Dear Parents and Carers

VOLUNTEERS COCKTAIL PARTY

On Tuesday night we held our annual Cocktail Party for all the volunteers that help at the College. We offer many enriching opportunities for your daughters which would not be possible if other parents did not volunteer to run them. It was an evening of great camaraderie. I sincerely thank all those parents, grandparents and friends of the College who helped at our various functions throughout the year, assisted in the canteen or trained or managed a sports team. You make Mercy College the wonderful community it is.

CREATIVE ARTS SHOWCASE

Our Creative Arts Showcase on Wednesday night was a great celebration for our whole community. Students from all the Creative Arts classes and co-curricular clubs had the opportunity to “strut their stuff” on stage at the Concourse. It was truly a spectacular display of talent as your daughters performed dramatic pieces, sang and danced to entertain a capacity crowd.

SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES 2014

As you are aware Mercy College has a wide variety of clubs and co-curricular activities for your daughter to be involved in. Next year we are offering another one, Speech and Drama offered by our highly qualified Drama teacher Mrs D’Silva. If you are interested in your daughter being part of this programme read more later in the newsletter.
I would like to thank all the tutors of our co-curricular activities with a special thanks to the teachers in the Creative Arts faculty: Mrs Jane Lennon, Mr Tom Gahan, Mrs Michelle Thompson, Mrs Donna D’Silva and Mr Matt Robertson. Their commitment to their work and their role in nurturing your daughter’s talent is greatly appreciated.

**PARENT ASSOCIATION**

I am pleased to announce the new Executive for the Parent Association for 2014

President: Mrs Lee Sternberg  
Vice President: Mrs Melani Bernes  
Secretary: Mrs Trish De Pomeroy  
Treasurer: Mrs Annaliza Oliva  

I know they will have your full support when they take up their roles next year.

*Best wishes*  

(Signed)

Principal

*OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS*
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<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>College Captain</td>
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Creative Arts Showcase
Creative Arts Showcase
On the 29th October, the Year 11 Drama class went to the National Institute of Dramatic Arts for an exciting excursion. The course, HSC Study Day: Individual Project took place at Kensington, and started at 9.30 am. Unluckily for us, there was a bus delay. Nevertheless, we arrived at the venue shortly after the beginning of the course and had the opportunity to hear the remainder of the guest speaker’s speech. Sarah Giles, a director at Sydney Theatre Company engaged the room with her words of wisdom. She shared multiple stories, pieces of advice she had received from the likes of Tim Minchin along with motivating personal experiences. We learnt that collaboration and sharing is essential; punctuality is better than tardiness; exposing ourselves to the world via travelling is vital to our inner growth as well as the necessity of asking questions. Personally, what stuck with me the most was her continual reinforcement of self-belief. Many are afraid of being revealed as a ‘fraud’ and others are crushed by fear of rejection. It is essential to remember that one is not necessarily better or worse than the next person, simply different. This was reiterated by a story of Cate Blanchett, who, despite not playing the lead role in a play, was chosen to play Lucinda in Oscar and Lucinda.

At the conclusion of the speech, the schools were divided into Individual Projects. Six of us went to Performance, one to Costume Design and the last to Director’s Portfolio. Due to Performance occupying the majority of us there, the cohort was split into four groups with a variety of schools. Our tutor, Emily Brennan, really inspired us and gave us the confidence to start our IP. During the four hours, we learnt many practical tips and ideas. We brainstormed, analysed monologues, learnt how to approach our lines in multiple ways and developed possible characters through voice and movement. This course was also beneficial in providing skills for performing in front of an audience, setting goals and using time management. It was enjoyable to both work with the other schools during group time as well as discover our own strengths and weaknesses as individuals. By the end of the course, we had all started formulating ideas for our own project.

This excursion was both valuable and entertaining. It was a day of learning, made greater through the lectures and activities we participated in. While we each had our favourite moments, we were unanimous in our agreement that we all had mutually benefited from this experience. Creating a HSC major work is daunting and stressful, yet after the course, it all seemed more achievable.

