

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3-2

Friday, 4th August, 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".

The family is always a critical aspect to the growth and wellbeing of the young people who attend school and in our case, Mercy Regional College. For many years, the stereotypical family has not reflected the reality of our communities. At Mercy, we have traditional families, families with one or both parents divorced, those with one or both parents never married, single parent families, children whose primary carers are grandparents or other relations, and many other configurations. Yet the key consideration here is not the physical form or make-up of the family rather that the family enjoys and exemplifies love, care and the provision of a child safe environment. Any child who grows to adulthood experiencing these important measures of nurturing will be in the best position to flourish and, at some point, bring these aspects to their own children.

Today's prayer is a rewriting of a section of the Apostles Creed (recited most weeks in parish masses); it brings the challenges of the creed and a faith-filled Catholic life to our responsibilities within the family:

Parents' Creed

*I believe in one God, the Father Almighty Maker of heaven and earth,
And Jesus, God's only Son, Begotten from all eternity
Who, through the power of the Spirit,
Was born of a virgin and came to be with us,
A Jesus who loved and cherished children.*

*I believe that this same Lord Jesus is present among us,
proclaiming the Good News - to God's children and to us;
That He has died, He is risen, and has come again.*

*I believe and accept the responsibility of proclaiming that same good news –
especially to my children.*

I acknowledge and proclaim that I as a parent am the first and primary educator of my children – but not the only one.

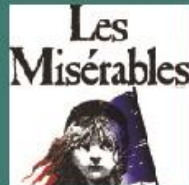
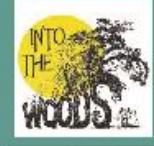
I believe that Jesus has entrusted these children to me, to love them, to nurture and sustain them, for the building of His kingdom.

Sr. Joan Sullivan, SSJ

Mercy Showcase 2017

Today is the start of a busy four days in Camperdown's Theatre Royal as the College's 2017 Mercy Showcase moves into the theatre with sets, lighting, sound and costumes. The production goes public next Wednesday with a preview performance for 300+ pre-school, primary school and other guests.

I strongly encourage all members of our school community to come along to support the students on stage at one of the public performances at Camperdown's Theatre Royal – Friday 11th August (7.30pm) and Saturday 12th August (2.00pm matinee & 7.30pm). Tickets are priced at \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. They are available for purchase online through the website www.trybooking.com./298842. If you are unable to access the TryBooking website, please contact the College for tickets or they may be purchased at the theatre door before each performance.



Mercy Regional College Presents

MERCY SHOWCASE

2017

Tickets

Adults \$15

Child/Concession \$10

Tickets available through
www.trybooking.com/298842

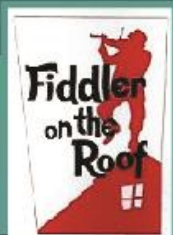
Mercy Showcase 2017

Theatre Royal

11th August- 7:30pm

12th August- 2pm & 7:30pm

Camperdown, Victoria



Visit of Bishop Paul

As part of his larger visit to the Camperdown parish, Bishop Paul spent some time at our McAuley campus earlier this week. Bishop Paul and Fr Neville dropped in to Showcase rehearsals on Sunday and saw a couple of the show's numbers being performed and then returned on Monday to share morning tea with staff and visit several senior classes.



Mid Term break

A reminder to all parents and families that there will be **no classes** on **Friday 18th August** with students and staff having a mid-term break. I hope that families, where possible, take the opportunity to enjoy a restful long weekend.

2018 Enrolments

Thanks to all those involved in last week's Year 7 2018 Enrolment Interviews – students, parents and staff; they provide the opportunity to meet, discuss transition arrangements, identify and discuss any areas of concern and provide an invaluable opportunity for prospective students to reflect on what the transition to secondary education might entail.

Any students or families that are considering an enrolment at Mercy are asked to make contact with the Principal's Secretary, Mrs. Sue Bohm at the College on 5593 2011 or sue@mercy.vic.edu.au.

