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 2015
“Through the Mercy tradition we encourage our community to seek knowledge, to nurture curiosity and to love learning”.

On this centenary year of Anzac I have been given the honour of being the guest speaker at the Anzac Day Commemorative Ceremony at Terang. Below is an abridged version of some of those words.

In 1990 Jane and I were working and travelling in London and Europe. We had left home with an open agenda and only a few things that we were definitely going to do. One of those was to attend the 75 Anniversary Commemorative Ceremonies at Anzac Cove. As we were living and working in London there was little information about arrangements and how to get there but we were determined to make the effort. Having arrived in Istanbul with Yugoslav Airlines we teamed up with some other Australians and eventually made our way to Gallipoli. We stayed in the town of Gelibolou in a camping ground right on the Dardanelles. What was most interesting about the ceremony was the fact that fifty three veterans of the Gallipoli campaign would be attending.

We made our way to Anzac Cove arriving there at 3am on Anzac Day morning. In those days the Dawn Service was at Beach Cemetery. We gathered in the pre-dawn dark chatting with other travellers around us; New Zealanders and Australians together. As the light grew a number of old men walked up the ramp from the beach into the official enclosure. As he came up the beach one sang out to the crowd, “last time I was here I was running”. As the dawn service proceeded the early morning visibility grew and suddenly in front of us we saw the hillside that confronted the Australians as they landed. It was the first time I had been there and my first sight of the Gallipoli coastline and I was awestruck by the enormity of the task that faced the Anzacs.

Later in the morning we made our way up to the Australian cemetery at Lone Pine. This service began at 11.00am and was, in a way, a much more intimate ceremony than the Dawn Service. I have re-read my letters from that day and in one that I wrote home I noted that I felt as I looked out over the Mediterranean that I was almost in an iconic Australian place. I had heard so much about it as I grew up; we were in shorts and T-shirts and were surrounded by the familiar ring of Australian voices. Gallipoli was such a part of the Australian story that it felt as if we were at home.
At Lone Pine we sat among the gravestones as we listened to the familiar words of the ceremony; Bob Hawke the Australian Prime Minister spoke on the importance of Anzac to the Australian story; Hawke wept at the significance of it which is fine because I did as well. In one of my letters I say that I was thinking of both my grandfathers and my Dad who also served in WW2. To add to the poignancy of the day one of the veterans was celebrating his 103rd birthday. We sang Happy Birthday to him.

Gallipoli is a mecca for Australians who wish to experience something of their nation’s history. While we were walking about before the Lone Pine Ceremony we hitched a ride with an Australian couple in a Kombi. They’d driven from Europe to be there. I doubt that today with all the security measures in place we’d be given the freedom to wander the countryside as we did. The next day we revisited the battlefields and had more time to absorb the difficulty of the task facing the Australians and we met up with others, Australians and Turks, who ambled about the rough country and between small, neat cemeteries.

The joy I suppose that I felt at being at Gallipoli stemmed from my love of the history and the story of this place that I had known since childhood. Both my grandfathers had served in the First World War; my mother’s father had been in the 24th Battalion before transferring into the Imperial Camel Corps. He was wounded in 1916 and returned home. My father’s father had served with the 7th Battalion at Gallipoli. He and his brother had been among the first to enlist from Numurkah in northern Victoria and they joined the 7th commanded by the renowned Harold ‘Pompey’ Elliott.

I have a photo at home taken in August 1914 at Broadmeadows. It is of my grandfather and his eleven tent mates. They pose proudly facing the camera with a look that demonstrates the seriousness with which they viewed the journey ahead of them. In twelve months six of them would be dead. Of the other six, five, including grandpa, were taken from the peninsula as casualties. I think that this picture, and its awful history, demonstrates the terrible cost to the nation of the Gallipoli Campaign. One of those killed at Krithia was Harry Baker a young Englishman who had lived in Numurkah before the war. He died of wounds received at Krithia on the 10 May. In due course his father, from Hay on Wye in the west of England, wrote to the Australian authorities looking for some of Harry’s belongings which had been sent to him and which he had not received. In the letter he asks if these few “mementos of his noble brave death” might be returned to him and he describes his son as “one of the best sons a father could be blest with”.

Gallipoli and the Great War affected everyone in Australian society. Communities everywhere suffered the loss of their young men and they were only able to mourn that loss through local memorials in parks, halls and public buildings. At the Corangamite Shire offices are displayed an Honour Roll which contains the names of 1200 men and women who served in the Great War. Of them 210 were killed. The suffering and sacrifice lasted a lifetime for many but it allowed those who followed to have the opportunity for full, peaceful and productive lives. It is for this that we pause and thank those generations who came before us for their generosity and great heartedness.
From the Principal

Today’s newsletter is published on the eve of the 100th anniversary of first ANZAC troops landing on the Gallipoli peninsula, a day of deep historical and personal meaning for many Australians. I thought it most appropriate that the front pages of our newsletter include the considered and heartfelt thoughts of our Humanities coordinator, Mr. Lachie Lee.

