



# The Mercy Voice

**Term 4 Issue 3**  
**11 November — 22 November**  
**2019**

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## **Upcoming Events:**

### **WEEK SEVEN**

- 25 Nov—Year 10 Reflection Day**  
**26 Nov—Volunteers Cocktail Party—6pm**  
**27 Nov—Year 10 Elevate Study Skills**  
**29 Nov—Year 9 IT Excursion**

### **WEEK EIGHT**

- 4 Dec—Year 10 RYDA Excursion**  
**4 Dec—Year 9 Luna Park Excursion**  
**5 Dec—Year 8 Surf Awareness Program**

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Year 12 2020 Information Evening**  
**Tuesday 4 February 2020**  
**6pm to 7pm**

**Year 11 2020 Information Evening**  
**Tuesday 11 February 2020**  
**6pm to 7pm**

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

The Mercy community has had a heavy heart this week as we come to terms with the passing of our colleague, **Mrs Ellen Sunjaya**. Ellen commenced at Mercy in 1999 as clerical support in the front office and then moved into the position of clerical support for our Director of Curriculum. For those twenty years Ellen served our community with dedication. She was a woman of great poise, dealing with matters in a calm manner. Ellen will always be remembered for her generosity in the way she showed care for others on staff.



## **STAFF MATTERS:**

Mr Mark Strong who has been a member of our English faculty since 2016 is leaving us this week to take up another position in a school closer to home. Over the past four years Mark has been a dedicated teacher, passionate for his subject area and enthusiastic about passing this passion on to his students. We wish Mark all the best in his new school.

## **HSC RESULTS:**

As we wait with anticipation for the results of the HSC exams on December 12, we have received some exciting news about two of our students who completed practical components for their subjects.

Remie Collins has had her work nominated for inclusion in the Shape 2019, which is an exhibition of a selection of exemplary Major Projects of Design and Technology. Angela Prajogo's major work has been selected for inclusion in Textstyle, the annual exhibition of outstanding Major Textiles Projects. Congratulations Remie and Angela and to their teachers.

## **MERCY SUCCEEDS IN NATIONAL COMPETITION:**

Mercy sent two teams to the National competition for Gifted and Talented Students, called The Quest. With the overarching theme of Order in Randomness, the Quest was offered over two days and involved concepts in Humanities, Sciences and Mathematics.

Our Students from Year 10: Sophie T, Karisma W, Charlotte W, and from Year 8: Rhea N, Maree P and Katelyn C demonstrated an outstanding ability and love of learning, as they fully engaged with the challenges. They deserve congratulations for achieving consistently well in all topics, with the Year 10 team coming first in Maths, fourth in Science and third overall in NSW.

## Message from Principal

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The Year 10 team, have been asked to represent Mercy and NSW at the National Quest Finals on Saturday 7th December at Queensland University.

### **PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE BUSHFIRES:**

Mercy is very much an urban school, but our thoughts and prayers have been with our other Diocesan schools close to bushland and in deed the country as a whole, as they have dealt with the terrible bushfires raging throughout many States. I offer this prayer for all those affected.

*God of life and death,  
our prayers today are where our hearts and minds  
have been during these last days  
and where they have been drawn so early in this season;  
with those communities and individuals  
whose lives have been damaged  
in differing ways by the bushfires.*

*We pray for all those who have been affected;  
for the families and friends of those who have been killed.*

*We pray for those who have been injured and survived:  
for physical and emotional trauma;  
for the fear and helplessness experienced;  
for the anger and frustration at the injustice  
of unavoidable disaster.*

*We pray for those who have lost their home and property  
or are facing such loss:  
for those who have been forced to leave  
their memories and belongings;  
for the fear & disorientation of all involved;  
Heal them from their nightmare memories.*

*We are aware of those who have lost stock,  
or are watching their stock suffer  
sometimes with inevitable consequences;  
we are conscious of those  
who are struggling to find feed and water  
for the stock under their care.*

*We pray for all involved in fighting the fire:  
for our Rural Fire Service and their leadership  
and all those we know and those we do not know;  
we pray for courage in a place of fear;  
for new strength in the face of exhaustion;  
for people who have travelled distances  
in order to resource those who experience fatigue.*

*Keep us faithful and alert in our praying and our action  
In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.*

(Simon Hansford, moderator of the Uniting Church in NSW and ACT)

*Best wishes*



**Principal**

### **FAREWELL TO ADRIAN BRANNAN – Our Lady of Dolours Youth Minister**

Mr Adrian Brannan, the Youth Ministry Coordinator at Our Lady of Dolours Church and St Pius X College will be leaving Chatswood at the end of this year to take up a new Youth Ministry position in Coffs Harbour.

