

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3-4

Friday, 1st September, 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".

This weekend we give thanks for and celebrate the roles that fathers, grandfathers and all male carers play in our lives and especially in the lives of young people. Our prayer today celebrates this:

For Fathers Day

God our Father,

We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;

May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering;

May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers

but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfather, and great grandfathers

who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory
and nourish us with their love.

Amen

Hampden Catholic Schools Network Compliance Officer

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the Hampden Catholic Schools Network (HCSN) have been in the process of appointing a Compliance Officer to work across areas such risk, risk management, compliance, emergency management, child safe and other regulatory areas. The Compliance Officer will report to the four HCSN principals with monthly meeting scheduled to manage this. Given the role is a very new one to most primary and secondary schools, significant work will need to be undertaken exploring the scope of the role and putting in place protocols that will allow policies/procedures to be developed or adapted for use across the network.

It is with great pleasure that I would like to announce that **Mr Paul Brown** has been appointed to the position commencing from the start of term 4. Paul is well known to many in our communities and has broad industry experience in areas of risk and compliance. Paul's children attend St Patrick's Primary School in Camperdown. We hope to introduce Paul to both campuses, our staff and students in the next few weeks.

Paul will be based at the McAuley and O'Keeffe MRC campuses but will spend time in each of the 4 HCSN schools.

Mercy Whole School Mass – Thursday 7th September

Next Thursday starting at 9.30am, the school community will be gathering to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mercy and the important history of the Sisters of Mercy in our school and local communities. We will be celebrating this important occasion in the St Patrick's Church, Camperdown and parents and members of our broader school community are welcome to join us. With 520 staff and students, it will be quite tight, so I encourage guests to arrive early.

Safety at our Bus Interchanges

Mercy Regional College attracts students from right across our district with some students travelling for more than 90 minutes each morning and afternoon. As such, we are heavily reliant on the local bus interchanges where students change buses; these bus interchanges are mostly located at government schools with students are under the supervision of the local school staff. Therefore, it has been concerning and a little disappointing to have had a number of phone calls recently from local bus coordinators about the conduct of some students at these interchanges.

Students need to be reminded that travel on buses is a privilege not a right and that poor behavior on buses or while waiting for buses can result in them being removed from a bus for short or extended period.

On a different bus related matter, I recently reced the following email from Cobden Technical School regarding the safe drop off and pick up of students by parents:

Could parents who are collecting and dropping their children off at the Cobden Technical School do the following:

1. Drive at 15kmph or less whilst in the school yard.
2. Cars are not permitted to drive past Johnno's Shed car park area. They are not to drive through the bus pick up and drop off area.

Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder to all parents and families that our semester two Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 13th September from 4.15 – 8.30pm with appointments able to booked through the Parent Access Module (PAM). The evening will start a little later than normal as staff are gathering for afternoon tea to farewell Mr James Castles ahead of his move to the Kimberley.

2018 Cambodia Immersion

It was with some pleasure that the College confirmed this week that the 2018 Cambodia Immersion trip would proceed. The trip is arranged under the guidance of provider Destination Dreaming and will include at least twelve Year 9 – 11 students and Mrs. Jo Saunders and Mrs. Kellie Wilson. Students and families who remain interested in the trip are free to contact the College for an information pack.

Staff and Student Activities

There is an enormous number of activities going on at the moment and in the next couple of weeks at the College, these include:

- Last week's highly successful Instrumental Music Night that was held in the Middle School building. The talent, determination and growth on display was remarkable and a testament to the skill of our instrumental music teachers. Congratulations to all involved and especially to coordinator, Mrs. Janet Backhaus as well as her support staff, Mr. Brendon Norman, Mr. Tony Forbes and ex-student, Christopher Barks.
- Today, both campuses are awash in green as the College's awareness and fundraising campaign to support Muscular Dystrophy reaches a climax.
- Earlier this week, more than 80 prospective Year Seven students enjoyed their first official day at Mercy Regional College. Their excitement and energy was great to see. It was also excellent to have the current Year 7 & 8 students at the College's McAuley Campus for the day.
- Congratulations to those senior students who facilitated last week's community lunch at the Uniting Church.
- Year 9 & 10 students had an excellent presentation this week from the Commonwealth Bank on all aspects of the world of money as a young adult – tax, pay scales, penalty rates, housing, etc.
- This morning, all Year 11 students will travel up to the Benedictine Monastery as part of their Year 11 Religious Education unit on sacred places.

