Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of the College’s Laboratory Technician Mrs Trish Hodgkins. Mrs Hodgkins has been a long standing and very valued member of our staff since 2003. She became ill in January of this year, and has been on leave since then. We offer condolences and prayers to her family, friends and colleagues here at Mercy. May she Rest in Peace.

Loving God,
Into your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust Trish Hodgkins. 
In this life you embraced her with your tender love.

We pray for Mrs Hodgkins’ family, friends and colleagues and for the happy memories shared.

We thank you for the gift of Mrs Hodgkin’s life and the presence that she shared with the students and the Mercy community.

Welcome her into Your Kingdom, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit For ever and ever.

Amen

COLLEGE LITURGY:

On Wednesday the College celebrated a beautiful liturgy as we launched the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, which commences on the 8 December. I would like to share with you a reflection written by our Religious Education Co-ordinator, Ms Gabie Stojanovski as she shared information on Pope Francis and the Year of Mercy.

“Pope Francis is known as the People’s Pope, he is seen reaching out to ordinary people every day and leads by his example. Pope Francis’ mission is to bring God’s love and mercy to the world, especially to those in need.

In the two and a half years since he was elected Pope, he has reached out to prisoners, the sick, homeless people, the elderly, immigrants; those devastated by the typhoon in the Philippines, miners and rural workers in poor countries - those on the margins of society - and he challenges us as followers of Jesus to do the same.

Pope Francis puts into practice the teaching of living simply so that others may simply live. He has rejected living in the papal palace, but lives in a simple apartment for guests, and wears simple white...
papal robes rather than ornate and expensive costumes. He has set up shelters for the homeless in the Vatican, spends time with people in hospitals and prisons, and uses his voice to speak up for the voiceless and to spread the gospel message of Mercy. Mercy is at the heart of his ministry - God’s loving mercy on us and our mercy on those in need.

Pope Francis has declared an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy that will start in December this year. He says: “Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think that this is the Lord’s most powerful message: Mercy. A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just”.

We are all called by Pope Francis as a Mercy community to actively participate in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy that begins on the 8 December this year and ends on the 20 November 2016? How will you answer his call?”

CHATSWOOD PARISH THANKS GIVING EVENING:
OLD Parish are holding an evening of celebration and fundraising on Friday 20 November.

It will be a time of recognition of all the wonderful work the parishioners are doing at Chatswood. Many are involved in bringing our faith to others, preparing our family and friends to be part of our sacramental church, supporting those in need and those who are suffering in our parish, in our country and in developing nations. It is also a time to celebrate and strengthen our relationship and common goals with our parish and schools including OLD Parish Primary School and Pius X College.

The evening will be a time of fund raising for the various parish ministries: for the youth, aged, those in need and for the continual restoring of the beautiful but aging church and parish buildings.

You can order your tickets by email at greg@chatswoodparish.org.au or buy them at the College office. Cost per ticket is $50.00.

I encourage you to come along and support the parish.

SCHOOL FEES 2016:
Please refer to the letter following from myself on pages 11 and 12. It provides information regarding the school fee structure for next year.

Best wishes

Susanne Kavanagh
Principal
Mercy Catholic College Chatswood presents its annual Creative Arts Showcase.

This year is a significant one as the school is commemorating 125 years of education and we will be further celebrating with an evening of music, song, dance and drama.

The talents of our Music and Drama students as well as the Band, Choir, ensemble groups and MCC Activities Club groups will be showcased.

Mercy College Liturgy – Pope Francis and the Jubilee Year of Mercy

On Wednesday the Mercy College Community celebrated a Liturgy which focused on Pope Francis and the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy which begins on 8 December 2015 and concludes on 20 November 2016. Mrs Lennon and the Visual Arts students made a beautiful banner with the words “Blessed are the merciful” reflecting the theme of the Liturgy and the Year of Mercy.

During the Liturgy Year 7 students described what Mercy looks like, sounds like and feels like at Mercy College. Ms Stojanovski gave a reflection on Pope Francis as an inspirational leader of the Catholic Church in the modern world.

