Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of Week 6 in our term, Years 9 and 10 are hard at study for their Semester 2 exams. The ones they have completed so far, are said by the girls to be fair and a good reflection of what they have studied in the classroom.

As parents you need to be mindful of the fact that these exams are just one reflection of the mirrored experiences of learning that they have in their classes. It is therefore important to not only encourage study at this time, but to encourage their engagement each and every day with their learning.

GLASS CEILINGS FOR WOMEN:
With the results of the recent elections in the USA there has been much talk about Hillary Clinton not being able to shatter, in her words, “the highest, hardest glass ceiling”.

For women of past generations sexism was explicit with laws and rules about married women not being able to work in certain jobs, less pay for women etc. Today sexism is often implicit as cultural biases about gender still have an impact on expectations of how girls/women should act or what they should say.

Often the norms of how a woman should act include being passive, gentle and congenial which is at odds with the norms of leadership including being commanding, decisive and assertive. Donald Trump repeatedly accused Hillary Clinton of lacking stamina, which could be seen as code for “women are weak”.

As parents and educators of girls we need to encourage them to strive to put a sledgehammer to that glass ceiling without hiding their feminine qualities which will add an enriched dimension to leadership. Being gentle, congenial and compassionate are qualities needed in the leaders of the future so that world issues are dealt with in a collaborative way.

VOLUNTEERS COCKTAIL PARTY:
A reminder that if you haven’t as yet responded to your invitation to the Cocktail Party on the 29 November please do so asap so we can organise the catering.

Best wishes

Suzanne Kavangh

Principal
Creative Arts Evening 2016

Gap Year

“A group of fifteen friends from Mercy Catholic College complete their final year of school. Still investigating their post-school options these students embark on the adventure of a lifetime. As they go on a journey of self-discovery they realise that everything they need to know is already inside them.”

The scene was set for this year’s Creative Arts Evening, a Gap Year came to life through music, drama and dance. The Year 11 Drama class took the roles of a group of teenagers on the journey of a lifetime and led the audience around the globe.
Remembrance Day Commemoration Service – 11 November
Year 10 Student Leaders represented Mercy College at the local Chatswood Remembrance Day Commemoration Service. The students laid a wreath in the Garden of Remembrance as a mark of respect to the local Chatswood heroes who have died serving our country.

Prayer of Remembrance
Today we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. Today we dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.

Ms Stojanovski
Religious Education Co-ordinator
Broken Bay Secondary School Leaders’ Day

One Tuesday 8th November, four of our Year 12, 2017 Student Leaders attended the Broken Bay Secondary School Leaders’ Day at Canisius College Pymble, along with over 60 student leaders from various colleges within the diocese. The day was a great day to come together in faith and enabled us to engage in conversation about leadership and spread ideas with other student leaders from different schools.

Bishop Peter Comensoli led us on a talk on ‘The Face of Jesus’. This was followed by question time, where we had the opportunity to ask Bishop Peter any questions about our faith, which was very interesting and thought provoking. We then celebrated the Eucharist and at lunch spent time discussing and swapping ideas on how we can best lead our schools and leave our mark on College.

The day ended with a reflection, and the commissioning of the student leaders. Through this opportunity, the Mercy leaders have been given an insight into how to best lead and leave a positive legacy on the College community.

Ashleigh H
Vice-Captain
Student News

BBSSSA Tennis Gala Day  3 November

The tennis gala day took place at the Queenwood Tennis Centre, Oxford Falls. It was a great, fun experience for all of us and was a day to take up new skills and meet new people. All the teams played well and everyone had a great day, and it was a day we all had the opportunity to represent our school with pride and confidence.

A big congratulations to all the teams for their hard work and the effort they put in, especially to the under 13s who were able to come home in first place, the Opens for their hard work to come in second and to the under 15s who tried their hardest but just missed out finishing in 3rd place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U13 team</th>
<th>U15 team</th>
<th>Open team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia C</td>
<td>Ella C</td>
<td>Helena S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alyssa P</td>
<td>Olivia K</td>
<td>Giselle K</td>
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<td>Molly A</td>
<td>Gabrielle P</td>
<td>Ella C</td>
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By Olivia K
Activities Club

BASKETBALL UPDATE
The 2016 Junior competition 2 is coming to an end with only 2 games remaining.

* U19 Mercy team: Monday division
This team is currently coming 6th out of 7 teams, their last game is Monday 21/11. They started off well earlier in the comp but have found this comp to be tougher than the last where they were in the Grand Final. They will continue to do their best and have fun playing together and will come back next year and fight for another chance in the 2017 Grand Final.

*U16 Mercy Magic Team : Division 3
This team is currently coming 7th out of 10 teams, their last game is Friday 25/11. This team has improved greatly since the first comp, they have grown stronger together and have won a lot more games this time around.