Our prayer today remembers those who served,

*God of love and liberty,*
*we bring our thanks this day for the peace and security we enjoy,*
*which was won for us through the courage and devotion*
*of those who gave their lives in time of war.*
*We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain,*
*but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come.*
*That the liberty, truth and justice which they sought to preserve*
*may be seen and known in all the nations upon earth.*
*This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world,*
*Jesus Christ our Lord.*
*Amen.*

Almost 25 years ago, I travelled to and walked along the paths of ANZAC Cove and the Gallipoli Peninsula; amongst the many exciting and memorable experiences that overseas travel offers, those few days remain etched in my mind and heart. That time was particularly moving for me as a 22 year old travelling with other Australian and New Zealanders and seeing that the average age of the diggers buried around us was even younger than ourselves. As a community and as a country, let us never forget the sacrifices of those who went to war.

The following photos are from our Anzac Day services that were held at both campuses today.

Mercy Regional College Open Day and Information Evening

Next Wednesday 6th May, Mercy Regional College will be holding its annual Open Afternoon and Information Evening at the College’s O’Keeffe Campus, McKinnon’s Bridge Road, Noorat from 3:30pm - 7:30pm.

Information sessions will run at approximately 4:30pm and 6:00pm. The afternoon and evening provide a great opportunity for prospective students and parents to walk around the O’Keeffe Campus and see the range of activities and classes that are available at Mercy. Please see flyer on page 5.

Enrolment packages and application forms will be available on the night.

Buildings – Stage One

This week has been an exciting one for the College and especially at McAuley Campus. In the last couple of days, we have taken possession of the first sections of our new buildings, that is, the pre-existing classrooms that have been refurbished.

These include two classrooms downstairs (BRB 1 & 2), a classroom upstairs (the old BRB 15) and a number of offices.
The refurbishment has included lowering the ceilings, new lighting, plaster, carpets, lockers, doors and greater use of glass. The areas have a new painting scheme evident. We expect to have the two downstairs classrooms in use next week.

Thomas Carr Exchange
After quite a few years, Mercy has taken the decision not to continue with the week-long Thomas Carr Exchange. This program enabled the transfer of students between Mercy Regional College and Thomas Carr College, Tameit over a week but we believe that the opportunities possible in the programs below as well as other school-based initiatives better fit the needs of our students now. I have sent a note of thanks to the staff and students of Thomas Carr in appreciation of their support of the program over its time.

Proposed Immersion Trips for Mercy Regional College students
A great deal of work has been undertaken in the last twelve months or so by a couple of Mercy staff members to initiate two significant opportunities for students to travel interstate and overseas. Further details will be coming out to parents about each but in brief:

2016 Mercy Immersion Trip to Cambodia
The College is offering an opportunity for 15 – 20 students to travel to Cambodia in 2016 as part of the first Mercy Regional College Overseas Immersion. The trip will be offered to students in Year 10 & 11 next year and run from March 20th – 30th 2016. The purpose of the immersion experience is not tourism rather it will provide those students involved with rich and challenging opportunities to work in partnership with schools, teachers and students in regional and rural centres in Cambodia. The trip is being organised by the College in partnership with an external provider, Destination Dreaming. This company has organised a number of trips for schools similar to Mercy including Trinity College, Colac and Emmanuel College, Warrnambool. At this stage, we estimate the cost of the trip will be around $3000 and we are hoping to offer a couple of subsidized places to students.

An Information Session for the Immersion Experience is being held next Wednesday 29th April starting at 7.00pm in the McAuley Campus Library.

Indigenous Immersion trip to the Kimberley
Following on from his family’s twelve months in Halls Creek in 2014, Mr. James Castles is investigating the possibility of a 10 day trip to the Kimberley region in October. The trip would include time in Broome, Halls Creek as well as areas beyond these towns. It would be focused in building the relationships between Mercy Regional College and the indigenous community of Halls Creek, some of whom we hosted in August last year. If the trip is approved by College Leadership and the Board, it will be opened to Year 8 & 9 students.

Student Work Placements
On page eight of this newsletter is a full list of all the Mercy students currently completing work placements as part of their school program. I would like to personally thank the numerous businesses and tradespeople who support this program and the students involved – their efforts provide a crucial pathway for many of our students into the workforce.

Maternity Leave
Next Tuesday, Mrs. Jess Niblett finishes teaching for a period of time to go on maternity leave. Her classes will be taken on by Mrs. Melissa Wood and myself. We wish Jess all the very best for the exciting few weeks ahead.

Student Activities
A number of sporting and other co-curricular activities have occurred in the first two weeks of Term 2, they include:

- Students who participated in the State Swimming Championships, the HSSSA Athletics carnival, the Hampden Senior Football and a shooting competition held at the Melbourne Gun Club.
- The College hosted 200+ students and staff last week for the annual Tertiary Information Sessions (TIS) in the de Chantal Stadium.
- Students have visited Sovereign Hill and the Melbourne Zoo in separate VCE excursions.