Job Vacancies

Over the next week or so, the College will be advertising in local and statewide papers for two Assistant Principals following the appointment of Mr. Chris Grant as Deputy Principal of Damascus College, Ballarat. Details on the roles and an application pack can be found at www.mercy.vic.edu.au

Subject Selection

In the last week, most students from Year 8 – 11 have been heavily involved with subject selection briefings and interviews ahead of 2018. This process is very important as it provides the opportunity for dialogue between students, parents and College staff on the best pathway and subject offerings for each child. A fundamental tenet of Mercy Regional College is personalized learning and this time of the year is a key part of that process.

I encourage any parents or students with questions arising from this process to make contact with their relevant Head of Teaching and Learning or Mr. Grant.

Euthanasia Bill

The Victorian Government is currently putting forth legislation to legalise euthanasia in the state; such a bill has been briefly passed in two other state but then overruled by federal laws. Religious groups and leaders across Victoria are strongly advocating against such a bill on the grounds that it will result in assisted suicide and goes against the sanctity of human life that is a core part of all faiths and, particularly, our Christian faith.

The Archbishop of Melbourne Denis Hart recently said the following, 'I urge all Victorians to look closely at what is being proposed. I am proud to be a Victorian but this report makes me very concerned for the future of our elderly and most vulnerable citizens. We need to see this report and its recommendations for what they are and so I am taking this opportunity to bring this vital matter to the public's immediate attention.'

Further information can be found at <http://www.cam.org.au/Euthanasia>

Activities across the College

Although this term is one that allows significant attention to be given to academic pursuits, a number of special activities have been underway in the last two weeks:

- This week, the two Outdoor Education classes spent four days in our alpine country on the annual ski camp.
- Yesterday, the College's Psychology classes travelled to the Dax Centre in Melbourne looking at approaches to facilitating mental health.
- In a couple of weeks, our Year 10 students travel to Anglesea for their Year 10 Retreat with girls and boys at separate venues.
- There has been a great deal of sport in the early weeks of the term with competitions in basketball (several venues) and table tennis. Congratulations to all involved.

Yours in Mercy,



DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

COMING DATES

TERM 3, 2017

Monday 7th August

- Careers Expo - Brauer College (7-9pm)

Wednesday 9th August

- Mercy Showcase, HCSN Schools Performance
- Careers Expo - Kings College (7 – 9pm)

Friday 11th August

- Mercy Showcase Opening Night Evening, 7.30pm

Saturday 12th August

- Mercy Showcase Performance Matinee, 2.00pm
Evening, 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th August

- Feast of the Assumption
 - Year 10 Retreat
- MRC Board Meeting

Wednesday 16th August

- Year 10 Retreat

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th August

- Frayne Debating & Public Speaking

Friday 18th August

- Mid-Term break, no school

Monday 21st – Friday 25th August

- ACER Testing Week Years 7-10

Wednesday 23rd August

- Instrumental Music Concert

Monday 28th August

- Year 7, 2018 HCSN Transition Day

Tuesday 29th August

- Year 7, 2018 Country Kids Transition Day

Thursday 31st August

- Mind Matters
 - Years 7 & 8
 - Years 9 – 12

Friday 1st September

- Year 11 RE Excursion

Wednesday 6th September

- Junior Basketball

Thursday 7th September

- Whole School Mass 9:30am

Wednesday 13th September

- P/T/S Interviews

Thursday 14th September

- Grandparents/Special Persons Day 10am @ O'Keefe Campus
 - Oratory Competition

Friday 15th September

- Battlefields Tour commences

Monday 18th September

- GWR Athletics

Tuesday 19th September

- Board Meeting

Thursday 21st September

- McAuley Cup Junior Football

Friday 22nd September

- Term 3 concludes

Important Information for Year 12 students considering Tertiary Studies

Applying to undertake Tertiary Studies

Most applications for tertiary studies require students to apply through VTAC. The registration process and applications open on Monday 7th August and close on Thursday 28th September. Students will be guided through the process with a combination of group information sessions and individual counselling sessions.