Adrian has been instrumental in creating inclusive communities of faith amongst the Chatswood Catholic schools. He has supported Mercy College over the past 7 years in the faith formation of both our staff and students.

Adrian has graciously given his time to assist and minister at senior Retreats and Reflection Days and has led much enjoyed tours of OLD Church for our Year 7 students at the beginning of each year. Adrian has also worked very closely with our Youth Minister Miss Charisse Gange this year to lead a very successful Alpha Youth Program in Term 2 and our annual Eucharistic Ministers Course for Year 10 students.

I would like to thank Adrian on behalf of the Mercy College Community and wish him all the best as he begins his new ministry in Coffs Harbour. May the light of Christ guide him in his new role and may he be inspired by the Holy Spirit to pour out his gifts upon his new community.

### **Below is a message from Fr Jim McKeon:**

Adrian Brannan has served Chatswood Parish as Youth Ministry Coordinator for the past seven years and during that time has supported youth ministry at Mercy College also. Adrian will be leaving us at the end of the year to take up a new position with Coffs Harbour Catholic Parish where he will lead youth ministry in both the parish and school, drawing from his extensive experience in both parish and school youth ministry here.

We will have the opportunity to farewell Adrian at the 5.30pm Mass on Sunday 24 November where students from Mercy College and St Pius X College and their families will once again be invited to take part. There will be a BBQ and time to speak with Adrian afterwards.

### **Mercy and St Pius X Student Mass – Sunday 24 November at 5:30pm**

This Sunday we will celebrate our final Mercy and St Pius X Student Mass for 2019. This is a special occasion and celebration of the Eucharist as we will be farewelling Mr Adrian Brannan, Youth Minister at Our Lady of Dolours Church.

The details of the Student Mass are below:

**Date: Sunday 24 November**  
**Time: 5:30pm**  
**BBQ and Social Activities: 6:30 – 8:00pm**

Students who would like to be involved in the music ministries will need to arrive at 3:30pm. For all other ministries such as welcoming, reader, offertory procession, Eucharistic Minister etc students need to arrive at 5:00pm.

**Ms Gabie Stojanovski**  
***Director of Mission & Religious Education***

### **BIG SISTER AT MERCY**

Tutor Group time is a time for the junior and senior students to work collaboratively, supporting and affirming each other.

At Mercy we have senior Year Groups connected with junior Year Groups as their Big Sisters: Year 12 with Year 9, Year 11 with Year 8 and Year 10 with Year 7. We encourage every senior student to develop their leadership skills through service and through the support and mentoring of the junior students in their Tutor Group and in community events.

In 2020 the goals of the pastoral team are to strengthen the Big Sister program and to spend more time talking to the seniors about the support they can offer the juniors.

Last week on Friday evening the Year 9 students helped welcome the incoming Year 7 2020 students. From their camp earlier in the week, they learnt some strategies as Big Sisters and applied them on the evening.

The Year 9 were absolutely fantastic in ensuring all students were included and enjoying their time. Year 9 demonstrated the importance of engaging everyone and helping girls of Year 7 of 2020 girls who were not feeling confident about starting high school.

A good mentoring program will help the community to further flourish and we are really looking forward to having Year 9 as the Year 10 Big Sisters in 2020.

**Mrs G McDermott**  
***Director of Student Wellbeing***

# MCC Basketball MWBA



Good Luck to both our Year 7 Mercy Diamonds and our Year 8 Mercy Mavericks competing in their MWBA finals this Monday at the Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre, Warriewood. Both teams have had successful seasons and they are looking forward to putting the skills, mercy spirit and team work they have gained this season into these tough finals matches. Teams play at 5.30 pm and 6.30pm respectively and supporters are welcome!