Yours in Mercy,

DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL
Parent Street Retreat
Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders

We are pleased to announce our first ever Parent Street Retreat to Melbourne.

This is a first for Mercy Regional College but comes after a number of requests from parents who would like to give of their time and talents to share the Vinnies Soup Van Experience in Melbourne. Monday 21st September has been secured as a date and the trip will involve an overnight stay and reflection time in Melbourne.

This runs during the September school holidays and we hope to have eight parents experience this journey as our Year 11 students have done over the past 6 years.

Cost would be approximately $50 plus meals. We need to travel together on a mini bus and would leave MRC at 2 pm on the Monday returning the next day by lunch time to Camperdown unless participants make other arrangements. Accommodation would be at “The Nunnery” Backpackers’ hostel (Nicholson Street Fitzroy), which is where our students stay also.

Parents who wish to participate or would like to receive more information, should contact Jo Saunders by email jsaunders@mercy.vic.edu.au

Senior School Report
Mrs. Lesa Thornton

Once again we have hit the ground running in the senior school. With the frantic pace of Term 1 behind us it is hoped that students have returned with a greater focus upon their studies. The term ahead may seem a long one of 11 weeks but will progress quite quickly.

During our Pastoral Care sessions students have and will be visited by a number of organisations. Already the RACV and the Free 2 Go program was presented to year 12s whilst the Year 11s have begun working with Darren Mounsey and Jenny Phillips on interview techniques with Year 11 Mock interviews taking place in a few weeks. A valuable learning experience for our students.

Also penciled in for this term are visits from Federation University and Latitude Global Volunteering, career opportunities and advisers and TAFE providers. Later in the term ALL students studying a VCAA subjects at 3 /4 level will sit the General Achievement Test (GAT). More information will be provided in coming weeks.

As well as academic pursuits our Year 11s continue to participate in our Street Retreats to Melbourne assisting St Vinnie's in the soup and food vans.

School Uniform
Mr. Chris Grant

As stated in the student diary, all students are now required to wear the full Mercy Winter Uniform. This is pictured in the image beside. Staff are utilising an ‘App’ which has been created specifically to record students out of uniform. This then alerts the office to send an SMS home to you in the case that your child is out of uniform. We appreciate your support on this matter.

At Mercy Regional College, school uniform is compulsory and all students are expected to maintain a high standard of personal grooming and neatness.

Mercy students are expected to wear full school uniform while at school. Any student who is out of uniform for whatever reason needs to bring a note, in their diary, and give it to the homeroom teacher explaining why they are out of uniform. Students are advised to have their names on all items of uniform and personal property brought to school. Sports uniform must be worn during P.E. classes.

Footwear: [Correct school shoes can be seen in photo on the left].

GROOMING
Students are expected to maintain a high standard of personal grooming and neatness and to take pride in their College uniform.

Jewellery:
(Girls/Boys) - Must be discreet and not infringe the following:
• Only appropriate piercings (no spacers or bolts in ears). Nose piercings to be less than 2mm or clear. No other piercings permitted.
• No tattoos.

Hair:
• Must be clean and tidy.
• Must be tied back if below shoulder length. Ribbons and other hair accessories should be discreet.
• No extremes in hair styles (e.g. dreadlocks, shaved heads or spiked hair) or colours.
• Boys must be clean shaven at all times. If not, they will be asked to shave before attending class.

Make-up:
• No visible make-up or nail polish to be worn.

Personal Hygiene:
Must be maintained to a high standard.
Interested parents and students are welcome to attend our Open Day to gain an understanding of the opportunities possible through a Mercy Regional College education.

REGISTRATIONS & CAMPUS TOURS
Commence at 3:30pm and will be finished by 7:30pm
(A light tea will be provided at the Campus from 5:00pm)

INFORMATION PROGRAM SESSIONS
Presented by Principal - Dr. Darren Egberts
  
  Session 1  @  4:30pm  
  Session 2  @  6:00pm
  
  (Parents need only attend one session)

INFORMATION PACKS & ENROLMENT FORMS
   (Distributed on the day)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Phone 5593 2011 to speak to Sue or email: office@mercy.vic.edu.au

Enrolment Applications for Year 7 – 2016
Close Friday 19th June, 2015
Immersion Trip to Cambodia
Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders - Director of RE

There is a buzz among students as they consider the opportunity to travel to Cambodia in 2016. Parents and students are welcome to the:

Parent and student Information Evening
7pm on Wednesday April 29th in the library at McAuley Campus

Clint Miller, co-director of Destination Dreaming, the service provider company, will speak about our project and the plan to experience both the city of Siem Reap and the remote area schools. Clint and Members of the school leadership team will speak about the trip in more detail including all details of flights, costs, accommodation and the way we can share skills and in turn learn from others what it means to be a global citizen.