VTAC Information Session for Parents and Students (see flyer for details)

Date: Wednesday 23rd August

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Trinity College, Colac

The following list details specific programs that are still available to students in 2018

La Trobe University – Aspire Program applications are now open and close 31st August

University of Melbourne – Access Melbourne Program applications are now open and close 4th October

Federation University - Many of the courses offered at Federation University are available through the Open Access Selection Model. This model places more emphasis on a student's potential to succeed at university study and the achievement of the specific entry requirements, than on their ATAR. Therefore, a student's study scores will be an indication of their potential to be successful in their tertiary studies and their eligibility for a place at Federation University. There has been a misconception amongst a few students that this model meant that students did not need to sit some of their examinations, but this is definitely not the case and it may suggest that they do not have the potential to be successful at university.

Open Access Eligibility is assessed within your VTAC application – no separate application is required

VCE/VCAL Subject Selection

Subject Selection Interviews

All Year 10 and 11 students have a scheduled time during Term 3 to meet with one of the following teachers: Mrs. Thornton, Mr. Lee, Mr. Cheeseman, or Mrs. Phillips. These interviews give students the opportunity to discuss their subject selections for 2018. The Year 10 into 11 subject selection interviews are already underway and will be concluded next week and our Year 11 students will be interviewed during Weeks 5 to 7.

Resources available to assist with the subject selection process

- Herald Sun Lift out – VCE Planner
- VCAA publication - Where to now (one copy for each Year 10 student)

http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/wtn/WhereToNow_2018_Web.pdf

- VTAC publications
Year 10 Guide (one copy for each Year 10 student)
VTAC CourseSearch

<http://delta.vtac.edu.au/CourseSearch/searchguide.htm>

- VTAC App – available from the App Store – free

- Mercy Regional College Website
www.mercy.vic.edu.au

MRC Homepage>Co-curriculum>Careers> Link to careers.mercy.vic.edu.au

Career News

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

VTAC Community Information Evening Colac



7.30pm

Wednesday 23 August 2017

**Trinity College Hall
119 Hart St, Colac**

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) will be holding an open community information session. The session will cover information about applying to Universities, TAFEs and Independent Tertiary Colleges within Victoria; as well as information about the ATAR, scaling, special consideration, scholarships and offers.

This event will be of particular relevance to students currently completing VCE who are considering their post-Year 12 study options and their parents, as well as anyone in the community considering further study as a mature age applicant. Students in Years 9-11 and their parents may also find the session helpful when choosing subjects for VCE.

**Come along to find out everything you need to know
about tertiary study in 2018!**

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/vtacguide
Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/vtacguide
Visit our website: www.vtac.edu.au

Victorian
Tertiary
Admissions
Centre



Sport Report

Lily Lourey

NETBALL

After all four girls netball teams won the Hampden section in Term 2, week 1 of Term 3 saw our girls head to Ballarat to compete in the Greater Western Region. All 4 teams competed respectfully and each team finished their day off playing in consolation finals for 3rd and 4th place, congratulations to all the girls for their efforts.

STATE CROSS COUNTRY

On 20th July, 8 students travelled to Melbourne to compete in the state cross country. All students recoded Personal Best times and special mention to Nicholas O'Connor who finished 14th in his section.

SENIOR/INTERMEDIATE BASKETBALL

On 24th July, 2 senior and 2 intermediate teams competed in the HSSSD Basketball. All 4 teams won their section meaning they then moved on to Greater Western Region on the 31st July. All teams participated well with the intermediate girls team finishing runners up in their division.

TABLE TENNIS.

On 31st July, 4 table tennis teams headed to Ballarat to participate in the GWR Table tennis. Junior girls finished runners up while Junior boys were first and will head to States in November. Congratulations to all who participated.





Mercy Regional College
2017 Annual Instrumental Concert

on

Wednesday 23rd August, 2017

The Mercy Community will be treated to our

Annual Instrumental Concert

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: McAuley Campus

Middle School Rooms 1 & 2

Note the time and date in your diaries and come along and celebrate our talented instrumental students.

Every year we are pleasantly surprised and delighted by our students, and 2017 is definitely going to be another magnificent concert.