Pope Francis through his actions every day models to all of humanity how to live the Christian life based on Jesus’ example. He reminds us that:

“Jesus has this message for us: Mercy. I think that this is the Lord’s most powerful message: Mercy. A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”

Year 7 students on behalf of each Tutor Group came up to the altar to receive a “Commitment to the Year of Mercy” Poster to set their goals on how they will respond to Pope Francis’ call to show Mercy to others.

The Liturgy concluded with the College Band and Choir singing the World Youth Day Theme Song “Blessed are the Merciful” led by Mr Robertson.

Ms Gabie Stojanovski
Religious Education Co-ordinator
Student News

AMITY COLLEGE MULTICULTURAL DAY

On the 16th October, sixteen Year 11 and 12 students had the wonderful opportunity of being invited to Amity College’s Multicultural Day celebrations. The day began with an informal session about the nature of identity which gave the students from Mercy a chance to form connections with girls from Amity College and St Patrick’s College, who were also invited to share in the festivities.

This session was followed by a number of different multicultural food stalls that represented a variety of different cultures. The students of Amity College, from Years 7-11, had to decorate their stalls, provide cuisine and dress up in national dress. Mexico, Italy, Turkey, China and Australia were some of the countries represented on the day. The food was in abundance and the atmosphere was relaxed and welcoming.

The final session of the day included a formal assembly which showcased the musical talents of Amity College and St Patrick’s College. The Year 11 Mercy students who went to Turkey (Diane M, Rose P, Natalie R, Rebekah S and Eleanor T) presented Amity College with a canvas they painted that attempted to reflect the good will and feeling of welcome they experienced during their trip in September. The assembly also included a fashion parade, a short film and slideshow presentation and a keynote address from the New South Wales Shadow Minister for Multiculturalism, the Honourable Sophie Cotsis (MLA).

The Multicultural Day provided a unique opportunity for young women from different social and religious backgrounds to come together and share what they have in common and enjoy and celebrate each other’s uniqueness.

Mrs T Munro
English Department
Student News

Year 12 2015, News

Although it feels like the Year 12, 2015 Graduation, Mass and Formal seems like awhile ago we are already looking forward to the final HSC Examination on Wednesday 4 November. As we near the end of the HSC Examinations the girls are again to be commended for their mature and considered behaviour. Although there have been the inevitable emotional ups and downs throughout the examination period, on the whole the process has run very smoothly. It has been a privilege to be a part of the journey these girls have made over the last 3 years and an absolute pleasure to witness them maturing into young women, with, I am sure, even more exciting times ahead.

As the final days approach the girls are reminded to complete and hand in their sign out forms; but also that we would love to hear about their results, summer plans and adventures and expectations for 2016. Hence, as the results and ATAR’s are released on 16/17 December, there will be a lunchtime BBQ held at the College Thursday 17 December 11.30am to 1pm to once again touch base and catch up on the latest aspirations.

Ms Stancliffe

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Year 12
2015

Sausage Sizzle

Thursday 17th December 2015
Mercy Catholic College
11.30am 'til 1pm

Collect References and any remaining certificates etc.
Catch up with friends
Share your results and plans with Ms Stancliffe and the Year 12 teachers.

(If you’d rather, or if you can’t make it to the sausage sizzle, please let Ms Stancliffe know your ATAR via a personal message on Edmodo)
Student News
**Duke of Edinburgh**

**Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh award hike – October 21-23**

On Wednesday October 21st 40 Mercy folk rugged up and travelled to Katoomba for another Duke of Ed adventure. Twenty six Year 9 students were undertaking their Bronze Qualifying Hike and ten Year 10 students were completing their Silver Practice hike.