Proposed dates are March 20th to March 30th, 2016. Catering for Years 10 and 11. A group of up to 15+ students is required.

Any current Year 9 and 10 students and parents are welcome to join us on Wednesday and take another step toward this amazing journey.

Destination Dreaming works with schools to create sustainable community partnerships that teach students about global citizenship, self-awareness and social justice. Developing young people to thrive in a global world by facilitating practical social education programs.
Christian Outreach 10A
Mrs. Leesa Henriksen

Year 10A were lucky enough to be first up for Christian Outreach this year as part of their Religious Education studies.

After a few anxious moments leading up to their visits, the 10A group have embraced the opportunity and have had an enjoyable time helping at their different venues.

We had students visiting Sunnyside, Merindah Lodge, David Newman Centre and St Vinnies in Camperdown and St Thomas’, Terang Day Centre and Mt View in Terang. We also had students make the weekly trek to Abbeyfield in Mortlake.

Whilst visiting the students it has been obvious that it has been a positive experience for them. It has been rewarding to see them interacting with clients and assisting with activities.

The students are to be commended on their behaviour and commitment to the program.
**Head of Sport**
Mr. Matt Harkin

**State Swimming Championships.**
Some great swimming results for the swimmers who represented Mercy down at the State swimming titles at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Despite a couple of issues with swimming caps, our under 15 girls freestyle team swam well to finish 6th.

This team comprised of Brianna Thompson, Sian Jehu, Gabby Beaver and Kate Gaut. Hannah Justin recorded a personal best time to finish 7th in the 50m breaststroke which was also a terrific effort.

Individual champions for the day were:
- U16 Female Claudia Lee
- U17 Lachie Bone

Thanks to all the teachers who assisted on the day and to the parents who came and supported.

**Mt Emu Creek Dressage**
On the last day of term two a large team of students represented the college at the Mount Emu Creek Dressage competition.

All students represented themselves and the college fantastically and we had some pleasing results on the day. Also the college managed to finish second overall that was great.

**HSSSD Athletics**
In perfect conditions on Tuesday we saw 90 students represent the college at the HSSSD athletics in Camperdown. Our team did very well and was consistent all day which lead to us having some great results overall.

Mercy won the Junior, Intermediate and Senior shields as well as overall shield which was fantastic.

Geelong Footballers Visit
We were lucky enough to have Mitch Clark and Darcy Lang speak to the Year 7s & 8s late last term and both were fantastic they answered the student’s questions very well. It was interesting to hear Clarks story and how he has come back from sitting out 10 months from footy due to dealing with depression. Students (and staff) were impressed also with his 6’ 7” frame!

**Upcoming events**
- Wednesday 29th April Country Cup Netball Year 10 & 11.
- Friday 1st May Dirtbike Championships at Panmure.
- Monday 18th May MRC cross Country.
- Wednesday 20th May Hampden Cup Footy/Netball.
- Monday 25th May HSSSD Cross Country.
- Friday 12th June Greater Western Cross Country.
Students in Year 10, 11 & 12 have commenced ‘Structured Work Place Learning’ and ‘School Based Apprenticeships’ one day a week, at various work places around the district.

- Nicholas Krybolder - Doolan Farms, Brucknell
- Cooper Wagner - Marks Joinery, Camperdown
- Kasey Zentai - Murray Fry Amcal, Camperdown
- Ethan Domney - W A Molan & Sons, Terang
- Alistar Huth - CY Landscaping, Camperdown
- Carrina Free - Mora Mechanical Services, Cobden
- Zoe Baxter - Kates Dance House, Camperdown
- Dale White - DWB Engineering, Camperdown
- Paddy Bourke - Darren Vickers Electrical, Dixie
- Tylan Brooks - Dalvui Service Centre, Terang
- Emmerson Unwin - Mens Hair on Manifold, Camperdown
- Benjamin Finnerty - Darren Grant Builders, Mortlake
- Tom Nelson - Reid Stockfeeds, Cobden
- Lachlan Walters - Charles Stewart & Co, Camperdown
- Kirby Stonehouse - Thompson St Hair Design, Terang
- Tom Suhan - Andrew Goodall Engineering, Warrnambool
- Anthony Glennen - DC Thomas & Co, Terang
- Charlie Unwin - Simon Pollard Electrical, Camperdown
- Rachel Uebergang - Danny Twaddle Hospitality, Terang
- Lachlan MacDonald - Curdie Car Care, Cobden
- Callum Grindal - Brian Moloney Kitchens & Joinery, Terang
- Grace Veenstra - P&M Hay Farming, Weerite
- Drew Barake - Colac Toyota, Colac.

We are very grateful to these employers for allowing our students to gain valuable experience in the workplace, to hopefully lead to employment they are interested in.

