Mercy Catholic College, Chatswood



The Mercy Voice

Term 2 Issue 3 27 May — 6 June 2019

In this Issue:

Page

- 1. Principal's Message
- 3. Director of Mission & RE
- 5. Mercy Girls inspire
- 6. Student News
- 12. Co-curricular Activities
- 13. P&F News

REMINDER MERCY COLLEGE IS CLOSED TOMORROW FRIDAY 7 JUNE

Upcoming Events:

TERM 2

WEEK SEVEN

10 June — Queens Birthday Long Weekend College is CLOSED

13 June—BBSSSA Open
Basketball
13 June—Year 8 Reflection
Day
14 June—NSWCC Cross
Country
14 June—Year 12 Economics
Excursion

WEEK EIGHT

20 June — Year 10 Textiles Workshop

SAVE THE DATE

P&F TRIVIA NIGHT Saturday 7 September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Friday at our Athletics Carnival the girls were provided with the opportunity run, throw, jump, walk or cheer to earn points for their respective House. We were lucky with the weather which brought chilly temperatures but enough sunshine to keep us reasonable warm.



We had record participation rates and it was lovely to see how enthusiastically both staff and students embraced the 1980s dress theme. Fluro was the most popular colour seen. Congratulations to the Green Team (McAuley) for being the overall winners of the carnival. You can see more of the results later in Mercy Voice.

CHAMBER CHOIR SUCCESS:

Congratulations goes to our Chamber Choir who's singing of *The Wanderer by Dan Walker*, earned them third place at the recent Sydney Eisteddfod. They are certainly making a reputation for themselves regarding the quality of their voices; which can be contributed to the impressive quidance of our Choir Master, Mrs Kath McGreal.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE:

Years 9 and 10 Visual Arts students have just finished an Artist in Residence programme, culminating in an exhibition titled *Shadow Stories*. Dr Tianli Zu (PhD Philosophy, Fine Arts) has been working with the students engaging and inspiring them to produce their own works of art. Dr Zu is an artist in her own right, holding numerous exhibitions as well as passing on her talent through workshops and her work as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Dean's Unit at the School of Humanities and Communication Arts at the Western Sydney University. Her most recent work *I dance with you*, light and music installation can be seen in Vivid at Chatswood.

Our students have produced exceptionally fine works under her guidance, exploring the relationship between $21^{\rm st}$ century society and nature. They can be viewed in the foyer of the Willoughby Council Chambers for the next month (until 21 June), from 8.30 to 5pm.

CHATSWOOD PARISH OUTREACH:

Fr Jim, our Parish Priest, is preparing to launch an initiative to support the needy in our Chatswood community. He is leading preparations that will ultimately support a weekly meal each Saturday evening for people in need of 'relationship', 'community' and a nutritious meal.

Fr Jim will launch the initiative with a meeting to discuss the initiative and to create 'meal teams' on Saturday June 29th, 6.30pm at Harrington Hall. At this meeting he will determine if there are sufficient volunteers to go forward and to launch the dinners in September this year.

COLLEGE CLOSED THIS FRIDAY:

Just a reminder that there are no classes this Friday 7 June, as this is a day in-lieu for staff and students who attended Open Day on a Sunday.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable long weekend and stays warm in our sudden cold snap.

Best wishes

Principal

Sugarne Kowanagh

Amity College Student Leaders' Iftar Dinner

Each year our College Leaders are invited to attend the Student Leaders' Iftar Dinner at Amity College in Prestons. This evening provides our student leaders with an opportunity for interfaith dialogue and personal encounter with Muslim students. The conversations held on the evening highlighted the similarities we as Christians share with the Muslim faith as "people of the book". The program for the evening included a Quran recitation, Islamic call to prayer and personal testimonies from Muslim students about their personal experience of Ramadan. The food was also amazing! The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by our students and many friendships were formed during the evening.

Student Reflection

On the 29 May, 10 Mercy Catholic College representatives from the student leadership team attended an interfaith dialogue event at Amity College in Prestons. The Student Leaders Iftar dinner was held to celebrate the breaking of fast at sunset during Ramadan. The dinner began with a call to prayer, by an Amity student which was sung in Arabic which shows devotion to the Muslim belief in Allah.

The breaking of the fast began with eating a date, this is of religious significance as it mimics the action of the Prophet Muhammad. This was followed by a dinner incorporating a diverse



range of delicious food. During the meal we conversed with other students representing schools throughout NSW. This conversation provided the opportunity for us to gain an appreciation and understanding of other cultures and religious traditions.

