

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2-5

Friday, 16th June 2017

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 2017

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

In recent weeks, a number of religious orders and organisations have taken the significant step of publicly apologizing to their communities for the historical scourge of clergy sexual abuse. Around the same time as these apologies were being delivered, I happened to listen to the extremely moving funeral of Anthony Foster, tireless advocate for justice on behalf of all victims and survivors of clergy abuse. Although these apologies are well overdue and, given the foundations of our Church, should never have been necessary anyway, they require courage and honesty in their delivery.

In lieu of a prayer today, I share some of the words offered by my colleague, Mr. John Crowley, Headmaster of St. Patrick's College, Ballarat, at the recent formal apology by Edmund Rice Education Australia.

(This is) a journey which requires enormous courage. And the very first step we must take on this journey of renewal for our Church is to stand in solidarity with victims and survivors and proclaim without hesitation or doubt: "we are with you". We must have the mettle to use our voice and insist that all Church leaders, ourselves included, seek to strengthen this relationship into one of trust at every possible opportunity. No longer can we respond with carefully selected yet hollow words, broken promises or empty sentiments. The test of our authenticity will be measured through action. There must be no exceptions and no excuses.

Federal Funding of Catholic Schools

Those in the Mercy community who regularly read this newsletter may have noted that I have said nothing regarding the current debate on proposed funding to Catholic schools. This debate reflects the Federal Government's recently released Gonski 2.0 funding plan for government, Catholic and independent schools. My reticence to write to you reflects my sense that the facts of the debate are being obscured by both parties: the Federal Government as well as elements of the systemic Catholic education authorities.

However, notwithstanding our inability to get clear information about the entirety of the funding package, there are a number of elements of it that may or will have implications for Mercy Regional College and our local parish primary schools:

- The change to funding of Students with Disabilities threatens to cut our funding to these student who need extra support by 20%;
- Although the funding increases in the first few years of the new package match expected increases in salaries, they fall well behind in the years after 2021 which brings into question the ongoing sustainability of our schools; and
- There is some information that suggests that the effects on parish primary schools especially in the major metropolitan centres is going to be pronounced.

Important Upcoming Dates

A reminder to all parents and families of the following dates and arrangements:

- Next **Thursday 22nd June** will be a correction day for teachers ahead of our mid-year reports. No classes will run.
- Term 2 concludes at **2.15pm on Friday 30th June**.
- Term 3 commences on **Tuesday 18th July**. Monday 17th July has been designated as a Religious Education PD day for all staff in our Hampden Catholic Schools Network.

Overseas Trips

Later in this newsletter is an article and flyer advertising next Monday's Information Night for students and families regarding the 2018 Mercy Regional College Immersion trip to Cambodia. Following the overwhelming success of the first immersion trip to Cambodia last year, the trip will run in March and early April under the auspices of travel company, Destination Dreaming with Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders leading our College representation. The information night will be held in the McAuley Library starting at 7.00pm next Monday 19th June.

It less than three months until the next Mercy Regional College Battlefields tour departs under the leadership of Mr. Lachie Lee. Around 30 students and staff have signed up to go and I am personally extremely excited to be joining the tour this year as Principal.

Student and Staff Activities

- Most students across the school are firmly focused on end of semester assessments and, in some year levels, examinations. Congratulations to our Unit 3 & 4 students who conducted themselves impeccably yesterday during the annual General Achievement Test (GAT).
- This week, all O'Keeffe students will take part in a Safe Bus Travel presentation, which will reinforce important messages about safe and respectful conduct on our buses.
- Last week, Mercy Regional College hosted a day's workshop for local Science teachers on best practice in Science teaching. The day was led by ASELL (Advancing Science by Enhancing Learning in the Laboratory) and thanks to Mrs Jess Niblett for her excellent leadership and coordination of the day.
- Congratulations also to the Year 8 students and teachers on the successful completion of last week's retreat.