Once a week, the following students attend ‘SWTAFE Warrnambool’, studying the following courses:

- Dale White - Cert II Engineering
- Rhys Casson - Cert III Media
- Jackie McKay and Kasey Zentai - Cert III Beauty
- Carrina Free, Tom Nelson, Quinn Spoore, Bailey Mason – Cert II Automotive
- Shai Karney - Cert II Retail Skincare
- Zoe Baxter, Grace Veenstra, Emmerson Unwin, Chelsea Schmidt, Sarah Cole, Kirby Stonehouse
- Cert II Hairdressing.
- Jessica Quick and Ellen-Rose Lee attend Miss Kit, Warrnambool, studying - Cert II in Retail Makeup & Skin Care.
- Nicholas Krybolder - National Centre of Dairy Education, Timboon

The following students do the RIST Course: Tom Grant, Lachie Bignell, Grace Veenstra, Erica Grant and Lachie Davis.

These courses provide a wonderful opportunity for students to gain a certificate in the field they would like to pursue in the future.

Clay Shooting Competition

On Thursday, four students: Ethan Domney, Daniel Jehu, Tom Gray and Tom Justin, represented the school in the Yarra Valley Invitational Championships at the Melbourne Gun Club. While all four recorded very high results, Ethan qualified for the Shoot-off for first in the Over 15 male category. It took twenty extra targets to separate the last five competitors with Ethan finishing in second place. This was an excellent result given the very high standard of the competition.

Term 2 Dates

Wednesday 29 April
* Country Cup Netball – Year 10 & 11
* Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 30 April
* Year 11 Street Retreat

Tuesday 5 May
* Year 11 Mock Interviews Day 1
* Immunisations @ O’Keeffe Campus

Wednesday 6 May
* MRC Open Day @ O’Keeffe Campus 3:30pm – 8:00pm
* Year 11 Mock Interviews Day 2

Wednesday 13 May
* Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 14 May
* Year 11 Street Retreat

Monday 18 May
* MRC Cross Country

Tuesday 19 May
* MRC Board Meeting 7:30pm

Wednesday 20 May
* Hampden Cup F/N – Years 7 to 9
Tertiary Information Service (TIS) Tour
Last week the TIS Tour came to the Western Districts. This tour was supported by a total of 15 tertiary institutions, including universities, some TAFE colleges and a number of private providers. On Thursday 16th April, MRC hosted the event for schools from Camperdown, Cobden, Timboon, and Derrinallum. Approximately 150 students were taken through their options for post-secondary schooling and introduced to the process of submitting a VTAC application. The students then had the opportunity to meet with representatives from all the institutions, ask questions and collect course guides and other relevant information. Feedback from the students was positive and they indicated that the event had given them a very comprehensive overview of their future options. The College will continue to work with the Year 12 cohort, guiding them through what can sometimes appear to be a complicated process of VTAC and associated applications.
(VTAC applications for 2016 open on 3rd August and close on 30th September).

VCE/VCAL Year 10s Subject Selection Process
During the Year 10 Careers Program in Term 2, students will be completing activities to assist them in selecting their 2016 VCE studies. This will give students the opportunity to make informed choices about the subjects they would like to study in VCE and, for some, may provide additional motivation to increase the amount of effective study time they undertake. Parents and students will be invited to attend an information session early in Term 3 to assist in their understanding of the process and provide the opportunity to meet with teachers.

Prior to students submitting VCE subject choices they will be interviewed by a teacher from the Senior Leadership/Careers Advisors Group.

If any students, or parents would like to receive individual advice regarding VCE/VCAL options please contact any of the following staff members: Chris Grant, Lachie Lee, Lesa Thornton, Stacey Hillman, or Jenny Phillips.

Warrnambool Careers Expo
(May 18, 19 & 20)
All Warrnambool and District Secondary Colleges in conjunction with the region’s Further Education providers will be combining to host the Biennial Careers Expo during Careers Week in May 2015. The primary aim of the Expo is to assist students and their parents to research a wide range of careers options in preparation for the important decisions students will make over the next few years.

The Careers Expo is conducted every two years and from past experience and testimonials, is an invaluable experience and extremely useful in assisting students in their career decision making and transition process. Research clearly indicates that families who research career options early have a greater degree of success in navigating through the many career options.

Guest presenters are current practitioners in their chosen vocations and they will outline the day to day tasks involved within their career, the career paths and education and training required to obtain employment in their field / industry as well as further career prospects / advancement opportunities.

Students from Year 8 to Year 12 can attend the Careers Expo.

Expo Dates and Venues:

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Emmanuel College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Brauer College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Warrnambool College</td>
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Each evening will commence at 7:00pm with an array of static displays.

Presentations commence at the times listed below:

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<th>Session 1</th>
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<td>7:15pm – 7:55pm</td>
<td>8:00pm – 8:40pm</td>
<td>8:45pm – 9:25pm</td>
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Students are able to choose up to three different presentations on each of the three evenings. As it is possible to attend nine different career presentations during the week, we encourage all students and parents to take full advantage of this schedule.