Following the meal, a student recited a passage from the Qur'an. The extract explained the importance and reason for Ramadan as celebrating the giving of the Qur'an to the prophet Muhammad. We learnt about the College's social justice initiatives and listened to a presentation on 'inspiring leadership'.

The evening concluded with a 'table discussion' on how we can lead change in our contemporary world. These questions provoked discussions about current issues faced by leaders and also allowed for us to share current initiatives being implemented within our respective schools to inspire change in the world, and for the betterment of all people.

We would like to thank Ms Stojanovski for this interfaith opportunity, allowing us to engage in dialogue and develop a greater understanding of other faiths.

Cailin G- Year 11 Liturgy Portfolio Prefect



Notice from Fr. Jim Parish Priest at Our Lady of Dolours Church

Fr Jim, our Parish Priest, is preparing to launch a most remarkable initiative called "Community Dinners" to support the needy in our Chatswood community. This involves providing a weekly meal each Saturday evening for people in need of relationship, community and a nutritious meal.

Fr Jim will launch the initiative with a meeting on Saturday 29 June at 6:30pm in Harrington Hall to discuss the initiative and create 'meal teams'. At this meeting he will determine if they have sufficient volunteers to go forward and to launch the dinners in September this year.

For further information, please refer to Fr Jim's note:

Community Dinners: Mother Teresa said that the greatest poverty is loneliness. There are so many people who live in a busy place like Chatswood yet feel alone. There are people who eat every meal on their own. Perhaps they have family and friends, but these live far away, and there are others who for whatever reason find themselves isolated and lonely.

Jesus brought people together for meals. Table fellowship was part of his bringing about the Reign of God, where everyone is invited to have a seat at the table. As disciples of Jesus we are asked to do the same, and so Chatswood Parish are going to launch "Community Dinners" which will be a free open weekly meal for anyone who wants to share a meal in good company.

These dinners will be for everyone, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. Apart from praying grace before the meal there will be no explicitly religious presentation other than that it is we as disciples of Jesus who are hosting and serving the meal. The dinners will be free and subsidised by the parish and any grants we can obtain.

Other parishes (Narraweena, Waitara, Kincumber) have had great success doing this. It has become a hub of community for the parish itself, and a substantial outreach to the local community, meeting the needs of people who are both physically hungry and those who are socially isolated. For many people it becomes the only meal which they eat at a table, off a plate, and with others. Relationships form, barriers are broken down, and the Church is enriched and enlivened by giving to others. Parishioners and whole families who are not "in need" also come along to build relationships so that the dinner feels like a big family meal rather than a soup kitchen.

We are looking for volunteers willing to commit to cook and serve on one Saturday night each month. We will form 4 teams who will each cook and serve once each month, so that no one is overly burdened.

We will have a launch meeting to meet one another, create teams, and answer questions on Saturday 29 June at 6.30pm at Harrington Hall. At this meeting we will determine if we have sufficient volunteers to go forward and to launch the dinners in September.

For more information see Fr Jim - 9410 9022

jim.mckeon@bbcatholic.org.au

Ms Gabie Stojanovski
Director of Mission & Religious Education

So often teenagers are criticised for being rude and noisy. At Mercy we do get a number of such complaints, which we deal with, so it is wonderful to be able to share with you a positive response below.

Ms Kavanagh Principal

Hi,

My purpose in writing to you is to let you know how impressed I am by the exemplary behaviour of a group of your students. After transacting some business in Chatswood today, my travel home was on a Forest Coach Lines bus which departed Chatswood at 2pm. Approximately 15 of your students joined the bus at the Station whilst a further 30 or so joined the bus in Anderson Street. Obviously the bus was quite packed, but these young ladies (my guess is that they are aged approx. 14) ensured that older people, such as myself, got on the bus and were seated. Additionally they all kept their conversations at a polite level, or otherwise indulged in some reading etc.

They are a great credit to themselves, and reflect very well on what your College is achieving not only in scholastic terms, but as future adult citizens in Australia.

Kind regards

Name withheld

CONGRATULATIONS

Genevieve O (Yr 10) has been selected in the Cricket NSW U17 Girls Academy.

The U17 squad will train over Winter under the guidance of Cricket NSW coaches. The Academy program is about channelling players into state teams for the U18 National Championships.

