Dear Parents and Carers,

World news this week gives us a good reason to talk to our young people about the need for tolerance and acceptance. What happened in Orlando last Sunday with 50 people being killed and a further 53 injured in a gay bar should trouble all of us; whether it be terrorist motivated or not, it was certainly a crime of hate.

We need to speak openly about people who may be different in their sexual orientation and not to be fearful of those differences.

**A prayer for Orlando**
(Excerpt from a prayer by Rev Dr Rick Dacey – Wesley Mission)

Loving God:
As you hear the cries of those whose lives are torn apart with pain and loss this week, hear our prayers with them and for them.

We pray for all those who have lost family and loved ones, and for all the young men and women left wounded in body, mind and spirit by bullets of fearful hatred.

We pray with and for LGBT people who are crying out in grief and anguish this week.

God shed your grace.

And by your grace, give us eyes to see one another as you see all of us, not as adversaries or issues, but as your beloved: Created in Love’s image.

We ask this prayer in Jesus’ name,

Amen

**TERM2 REPORTS FOR YEARS 7 – 10**
In the next two weeks parents of students in Years 7 to 10 will receive a half-yearly report based on what your daughters have been learning over the last two terms. Please take the time to review these reports with your daughter, celebrating her achievements and discussing areas for improvement. Remember it is not all about the mark, but more about her attitude to learning. If she is working to her capabilities, then this needs to be celebrated.
If you have concerns that you want to discuss with your daughter’s teachers make yourself aware of the dates for the Parent/Teacher/Student interviews (see below for dates and times) and book a time on-line.

Best Wishes

Suzanne Kawana
Principal

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**Important Information**

**Term Dates for Term 3**

End Term 2  
Thursday 30th June Classes conclude  
Term 3  
All students return Monday 18th July

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Year 10  
Tuesday 28th June 2pm—6.30pm  
Year 8  
Tuesday 19th July 2pm – 6.30pm  
Year 9  
Tuesday 2nd August 2pm – 6.30pm  
Classes will conclude at 1.45pm on these days

**Update Information**

It is vital that student and parent information is kept up-to-date. You may either update information online or download the attachment and return the completed form to the College Office.

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**COLLEGE ENROLMENTS**

Applications for Year 7 2018 close on Friday 1 July 2016. The interview process will commence in Term 3 and run through into Term 4 of this year.

**Sibling Enrolments 2018**

Whilst preference is given to families with daughters already attending the College, we MUST receive a completed enrolment application form for each daughter you wish to send to the College by Friday 1 July 2016.

For more information, or to download an enrolment application form please follow the links under the ‘Enrolment Contacts’ tab on the College website www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au. You are most welcome to contact me via the College Office on or via kirsteen.fisscher@dbb.catholic.edu.au.

Mrs Kirsteen Fisscher  
College Registrar
Student News

On May 4, a number of girls from the Mercy Action Group were invited to attend the Junior Mercy Action Day at OLMC Parramatta. The day was full of meeting new people from other Mercy schools. The first experience had to do with us and our opinions on the environment, politics and teenage life. They asked us a number of questions to do with social media and pollution.

Catholic Mission presented a simulation of our divided world. The experience was challenging as we were all squished up in a small space, and only a few girls were represented as the First world countries. I think that the only reason we found it challenging was because they were eating these delicious cookies and a number of us weren’t!

We were also presented with a slideshow showing teenage girls that suffer due to slavery and a life of prostitution. Personally I could imagine the images clearly being from the Philippines. The Philippines is a third world country and we see children running around the streets with no family and home. We were given a deeper understanding of third world countries and what it is like being alone and in danger to the slave trade and a life of prostitution.

Our final activity was a topic on how we could improve our school community and environment. This was a very interactive activity as we discussed numerous ways to improve our schools; for example, more paper bins, compost bins and even just to start bringing in water bottles to school instead of buying water from the canteens.

We all enjoyed being part of the new growing friendship through the five Mercy schools and meeting new friends as well as learning so much about the Social Justice issues.