After coordinating our arrival in Katoomba from various parts of Sydney we hiked to the campsite with heavy packs. The students all thought I was joking when I showed them our campsite next to the oval, as it was a small patch of ground and lacked the beauty and space of the Basin. The ground was also rock hard and made putting up our tents quite a challenge. After borrowing hammers and ensuring our tents were sturdy as rain was forecast we headed across to Reid’s Plateau lookout for a meeting with a spectacular view over the Jamison Valley and the cable car. We were able to see where we would be walking over the next two days and mentally prepare for it over lunch.

After a prayer we headed down the Furber Steps, past delightful pauses at Vera’s Grotto and Witches Leap. When we reached the bottom we walked along the Federal Pass through the valley towards the Three Sisters, where we rested to check our progress on our maps. We took the Dardanelles Walking Track (appropriate as Year 9 are currently studying Gallipoli in this centenary year) and had a pit stop in the lush Leura Forest. The rest didn’t quite prepare them for the many stairs we had to take back up out of the valley and along the clifftop path to Echo Point, where we admired the view and rested our calf muscles. We made it back to camp, after walking 10-12 kilometres ably led by our Bronze students (with only a few mishaps) for some free time and dinner.

We rugged up for another night walk but although the Three Sisters were lit up the other floodlights weren't on so we listened to Mr Cutler’s scary stories instead. Thankfully the rains hit after we were snug in our tents, as snug as you can be with the howling gales flapping the wet tent sides inches from your face! (Much better than the predicted thunderstorms though!)

All our tents survived the night and everyone was up bright and early (a few a little too early) for breakfast and packing before heading down Cliff Drive past foggy lookouts to the stunning Glenraphael Drive, offering amazing views over the Megalong Valley as the mists lifted. We had some First Aid demonstrations before descending down the Golden Stairs, although several students have commented in their log books that there was nothing golden about them! After morning tea we split into our two groups. Bronze headed back over the rugged landslide path, hopping over more rocks and checking each other for leeches. They pushed each other up the Furber steps and finished packing up camp just as the heavens opened. They did get soaked walking to the station but at least could dry off on the train and go home to their comfy beds.

Silver headed to the Ruined Castle, admiring stunning waratahs and enjoying some mini rock climbs to get the best views. We found the path leading downwards towards Mt Solitary but it was so steep and unformed that we spent a lot of it on our bottoms. Despite being quite difficult the girls all agreed that the challenge was a highlight of their day. As we approached our final destination the rain clouds rolled in so we hurriedly ate our lunch and decided whether to push on to the summit or turn back. The rains decided that for us, so we packed away our food, donned our raincoats and turned back for home. That still meant several hours of walking through rainforest detaching leeches, helping each other over fallen trees and muddy sections, scaling the now slippery rocks of the landslide path and finally going up the familiar Furber Steps. I was so impressed with the determination of the girls and their encouragement of each other – they certainly didn’t let the rain dampen their mood in any way. Thankfully the rains eased a little as we got to camp, so we could rest our weary legs in the showers, tents or with a cup of tea. We had a pleasant evening in the warmth of the camp lounge, playing games, eating dinner and drinking hot chocolate and planning our Gold adventures for next year.
Day 3 saw us wake to a leisurely pancake breakfast, a short walk near a campsite and a well earned coffee in a cosy café near the station. Then we all relaxed on the train trip home (some were VERY relaxed), knowing we had a weekend with the comforts of home ahead of us (and some log books and map work to complete).

A big congratulations to all the girls for surviving the stairs and rain and doing so cheerfully. You were a credit to the school and yourselves. Congratulations to the Bronze girls for completing your hikes, now I hope you complete ORB quickly and move on to Silver. And good luck to the Silver girls for their final hike in November - I’m so excited that you all want to do Gold next year too. A HUGE thank you for Mr “Scary Stories” Cutler, Ms “Trendy Hiker” Sinclair and Ms “Love a Challenge” Mazzacuva for accompanying us – I couldn’t have done it without you and I hope you can join us again.

