



The Mercy Voice

Term 1 Issue 1
30 January — 7 February
2019

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Upcoming Events:

TERM 1

WEEK THREE

- 10 Feb—Year 7 Camp**
- 11 Feb—Year 11 Information Evening 6pm**
- 12 Feb —On stage Years 11 & 12**
- 14 Feb—Year 11 & 12 Art Excursion**

WEEK FOUR

- 17 Feb — 2020 Opening College Mass 9am**
- 18 Feb—Year 12 Biology Excursion**
- 19 Feb—Academic Assembly 10am**
- 20 Feb—Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion**

SAVE THE DATE

6 March—Swimming Carnival

MERCY COLLEGE OPEN DAY 2019
SUNDAY 1st MARCH
(Compulsory School Day for Years 8, 9, 11 & 12))

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful beginning to the year. The College community on Wednesday last week welcomed 143 very excited Year 7 students and a small number of girls in other Year groups. Teachers were delighted to see all the students back on Thursday, with lots of stories of their holiday activities.



Everyone seems settled into their classes, ready to begin another exciting year of learning.

NEW STAFF:

Along with new students joining our community we have new staff as well. We welcome:

Miss Sarah Allen, who joins the English department, sharing classes with Mrs Melissa Loy who is returning from maternity leave.

Ms Frances Cunningham, also joins the English department as a full time staff member.

Mrs Jan Foster will be working in the library three days per week.

Mrs Kate Harrison joins the Maths department, job sharing with Ms Fiona Hogan who is returning from maternity leave.

Mrs Jacinta Hennessy-Bowden is our new Food Technology assistant, working 2 days per week.

Miss Madison Smith joins the HSIE department teaching History and Religion.

Ms Sharon Porter will be with us just for the Term as she takes on Geography and Commerce classes for Mr Geoghegan whilst he is on leave during Term 1.

VIETNAM SOCIAL JUSTICE IMMERSION:

The students and staff who were part of the Vietnam immersion had a very successful trip. The money raised in Mercy Week last year was used to purchase bricks and concrete, which the girls used to begin the building of a new school. You will remember last year we finished a school in Lai An parish after a three year build and that this year we moved to another small village in Thach Binh parish to begin another school. The new school will give an opportunity for the 60 children in the village to attend school and also provide shelter for families when the area floods. By the time we had to leave, Mercy girls had completed the walls of three classrooms up to shoulder height.

Photographs and some of the girls' comments can be read later in the newsletter.

P&F ADVISORY ASSOCIATION MEETING:

I invite you all to the first P&F meeting of the year on Wednesday 19 February. This is a great opportunity to hear from the College Executive about what is happening and also to give your opinion on important issues that have an impact on your daughter's learning.

P & F COCKTAIL PARTY:

The P&F Association annual Cocktail Party is being held on the 13 March. I encourage you to come along to meet the parents of your daughter's friends. Please see the details from P&F President Phillipa Sobb.

Best wishes

Suzanne Kavanagh

Principal



Mercy Catholic College
2020

Cocktail Party

MCC P&F invites
all MCC Parents and Carers
to the Annual Cocktail Party

Chatswood Golf Club
128 Beaconsfield Road Chatswood
Friday 13 March 2020 from 7pm til 11pm

We look forward to welcoming you

Tickets \$45
Canapés and Initial Bar Tab (2 hours)
Smart Casual

Please RSVP by Monday 9 March 2020
<https://www.trybooking.com/BIGVM>

Enquiries: Phillipa Sobb, 0411 429 629
perrysobb@gmail.com

WELCOME TO 2020

Welcome to 2020 and all the excitement you have endured helping your daughter start the new year. Getting back into a routine takes a little time therefore, it would not be unusual for your daughter to feel a little tired when she arrives home in these first few weeks. Girls want to please their new teachers and being good in class and doing the right thing can mean when they get home they are a little cranky, again just put it down to starting the new year.

When your daughter has settled in the afternoon have a conversation with her about the day, starting with the question; what did you like most about the day? This question should get a better response than if you asked the question; how was your day? Because this question would most likely elicit the one word response 'good'.