Milianne Roberts - Year 11 Drama student
This term a group of Year 7 and 8 students participated in the Great Engineering Challenge at the College. Students were put into a team of 4 and given 40 minutes to solve the challenge. This Year each group needed to build a bridge that was both light weight but strong enough to support a heavy load. The material used to build the bridge included two types of pasta, sticky tape and blu tac. There were strict design criteria including; not bundling the pasta, only using sticky tape on the joints and the bridge had to be 40cm long and at least 5 cm high. In Year 7 the winning team; Emma Morton, Zoe Coyne, Kimberly Macaraig and Caitlin Schaffer designed a bridge with an efficiency score of 7.8. Similarly in Year 8 Sophia Chan, Jade Rajasurian, Kristen Sales and Alex Swanson won with their design which had an efficiency score of 7.5. Congratulations to all of the participants, it was wonderful to see how focused everyone was and how well each team worked together to design and make their bridges.

Thank you also to Lucy Jimenez and Rebecca Robertson of Year 10 for assisting with the event and testing the products.

Mrs Reid
On Friday November 15, five Year 10 students headed out to Warnervale Parish on the Central Coast for the evening to join the Youth of Broken Bay for a night of music and prayer. It was a time to be uplifted and enriched in the Holy Spirit. It was a momentous occasion as Bishop David Walker spoke to us about being with Jesus in the everyday and he blessed the pilgrims going to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne next month.

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival**
Sarah Nicoll, Annika de Borja, Ruby Grudzinskas and Lucy Fang will be heading to Melbourne for the first Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The girls will go through preparation with Mrs Thomas in their Religious Education class and will be accompanied by Mrs Kellendonk to Melbourne. As they enter into this journey of preparation and attendance at the Festival, may Sarah, Ruby, Annika and Lucy be challenged, inspired and strengthened to live out the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Helen Thomas
Youth Ministry Coordinator

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**Record of School Achievement Grades**
All students in Years 10 and 11 have been given their Board of Studies student number and access to their individual Record of Achievement information. Grades A—E have been allocated to all students in Years 10 and 11 as required by the Board. Students can access their information through their email. Year 11 grades are currently open with Year 10 having access by the end of the term. If there are any questions please see Mrs Wilson.
From the TAS Faculty

MERCY GOES 3D!

This week Mercy took delivery of a Makerbot Replicator 3D Printer.

The Makerbot uses PLA filament which is a renewable bio plastic. It’s as easy to use as a document printer.

This week Year 10 Design and Technology had some fun testing the printer by printing a bracelet and a comb. In the future TAS students will have the opportunity to print their models, products and prototypes from their 3D digital designs.

Mrs D Russell
TAS C0-Ordinator

Casual and Part-time Jobs

Now is the time to start searching for casual and part time jobs that can complement tertiary studies or provide money for a Gap Year. Many retailers and fast food chains accept online applications and expressions of interest.

Last week Matt Dimech from the Children’s Legal Service, Legal Aid, spoke with all of the Year 9 and Year 10 students about Sexting and Cyber Bullying. The workshop explored the criminal law outcomes involved in social media and technology use.

It was clarified with the students that using the internet or a mobile device to take, send or receive “sexy pics” is known as “sexting”. Cyber Bullying is bullying in the online world particularly through social media sites. The workshop explored the legal implications for the girls if they are involved in sexting or cyber bullying.