All the best to all fathers for Sunday,

Yours in Mercy,



DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

Battlefields Report

Mr. Lachie Lee

We are now only two weeks until departure and we are getting very excited! We will depart by bus from McAuley Campus and fly out during the afternoon. After transfer in Bangkok, we will arrive in Paris at 7.00am and begin our visit to Europe and the battlefields with a sightseeing tour of the wonderful city of Paris. This begins a tour that will allow the students to follow in the footsteps of their forebears who travelled to France during the Great War from the other side of the world. We will do so in much greater comfort than the Australians did in 1917, but our experience will give us some idea of their journey.

The students have been doing some research on soldiers who came from their family or their community and I thought that I'd share some of those stories in this newsletter. Isaac Kenna has researched his ancestor William Harris who was killed at Polygon Wood near Ypres at some time on the 26-28 September 1917. William had come from The Sisters and his name is on the old school memorial that is now housed in The Sisters' Hall. William has no known grave. We visit Polygon Wood which, under the trees, still bears the scars of this terrible battle in which the Australians were involved. His name is with those of 54,000 other soldiers of the Commonwealth commemorated on the Menin Gate.

James Moloney has been researching his ancestor Michael Cronin who was killed in action on 27 August 1917 and is buried at The Huts Cemetery. We will visit his grave as part of the tour and pay our respects on behalf of his descendants and our community. Bella Giblin is researching the ancestor of family friends. Sydney Alfred Florey was born in Kempsey NSW and was killed in action at Villers Bretonneux in June 1918. He is buried at the Villers Bretonneux Military Cemetery which is also the site of the Australian War Memorial in France. This memorial bears the names of 11,000 Australians who died in France and have no known grave.



We will visit these memorials and pause to pay tribute to these people, their families and communities and to remember the sacrifice that they made.

Last Monday we had a meeting of the tour group with members of the Terang RSL at the Terang RSL clubrooms. We saw a short film created by Steve Bloxham that showed the area of the New Buttes Cemetery at Polygon Wood. Jarrod Lee, an ex-student of Mercy, spoke about his recent trek on the Kokoda Track. The challenges of this particular battlefield are still very much in evidence. Australians have served their country literally all over the world.



Career News

Mrs. Jenny Phillips

Students involved in upcoming Career Events

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to attend upcoming Career Events in Agriculture:

Defying the Drift (25th – 27th September) – Hannah Whytcross.

Warrnambool Cheese & Butter Adrian Meade Dairy Innovation Program (2nd – 6th October) – Max Bond and Hannah Whytcross.

- Defying the Drift is a Rotary-sponsored Program designed to empower young people to identify and explore agriculture and agribusiness career opportunities, build communication skills and develop career enhancing networks.
- The WC&B Adrian Meade Dairy Innovation Program is a five-day structured workplace learning opportunity for Year 10 and 11 students to learn about career pathways in the dairy industry supply chain.

Year 9 students preparing for Work Experience as Year 10 students in 2018

The Year 10 Work Experience dates for next year are from Monday 12th to Friday 16th February, 2018.

The relevant forms are available from Mrs. Joanne Roberts in the office, or can be downloaded from the MRC Careers Website (careers.mercy.vic.edu.au).

All Work Experience forms must be handed in to the office by **Friday 3rd November, 2017**, but it would be a good idea to have these completed and submitted prior to that date.

If any student requires assistance in organising their Work Experience, they should catch up with Mr. Baker or Mrs. Phillips, as soon as possible.

Resources available for Year 12 students planning to undertake Tertiary Studies

There is information on selecting university courses, scholarships and accommodation available through the 'careers.mercy.vic.edu.au' website, under the heading: Important Info.>Careers Newsletter. The latest Career News is also available in this section of the website.

Deakin Step on Campus

School Holidays Tours

Take a personalised tour with a current Deakin student and learn more about Deakin's study areas, campus life and how to make the best transition into university.

Where: Melbourne Burwood, Geelong Waurin Ponds, Geelong Waterfront and Warrnambool campuses

When: Term 1 and Term 3 school holidays (every Monday and Thursday)

Time: 10.00 am, 12.00 pm and 3.00 pm (Tour duration is 45 minutes)

Register now
deakin.edu.au/steponcampus

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B 1732.02 03/17



DEAKIN
UNIVERSITY

Deakin Power of Engineering Day

Zayle Easton-Bylykbashi

On Thursday the 17th August, I along with 7 other students attended "the power of engineering" day hosted by Deakin University. The event took place at Timboon P-12, during the event we went through two workshops, one involve building a bridge that could support weights, while the other involved using materials such as; rocks, sand, gravel etc. to make a water filter. Once we had finished at Timboon we were bussed to the Warrnambool Cheese & Butter factory, where we had a lengthy discussion with some engineers that worked at the factory.