Yours in Mercy,



DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 2 - 2017

Monday 19th June

- GWR Soccer - Warrnambool

Monday 19th June

- VCE Unit 1 Exams continue for the next 3 days

Tuesday 20th June

- Board Meeting

Thursday 22nd June

- Correction Day (no classes for Year 7-11 students),
Excepting Unit 3 classes only

Friday 30th June

- Term 2 Concludes for students @ 2:15pm



Head Lice

This week we have had a report of student's with head lice.

- To keep the spread of infection to a minimum, I would ask parents to check their child's hair as a precautionary measure.
- If your child is found to have head lice, then action must be taken.
- Information on how to deal with head lice can be obtained from the State Government of Victoria's Department of Health website www.health.vic.gov.au type the words **HEAD LICE** in the search box and click go. This will bring up information relating to the treatment and control of head lice.
- Parents are required to inform their child's homeroom teacher if their child has head lice.
- According to the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009, children with head lice can be readmitted to school or children's service centres after treatment has commenced.
- The department recommends a child with head lice can be treated one evening and return to school or children's service centres the next day, even if there are still some eggs present. There is no need to miss school or childcare because of head lice.

Thank-you for your co-operation in this matter.

Act for Peace Ration Challenge

Chey Beaver

This year a group of staff members (Caitlin Rix, Berni Sinnott, Claire Walsh) and I are taking part in the "Act for Peace Ration Challenge". For one week, we will eat similar rations to a refugee living in Jordan to show refugees that we are with them and not against them.

Funds raised go towards making even a small difference in the life of some of the world's most vulnerable people and will contribute to such things as - hygiene/water sanitation, healthcare, rations, farming, education and psychosocial support. Your donation would be greatly appreciated. For more information about the project, and to donate, please go to the website below.

<https://actforpeace.rationchallenge.org.au/fundraisers/mercyforrefugees>

Food item	Quantity
Rice	420g
Lentils	170g
Dried Chick Peas	85g
Tinned sardines	125g
Tinned kidney beans	400g
Vegetable Oil	300ml



WRAD 'Art in schools' Exhibition

Tina Jenkins

Tonight, I along with Jared Lynn attended the opening of the WRAD 'Art in schools' exhibition at Outlaw Gallery in Warrnambool. For the past few years, Year 11 Studio Arts students have submitted work with our medium focus being photography.

This year's theme is "The Big Picture of Recovery - A Kaleidoscope of Caring". Thank you to Jared for getting our students involved once again.

Congratulations to Lily Hose for winning an Honourable Mention award. The exhibition is open from Thursday 1st June to Tuesday 27th June 2017 at the Outlaw Gallery 61-77 Flaxman Street, Warrnambool (Fletcher Jones Buildings corner of Highway and Flaxman Street).



2017 marks the 6th Annual 'WRAD Art in Schools' Competition.

**We are proud to acknowledge the schools enthusiastically participating this year:
Mercy Regional College ,Brauer College, Timboon College, Camperdown College,
Kings College, Emmanuel College.**

**Thank you to the dedication and hard work of students and teachers alike to make this
such a wonderful community event!**

Safer Bus Travel Presentation

James Castles

The objective of the presentation was to alert students to the potential for unsafe situations to arise in public transport travel, including bus travel, generally through unthinking behaviour, rather than deliberate act, and to raise awareness about how students can contribute to their own and other people's safety.

Program leader Dr. Michael Kennedy OAM, presentation started with three 'real life examples' highlighting an unsafe situation, then outlining how keeping students safe, and everyone feeling safe and comfortable, is a shared responsibility.

Dr. Kennedy explained how 'the rules' (laws) are there to protect everyone, with a couple of examples, and then he invited students to identify some things that they should do, or should not do, to help keep everyone safe.

The program draws on extensive transport safety education experience, and has had considerable teacher input.



ASELL Workshop

Jess Niblett

Last week MRC was lucky enough to host an ASELL workshop as a learning opportunity for all of our Science staff.

ASELL stands for Advancing Science and Engineering through Laboratory Learning and is a collective of scientists, engineers and educationalists who collaborate through Deakin University. Their aim is to improve the laboratory-based learning experiences students undertake in science classes.