Some feedback from Year 10 students:

The legal workshop was very informative and insightful. The grade learnt about “sexting” and responsible online use. It was interesting that the legal NSW age of consent is 16, while the legal Commonwealth age to send “sexts” is 18. The consequences were outlined to be very serious and being sent or sending an inappropriate image could potentially leave you in jail.
Rebecca Coen-Gibson (Year 10 Creative Arts & Media Rep)

The legal workshop was a really useful and interesting experience. It was interesting to learn about the different aspects the law and what it was specifically. It was interesting to learn about different ways in which people are caught. It was also helpful to hear real-life stories to show that people getting punished for sexting really does occur and often in harmless ways.
Michelle Boyd

The legal workshop was extremely beneficial as it clearly outlines the legal consequences of using social media networks. It was an enjoyable and enlightening experience. I learnt that the sex offenders register is only for those who are charged with crimes against children – 18 years old for the Commonwealth Government and 16 years old for the NSW State Government.
Caitlin Almada

It was confusing that the NSW and Commonwealth laws are different. The sex offender register applies only to people who have sexually assaulted children and penalties can be applied for making, distributing and possessing photos. You could receive up to 38 years in prison.
Isobel Regan

I learnt that sending others photos that are inappropriate had consequences including being locked in jail for up to 35 years and being put on the sex offender register. Being on the sex offender register restricts that person from certain careers and travel. It is extremely hard to get off the list, it is there for life.
Amelia Abboud

It is recommended that you discuss this workshop with your daughter and the information she found out. There will be a follow up letter to parents and, in the meantime, some factsheets you may find of use can be found through the following links:


Miss J McKay
Year 9 Co-ordinator
&
Miss T Stancliffe
Year 10 Co-ordinator
SCHOOLWEAR OFFER

$50 OFF
NORMAL PRICE

SCHOOL BLAZERS

NOTE:
OFFER VALID FOR 4 WEEKS!
12TH JANUARY TO 12TH FEBRUARY

LOWES

Exclusive stockists of premium quality Beare & Ley Schoolwear

A $50 non-refundable deposit is required with order if size not available at time of purchase.

PS: EXTRA 5% DISCOUNT FOR EZY-WAY CUSTOMERS
Dear Parents

**Second-hand Textbook and Uniform Trading**

The College is conscious of the need to provide an efficient process for families to be able to recycle their textbooks, uniforms and student resources.

I am delighted to inform you of the College’s new initiative to provide parents with the ability to trade second-hand items via the “Sustainable School Shop”. Families are assisted to list For Sale & Wanted advertisements online and the system then matches buyers with sellers. Results from other schools have been excellent; families have enjoyed a comprehensive and convenient method of trading these second-hand items.

The Sustainable School Shop is providing complimentary Annual Subscriptions until 30th November 2013 and we would encourage parents to take full advantage of this opportunity. You need to nominate the College when you register on the Sustainable School Shop website to receive your complimentary Annual Subscription (lasts 365 days).

The service provides access to second-hand textbooks, uniforms, calculators, stationery, musical equipment, etc all year round. Parents can even trade with other parents from different schools and sell items no longer in use at our College or other previously attended schools.

For the best results:
- List unwanted items for sale
- List Wanted Ads for those items you are looking to buy
- The College’s books and uniform lists are loaded into the system to make listing ads easy
- The system matches the ads of buyers with sellers and notifies the buyer (Wanted Ad) via email
- Buyers contact sellers and arrange where and when to trade
- Most trading will occur with other parents from the school
- Parents are well supported via Sustainable School Trading’s telephone (1300 683 337) and email help lines
- The system is simple and easy to use - If you don’t have a computer, internet access or an email address, please call the Sustainable School Shop for assistance

**You can pre-arrange the transaction and then trade after the texts are not required.**

All enquiries should be directed to the Sustainable School Shop on: 1300 683 337 or help is also available through ‘Contact Us’ on their website at www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

We are very excited about this new initiative being offered to parents and we hope you will make the most of the opportunity to annually recycle your daughter’s school items.
Mercy Catholic College will be offering private tuition in Speech and Drama in 2014. Speech and Drama classes cover a wide variety of activities including improvisation, poetry speaking, public speaking, acting and playbuilding. The focus of this new program is on the student's discovering and exploring their own artistic, social, co-operative and communicative abilities. This is done through an imaginative and creative process; and developing confidence, self-esteem, listening skills, collaborative skills, social skills, performance techniques, independent thinking, literacy, language skills, public speaking skills, vocal quality and articulation.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in Speech and Drama; Musical Theatre; Theatre Arts; Communication Skills; and Applied Drama courses.