Come along and enjoy the warm and relaxed environment whilst being entertained by our talented musicians.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Janet Backhous – Instrumental Coordinator



Woolworths Earn & Learn 2017

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September or while stock lasts, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library.

If you'd like to know more visit www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

PUBLIC NOTICES

St Colman's School



Date: Friday 11th August 2017

Time: 7:00pm

Place: St Colman's School

Cost: \$10

Bookings: Individual or tables of 6 to 8

Contact: St Colman's School 55992285

Auction: Silent auction





**LIONS CLUB
OF
CAMPERDOWN**



TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 12th August

7.30 pm

R.S.L. Hall, Pike Street Camperdown

**\$10 per person – tables of 8
(Bookings for part tables accepted)
Cash Prize to winning table**



RAFFLE – multiple draws

**BYO Drinks and Nibbles
Supper provided**



For bookings please phone Jill French 0404 036 537

R.S.V.P. by 2nd August

FREE EVENT
For women aged
16+ years

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX

Women's Health Night
Wednesday 23 August 2017

7pm to 8:30pm
Five Star Function Centre
Leura Oval, Camperdown

RSVP call: 5558 3000
Light supper provided
Please confirm if you need transport assistance

Let's talk!

What are good ways to talk about sex?

Whether you're a woman with children, a teenager wanting to know more, you work with young people, are an aunty, grandmother or friend, or you just want to know more about sex and sexuality...This is the night for you!

This session will be supportive and inclusive.

You'll come away with answers to your questions and strategies for starting conversations.
A comprehensive resource list will also be provided.

Guest Speaker: Dr Linda Kirkman - Sex & sexuality educator
Followed by a Q&A with local health professionals

Proudly bought to you by:


**South West
Healthcare**
Regional Health Promotion


**TERANG & MORTLAKE
HEALTH
SERVICE**


cobdenhealth
Health & Wellbeing for Life


**TIMBOON
AREA & DISTRICT
HEALTHCARE
SERVICE**



**WOMEN'S HEALTH
AND WELLBEING**
Barwon South West Inc.


Jean Hailes
FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

Jean Hailes for Women's Health
is proud to be involved in this
event, with support from the
Eirene Lucas Foundation.

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

PARENTING FORUM



RESILIENT PARENTS GROW RESILIENT CHILDREN

This forum will share some key parenting messages to assist you to:

- connect before you correct
- look for solutions not blame
- manage your own emotions
- set limits with empathy and understanding
- guide and support with compassion
- re-connect with your kids each day.

PROGRAM DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 14 September 2017
TIME	7.00-8.30pm
LOCATION	Killara Centre, 210-212 Manifold Street, Camperdown
RSVP	By Friday 8 September 2017. Kim Mitcham: 5593 7173 kim.mitcham@corangamite.vic.gov.au
NOTE	Light supper served from 6.30pm

If booking via email, please include your name, number of people, contact number, address and how you heard about the event.



Sally Learey is a renowned keynote speaker, author and education consultant. She holds qualifications in teaching, training, positive psychology, coaching and counselling. Sally has worked in parenting programs across a variety of settings.



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE





Information Day & Workshop

WICKED

THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE WITCHES OF OZ

Sunday, September 17

1.00pm - 4.00pm

Warrnambool College Auditorium

*Are you aged between Year 7 and 20 years and
have a love of the performing arts?*

Join us to find out all you need to know!

*Parents are most welcome to come along and
get involved - we'd love to see you*

Auditions: Fri 22 Sept (6pm - 9pm) & Sat 23 Sept (10am - 5pm)

Call backs: Sun 24 Sept (2pm - 3pm)

Contact Toby 0409 617 627 or visit
holidayactors.com.au for more info

Piano With Peter

25 years experience teaching both children & adults

- Completed 7th grade piano and grade 5 music theory
- All students who have sat exams have successfully passed
- Assisted students in achieving various musical accolades
- Tuition in classical and contemporary styles
- Has current 'Working With Children Check'

Lessons available Mon-Fri at Camperdown home studio

Contact **Peter Smith** for more info:

Ph: 55 933 557 Mob. 0407 386 330