Feedback from staff, visitors from other schools, and the small group of students involved was overwhelmingly positive and our science department is already busy implementing what they learnt from the day.



Year 9 & 10 Exam Timetable

Homeroom	Thursday 15 th	Friday 16 th	Monday 19 th	Tuesday 20 th	Wednesday 21 st	Friday 23 rd
9A		English 1&2	History 3&4		Science 5&6	Maths 5&6
9B		English 1&2		Science 5&6	History 1&2 Maths 5&6	
9C		English 1&2 History 5&6			Maths 3&4 Science 5&6	
9D		English 1&2	History 3&4		Science 1&2 Maths 5&6	
10A		English 1-3				History 1&2 Maths 3&4
10B	History 5&6	English 1-3			Maths 1&2 Science 5&6	
10C		English 1-3	Science 1&2		Maths 1&2	History 1&2
10D		English 1-3	History 1&2		Maths 1&2	Science 1&2

*Year 10B, 10C & 10D Maths classes aren't in regular homeroom groupings.

Careers Report

Mrs. Jenny Phillips

RIST – Wool Overview Program

This was a great opportunity for a small number of our Year 9 students to check out the wool industry first-hand. This program was run by RIST at Mt Elephant station over three days (30th May to 1st June) and this year we had thirteen students attending the event.

RIST – Wool Overview Program Report (Jack Toose and Sam Newcombe)

On the first day, we met the staff, Mark, Raelene, Glen and Claire, and they were great people. We learned how to shear the sheep and the correct way to pick up and throw the fleeces. We had roast lamb and roast pork rolls for lunch. On the second day, we were in the shearing shed again throwing wool fleeces and shearing sheep. For morning tea, we had brownies and boston bun and lunch was great. It was hot dogs with potato salad. On the third day, we started with morning tea and then a man talked to us about working dogs. He told us about how useful they are in the wool industry and he even showed us his own dogs rounding the sheep up in the yard. We had pies for lunch and then went to Skipton and learnt about where the wool goes after it is sent away from the wool shed. It was a really great experience.



Warrnambool & District Careers Expo 2017

The Warrnambool and District Careers Expo is held every second year, across four venues, on four different evenings. This is a fantastic opportunity for students and their parents to research a wide range of career options. Please see the attached flyer for more information. The program schedule and venue maps can be obtained from the careers stand outside the library, or by emailing Mrs. Jenny Phillips. Whilst students and parents from Warrnambool schools need to register, regional school

students & parents can just turn up to the reception area at the designated school, obtain an up to date Program for the night and then go to the presentation of choice.

Career News

The latest Career News is available through link on the Careers Section of the MRC Website Homepage.

Warrnambool & District Careers Teachers Association
presents

CAREERS EXPO 2017

Dear Students and Parents

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 July/August 2017. 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, it is an invaluable experience and extremely useful in assisting students in their career/pathway 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 potential related career prospects / advancement opportunities.

Expo Dates and Venues:

Monday	31 July 2017	7:15 pm	Warrnambool College
Wednesday	2 August 2017	7:15 pm	Emmanuel College
Monday	7 August 2017	7:15 pm	Brauer College
Wednesday	9 August 2017	6:00 pm	Kings College

The first 3 evenings will commence at 7:00 pm with static displays. Presentation commence at the times listed below:

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
7:15 pm – 7:55 pm	8:00 pm – 8:40 pm	8:45 pm – 9:25 pm

Students are able to choose up to three different presentations on each of the first three evenings. The Kings College evening will begin at 6:00pm and will run with two repeating sessions, running each 30 minutes. It will also host a tertiary institution exhibitor display with many tertiary providers in attendance. As it is possible to attend eleven different career presentations during the fortnight, we encourage all students and parents to take full advantage of this schedule.

Career preparation is vitally important to your 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.

A detailed schedule and venue maps can be obtained from the careers stand outside the library or via email from Mrs. Jenny Phillips.