This caps off a great cricket season for Genevieve when she was made captain of the first ever girls cricket team for UTS North Sydney Cricket Club which played in the U18 Brewer Shield competition.

Genevieve was crowned player of the year for that team.



MCAULEY ATHLETES GET PHYSICAL TO DOMINATE 2019 CARNIVAL

Although Winter was imminent, students and staff were walking on sunshine for the 2019 College Athletics Carnival. Yes it was another day in paradise at Bannockburn Oval with House Captains choosing an 80's theme to inspire students to support their teammates.

True colours were shown during the exciting new House Cheers format which involved the whole Year 11 cohort. House Captains Abbey, Sofie, Chloe and Lilly decided to unite all teams and produce a performance that would engage and excite all students in an effort to increase school spirit. If you were walking down Archer Street you would be forgiven for thinking that the College was choreographing the next Whitney Houston tribute show.

Whether it was the 80's music Mrs Love was pumping out, the perfect weather or a general sense of motivation, students embraced the opportunity to earn points for their House. Throughout the day, over 900 participation points were recorded, 104 races were run and 2 track records were smashed. Furthermore, staff were frantically measuring an impressive number of throws and jumps of students who were keen to get involved with 7 records being broken in the field.

Relays were once again hotly contested with Coolock, Stormanston and McAuley all achieving success with some close finishes. Despite Stormanston receiving the highest participation points, McAuley were too strong, and for the fourth year in a row, the Green Machine achieved Champion House status.

Thank you to all staff for their support and assistance and to all students who challenged themselves to become involved in a memorable day.

2019 Records

Matilda N- Javelin Cassandra K- Javelin Hannah M - Discus and Shot Put Sophie A - Long Jump Lauren B - Shot Put and Javelin Sofia S - 400m and 800m

Champion House: McAuley

Champion Athlete: Lauren B – Coolock (2 records, 5 x 1sts, 2 x 2nds and 92 individual

points)

Age Champions

	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17+ years
Age Champion	Ariana G (McAuley)	Anna B (Mercy)	Martha W (Stormanston)	Cassandra K (McAuley)	Jana D (Mercy)	Lauren B (Coolock)
2 nd Place	Hannah H (Stormanston)	Gemma F (McAuley)	Sophie R (Stormanston)	Sofia S (McAuley)	Annabelle S (McAuley)	Betsy W (Stormanston)
3 rd Place	Sophia F (Mercy)	Annabelle G (McAuley)	Matilda N (Mercy)	Lucca T (McAuley)	Rebecca M (Stormanston)	Ainslie B (Coolock)



BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH HIKE 2019

On Thursday the 23rd of May the 39 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh participants set off to complete their practice hike at the Basin in the Ku-ring-gai National Park. Once we had all gathered at the Palm Beach wharf we caught the ferry across to the Basin.

At the Basin we all sat down to discuss how we should be careful and look after the wildlife that was surrounding us, as well as having a welcome to country and a prayer. We then set up our tents at the campsite and packed our day packs to set off for the first leg of our hike. To begin our journey we hiked up the Basin track and then turned off on to the Euro track.



At the end of Euro track, we stopped and looked around at the environment that surrounded us and the serenity of it. Something that we all noticed was the tessellated rock patterns which had formed when the area was covered in water. From there we walked back to the Basin track and hiked up to the aboriginal carvings where we all had lunch and looked at the history and meaning of some of the symbols drawn into the sandstone rock.

We continued hiking until we got to the end of the Mackerel track where we were treated to the most amazing view across Pittwater to Palm Beach. From this vantage point we could spot where we were going to hike the very next day. Here we also stopped to have a first aid demonstration by Mr Cuttler, who showed us how to strap an ankle.

From here there was no set path so we had to navigate our way down through the bush back to Mackerel Beach. The last part of our hike for Day One was a rock hop from Mackerel Beach back to camp at the Basin. This was fun but also challenging and tiring because of how long and slippery the rock formation was.





Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Hike continued...

When we got back to the Basin campsite, we had time to rest and set up the rest of our gear before heading over to the campfire to practice our mapping skills with Mrs Dorey. Then it was dinner time. A lot of people shared food and others made their own but it was interesting to see what others had planned to take with them to eat for dinner, which gave us all some great ideas for next time. After cleaning up from dinner we turned off our torches and went for a night walk around the campsite to test our eyesight at night. We saw wallabies trying to get in people's tents and soldier crabs on the beach. When we had finished the night walk, we went back to the campfire to roast marshmallows, talk about our day, tell riddles and scary stories.