Shayne Year 9
Student News

**WYD Pilgrim Presentation Liturgy**

This week Bishop Peter and Father Paul led a WYD Presentation Liturgy to commission the WYD pilgrims from the Chatswood School Communities in front of their peers. Year 11 students from Mercy Catholic College, St Pius X and Chatswood High attended this special liturgy in order to share with the pilgrims, their preparation for their journey to WYD in Karkow.

In just over a month our pilgrims will set off through Italy and on to Krakow Poland for WYD 2016 for what is likely to be the largest gathering of Catholics ever assembled. As our Mercy pilgrims set off on this journey it is our prayer that through this amazing experience they may be filled with the fullness of God and that the eyes of their hearts may be further enlightened to know the hope to which they are called in Christ. Furthermore, we hope that upon their return they may share that experience to encourage all others in our community to continue to welcome Christ into their own hearts. Bishop Peter at the Liturgy made a special request from our pilgrims asking them to “take your friends with you on this journey”.

At the Liturgy the Local Chatswood Pilgrims were presented to their Year 11 Peers and asked to make the following pledge:

God of Mercy, You continue to call your pilgrim people to share more deeply in your intimate love.

As I journey towards World Youth Day in Krakow, pour out Your Spirit upon me, that I may be the very sign and promise of Your presence here in this community and in the entire world.

Inspire all pilgrims to know you more deeply and serve you more truly.

Help me respond to your call to go and make disciples of all the nations.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

**Mercy Pilgrims**

Vanessa D  
Carmel R  
Elizabeth K  
Fionnghuala L  
Lilanya D’  
Elizabeth E

**Pilgrim Group Leader**

Ms Stojanovski

Following the Liturgy all Year 11 Students were invited back to the St Pius Gymnasium where the students were given the opportunity to sign T Shirts that the pilgrims will take with them to WYD keeping their friends in their hearts and in their prayers on this life-making journey.

**Ms Gabie Stojanovski**

*Religious Education Coordinator*
Student News

Year 9 English Fairy Tale Exhibition

On Thursday 9th June Year 9 English students displayed their entertaining and thought-provoking pieces that appropriated elements of well-known fairy tales. As part of our study of fairy tales, Year 9 English students undertook an independent project to explore the genre. There were imaginative and creative examples of satire, parody and social commentary that challenged concepts of power, gender and stereotypes. The range of pieces, which included artworks, song, advertisements, film and installations, demonstrated the students’ capacity to work together and challenge others to see these well-known stories in new and different ways. The commitment and enjoyment that Year 9 demonstrated was clearly evident. Congratulations Year 9.
Student News

Year 10 Ampitheatre Acts

On Wednesday the 8th of June, Mercy’s Year 10 managed to put on a Broadway-worthy show (hence Ashley C’s amazing performance of Satisfied, from Hamilton).

The talent of Year 10 was put over the Mercy loudspeakers, showcasing singing and a little bit of stand-up comedy. Emma M and Grace J presented “A Team,” by Ed Sheeran. Their performance was heartfelt, and harmonised perfectly, and Grace displayed her expertise on the guitar. Miss McGreal also accompanied Grace in her hauntingly beautiful song of “Deep Water.”

Ashley C, as mentioned before, performed ‘Satisfied,’ from the Broadway hit musical ‘Hamilton.’ The energy in the crowd was exhilarating as she sang, and it is clear that she’ll definitely be continuing on a musical path in the future. Emily T tackled “Valerie” by Amy Winehouse, and lifted everyone’s spirits with the jazzy number.

Our last musical performance was Kimberly M, Bella J, Charlotte M and Danny C. The four performed a lovely rendition of “Stitches” by Shawn Mendes. Their song got the crowd singing and clapping along to the talent of the four.

This lovely lunchtime performance ended with lots of laughter, with a last minute performance of host Jodie M, practicing her newfound talents in stand up comedy. She tells the story of her visiting her friend in LA, with a bit of shopping, Ubers and a driver named Powel. I could explain the story, but you’ll have to wait until she’s on the big screen.