By checking in on your daughter you are letting her know you care. Let her know if she needs any help you are there to help and also encourage her to see her subject teacher if she has difficulty with a particular subject.

If she cannot do the homework or is really tired, write a note in your daughter's diary letting the teacher know your daughter will do the work the next night or on the weekend.

Year 12 and Year 11 Parents

As parents of a daughter in Year 12 or Year 11, your role is to support your daughter and always encourage her to see her teachers if she does not understand the work. It is also important you remain calm. If your daughter does have a meltdown which is not unusual, your role is to listen and calm her down, it is not a time to lecture or give the motivational speech.

Though she is in the senior years, it does not give her permission to be disrespectful, your daughter is expected to adhere to the school rules and also the family rules. Have a conversation with your daughter about expectations.

A senior student should not be going out and partying every weekend, this will only lead to exhaustion. Your daughter needs to look after her health by sleeping well and eating well. She also needs balance, she cannot be studying all day on the weekend.

Make sure she goes for walks or is part of a team and gets fresh air. Go on walks with your daughter as it is a great time to talk and check in on her to see how she is feeling about things.

This link to the ABC 'Ask the Doctors' series 1 episode 3 is a 29 minute episode that I highly recommend every parent watch about sleep and a teenager doing the HSC. A good night's sleep is a crucial element in helping your daughter better cope with whatever she faces the next day.

<https://iview.abc.net.au/show/ask-the-doctor/series/1/video/DO1625V003S00>

Mrs G McDermott
Director of Student Wellbeing

LINEs OF COMMUNICATION AT MERCY

Sometimes when you phone the front office about your daughter you are unsure of who to contact.

Below is a quick summary of who to ask for when you phone the office at Mercy.

Academic Issues about a Subject – Ask for your daughter's

Subject Teacher

On Going Academic Issues – Ask for the

KLA Co-ordinator for that subject

Studies issues or Time Management – Ask for your daughter's

Tutor

Needing Extra Learning Support – Ask for the

Learning Support Co-ordinator
Mrs Fiona Munro

Subjects – Ask for the

Director of Curriculum – Mrs Jan Wilson

Friendship Issues or overall well being – Ask for your daughter's

Year Co-ordinator

Mrs G McDermott
Director of Student Wellbeing

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

All three levels of the Duke of Edinburgh Award are starting in February – Bronze (Year 9), Silver (Year 10) and Gold (for Year 11). Each girl who wants to participate needs to pay and register online as soon as possible and return their three assessor forms to Ms Dorey (or her pigeonhole) by the deadline given on the note, below and in recent meetings.

They also need to keep track of communications via Google Classroom and Compass to ensure they don't miss out. Deadlines are strict and if meetings are missed and they don't 'catch up' and collect notes, ask questions etc then they might not be able to join in the fun.

Important upcoming dates/deadlines:

Silver (Year 10)

Feb 10 – next lunchtime meeting (re ORB)

Feb 13 - pay and register online, return 3 assessor forms.

Feb 20– return note and pay on Qkr for Practice Hike

Feb 20 - pay and register online

March 4 – return 3 assessor forms

March 11-13 - Practice Hike Bronze (Year 9)

May 21-22 - Practice Hike Gold (Year 11 & 12) – TBA

Thank you,
Ms Dorey & Ms Kellendonk



Vietnam Immersion

The Orphanage was truly heart warming to see that by simply playing and holding these children we could bring them so much joy! **Caitlin W**

The Orphanage opened my eyes and taught me to be more appreciative of the little things. **Aria P**

The Orphanage has made me realise how lucky I am to have the life I have and has inspired me to help those who need it the most and to not take the simple things like education for granted. **Ella L**

Taking part in the Vietnam Immersion taught me to value how fortunate I am in the sense of the education I receive and the family I have. **Sophie F**

Being able to come to the 2020 Vietnam immersion has been truly life changing. **Catrina L**

The Vietnam immersion truly opened my eyes and took me well out of my comfort zone. **Amelia F**

Spending time building the school and seeing the children at the orphanage truly touched me. That I have the power to have a positive impact. My life is so much nicer because of my time here. **Genevieve**