## Mercy Diamonds

Madi S Jade N Scarlet R Ella A Lily B  
Summer L Chloe W Bella B Lily F  
Coaches: Chris Sporer & Joe Lorefice

## Mercy Mavericks

Amber S Liberti L Tara W Amy C  
Cara M Lily W Gabby M Serena S  
Coach: Sinclair Watson



### BROKEN BAY STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, four of the 2020 Year 12 leaders attended the Leadership Conference at the Catholic Schools Office. We were given the opportunity to meet leaders from other Catholic high schools in the Broken Bay Diocese and hear their leadership ideas.

Father David Ranson, the Vicar General, shared the lessons he has learnt about leadership such as "people don't care about what you know, they want to know that you care". On top of this, we heard from guest speakers from L'Arche, an organisation that builds community between people with and without intellectual disabilities, and the Columbian Centre for Christian and Muslim Relations, who were young people living out Pope Francis call to young people to "not be couch potatoes" but instead make their mark in the world. The Conference was a great way to meet others leaders and make connections.

Brooke A, Sofie T, Abbey J, Sydney M—Year 11



### GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH

On Wednesday 20 November four of our current Year 12 students were presented with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award by the Governor of NSW, The Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC.

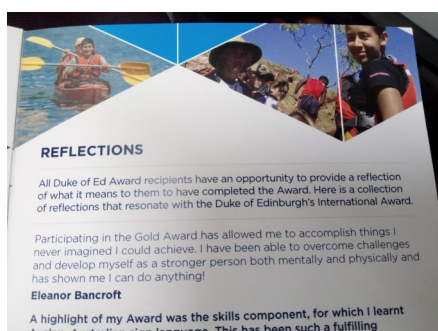
The presentation was held at St Stephen's Uniting Church on Macquarie Street. While being presented each girl had their Reflection (their highlight of the program) read to the audience. One of our girls, Eleanor Bancroft, was also one of only 5 students to have her Reflection published in the official program.



After official photos the awardees and guests were hosted at a morning tea at Government House, where they enjoyed drinks and finger food and were allowed to tour the State Rooms. Several of them also had conversations with Her Excellency and other distinguished guests.

This is the first time current students have ever been presented so soon after completing the award, and we hope it is a sign of things to come.

Ms Dorey  
Duke of Edinburgh award Co-ordinator





# #itsintheBag

DONATIONS ACCEPTED  
Friday November 22 - Saturday December 7



Year 9 are participating in 'Share the Dignity'. We are calling for a variety of sanitary items including shampoo + conditioner, toothbrush + toothpaste, soap, deodorant, sanitary items, facial wipes and handbags to be donated to the charity for Christmas

The Charity supplies homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence with dignity bag at a time they need it most. Unfortunately, there are many homeless women who need our help this Christmas. Many have fled domestic violence or experienced extreme poverty. We want to make them feel special. You can help. It's simple. First of all, choose a handbag in good condition that you no longer use. Then, fill it with items that would make a woman feel special, pop in a thoughtful note or Christmas card and show her someone cares. Show her that she matters because everyone deserves to feel that way.

Year 9 is very excited to be able to participate in this wonderful charity which helps women. Help share the dignity by bringing in any hotel bathroom packs or purchased toiletries.

**A basket will be outside the Year co-ordinator's office and Year 9 will be visiting Tutor Groups over the next week to collect the supplies mentioned. We would also like to put the supplies in a bag and would appreciate any new or near new handbags.**

Thank you in advance,

Scarlett S. (Year 9 Mercy Action Representative)





## Sculptures By The Sea Excursion



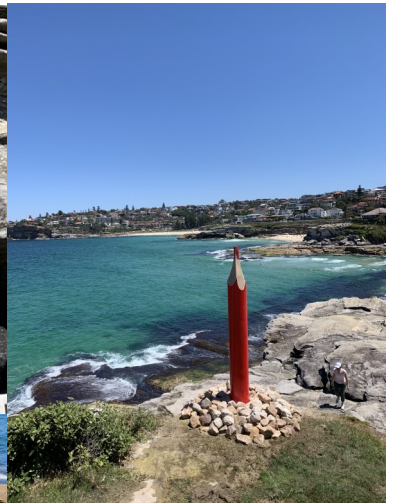
The Year 8 Visual Arts excursion was a day to remember. Right from the beginning, we were all immersed in the beautiful views of Bondi Beach, and the walk to Tamarama. Having recess when we arrived, the warm weather and the sound of the sea was a perfect combination to soak everything in.