*U14 Mercy Wildcats team : Division 2
This team has had amazing results, winning most of their games by 20 points or more and are the current leaders in the division. They were offered a chance to challenge themselves and asked to play up into division 1 for the last 5 rounds of the competition. So far in division 1 they have played 3 games and have had 1 x win, 1 x draw and 1 x loss (although only by 4 points). Well done. The team will go back to division 2 at the end of the competition to re enter into their previous first place position to play in the Playoffs on 2/12 and hopefully the Grand Final on Friday 9/12. The times for the Playoffs and Grand Final are TBA and everyone is welcome to come along and cheer them on at the Crows Nest Indoor Basketball Centre.

( Please check the following newsletter on 2/12 for game times & also notices- an estimated time for the games will be 5pm).

Regards
Sharon Houston
Basketball Convenor
0417763304
Parent News

Year 7 (2017) Information Evening

Thank you to the parents of the Year 9 students (and one sibling) who helped prepare and run the BBQ for the new Mercy girls and their buddies. I am very grateful for your enthusiasm and support. Thank you for ensuring the incoming girls and their parents felt very welcomed by the current parent community.

I received many thanks for managing the P&F contribution, however I would like to pass all the kind words and thanks onto you all because on the night, I really did not do very much, just supervised your wonderful work. You were all motivated and efficient and wonderful to work with.

Congratulations to the Year 9 students. Your hospitality in ensuring the Year 6 girls received their food first was noted and appreciated. The Year 6 girls appeared to be having a great time with you throughout the night and your enthusiasm and happiness seemed to rub off and reduce any obvious anxiety they may have been feeling. It was lovely to see.

Phillipa Sobb

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

For further information and registration form click here
Parent News

Digital Citizenship & Cybersafety Education for Parents

Parents of children in systemic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay are invited to join a free online Digital Citizenship and Cybersafety Education webinar that will be held from 8:00 pm – 8:40 pm on Wednesday 23rd November 2016.

The webinar will be hosted online by the Catholic Schools Office, Diocese of Broken Bay and will be facilitated by Greg Gebhart from the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner.

Time: 8:00 – 8:40 pm

Date: Wednesday 23rd November 2016

Technical Requirements: Any internet enabled device

Registration: Register to attend the webinar at https://goo.gl/dvqzXb before 8:00pm 23rd November 2016
Download the free Parent’s Guide to Online Safety from the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner at https://goo.gl/k5kCHD or the free Parenting Online Infographic at https://goo.gl/xDO4Pi
School Student Transport Scheme
Applications open 10 October 2016

From Monday 10 October 2016, parents, guardians and students over 16 years, will be able to apply for a 2017 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel pass by visiting www.transportnsw.info/school-students.

Information for parents and students

School travel passes only need to be updated when a student:

- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

A new application is required when:

- applying for an SSTS pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten,
- progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation.

For more information on planning your school travel, visit www.transportnsw.info or contact your local operator.

Passes for 2017 travel

Opal network: Please remind ALL your students to keep their School Opal cards for travel in 2017. These cards will be automatically deactivated for school holidays and then reactivated for school travel in term one. Students’ current School Opal cards can be updated with changes of school, home address or operator.

Rural and regional travel: Students travelling with operator-issued passes will receive a new pass in the new school year.
Canteen Roster

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

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>21/11—25/11</th>
<th>28/11-2/12</th>
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<td><strong>Mon</strong></td>
<td>M. Thornton</td>
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<td><strong>Tues</strong></td>
<td>L. Burton</td>
<td>P. Der Bedrossian</td>
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<td>M. Pagano</td>
<td>M. Crawford</td>
<td>V. Beattie</td>
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<td>C. Daniels</td>
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<td>P. Rodrigues</td>
<td>A. Wesley</td>
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<td>C. De Mesa</td>
<td>R. Habib</td>
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<td>S. Roberts</td>
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CANTEEN NEWS

NEW PRODUCTS - GLUTEN FREE Pies 2 varieties. These new products are now available at the canteen but must be ordered at Recess for your lunch requirements.

Curry Vegetable Pie - tender medley of vegetable in an authentic creamy coconut sauce and carefully selected curry spices. This product also suitable for a meat free choice. This is also a great way of getting nearly 2 serves of vegetables in your diet.

Beef Pie - A traditional beef pie and gravy a great way to warm up on a cold day.

Toasted Sandwiches are also a great way to warm up on a cold day only $3.00, these are only available on request so put in a lunch order at recess.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please help us to serve your daughters!

Volunteering at the canteen gives you the opportunity to meet other parents, your daughter’s classmates also to put a face to a name of a teacher.

No previous experience required and tasks are very simple.

We welcome fathers, mothers, carers and grandparents. If you can help in anyway please contact us ASAP 9419 2890.

Thank you

Anna, Angela and Nancy