A map is located on the reverse side of each evening program and it will indicate where each of the rooms are located at each of the Secondary Colleges. Programs are available from the College Office at both campuses.

Career preparation is vitally important to any child’s future prospects and students are encouraged to do a little research prior to the Expo in order to ask relevant questions, enjoy and make the most of this opportunity.

Any Questions – please contact Jenny Phillips or Lachie Lee.
FOCUS ON CAREERS IN COUNSELLING

If you are interested in becoming a counsellor, there are at least four study pathways you can undertake after school.

1. Psychology: “studies the human mind and behaviour. Studying psychology provides students with a comprehensive understanding of behavioural and mental processes. Psychologists are experts in human behaviour and emotion, with practical and research skills that can be applied to a wide variety of fields that include health, education and management.

Clinical psychologists help with the diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses across the lifespan. Most psychologists also help mentally healthy people to find ways of functioning better. For example, they train people to handle stress and family problems”. Taken from Australian Catholic University website, www.acu.edu.au/610230

It takes a minimum of six years of study and training to qualify as a registered psychologist and further study and training to be recognised as a specialist in one of the following areas:

- Clinical
- Forensic
- Organisational
- Community
- Education & Developmental
- Counselling
- Clinical
- Sport & Exercise
- Health

For detailed information about the pathways available to become qualified, go to the Australian Psychological Society website- http://tinyurl.com/lu4bwa2

To start your pathway, you will need to complete an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) approved three or four year Bachelor degree with a major in Psychology.

For a list of approved courses, go to www.psychologycouncil.org.au/

2. Counselling: “focuses on client’s concerns and difficulties and includes understanding people’s patterns of thoughts, behaviours, feelings and the ways in which these may be problematic in their lives. Studying counselling involves learning how to assist people to develop understanding about themselves and to make changes in their lives. Currently in Australia, counsellors are not regulated.

Training can range from a Masters degree to a Bachelor’s degree or even a 3 day course”. Taken from Australian Catholic University website, www.acu.edu.au/610230

Generalist counselors cannot undertake in-depth counseling and assessments a qualified psychologist can.

3. Social Work: “Social workers undertake roles in casework, counselling, advocacy, community engagement and social action to assist people at both the personal and social level. They also contribute to policy development, education and research, particularly on issues of social justice, disadvantage and marginalisation.

Social workers are concerned with the wellbeing of individuals, families, groups and communities and always work with people in the context of their physical, cultural, social and structural environments.

Social workers are employed in a range of government, non-government and community agencies such as hospitals, community health centres, early intervention and child protection programs, family support services, schools, employment services, mental health services, justice, housing, disability and aged care services.”
FOCUS ON CAREERS IN COUNSELLING

"Many social workers who work privately in clinical roles apply for accreditation as a mental health social worker. This means that these social workers are eligible to provide psychological services through some government assisted programs."

Information above copied from the Australian Association of Social Workers, http://tinyurl.com/ga8vag9

To become a social worker, you can either complete an accredited four-year Bachelor of Social Work degree or an undergraduate degree (e.g., Arts, Health Science, Human Services) followed by a two year Masters of Social Work.

You can view accredited courses at this link: http://tinyurl.com/ggle2yw

FOCUS ON CAREERS IN COUNSELLING

Dave Hammat
Bachelor of Social Work/Bachelor of Psychology, RMIT

Dave is studying a combined degree in both psychology and social work.

Overview of my degree: Psychology scientifically combines all the psychological schools of thought; social, cognitive, biological, humanistic, psychodynamic etc. and explores what we know about human nature. Through this exploration, psychology shows us what influences our behaviour and thinking; it provides us with the knowledge to assist people in setting up protective factors in their life and give a very brief introduction to counselling skills.

Social work - looks at the pragmatic influences on our life, economics, public policy, politics, class divisions, and discourses (ways of thinking and speaking that disempower people e.g. sexism, homophobia etc.).

It gives you a deep understanding of how to conduct individual counselling, group work, working with violence and abuse and readiness you to be a therapist who’s more frontline (can do case management and do therapy in the car on the way to court or in the homeless shelter) then a psychologist.

The difference between the degrees is that undergraduate psychology is not a degree in counselling. Undergraduate social work will ready you to be a counsellor.

Work experience: I undertook work experience with Department of Human Services working with high profile criminals for a unit called disability justice. I have spent time talking to State MP’s about social policy at parliament, and with Magistrates to discuss current domestic violence policy.

The best thing about my course is that I’ll be qualified worldwide, generally to a higher standard than most countries. I’ll never wait for a job as I’ll always be in demand, and when you are working with the lives of people who have endured the most and are on the extreme fringes the content in classes/work is never dull.

To read about the Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)/Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology) combined degree at RMIT, go to http://tinyurl.com/nogexot

4. Psychiatry: Like a psychologist, a psychiatrist can undertake counselling, psychotherapy and research. Unlike a psychologist, a psychiatrist must complete a degree in medicine first then undertake several years of specialist education and training to qualify as a psychiatrist.