Ms C Dorey
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Log book excerpts

“Despite the rain I thoroughly enjoyed this Duke of Ed camp and hike. I was well prepared but for Silver I think getting better hiking boots would be beneficial.... I believe the whole group worked well as a team and co-operated, lending equipment, helping with map work and encouraging each other on tough parts of the hike. I learnt a lot more about reading a map, which I have found difficult in the past. I am glad to be improving my skills.” Caitlin H

“To conclude, the Duke of Ed Hike 2 was such an amazing experience as we got to travel to new places, learn about history and map work, bond with others and do great physical exercise.” Charlotte M

“This trip was very successful – I felt I achieved a lot and did lots of exercise. Many funny moments occurred and almost getting lost was memorable. Lessons I learnt from last time were fixed and this time I didn’t get sick afterwards!” Natasha S
Canteen Roster

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2/11—6/11</th>
<th>9/11—13/11</th>
<th>16/11—20/11</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Thurs I. Lavermicocca Volunteer Required</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
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<td>Fri L. Shih D. Sheehan</td>
<td>Fri G. Burrows K. Hayden P. Douglas-Robertson</td>
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Canteen News

We are looking for volunteers to assist in the canteen. This may only be once a term. Most parents find helping in the canteen to be a very rewarding experience. Please fill in the attached form or email the Canteen at anna.coombs@dbb.catholic.edu.au

I am able to volunteer in the canteen. My preference day is: (please circle)

**Monday**  **Tuesday**  **Wednesday**  **Thursday**  **Friday**

Part day (specify time eg 9.30-12 or 12-2.30) ____________________________

I am able to do: (please circle)

**Once a Term**  **Twice a Term**  **Once a Month**

Name:____________________________________  Daughter/s:____________________________________

Phone:____________________________________  Year in 2015:____________________________________

Email:____________________________________

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

The roster for 2016 is being worked on at the moment. If you have any changes i.e. different days, contact number or email addresses please contact Anna, Angela or Nancy in the Canteen ASAP

Many thanks for you co-operation.
30 October 2015

Dear Parents & Carers

Mercy College Fees 2016

Fees set by Mercy Catholic College have two components

1. **DIOCESAN FEES** set by the Diocese of Broken Bay and which apply to every child at a Catholic school in this Diocese.

   (a): Diocesan Tuition Fees for 2016:

<table>
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<td>$2321.00</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</table>

   (b): Diocesan Building Levy

   The Diocese currently receives very modest levels of support from government for the building of new schools and the upgrading of schools to meet current needs. The Diocesan Building Levy is used to build new schools and renovate existing schools. Most schools in the Diocese have loans relating to renovation work that need to be serviced. The current level of this debt is $104 million. So that work can continue, in 2016 each family will be asked to contribute $910 per annum.

2. **COLLEGE FEES** set by the College.

   The College fees for 2016 are listed in the attached Fee Schedule.

   The School Education Fee covers all curriculum resources, operating costs of the College including cleaning, grounds and building maintenance, sports expenses and all curricular excursions and incursions. Some elective courses, which are selected by students from Year 9 onwards, attract an additional fee due to the expense of providing resources for these courses.
All fees have been reviewed for 2016 to ensure the charges fairly reflect the cost of each activity or elective course and are comparable from year to year. Optional activities, such as Band membership or Music camps, are separately billed as students can elect to participate in these activities.

As far as possible activities and events have been costed and booked in advance and the cost of these is included in the school based fee. In doing so the College hopes to avoid any additional requests to families for money to fund transport costs or school activities throughout the year. However, there may be some curriculum related excursions which may have to be billed later in the year as they cannot be pre booked or budgeted for in advance.

Students in Years 11 & 12 doing a TAFE course will be asked for an initial deposit of $1500 towards the cost of the course, with the final costs to be advised once confirmed by the TAFE.

The College charges a Digital Technology Fee of $300 per student for students in Years 8, 9, 11 & 12. With the introduction of the Managed Device programme for Years 7 & 10 in 2016 the Digital Education Fee for these years has been reduced to $100 per student. All funds raised by this fee go towards investment in technology within the school and management of the Managed Device programme. In 2015 this investment has included new iPads and Chromebooks for our library, HSIE and English departments, upgrading the data projectors and screens in 14 classrooms and replacement of high end desktops for the Technology & Design computer lab.