UNI OPEN DAYS

UNI - VIC, TAS

30 JUL

30: Swinburne University, Hawthorn
30: University of Tasmania, Hobart

4, 5, 6 AUG

- 4: La Trobe University, Shepparton
- 5: Monash University, Peninsula
- 6: Monash University, Clayton and Caulfield
- 6: La Trobe University, Melbourne
- 6: Deakin University, Warrnambool
- 6: University of Tasmania, Cradle Coast

12, 13 AUG

- 12: La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga
- 12: University of Tasmania, Launceston
- 13: University of Tasmania, Inveresk
- 13: Monash University, Business Open House
- 13: Australian Catholic University, Melbourne
- 13: RMIT - all campuses

17, 20 AUG

- 16: La Trobe University, Mildura
- 20: Deakin University, Geelong campuses
- 20: The University of Melbourne
- 20: Monash University, Parkville
- 20: Victoria University

27 AUG

- 27: Deakin University, Burwood campus
- 27: La Trobe University, Bendigo
- 27: Australian Catholic University, Ballarat
- 27: Federation University, all campuses
- 7 September: CQUniversity

CONTACTS

Swinburne University

1300 794 628, <http://bit.ly/1FRMN40>

Deakin University

1300 334 733, <http://bit.ly/1N0i0kr>

La Trobe University

1800 135 045, <http://bit.ly/1BGrG35>

The University of Melbourne

13 6352, <http://bit.ly/1LUTq3O>

Monash University

1800 666 274, <http://bit.ly/1PDMQTX>

Australian Catholic University

1300 275 228, <http://bit.ly/2qLXb7d>

RMIT

03 9925 2000, <http://bit.ly/2suwHIE>

Federation University

1800 333 864, <http://bit.ly/2pX92Ah>

Victoria University

1300 842 864, <http://bit.ly/2s0gfmG>

University of Tasmania

1300 363 864, <http://bit.ly/1tGD3B8>

CQUniversity

13 27 86, <http://bit.ly/2qMzeMW>

OPEN DAYS UNI - NSW, ACT

19 AUG

- 19: Macquarie University
- 19: University of Newcastle
- 19: University of Wollongong

26, 27 SEP

- 26: University of Canberra
- 26: Australia National University, Canberra
- 26: Australian Catholic University, Canberra
- 26: Australian Defence Force Academy
- 26: University of Sydney
- 26: University of Technology Sydney
- 26: Notre Dame
- 27: Western Sydney University

2, 9 SEP

- 2: University of New South Wales (UNSW)
- 2: Australian Catholic University, Nth Sydney
- 9: Australian Catholic University, Strathfield

NOTE

- Some universities like University of New England have already had their Open Day
- Other universities like Charles Sturt University don't have an Open Day, but a series of information sessions.

CONTACTS

Australia National University

1800 620 032, <http://bit.ly/2p3nmWc>

University of Canberra

1800 864 226, <http://bit.ly/1MLqXOK>

Australian Defence Force Academy

1300 333 362, <http://bit.ly/2qHCVZd>

Australian Catholic University

1300 275 228, <http://bit.ly/2qLXb7d>

UNSW

02 9385 1844, <http://bit.ly/2bKIfnz>

University of Sydney

1800 793 864, <http://bit.ly/29ieo5A>

University of Technology Sydney

02 9514 2000, <http://bit.ly/1Dwieuu>

Macquarie University

02 9850 6410, <http://bit.ly/1tOcYSh>

University of Newcastle

02 4985 4200, <http://bit.ly/2bqXill>

University of Wollongong

1300 367 869, <http://bit.ly/2qGxjdL>

Notre Dame

02 8204 4404, <http://bit.ly/2suUZSU>

Western Sydney University

1300 897 669, <http://bit.ly/2rKQsPI>

OPEN DAYS PRIVATE COLLEGES

NOTE

There are many private colleges operating in Victoria. The Colleges listed are just a small selection.