The trip reminded me how lucky I really am and how I need to stop taking things for granted. **Neise**

It made me realise the true power of love and how words are not needed to express it. **Claire**

I just felt that I had helped a small community and that I had actually made a difference in the world even though it was just one school. **Emma C**

It sounds cliché, but it's true Vietnam has changed the way I think, as I use to have this 'always wanting more' mentality, but I definitely have realised how blessed I am. **Angelique Z**

I truly felt my contributions actually meant something. **Hannah M**

The trip has been one of the greatest most rewarding experiences of my life. **Sofia M**

The laughs and giggles of the children in the orphanage was an unforgettable experience. What touched me the most from the experience would have just been the smiles and waves of the people on the streets. **Alyssa R**

Vietnam Immersion Gallery



Vietnam Immersion Gallery



SPORT

Representative Sport:

Welcome to all the Year 7 students and families as well as all our other Year groups and their families. We look forward to another great year of competition for Mercy teams and individuals in school-based events/competitions.

School-based Sporting Events during Term 1 include:

Swimming (College Carnival - Friday 6 March)

BBSSSA (Monday 16 March) & NSWCCC Swimming (Tuesday 31 March)
carnivals

Open's Touch Football BBSSSA Gala Day (Wednesday 19 Feb)

NSW All Schools Triathlon (individuals: Wed 26 Feb; Teams Thurs 27 Feb)

U13 & U15 BBSSSA (Wednesday 4th March) Touch Football Gala Day

With regards to all sports, **students are reminded to be checking COMPASS for the Daily Notices for the names of staff who are organising various teams and for who to see if they wish to enter other various competitions.**

Representative Sport

For all new students and families, students compete or nominate for selection via the **BBSSSA** (Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sports Association) and **NSWCCC** (New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges) pathways into NSW All School and School Sport Australia teams/events.

The 2020 calendars for BBSSSA and NSWCCC are available on the school website.

On the BBSSSA (www.brokenbaysport.org.au/secondary) and NSWCCC (csnsw.sport/) websites you will find all the Sports events held throughout the year. There is also a full calendar to check entry & closing dates, selection trial dates, sport specific information for individuals and team events.

The websites allow parents/caregivers to enter their child into various **EVENTS WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL ENTRY IS REQUIRED** and pay the entry fees. **If your daughter is selected in either a BBSSSA or NSWCCC team, they will be given instructions on how to register.**

Entry fees for College teams and those who represent the College individually at BBSSSA level will incur a nominal cost of \$20 per student/ per sport. . However, once a student goes beyond this level - all costs become their/your responsibility.

Please remember to inform the College if your daughter is selected in or they are attending selection trials outside BBSSSA or NSWCCC events (eg NSW All Schools) as we do not always receive notification of this. We will only receive confirmation of selection in BBSSSA and NSWCCC teams and events.

Ms Jane Knapinski
Facilitator of BBSSSA & NSWCCC sport access

Thursday Walking Club



Join Mrs Tailor and Mrs Oliver every Thursday at 1:30pm (weather permitting) for a social and fun walk departing from the main school gates!

Open to all students from Years 7 to 12. Girls bring their lunch and walk around the local streets for approximately 20 minutes, usually ending at Beauchamp Oval. Girls can wear sports shoes, but this isn't a requirement.

Parent permission is NOT required as it is included in the Year 7 Orientation paperwork. There is no cost for this wonderful activity!



ATTENTION!!!

MERCY ACTION GROUP IS CHANGING!

We hope to have targeted social justice groups to make an even bigger and more meaningful impact to our community and towards the issues we are passionate about!

To properly plan and account for these changes, we will not start meetings till later this term, around week 4 or 5!

Everyone is invited to come and keep an eye out in the notices for when meetings will start. Meetings will usually be held on Thursday at Lunch time.

If you have initiative ideas or Social justice related questions, things you want to get involved in, announcements, news or information please email me at charisse.gange@dbb.catholic.edu.au or come see me :) I'd love to chat about it!



Miss Gange

Dear Parents,

My name is Phillipa Sobb and I am the MCC P&F President for 2020.