College fee accounts for the full year are issued early in Term 1, 2016. Further information on payment instalments and due dates will be provided at the same time.

From Peter Hamill (Director of Schools, Broken Bay)

"I recognise that for some families this change in fees may pose a significant challenge, and should this be the case, I encourage you to discuss your situation with your Principal. The Diocesan Schools System has a commitment to support families experiencing financial difficulties. No child will be excluded from access to a Catholic systemic School due to genuine financial hardship"

If you have any queries please contact the College Bursar, Louise Turnbull, at the College office.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Kavanagh
Principal

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<th>Fee Description</th>
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<td>P&amp;F Levy</td>
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Epping Twilight Market
Friday 6th November, 5-9pm
Betty Ockenden | 0408 505 080

McGrath

How do we get there?
Shop & support local produce and hand
made gifts in a friendly
environment. Enjoy live music on a range of international cultures on
the ground of Our Lady Help of Christ
at St Rose of Lima Primary School

Enter via 62 Cambridge Street, Epping
or 55 Oxford Street, Epping
(adjacent to the church)

St Joseph’s College, Hunters Hill
Annual Spring Fair

SPRING INTO JOEYS

Sunday 15 November 2015
11am - 4pm

WE’VE GOT SOMETHING FUN FOR EVERYONE...

Fresh produce direct from the farm
Food to suit all tastes
High tea

Kids Corner - it’s bigger than ever!
Entertainment
Battle of the Bands

Free demonstrations:
- Wood Turning
- The Dinner Ladies
- Thermomix

More than 40 retail stalls

Exciting rides for all ages
Purchase ride bands online at:
shop.joeyes.org

For more information over the coming months go to
joeyes.org
Parent News

PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT

"Blessed are the pure of HEART, for they shall see GOD"

at ST MARY'S PARISH MANLY

FRI 20 NOVEMBER 2015
FROM 6PM
BBQ / PRAISE FEST / ADORATION / MORE

WWW.DBB.ORG.AU/YOUTH
Parent News

G’day, This Movember, some Mercy staff will be raising funds and awareness for men’s health. Will you join our team? [http://mobro.co/markcuttler] - Team Mercy

It doesn’t matter if you’re a Mo Bro or a Mo Sista – Movember is for everyone. There are two ways to participate: sign up to grow a moustache for 30 days, or take the MOVE challenge and get active every day for 30 days. We’re passionate about the Movember Foundation because they’re tackling some of the most significant health issues faced by men: prostate cancer, testicular cancer, poor mental health and physical inactivity. We’re in this together, so get involved and spread the word.

Mark Cuttler
[http://mobro.co/markcuttler]

Year 7 2016 Welcome BBQ

Dear Year 9 Parents and Carers,

Volunteers Needed!!! Friday 13th November 5pm - 8pm

As you are aware your daughters have the privilege and responsibility of mentoring the new Year 7 students joining our school community in 2016 by being their “Big Sister”.

Traditionally the parents of the “Big Sisters” host the event.

We are holding a welcome BBQ on Friday 13th November for the students and their families and we are calling for Year 9 parent volunteers to help cook the snags, prepare and serve, along with creating a welcoming atmosphere. We are catering for 400 so many hands will make light work!! It’s always a fun night and a great opportunity to show the new parents happy community spirit. Please contact me at effectiveone2one@bigpond.com with your available times.