A psychiatrist is medical doctor who can prescribe medications such as anti-depressants and medical interventions such as electro-convulsive therapy. They work closely with general practitioners, medical specialists and psychologists.

Compared to a psychologist, counsellor and social worker, a psychiatrist can “provide wider range of treatments for severe and persistent mental illness”.

To learn more about studying to be a psychiatrist, go to The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists website, http://tinyurl.com/ogdsyzw
Interested in becoming a teacher? According to an article in the Australian Catholic University magazine ‘Insight’, a shortage of qualified teachers in Britain has seen teacher agencies recruit heavily from countries such as Australia. To read the full article, go to http://tinyurl.com/q3wxjjux

Considering a career in allied health? Social work, speech pathology and occupational therapy students at La Trobe University have just commenced their groundbreaking hands-on learning experience at the new Northern Centre of Health Education Research facility.

The building, next to the Northern Hospital in Epping, is fitted with state of the art facilities, which mirror the conditions of real life medical settings. For information about the Centre, go to http://tinyurl.com/leiix5x

Sports Management Internships at La Trobe University: Tom Flood, a Bachelor of Business (Sports Management) student at La Trobe is an excellent example of how students can secure exciting internships.

Tom is currently completing a 1-year internship within the Marketing and Communications team at professional rugby league team the Melbourne Storm and has recently secured an internship in India with the Kings XI Punjab cricket team who play in the Indian Premier League.

Tom will be living in India for two months working across marketing, digital, merchandise and sponsorship while gaining credit for his course. For information about internships available for La Trobe Sports Management students, go to http://tinyurl.com/ngf4ywo

Interested in music and science? You can now study a double degree in both areas of passion at Monash University with the new four-year Bachelor of Music/Bachelor of Science. For information, go to http://tinyurl.com/qbd8qtn

Have to move away to study at university? It can be stressful trying to secure on-campus accommodation, as most institutions don’t guarantee you a place. Some universities like Federation University (FU), University of Canberra (UC), University of Wollongong (UoW) and Australia National University (ANU) have a ‘first year’ accommodation guarantee. This means that if you are starting your university course in first year, you will be guaranteed an accommodation place. For more information, go to

- FU http://tinyurl.com/oojkmeeom
- UC http://tinyurl.com/ql44pko
- ANU http://tinyurl.com/oilhuvy
- UoW http://tinyurl.com/ncnka5x

agideas International Design Forum & Design Futures Secondary School Forum and Careers Expo: These events will run Thursday 14 May and is a must for any student considering a career in design. You will be able to:

- Attend a course expo and speak to representatives from industry and vocational and higher education institutions.
- Learn about the pathways from school into design courses and discover new career pathways.
- Attend a presentation and hear from top designers from Australia and overseas, who will share the secrets of their highly successful careers.

Tickets are available to purchase now. For more information, go to http://ideasongdesign.net/
Amazing IT careers day at Monash University:
The Faculty of IT at Monash is hosting an exciting day called Take CTRL on Saturday 2 May. The
guest speaker will be Morris Miselowski. His job is
to analyse how the world will evolve and how this will impact on businesses and people's everyday lives.

Morris will discuss:
• The job market of the future
• The look of future careers
• The further development of the
   Internet of 'Things' and 'Big Data'.
• The technical progress to expect
   in the next few decades.

You will be able to engage in a series of hands-on workshops focussing on IT and entrepreneurship,
developing a mobile app, and you may have the rare opportunity to step into 3D data with the next
320 degree Monash CAVE2, and next generation hybrid 2D and 3D virtual reality environment.

For more information and to register for the event, go to http://tinyurl.com/llufw2l

Australian Catholic University Experience Days: Registrations have now opened for the following Experience Days:

- **Melbourne campus**, Monday 29 June:

- **Ballarat campus**, Tuesday 30 June: Teaching
  (Early Childhood and Primary), Nursing & Paramedicine.

- **Canberra campus**, Tuesday 7 July: Teaching
  (Early Childhood and Primary), Secondary
  Teaching, Nursing & Paramedicine, and Social
  Work.

Register as soon as possible, as workshops will fill quickly, www.acu.edu.au/97108

Upcoming Events: April

- At Monash University Seminars, various
dates, http://tinyurl.com/k5fs73x

Upcoming Events: May

- Focus on Melbourne University Seminars,
  various dates, http://tinyurl.com/pcscoqf

- **2: Open Day**, Southern School of Natural

- **2: Open Day**, Billy Blue & CATC Design
  Schools, Melbourne,
  http://tinyurl.com/n79pm9f

- 7 – 10: The VCE and Careers Expo 2015,
  Caulfield Racecourse,
  www.vceandcareers.com.au

- **9: Open Day**, Endeavour College of Natural
  Health, Melbourne,
  www.endeavour.edu.au/events/

- 14: agIdeas International Design Forum &
  Design Futures Secondary School Forum
  and Careers Expo, Melbourne,
  http://ideasondesign.net/