Speech and Drama students will have the opportunity to perform in eisteddfods, festivals, school events and Performing Arts Evenings and will be encouraged to take Trinity College graded examinations at the end of the year.

Students will participate in group lessons scheduled during the school day although times will rotate weekly to ensure that students do not miss the same school lesson each week. Students will be withdrawn from class for their group tutorials with the expectation that students ensure all missed class work and homework will be completed prior to the next lesson in that subject. Students in Year 12 will be scheduled during their study periods, lunch time or before school.

The 45 minute weekly lesson will cost $180 (inc GST) per term (eight weeks) per student although the expectation is that students commit to this activity on a semester basis.

We are seeking expressions of interest from students interested in participating in this extra-curricular activity in 2014. Please complete the slip below to register your interest before Friday 6 December, 2013. There are limited places available.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. D'Silva on 9419.2890 or donna.d'silva@dbb.catholic.edu.au.

Please return the slip below to Mrs D’Silva by no later than Friday 6 December, 2013.

Student’s Name: ____________________________________________________________

Year: _________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian’s Name: ________________________________________________

Contact Details:

Mobile number __________________________________________________________

Email address ____________________________________________________________

Please circle the course(s) that your child is interested in pursuing -

Speech and Drama   Musical Theatre   Theatre Arts   Communication Skills   Applied Drama
Canteen Roster

If you are unable to attend Canteen on your rostered day please try and swap with another volunteer.

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WE NEED YOUR HELP

Would you like to occasionally join the happy team at the Mercy Canteen for a couple of hours? The girls would appreciate you being there to help serve and make fresh salads and sandwiches. The tasks are not hard and no previous experience is required. Dads and grandparents are also welcome to join the team. Come and have a good old chin wag, a laugh and a cuppa.

If you would like to volunteer at the canteen, your help would be invaluable, please fill out the attached form as there is still days to be filled.

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PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO FRONT OFFICE

I am able to volunteer in the canteen.
My preference day is (please circle)
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

I am able to do: (please circle)
Once a Term Twice a Term Once a Month

Name: Phone:
Email:
Daughter/s:
Year in 2013/14
University of Sydney offers HSC Preparation Courses throughout the year for a range of subjects, including Biology, Mathematics, Economics, Physics, and more.

Upcoming Courses:

Monday 13 – Friday 17 Jan  9:00am to 12:30pm
- HSC Mathematics Preparation Course – 2 Unit (Part 1)
- HSC Biology Preparation Course (Part 1)
- HSC Music 1 Preparation Course (Part 1)

1:30pm to 5:00pm
- HSC Essay Writing Course
- HSC Mathematics Preparation Course – Extension 1 (Part 1)
- HSC English Preparation Course – Advanced (Part 1)

Monday 20 – Friday 24 Jan  9:00am to 12:30pm
- HSC Economics Preparation Course (Part 1)
- HSC English Preparation Course (Part 1)
- HSC English Preparation Course – Standard (Part 1)
- HSC English Preparation Course – Extension 1 (Part 1)
- Crime Writing
- HSC Exam Preparation Course

1:30pm to 5:00pm
- HSC Essay Writing Course,
- HSC English Preparation Course – Advanced (Part 1)
- HSC Chemistry Preparation Course (Part 1)
- HSC Business Studies Preparation Course (Part 2)
- HSC Legal Studies Preparation Course (Part 1)

For further information please visit http://cce.sydney.edu.au/courses/HSC

Each year the University of Sydney prepares a free HSC guide for students, which includes advice on how to best approach your HSC exams.