The generous P&F Committee members this year are James Makarewicz (Vice President), Samantha Edwards (Secretary) and Melinda Holmes (Treasurer - returning).

I would like to thank the outgoing 2019 P&F Committee members; Carmel Daniels (Vice President), Jacqui Hester (Secretary) for ensuring the parent functions were wonderful last year.

I welcome all new families to MCC. I hope your daughters have enjoyed their first weeks at the College. I imagine girls in their Tutor Group ensured they felt very included, welcome and special.

I hope you find as I do, that MCC staff are delightful and always aim to ensure the College is a wonderful place for our daughters to learn and be happy.

You may not see most of the wonderful extra activities that teachers arrange and participate in, with the girls (often at lunch time). However the extra effort teachers put in, above their teaching responsibility, ensures MCC is truly a beautiful school. If you ask your daughters to keep you informed of these activities, you will be smiling broadly after hearing the stories.

I look forward to meeting new families and welcoming back returning families at the **P&F Cocktail Party on Friday 13/03/2020 at Chatswood Golf Club.**

This is always a great evening to watch the sunset over the beautiful golf club grounds and catch up with old friends and meet parents in your daughter's Year group.

I encourage you to attend if possible as this is the main parent social event for the year.

The link to book your ticket to this event is <https://www.trybooking.com/BIGVM>

Please find below of summary of most **P&F Events for 2020.**

We will also arrange some general parent gatherings throughout the year.

We will likely hold a Trivia Night again this year – this is always a great social evening.

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

Phillipa Sobb
P&F President

perrysobb@gmail.com
0411 429 629

Day	Date	Time	Event	Details
Wednesday	19/02/2020	6.00pm	P&F Meeting	All parents and carers invited and welcome to attend.
Sunday	01/03/2020	11.00 to 2.00pm	Open Day	Parents of Years 8, 9, 11 and 12 students requested to volunteer (Welcomers, Balloons, BBQ cooking, Food and Drink Service). Link to volunteer will be sent via email and the MCC App.
Friday	13/03/2020	7.00pm to 11.00pm	Parent Cocktail Party	Chatswood Golf Club Tickets via https://www.trybooking.com/BIGVM
Thursday	07/05/2020	7.00am to 9.00am	Mothers' Day Breakfast	Complimentary Breakfast for Mums and MCC Daughters. Booking Details will follow.
Wednesday	03/06/2020	6.00pm	P&F Meeting	All parents and carers invited and welcome to attend.
Wednesday	12/08/2020	6.00pm	P&F Meeting	All parents and carers invited and welcome to attend.
Thursday	03/09/2020	7.00am to 9.00am	Fathers' Day Breakfast	Complimentary Breakfast for Dads and MCC Daughters. Booking Details will follow.
Wednesday	23/09/2020	3.10pm to 4.15pm	Year 12 Graduation Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea is served between the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and the Year 12 Farewell Mass. Guests include Year 12 students and family. This is a catered event, however parents of Year 11 students are requested to volunteer to serve.
Wednesday	21/10/2020	6.00pm	P&F AGM and Meeting	All parents and carers invited and welcome to attend. Elections: 2020 P&F Committee.
Friday	13/11/2020	6.00 To 8.00pm	Year 7 2021 Information Evening	Parents of Year 9 students requested to volunteer (BBQ cooking, Food and Drink Service). TryBooking link to volunteer will follow.

MERCY COLLEGE CHALLENGES, COMPETITIONS And ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to 2020, especially new Year 7 parents and carers. Throughout each year a range of competitions and challenges are made available for all Mercy students and staff. These cover all curriculum areas from The Arts to STEM. Some are run by Mercy College teachers, but many can be entered by students directly registering with the organisation running it.

Students are encouraged to participate in as many activities as possible!

Some are in **purple font**, which means they are suggested for Gifted and Talented students. But keep in mind, that at Mercy, the view is that you **DO NOT** have to be Gifted and Talented to participate in the Challenge or Competition. **ALL** students can participate in any activity, whatever their ability!