We will need the most support from 5-7pm.
Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Warm regards
Lee Sternberg
P & F President
Career News

Info Day
Tuesday 5 January 2016
Camperdown

An opportunity to chat with current students and staff about study options before finalizing ATAR preferences for the main round offers. http://sydney.edu.au/study/admissions/events-for-future-students.html

Minerals Summer School
Monday 18 January - Wednesday 20 January
Applications close Saturday 31 October

Students in Year 10 or 11 who are interested in science or engineering can take part in this four day residential summer school. Students will learn about study, careers, lifestyles, and opportunities in the Australian minerals industry. For further information please contact mining@unsw.edu.au or visit http://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/mining-engineering/unsw-minerals-summer-school

Entrepreneur Challenge
The Peter Farrell Cup
Monday 23 November - 6.00pm - 9.00pm
John Niland Scientia Building UNSW Kensington

University students will be showcasing real-life entrepreneurial skills and bringing innovation to the market with the support of industry mentors. Recently graduated HSC students are welcome to attend the event and watch university students pitch their ideas. Please check https://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/unsw-entrepreneur-challenge-peter-farrell-cup

Parent Information Guide

Career News

Summer School Programme

The Summer School Programme offers Year 11 students from UTS partner schools the chance to attend intensive two-week summer schools in subject areas like filmmaking, engineering, information technology, design, nursing and midwifery, and science. For further enquiries please contact 9514 1084 or email cassie.willis@uts.edu.au or visit http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/teachers/essential-information/uuni-school-programs/summer-school-program

HSC Tutorial Scheme

The HSC Tutorial Scheme provides school-based tutorial sessions at UTS targeted schools in South Western Sydney. This tutorial support assists Year 11 and 12 students to improve their academic performance and broaden their educational aspirations. If interested, please contact 9514 7821 or email Michael.Ormsby@uts.edu.au or visit http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/teachers/essential-information/uuni-school-programs/hsc-tutorial-scheme

Info Days

Friday 18 December - 10.00am - 3.00pm
Tuesday 5 January - 10.00am - 3.00pm
UTS City Campus - Broadway

An opportunity to speak with university representatives about course options for 2016. Please check details on http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/undergraduate/essential-information/events-and-info-sessions/uts-info-days

Year 11 Law Discovery Day

Thursday 19 November and Thursday 26 November
9.00am - 2.00pm
UTS Faculty of Law
Corner of Quay Street and Ultimo Road Haymarket

The day will include workshops and hands-on practical activities, as well as an opportunity to listen to professionals, academics and current students speak about all facets of law.

New Bachelor of Health Science

A flexible and innovative degree that equips students with qualifications to help make a difference across diverse health care settings. Please visit http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/health/study-areas-and-strengths/health-science
Career News

Apply now for 2016

If Year 12 students missed the Notre Dame main due date of 30 September and still want to apply, they still have an opportunity to submit an application. Applications can be downloaded at http://www.notredame.edu.au/school-leaver.php

Getting to Know Nursing - Information Session
Monday 2 November - 6.00pm

Students interested in a career in nursing can come along to a free information session at our School of Nursing - 160 Oxford Street, Darlington. Students attending this session will learn about nursing as a profession and the many and varied areas in which nurses are able to practice. For further details or to register go to www.nd.edu.au/events/sydney

Engineering Frontiers
Tuesday 8 December - Wednesday 9 December
9.00am  3.00pm
56 Second Avenue Kingswood Campus

A two-day programme that introduces high school students to engineering and its applications. Attendees will have the chance to experience life as a university student and also speak to top engineers who have a passion for their job. For further enquiries please check http://www.uws.edu.au/scem/school_of_computing_engineering_and_mathematics/events_and_seminars/engineering_frontiers

Space Talks
Clancy Auditorium  Gate 9  High Street
UNSW Kensington Campus

Landing On A Comet - The Rosetta Mission - Tuesday 3 November - 6.30pm
The NASA Asteroid Redirect Mission - Thursday 5 November - 6.30pm
Students are invited to visit the Australian Centre for Space Engineering Research (ACSER) at UNSW for two exciting distinguished guest lectures about NASA and European Space Agency missions. Admission is free, however guests are asked to RSVP via the website as space is expected to fill quickly. Please check http://www.acser.unsw.edu.au/oemf2015/lectures.html