University Admissions Centre — ATAR Release Date
Thursday 19 December

ATAR’s will be released on Thursday 19 December through the University Admissions Centre. Students will need their UAC Pin (and Board of Studies student number or UAC number) to access their ATAR. Students who have lost their PIN should contact UAC Customer Service ASAP on 9752 0200.
Career News

University Admissions Centre
Participating Institutions Information

This site includes institution-specific information about all institutions that you can apply for through UAC. This information includes admission requirements, special requirements, bridging courses, charges and fees, and student services and facilities. Please visit http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/institutions/

Invitation for Year 10 and 11 Students

Campus Tours

Students in Year 10 are invited to come and visit one of Australian Catholic University campuses, see the facilities at ACU and get a feel for campus life. To book a tour please go to www.acu.edu.au/visit

Year 10 & 11 Guide for 2014

This guide has been prepared specifically for these year groups to answer questions on areas such as subject selection and career paths. Copy of this guide is available in the Careers Library.

Advisory Sessions

Students who have any questions about the Australian National University Programmes or want to learn more about ANU accommodation, exchange programmes, or support services should visit a local advisory session on Thursday 19 December—10:00am—2:00pm.
For more information please email: student.recruitment@anu.edu.au or visit http://students.anu.edu.au/events/fut-event.php

University of New South Wales

A Day @ UNSW

Tuesday 26 November & Thursday 12 December, 9:30am to 2:45pm
UNSW Kensington Campus
This day for Year 10 – 12 students will feature all of UNSW’s faculties offering activities and lectures to help students find out what university program is for them. The UNSW Museum of Human Disease and the Careers & Employment Office will also be providing information to students. Registration is required.
https://www.whatson.unsw.edu.au/egateway/students.schedules_search?
Career News

International College of Management Sydney

Information Evening
Thursday 5 December—6:00pm
ICMS Campus - 151 Darley Road - Manly

Find out about programs available at the International College of Management Sydney at this information evening. Registrations are required. For further information please contact 1300 585 536 or visit http://studyicms.com.au/info/

The School for Excellence

HSC Summer School
Monday 6 to Friday 24 January 2014
University of Sydney Camperdown Campus

This summer school for Year 11 and 12 students is designed to provide students with a head start to Year 11 and Year 12. Students will take part in working through Term 1 materials in advance of school, receive expert notes, learn strategies and more. Registrations are required and can be done online.

Job Outlook

This website made by the Department of Employment provides information on prospects, trends & other data for a huge range of occupations. It also provides links to job vacancies, education & training courses, and more. Occupations can be searched by name, keyword, industry or category. The website also features a career quiz which can help students to find what type of work they like the best. Visit http://joboutlook.gov.au/
Diocesan Administrator

Fr Vincent Casey

invites the people of the

Diocese of Broken Bay
to the

Farewell Mass

for

Bishop David Walker

on

Saturday, 14 December 2013
The Light of Christ Centre
Yardley Avenue, Waitara
commencing at 12pm
followed by light refreshments.

RSVP: Natasha Willis by 4 December 2013
Tel: 9847 0484
Email: natasha.willis@dbb.org.au

As parking is limited, parishioners are encouraged to travel together in groups, using parish buses. Advise Natasha how many buses and parishioners by 4 December 2013.
Community News

ENROLMENTS – Year 7, 2015

The enrolment process for entry into Mercy College in Year 7, 2015 is underway. For more information, or to download an enrolment application form please follow the links to enrolment on the College website here. Alternately, you can contact the Office on 9419 2890 between 8am and 4pm.

Please note that whilst preference is given to current Mercy families and families within the diocesan systemic system, we must receive a completed application form for each daughter you wish to send to the College.

Additional morning Masses during Advent

There will be an additional weekday Mass in Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church Chatswood at 6.45am each Monday to Saturday during Advent (i.e. from Monday 2nd December to Tuesday 24th December).

All are welcome.

Mamre Christmas Hampers


The gifts for sale are made by refugees and people with disabilities to help fund our social enterprises.

Mamre Jams and Preserves (3 seasonal selection jars) made by refugees from farm and local product. A bottle of wine. Set of 4 cards painted by the refugee children.

Seasonal selection jams and preserves made by refugees or people with a disability. Set of 4 cards made by refugee children or people with a disability.