



# The Mercy Voice

Term 1 Issue 3  
24 February — 6 March  
2020

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## Upcoming Events:

### TERM 1

#### WEEK SEVEN

- 10 March— Meet the Music Years 10, 11, 12**  
**11-13 March—Silver Duke of Edinburgh**  
**12 March—Year 11 DT Excursion**  
**12-13 March—Year 12 Geography Excursion**  
**13 March—MCC P&F Cocktail Party 7pm Chatswood Golf Club**

#### WEEK EIGHT

- 16 March— BBSSA Swimming**  
**16 March—Year 7 Parent & Student Study Skills Night Harrington Hall OLD—6.30pm**  
**17 March—Year 11 Drama Excursion**  
**18 March—France/Italy 2020 Meeting 6.30pm M25/M25**  
**19 March—Year 11 Biology Excursion**  
**20 March—Year 12 Physics Excursion**

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

We began the season of Lent last week on Ash Wednesday. As we know Lent is a time of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, we are replicating Jesus' sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days before beginning his work for God.



**As Catholics we mark Lent** by fasting, both from food and festivities, but perhaps a more meaningful fast is one where there is a positive outcome.

### Do You Want to Fast for Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words  
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude  
Fast from anger and be filled with patience  
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope  
Fast from worries and trust in God  
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity  
Fast from pressures and be prayerful  
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy  
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate  
Fast from grudges and be reconciled  
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

*Easter reflection from Pope Francis*

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY:

This Sunday 8 March is International Women's Day. Celebrated in many countries around the world, it has been designated as a day to recognise the achievements of women in social, economic, cultural and political fields. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

The theme this year is *I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights*, which is aligned with the United Nations new multigenerational campaign, *Generation Equality*.

The emerging global consensus is that despite some progress, real change has been agonizingly slow for the majority of women and girls in the world. Today, not a single country can claim to have achieved gender equality.

Multiple obstacles remain unchanged in law and in culture. Women and girls continue to be undervalued; they work more and earn less and have fewer choices; and experience multiple forms of violence at home and in public spaces.

Everyone - men and women - can pledge to take a concrete step to help achieve gender parity more quickly - whether to help women and girls achieve their ambitions, call for gender-balanced leadership, respect and value difference, develop more inclusive and flexible cultures or root out workplace bias.

## Message from Principal

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Each of us can be a leader within our own spheres of influence and commit to take pragmatic action to accelerate gender parity.

So what can you do so that your daughter grows up in a society where there is gender parity?

1. Encourage and help your daughter to achieve her ambitions, to break through the glass ceiling.
2. Challenge conscious and unconscious bias in the home, social setting and at work.
3. Value everyone's contributions equally. Is what your son, male friend or male colleague says more valued than what your daughter, wife or female colleague says?

What is most important is that a woman (your daughter) is accepted for who they are as a person, what skills and talents they have, what they can contribute, rather than being dismissed as they are "merely female".

You can change your sphere of influence, which then leads to change in the world.

### **THANK YOU FOR OPEN DAY:**

Open Day last Sunday was a huge success with over 500 people coming to see what a wonderful community we have at Mercy College. The visitors' comments were often about what a welcoming feel was here, from the moment they walked in the gate being greeted by parents, taken care of by their tour guides, talking to teachers and of course our famous sausage sizzle. Thank you to everyone who made it such a success.



## Message from Principal

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Let me share with you a post on the College's Facebook page:



### **WINTER UNIFORM:**

The College's winter uniform, which can be purchased from Lowes is on Sale with 20% off for one day only – 12 March. See the flyer at the back of the newsletter.

This year the seniors (Years 11 & 12) will be wearing a new style and colour in the blouse, which will identify them as seniors.

It will not be available from Lowes but a new supplier. More information will be given in the next few weeks.

The new blouse is not compulsory for Year 12, but it is for Year 11.

### **BROKEN BAY CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS (CSP):**

The CSP consists of a representative from each of the primary and secondary schools in Broken Bay. The North Shore cluster is looking for a parent from Mercy College to be on this Committee. They meet once a term and have workshops and initiatives throughout the year. It is a great way for you to meet parents from other schools, exchange ideas and collaborate on areas of commonality.

If you are interested in being the parent rep for Mercy College please contact Louise Johnston [louise.johnston@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:louise.johnston@dbb.catholic.edu.au) or mobile 0413 137 534. The first meeting is Monday 16 March.

*Best wishes*



**Principal**



## Message from the Acting Director of Mission

It has been another busy two weeks at the College with many Masses and liturgies as we move into the season of Lent. We celebrated Ash Wednesday in two very special ways at the College.