This performance was absolutely lovely, and these Ampitheatre Acts will be a hard one to compete with next year! A big thanks to the Music department, Miss Lennon and all of the participants in Year 10!

Cassie Parker
Year 10 Creative Arts/Media Representative

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Student News

**MERCY BASKETBALL - Update **

The Mercy U19 team have finished in 2nd place for the current competition and will now play in the SEMI FINALS on MON 20th June at 5.45pm at the Crows Nest Indoor Sports Centre. Anyone who is able to attend is welcome to go along and cheer them on.

Congratulations to the girls and their coach Lisa Sutton on having a great season.

Good Luck to the following girls next week - Chloe, Olivia, Reese, Ella, Georgia, Sonia, Ignazia, Mary & Keelin.

Sharon Houston
Mercy Basketball Convenor

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young People invites you to participate in a photo competition which gives you the opportunity to show NSW the real you! Get involved by taking a photo that’s a glimpse into your world, such as your creative hobbies, engaging with your local community, volunteering, playing sports, exploring your favourite places, or hanging with your friends at school. Children and young people have told us that they are tired of being stereotyped, in particular, through the photos and images used to represent them. ACYP together with children and young people want to shift the way children and young people are portrayed in our newspapers, on our televisions, and on our screens.

If you’re under 25, we invite you to participate in the Real NSW photo competition which gives you the opportunity to show NSW the real you!

Get involved by taking a photo that’s a glimpse into your world, such as your creative hobbies, engaging with your local community, volunteering, playing sports, exploring your favourite places, or hanging with your friends at school.

Enter the competition to win prizes and have your photo publicly displayed.

For information on the competition and prizes: www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/real-nsw

**The rules are simple**

- Take an in-situ picture with yourself in it (phone-quality images are fine).
- The image needs to be taken in NSW.
- You must be under 25 years of age, and if under the age of 18 you must have consent from a parent or guardian.
- Entries are open now and the competition closes July 15, 2016.
- Upload the image using the form from the website.

Activities Club
Split Rounds this Weekend

After two rain interrupted rounds of netball prior to the long weekend, the NSNA is now playing catch up. Information is available from the NSNA website.

Please stay alert for team specific information from your Manager and contact them with any queries.

MCC Coaches: Have you signed up yet?

COACH THE COACHES

NSNA are delighted to announce that Megan Anderson, NSNA Director of Coaching and current Assistant Coach to the NSW Swifts will be holding 3 Coaching Workshops from 7:00-8:00PM.

- Defence: 16.06.16
- Mid-Court: 28.06.16
- Shooting: 30.06.16

For further details and to register visit:
Web: nsna.nsw.netball.com.au
E: busadmin@nsna.com.au
NetFit Netball this Sunday

First Class Full! Trybooking registration via NSNA website. At least one MCC team has booked for some combined fun and fitness – don’t miss out.
Parent News

**Parent Catch Up**

A few parents were able to come along to the MCC Parent Catch Up at the Willoughby Hotel on Wednesday 15 June 2016.

It was a lovely chance to get to know a few parents a little better and we shared stories (not always about our daughters) and managed quite a few laughs.

Phillipa Sobb

President P & F
perrysobb@gmail.com
0411 429 629

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**Federal Election**

Five videos have been commissioned by the NCEC promoting the good work of Catholic schools across the country. The videos have been uploaded to the NCEC’s YouTube channel. The first video is on Catholic schools generally while the remaining four have a specific theme – parents, teachers, Catholic values and funding. You are asked to share the link [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=qIXOiqFPVRw](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=qIXOiqFPVRw) in all communication channels your school uses (newsletters, Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

**LINKED** is the NCEC’s government funding message for next week.
Canteen Roster

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

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please help us to serve your daughters! We need volunteers for canteen—once a week, once a fortnight, once a month or even once a term. Whatever suits you. WE are always happy to see you.

If you can help in anyway please contact us ASAP 9419 2890.

Thank you

Anna, Angela and Nancy