In conclusion, the day as a whole was fun and interesting.

Thanks to Mr. Jared Lynn for attending the day.



COMING DATES

TERM 3, 2017

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'Keeffe 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**

WANTED

As part of the VCAL sustainability project we are asking for donations of potted herbs such as Rosemary, Chives or Mint. If anyone in the community has any of these herbs that they can pot up and donate to us, could you please contact the College office on 5593 2011.



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

TUNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

presents

Seven Weeks of Rock n Roll

DANCE LESSONS

Camperdown Theatre Royal

Sundays 2.00pm

Commencing September 3rd.



Cost : Adults \$40.00

School children free, but **must**
be accompanied by a fee
paying adult parent or
guardian.

Further Information : Phone 0417 379 859



**2017 JEAN WOOD MEMORIAL
MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP
AUDITIONS**

 Noorat Presbyterian Church Hall 

Saturday, 9 September

-
- ❖ **Junior Music Scholarship \$100**
 - ❖ **Senior Music Scholarship \$300**
-

Students attend an interview and are required to play two contrasting pieces. Students must live in or go to school in the Districts of Terang, Mortlake, Derrinallum, Cobden, Camperdown or Timboon.

Entries close Monday, 4 September.

**FOR ENTRY FORMS - Tel: 5592 1989
or our Facebook page**



COMMUNITY CELEBRATION EVENT

Join us for a night of celebration and connection as the Corangamite Youth Council present a video and discussion about our community stories.

15TH **SEPTEMBER**
6 - 7:30 PM

THEATRE ROYAL CAMPERDOWN

RSVP to : Honor.Rahles-Rahbula@corangamite.vic.gov.au

Light refreshments available

WE KNOW YOUR NAME
BUT NOT YOUR STORY.





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

ROCK THE CLOCK

CAMPERDOWN | 20-22 OCTOBER 2017

FRIDAY 20TH OCT	SATURDAY 21ST OCT	
<i>Back to the Future</i> AT THE DRIVE-IN	<i>Cars</i> VINTAGE, CLASSIC AND COLLECTIBLE CARS AND MOTORCYCLES	<i>Miss Rock the Clock</i>
	<i>The Hive</i> VINTAGE FASHION & BEAUTY	
	<i>Family Rock n Roll</i> DANCE	<i>Dorothy Nicol's</i> HISTORIC FASHION PARADE
		<i>Markets</i>

ALL WEEKEND

Music

THE RECHORDS	GLENY RAE & HER PLAYBOYS
PETER DAFFY BAND	MICK COATES & THE ALLNITELONGERS
TOMMY COLLINS & THE LUCKY STRIKES	DJ JEFF
R.P AND THE CRYBABIES	THE ROCKIN' TONES
	GHOSTRIDERS OF THE 'BOOL PALAIS

Rock the Clock Camperdown

For further info email: info@rocktheclock.com.au
or visit www.rocktheclock.com.au

#rocktheclock

COPRICE COBDEN SPRING FESTIVAL

WEBBER & CHIVELL

8th Annual FUN RUN / WALK 2017

Sunday October 15th

WALK – 9.am

Entry Fee. \$5.00

Registration 8.00-8.30am at

Cobden Technical School Gymnasium

Walk Rail Trail, Naroghid - Cobden. Distance 7.5kms

Bus shuttle to start point

RUN – 9.30am

Entry Fee: U/10, U/12, U15, \$5.00. Open \$10.00

Registration 8.30 – 9.15am at

Cobden Technical School Gymnasium.

Sections Male and Female:

U/10, U/12, U15 and Open Distance

U/10, U/12 3.2 Kms

U/15 and Open 6.0 Kms

*First runner to break the 6 klm record time of 19m 23s
held by Tom Hynes will win \$100.00*

Registration and entries on day of event.

For more info: Kevin Duffin, 5595 1638, 0457 650 777



**'Connecting with Carers
Great South Coast'
A LGSC Community Project**



**Do you care for someone
with a mental health
condition?**

**Are you over 18 years and
living in the Great South
Coast Region of Victoria?**

**Do you have 15 minutes to
have your say about
improving carer support?**

**Yes? Then we need
you!**

We recognise that a carer's role is incredibly valuable, but can also be challenging. This survey has been designed to better understand your needs as a carer. The outcome of this project will be a resource (including clear recommendations) that will be presented to the Fight For Your Life working group to actively inform their work in supporting carers of people living with a mental health condition.

Complete our anonymous survey online
www.surveymonkey.com/r/HRL2DH9

For more information, or to request a hard
copy survey, email
info@leadershipgreatsouthcoast.org.au