Day Two started off with breakfast, then we packed down our tents to get ready to depart the Basin and catch our ferry back to Palm Beach wharf. From here we hiked with our full packs up to the Barrenjoey Lighthouse, where we explored the history of the lighthouse, enjoyed the stunning ocean views and beautiful scenery. We made our way back down the track to walk along Palm Beach before stopping at the Summer Bay Cafe to have a snack before returning to the wharf and departing from there.

We would like to thank Ms Dorey for organising this hike and Mr Cuttler, Mrs Mooney and Mrs Cunningham for coming along with us.

Mrs Clare Dorey
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Duke of Edinburgh scheme takes youngsters outside their comfort zone

Last week our Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Co-ordinator, Mrs Clare Dorey was interviewed by the Sydney Morning Herald reporter Kristie Kellahan for her thoughts on the importance of the programme.

Here is the link to the article

https://www.smh.com.au/business/workplace/duke-of-edinburgh-scheme-takes-youngsters-outside-their-comfort-zone-20190520-p51pdz.html

NSW ALL SCHOOL AFL TRIALS

On Monday, 3rd of June, Imogen H, Year 8 and I represented the College playing for the NSWCCC AFL team in the NSW All Schools trials. We competed against other teams, CIS three (Combined Independent Schools), GS CHS (Greater Sydney Combined Hiah Schools), RIV CHS (Riverina Combined High Schools). From these trials, 25 girls would be selected from the four teams to play in Tasmania in the 2019 NSW All Schools Girls team.

In our first game, our team (CCC) played CIS, it was a very intense game and in the final minutes, we kicked the winning goal, putting us in the lead



to win 26 - 20. Straight after, we were scheduled to play the favourites of the competition, Greater Sydney CHS. Unexpectedly, we ended up beating them 35 - 14. After a quick lunch, our last game of the day rolled around against Riverina CHS. The siren went off and our whole team looked up to read the scoreboard. 36 - 1. Our way.

We came off with smiles plastered on our faces. We all knew we had won the comp. All the girls were awarded a gold medal and the prized All Schools trophy was handed to our coach, Rick Joyce. The successes for Combined Catholic Colleges didn't stop there 11 girls from our team, including myself, were selected to play for the NSW Bluebirds AFL team this July in Tasmania.

Hannah W, Year 9



Imogen H & Hannah W with NSW All Schools Trophy

2019 SHINE CONFERENCE—St Peter's Tuggerah

On Friday 24th May, the Year 10 CSYMA class had the opportunity to attend the Youth Event, "Shine", hosted by St Peter's College, Tuggerah. It was a really good experience for our class as we were able to meet new people, share our thoughts and opinions, ask important questions, bond with each other and hear moving testimonies that helped us to reflect on our own relationship with God and our faith.

Students gathered from a number of schools across Sydney to participate in the day run by Mr Michael Tobin, and his student Youth Ministry team, in collaboration with CSYMA Australia.

Genevieve Bryant, a household name to many in the Australian Catholic Youth Ministry scene, lead the group of students in a praisefest. Genevieve composed, and performed, the 2015 Australian Catholic Youth Festival theme song 'Pure of Heart,' and also performed as a solo act at Tauron Arena in Krakow for World Youth Day, 2016. With her love of music and authentic faith, Genevieve Bryant and her band bring a spirit of joy to every performance and inspire young people everywhere with her thought provoking lyrics.

As a part of the day, we were given the chance to choose from a variety of workshops including "how to run ice breakers", "The Mission - sharings of a Kenyan Priest", "Jesus Memes" and "Faith and Leadership".

Overall, our excursion to the Shine conference was a great experience for our class and we hope to share all we learnt with our Mercy Community.

The CSYMA class





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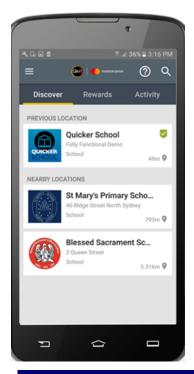
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For more information please click on the link below or contact Mrs Margaret Kellendonk Co-curricular activities Administrator 9419 2890 or margaret.kellendonk@dbb.catholic.edu.au

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Enjoy an evening filled with trivia, fun, games, laughter and a fabulous Silent Auction.

Purchase your tickets trybooking.com/499554 September 7, 2019 7:00pm HARRINGTON HALL

Mercy Catholic College P&F presents their annual