5, 6 AUG

- 5: SAE Qantm
- 5: Collarts
- 5: Australian Institute of Music
- 6: Academy of Design Australia

12, 13 AUG

- 12: JMC Academy
- 12: Billy Blue College of Design
- 13: Longerenong College
- 13: Marcus Oldham College
- 13: Photography Studies College
- 13: Navitas College of Public Safety
- 13: Australian College of Applied Psychology
- 13: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

17, 20 AUG

- 17: Macleay College
- 19: The Hotel School Melbourne (TBC)
- 20: Footscray City Films

CONTACTS

JMC Academy

1300 410 311, <http://bit.ly/2pvHAJk>

Collarts

1300 818 777, <http://bit.ly/2qH2xBf>

Academy of Design Australia

03 9676 9000, <http://bit.ly/1dbdZ0j>

Southern School of Natural Therapies

03 9415 3333, <http://bit.ly/2rx8GmK>

Academy of Interactive Entertainment

1300 709 019, <http://bit.ly/1hsNG8q>

Australian College of Applied Psychology

1800 061 199, <http://bit.ly/2qHBYA4>

Navitas College of Public Safety

1800 783 661, <http://bit.ly/2aFBvF0>

SAE Qantm

1800 723 338, <http://bit.ly/2rhSKo3>

The Hotel School Melbourne

02 9850 6410, <http://bit.ly/2sd33ax>

Photography Studies College

03 9682 3191, <http://bit.ly/2rwQH00>

Marcus Oldham

1300 623 500, <http://bit.ly/2rqL81a>

Longerenong College (Agriculture)

03 5362 2222, <http://bit.ly/2rwWouQ>

Billy Blue College of Design

1300 897 669, <http://bit.ly/2rhZwtZ>

Australian Institute of Music

03 8610 4222, <http://bit.ly/2aFt8Mj>

Macleay College

1300 939 888, <http://bit.ly/2qHNYuT>

Footscray City Films

03 8387 1519, <http://bit.ly/2qGHhM8>

PUBLIC NOTICES

FREE

LEGO

WORKSHOP

ROBOT



monday 3 july
killara centre camperdown

As a science advisor to a movie studio, and using Lego Technic, participants must invent and build an imaginary, but believable creature for a rainforest adventure movie. They will use specialist building techniques to create Lego replicas of creatures including fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, crustaceans, insects, and birds – in fact, a Robot Zool

TWO SESSIONS AVAILABLE

10 am-11:30 am and 1 pm-2:30 pm

Suitable for primary aged students

Bookings essential

Phone Corangamite Shire

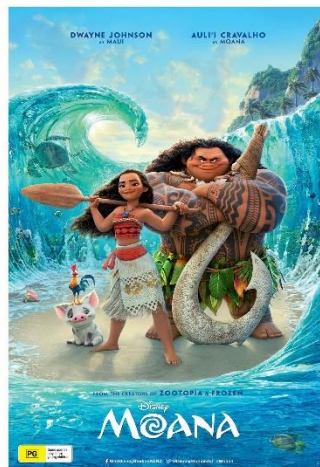
on 03 5593 7100

REGIONAL
ARTS
VICTORIA



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

Corangamite Shire presents
FREE MOVIES
at Camperdown Theatre Royal



Screening:

**Thursday 6
July**

1:30 pm

Food & drink available
for purchase



Screening:

**Thursday 13
July**

1:30 pm

Food & drink available for
purchase

FREEZA PUSH START COMP **The push**
FUNDED THROUGH THE FREEZA PROGRAM, A VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

FRIDAY 28 JULY
THEATRE ROYAL
CAMPERDOWN

**HEADLINE
ACTS**

**Wild Eyed Like
Fireflys**

Gabby Steele

TIME: 6PM - 10PM
(DOORS TO OPEN AT 5.30)

**ARTISTS AND BANDS INTERESTED IN
PERFORMING MUST CONTACT US
BEFORE 16 JULY TO REGISTER**

NO PASS OUTS

DRUG/ALCOHOL FREE EVENT



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE
youth council

CONTACT TAMMY YOUNG FOR MORE INFORMATION
TAMMY.YOUNG@CORANGAMITE.VIC.GOV.AU
(03) 5593 7100



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