Students should take every opportunity to challenge themselves! There is something for everyone from BIG History, STEM Challenges, JJJ Unearthed, Gaming, 3D Animation, Filmmaking, Engineering Activities, Robotics, Public Speaking, TOM, Future Problem Solving, Science Camps, Forensic Camps, Space Camps to Photography Competitions. I have organised the activities under subject headings to help you find activities you may be interested in trying.

"Challenges", such as the Premier's Reading Challenges, are listed in a separate section from **"Competitions and Activities"**. For ease of presentation, the Competitions and Activities are listed in curriculum areas such as Science, Art, Technology etc. No sporting competitions are listed. The same applies to Eisteddfods.

Not all are of a competitive nature. Some are free to enter, others have entry fees. Most offer prizes.

At the end of this document I have included some useful links for Gifted and Talented students and for parents of Gifted and Talented children.

If you are aware of any links that no longer work, or other activities/competitions or challenges suitable for inclusion, please let me know about them so I can make this an even more comprehensive list. **Currently, there are 60 pages of Competitions, Challenges or Enrichment Activities to choose from!!**

Click [HERE](#) to see everything on offer.

Please email me if you have questions or need assistance.

Cheers,

Mr Regoli

Careers, Gifted and Talented and Enrichment Co-ordinator

eric.regoli@dbb.catholic.edu.au



MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE
CHATSWOOD EST. 1890

Dear Parents and Carers,

In 2020 the College will continue to use the Mercy Catholic College Chatswood App which is available for all families to download (or upgrade) for FREE from the App Store or Google Play.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/mercy-college-chatswood/id1297156618?ls=1&mt=8>

Google Play

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mercy_catholic_college_chatswood_app

Detailed instructions on how to download and use the App are available on the College Website.
<https://www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au>

We encourage all families to download the App in the future the College App will be one of the main forms of communications.

The App enables you to report student absences, read news, view College calendar, newsletters and receive communications and notifications instantly.

For those families that already have the App we ask that you update the App on your device and also ask to update your settings 2020 to ensure you are receiving the correct notifications for your daughter. *Note* Extra Curricular setting should also be selected if applicable.

If you have any questions please reach out to the College mercy@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Clancy
Marketing and Promotions Officer

THE 'MERCY COLLEGE' APP
AVAILABLE ON APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY

**UPDATE YOUR
NOTIFICATION SETTINGS**

OPEN THE APP > SELECT 'MORE' > SELECT 'SETTING' >
MARK THE CATEGORIES THAT APPLY



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.

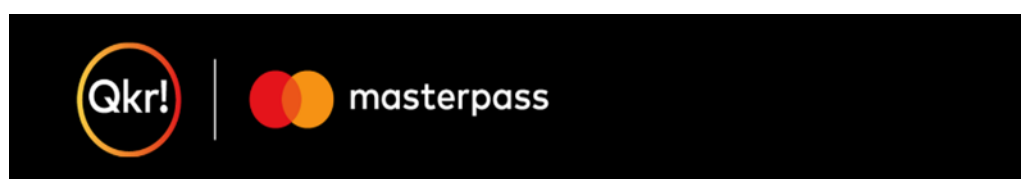
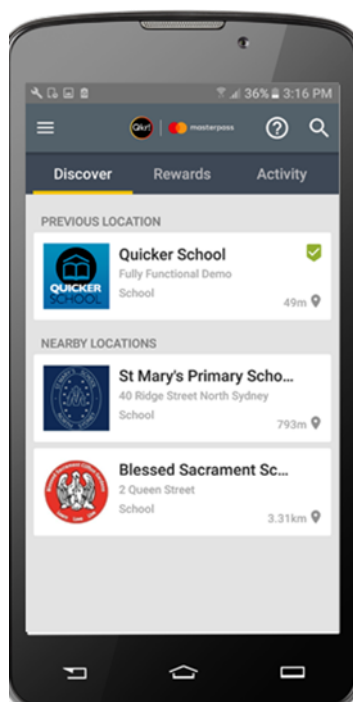
Note: The [Qkr web client](#) is available for those not wanting to complete transactions from their mobile phone.

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

[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'.