation level consistently shown;
- Achieved an outstanding level relative to one's ability;
- Strong evidence of positively enhancing social relationships.
- Caring for other members of the homeroom and year level.

Well done to all those nominated throughout the year.



## **Sports Report**

*Stacey Hillman*

Summer Sports rounded out the year at Mercy and all students thoroughly enjoyed the day. We had around 50 students competing against the other Hampden schools in Golf, Volleyball, Tennis, Cricket, Squash, Soccer and Football whilst the remaining junior students participated in an activities day at Noorat.

This day was run by our 2015 school leaders who did a fantastic job! These leaders should be very proud of their efforts. Thank you to all of the staff who were able to assist on the day to make it enjoyable for all. Mercy has had a very successful year in sport and it is a credit to those who have participated and put their hand up to be involved.



***Although they didn't win the girl's footy team had a good day! Photo opportunity on the way home.***





***Year 7 2015 students in class on Orientation Day.***

## **France Trip**

*Mr. Lachie Lee*



We have had a very strong response to our Mercy Regional College France and Belgium Battlefields Tour for 2015. Quite a few students have expressed interest and we have received many deposits indicating a commitment to join the group.

I have caught up with most students who have expressed interest and those who have paid deposits.

The enthusiasm is great and students are really looking forward to the trip. It seems a long way off at the moment but the time will fly. I will have regular meetings with the students to keep them updated with the progress of the tour plans and will also schedule a couple of meetings for families in the lead up to our departure.

While always relevant, our tour is particularly so this year with the centenary of Anzac. We do not visit Gallipoli, of course, but the events of 1915 at the Dardanelles were a part of a much greater effort to finish the war. On the Western Front, in 1915, a number of major offensives took place which set the tone for the next three years and which substantially ramped up the intensity of the war. In Belgium, the Second Battle of Ypres saw the introduction of gas and, a number of offensives caused huge losses on both sides for no effective gain. 1915 also saw the sinking of the Lusitania off the coast of Ireland by German U-boats which ultimately led to America's joining the war on the side of the Allies.

We visit many sites of the conflict on the Western Front concentrating on the Australian involvement but also demonstrating the place of the AIF in the greater Allied war effort. For those who are interested, the new museum collection at the Shrine is amazing as is the Love and Sorrow exhibition at the Melbourne Museum. Both have a focus on Victorian efforts in the First World War.

There are still places available on the tour for those interested



**O'Keeffe Campus students recently climbed Mt. Noorat.**

# Term 1 - 2015 Dates

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	College Office open 8:30am – 1:00pm
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	College Office open 8:30am – 1:00pm
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Australia Day holiday
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Teaching staff commence
	College office open (8:15am - 4:30pm)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Book Collection Day (10:00am – 2:30pm)
	Uniform Shop Open (9:00am – 4:00pm)
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>All students commence</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Commencement Mass 9:30am
	Year 7 – 9 Swimming Trials
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Welcome BBQ & Information Evening
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	MRC Swimming Carnival
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Camp
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12 Bowls Night 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 10 Work Experience
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday Mass
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12 Retreat
	Year 11 Camp
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	MRC Presentation Ball @ Glenormiston
	No classes for Year 11 students
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	MRC Athletics
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 Princetown Camp
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Year 12 Bowls Night 6:00pm – 9:00pm</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Labour Day holiday
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	School Photos
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 Retreat Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 9 Retreat Day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Term 1 concludes for students
	Parent Teacher Interviews (4:00pm – 8:00pm)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Term 1 concludes for staff
	Parent Teacher Interviews (9:00am – 1:00pm)



## PUBLIC NOTICE



### COBDEN F.N.C

#### 2015 NETBALL PRE-SEASON TRAINING

##### December training dates

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December @ Netball Courts

All juniors U13 to U17 from 5 - 6pm

Senior grades from 6.30pm

All current & new players most welcome

Apologies or enquiries please text or call

Tarryn 0400 829 662 or Helene 0400 864 865

NOORAT  
COMMUNITY CAROLS  
SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.  
8.00 p.m. ~ after community blog  
Niel Black Memorial  
Presbyterian Church



Cobden Community Bank and  
Cobden Business Network  
present

# CHRISTMAS-ON-CURDIE

5PM-8PM  
FRIDAY  
19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Stalls  
Rides  
Santa  
Big draw  
Crazy hair  
Fairy floss  
Competitions  
Bumper balls  
Face painting  
Spinning wheel  
Wet sponge throw  
and lots more

**Come and join in the fun**

**CCBN**  
Cobden & District  
Community Bank & Network  
Bendigo Bank