- **16: Open Day**, Academy of Interactive
  Entertainment, Melbourne, www.aie.edu.au

Upcoming Events: June

- **19, 20: Open Day**, Whitehouse Institute
  of Design, Melbourne, http://tinyurl.com/7nk2vrc

- **24: 2015 Environmental and Marine Careers
  Expo**, Melbourne Aquarium,
  www.melbourneaquarium.com.au/schools

- **27: High School Workshops**, JMC Academy,

- **29: Science in the City & Laboratory Tour**, 
  RMIT, Melbourne, http://tinyurl.com/pvsg8fj

- Experience Days, Australian Catholic
  University, Melbourne (20) and Ballarat (30),
  www.acu.edu.au/97108
**Head of Teaching & Learning – Senior School**  
Mr. Lachie Lee

**Mercy Regional College France and Belgium Battlefields Tour 2015**

While we are in Ypres we will tour the battlefields of this beautiful Belgian town. I will write in greater detail about the place of the Australians in the great Third battle of Ypres-or Passchendaele as it is known-in a later newsletter and today I wish to talk about the ancient city of Bruges. This place in central Belgium is sometimes called the Venice of the North because of its extensive canal network.

The golden age of the city was from the 12th to the 15th centuries. It sat at the crossroads of the northern Hanseatic League trade routes and was a centre of the woollen industry and, later, trade with the Portuguese in spices and peppers. As such, it became a centre of wealth and many substantial and rich merchants established themselves in the city. These merchants and the local aristocracy became patrons of the arts in the manner of the renaissance and late medieval period. After the end of the 16th Century the city fell into some kind of economic decline and fell behind the economic powerhouse of Antwerp. Lace making became a local industry but it wasn’t until the 19th Century that its fortunes were revived by the developing European tourism industry.

During the First and Second World Wars Bruges remained undamaged and therefore remains an example of a late medieval city in a Europe devastated by wars across the centuries. These days it is very much a tourist destination for those seeking to visit a place that reeks of history and looks as if it comes from a ‘fairy tale’ (as the guide books tell us). We will arrive early and spend about four hours there; this works well as we miss the coach loads of tourists who arrive for lunch. It is a wonderful old city and most of the main sights are within easy walking distance.

In the 15th century Church of Our Lady we can visit the Pieta (Madonna and Child) created by Michelangelo in 1504. Smaller than that in St Peter’s in Rome it is every bit as impressive.

Bruges is easily accessible from Ypres and we will be back in the town by mid-afternoon. The town of Bruges is quite famous in many ways and featured in a recent film ‘In Bruges’. It is a wonderful experience to wander streets that have been the centre of such vibrant life for centuries.
NOTICES

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
Invest in your most precious asset......Your Marriage!
Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.

Information/Bookings:
Phone: Marianne & Marcel on 9733 0997. Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au or www.wwme.org.au

FREE EVENT
An inspiring musical event for young people raising awareness of mental health issues amongst youth

COBLEN WINTER TENNIS
Winter tennis commences for adults on Monday 27th April.

It is a fun, relaxed and enjoyable competition, so come along and try.
11.00am - 1.00pm
At the Cobden Recreation Reserve.
Everyone is welcome.......beginners or seasoned campaigners.
We require players for teams or filling in occasionally.

Competition will start on Monday 11th May.
Past players please confirm your intention to play.

For more information please contact:
Nicole McVilly 0437 846 984
Allison van der Schans 5595 2282

OPEN MINDS

FRIDAY APRIL 24 2015 3PM-7PM
KILLARA CENTRE CAMPERDOWN
Contact: Angola Gowni 55937100
angela.gowni@orangamitu.vic.gov.au

Proudly supported by:
The Future Leaders Writing Prize is designed to recognise and reward talented young writers. It aims to encourage expressive and creative writing.

Year 11 and 12 students in Australian secondary schools are invited to submit a piece of writing (800 to 1,000 words).

The writing can be fiction or non-fiction and on any topic.

PRIZE
In 2015, the award winner will receive $1,000. Where there is more than one winner the prize money will be shared.

The winners of the Future Leaders Writing Prize will have their work published.

SUBMISSIONS
Please send all submissions electronically in a word document by 1 July 2015 to helen@futureleaders.com.au

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The Kolora Noorat FNC invite you to our

**Pink Power High Tea**

On Saturday 9th May from 2pm

at the Noorat Community Centre

$20 ticket or $15 concession includes -

Complimentary glass bubbles, “Reicha’s” Fashion Parade, and a special “High” Tea.

We will also have Raffles and Stalls.

Please come Celebrate Mothers Day and all things “Girly” and help raise money for a very special cause -

Breast Cancer Network Australia

Individual tickets sold or

Tables of 10 -

Please contact:
Kate Justin 0419 518 239
Glenice Justin 0428 922 599
Carolyn Lucas 0438 925 358

Please wear something “Pink” on the day...