Walking by the beautiful landscape, we arrived at *Sculpture by the Sea*, an exhibition filled with abstract, beautiful and stimulating art. The sculptures had an interesting and new perspective on issues such as the environment, political views, events and important people. A memorable piece of

artwork was "Wang Kaifang, The Statue of Mad Liberty", which depicted the iconic statue of liberty with a gold twist. The Mercy girls spent some time in Mark's Park, and analysed some large surrounding sculptures, which took our breath away. The path continued all the way down to Tamarama Beach which once again was spectacular, with a couple of photos with the iconic lifeguards on Bondi Rescue.

Overall, this Visual Arts excursion was enduring and impressive and Year 8 enjoyed the day thoroughly. Congratulations to all the artists involved, and many thanks to all the teachers who made this day possible.

Anneliese J -Year 8 Creative Arts Media Rep





### A FRIENDLY REMINDER OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES

- If a **student is unwell** during the day they need to come to sick bay at the office
- If a student remains unfit for class after a short period in sick bay, parents will be contacted by the office staff and asked to make arrangements to collect her within the hour.
- Students are NOT permitted to use their mobile phone to contact their parents if they are unwell.
- If a **student is late to school** they will be required to sign in at the Student Reception. An email or note must accompany the student or be sent the following day to explain the reason for the lateness to school.
- Students must be ready to begin Tutor Group at 8.40am. This means they should have arrived at school and have organised their books at least 10 minutes earlier.
- If a **student is absent due to illness** or urgent family circumstance, it is the parent's responsibility to contact the College on the day of their daughter's absence.

This can be done by emailing the College at [smccc.absentees@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smccc.absentees@dbb.catholic.edu.au) or downloading the College App and submitting an absence notification. As a reminder, if no reason for your daughter's absence has been received, an SMS will be sent to you by 10.00 am. Again, it is the parent's responsibility to reply to this message with a reason for the absence.

- If a reason for absence has not been received **within 7 days** of your daughter being away, the College is required to mark her as an Unexplained Absence on the rolls and this cannot be changed.

### LEAVE

- Term dates are clearly published well in advance. The College must also follow the guidelines in relation to the NSW Education Act (1990), where families are asked to undertake travel during the school holiday periods. We ask that you refer to the College calendar when making holiday bookings.
- All planned student absences, including family holidays, require a formal letter of application to the Principal. However, unless it is an exceptional circumstance, leave approval should not be presumed. We would hope that you would limit your holidays to the designated 12 weeks per annum.
- Whilst approval may be granted for students participating in non-College sporting competitions, it will generally not be granted for training camps or team trips.
- Where more than 10 days leave is being sought an additional form, available on request from the College office, must be completed.

For more details, please refer to the NSW Government document [Information for Parents](#) on school attendance.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation with the above matters

## **YEAR 7 2020 WELCOME BBQ & INFORMATION EVENING**

I would like to thank Jacqui, Christine, David, Maureen, Ron, Danielle, Lisa, Celina, Craig, Louise and Marnie for helping cook and serve at this event.

After a evening of fun for the incoming Year 7 students and information for their parents, it appeared the magnificently cooked sausages were very gratefully received.

It was lovely to see the current Year 9 students, Year 11 leaders and many MCC staff ensuring the night was not only fun but welcoming for these incoming students and their families.



## **Cocktail Party for Volunteers**

I hope to see many of you at this event next week that is generously hosted by MCC to acknowledge the support, time and contributions some of us are able to give.

I have forwarded a list of parents and carers who volunteered through me, however if I accidentally neglected to forward your name, please do RSVP and attend if you can.

TryBooking link is <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=570497&>

## **With Sympathy**

On behalf of all parents and carers I would like to extend our sympathy to MCC staff on the passing of their colleague Ellen Sunjaya.

Our thoughts and prayers are with staff and students at this very sad time.

Please feel free to call me at any time if you have any questions or would like to provide ideas or feedback.

Phillipa Sobb

[perrysobb@gmail.com](mailto:perrysobb@gmail.com)  
0411 429 629



MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
WOULD LIKE TO

*Thank you*

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY &  
COMMITMENT THROUGHOUT  
2019

Please join us for the

**VOLUNTEERS COCKTAIL PARTY**

Tuesday, November 26th 6pm-8pm

on the veranda outside the

Chapel in the College Grounds

For catering purposes please

RSVP [www.trybooking.com/BGLYF](http://www.trybooking.com/BGLYF)



Total Canteen Solutions

# BURGER

## SPECIAL

GRILLED CHICKEN AIOLI BURGER

**\$5.<sup>50</sup>**





## Getting started!

**Step 1. Download Qkr! on your Android phone or iPhone Via [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#)**  
iPad users can download iPhone App.

### Step 2: Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

### Step 3: Find Mercy Catholic College, Chatswood

Search for Mercy Catholic College or Chatswood

### Step 4: Register your Child/ren

When first accessing your school menu; you will be prompted to register your child. This allows you to make school payments on their behalf.

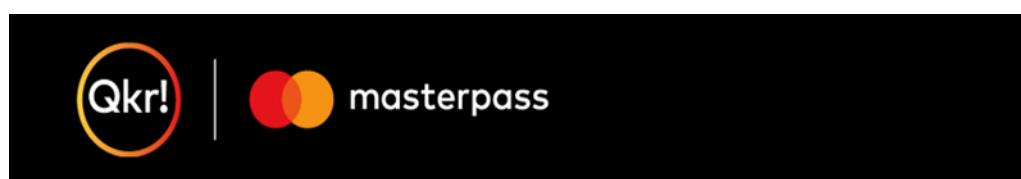
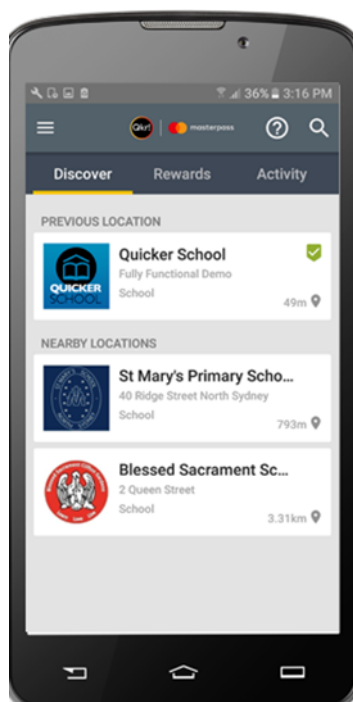
**Note: The [Qkr web client](#) is available for those not wanting to complete transactions from their mobile phone.**

### About the Qkr! App

Qkr is a safe, secure and reliable way to pay for school items. Qkr is provided by MasterCard so you know the payments are secure. No information is stored on your phone. Registration details and card information are saved securely on the MasterCard network.

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](mailto:margaret.kellendonk@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

[https:// www.mastercard.com.au/en-au/about-mastercard/who-we-are/qkr.html](https://www.mastercard.com.au/en-au/about-mastercard/who-we-are/qkr.html)



## Q. How can I keep track of my Qkr! payments?

A. Itemized Qkr! eReceipts provide a record of purchase and are a convenient way to keep track of your Qkr! payments.

To view your eReceipts:

1. Open Qkr! and tap 'Activity'.
2. Scroll down to 'Order History' and tap 'Receipt' to view eReceipts.

Never lose a receipt: email receipts to your account:

1. Select the eReceipt you wish to email to yourself.
2. Tap on the mail icon at the top right of your screen.
3. Tap 'Send' to email the eReceipt to your email address, or enter another email address, and tap 'Send'.