Two Year groups from Mercy were invited to join with St Pius X College and Our Lady of Dolours Primary School for a combined Ash Wednesday Mass to help launch the Diocese's Project Compassion Appeal. The other Year groups participated in a moving liturgy held in the amphitheatre. This was co-ordinated by the Year 10 CSYMA class.



Year 7REA attended their first Chapel Mass on Tuesday and ably assisted in the preparation of the readings and prayers. We were also fortunate enough to have our Liturgical Ensemble share their musical talents with us during the Mass.



Another highlight, was the first of our Parish Youth Masses at the 6pm Mass at OLD Church across the road.

You can see from the photos, that many senior and junior students turned up to be involved in many aspects of the liturgy, such as singing in the choir, reading, the offertory procession, serving supper after Mass and so on.



Thank you to all the girls and staff for your commitment to our Chatswood parish community.

Finally, it was wonderful to see lots of new parents and prospective students at our annual Open Day on the weekend. Thank you to those people who dropped into the RE room for a cup of tea and some pancakes. We hope you enjoyed our Mercy hospitality.

Mrs Genine D'Arcy  
**Acting Director of Mission**

### **STUDENT AGENCY**

This year at Mercy we are building on our Big Sister program and House program. Three times in the term on Day 9 starting this term in week 8, Years 10, 11 and 12 will meet with their Little Sisters and discuss topics that they have been given and then write a reflection or an agreed action. This has been created to strengthen the bond between the seniors and juniors.

When reflecting on the Big Sister program, the Pastoral Care team felt time was spent reminding Year 10 about their responsibility as Big Sisters and yet we were not continuing to strengthen what had begun in Years 11 and 12. When it is not Big Sister on Day 9, it is a House meeting time, where the House Captains talk to the students in their House about upcoming events such as the swimming carnival.

It is also the perfect time to have the students learn the House chants or songs. This change was due to feedback and reflections by the Student Leaders who said they wanted more time with their House. It is important we listen to the voice of our students and see if changes can be made that will enhance our community.

### **FUN FRIDAY**

Last Friday we had our first Fun Friday dance in the amphitheatre area. The Student Leaders did a wonderful job getting the students moving and singing, very loudly. It is always a brilliant sight, seeing the whole school doing the Nut-bush or Macarena dance.



### **MERCY GIRLS RISE**

Our wellbeing program at Mercy is called RISE. RISE is an acronym for the words; relational, inspire, spiritual and empower. We want our students to have a go and not be afraid to make mistakes and know it is alright not to know the answer. It is about taking the chance and feeling empowered by taking the chance.

We also want our students to build positive relationships with others and inspire others through encouragement and hospitality. It is hoped the students at Mercy will not be afraid to RISE, be their best selves, have a go, and in so doing, build resilience. This week all the students received a pencil that has the words 'Mercy Girls RISE'.

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



### NSW ALL SCHOOLS TRIATHLON

On Thursday 27th of February, the NSW All Schools Triathlon was held in Penrith at the International Regatta Centre. From Year 10, Olivia T, Kate S and Olivia H represented the school in the Intermediate relay event where we each competed in one leg of the triathlon. These legs were a 400m swim in the lake, a 15km bike ride and a 3km run.

Our event started at 10:30am and we were all very nervous as there were hundreds of schools and lots of competitors. As it was our first time competing in a triathlon, we were unsure of how it was going to run, yet we got the hang of it after watching other students compete before us.

Olivia H started strong in the water, setting us up well for the rest of the race. Olivia T rode fast and confidently on the bike, completing three laps of the course and then Kate finished off strong and fast in the run. While it was challenging and a new experience for us, we all enjoyed the day, the atmosphere and meeting new people. It was fun to cheer on our team mates and try our best representing the school.

We would like to thank Ms Kanpinski for organising the event and Sean Toms for being our supervisor on the day.

By Olivia H, Kate S and Olivia T



### CCC SOFTBALL TRIALS REPORT

Mercy girls Lauren T (Year 10) and Matilda N (Year 9) yesterday participated in the NSW CCC softball trials at International Peace Park, Seven Hills.

After competing in four games throughout the day, both girls were selected to play in the final selection game and put in a great performance. Lauren was successful in being selected in the NSWCCC team and will compete at the all schools competition on 9 March at Blacktown International Sportspark.

Lauren and Matilda are both currently training with the North Shore Softball Association and will compete at the U16 State Championship in early May where they hope to defend their team's State title of last year.

Matilda (L) and Lauren

Many thanks to Mrs Turner for this report

**Ms J Knapinski—PDHPE Teacher**





## TEXTILES AND DESIGN—OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Congratulations to Angela Prajogo (Year 12, 2019) who was selected to exhibit her HSC Major Textiles Project this year at Texstyle. The Texstyle Exhibition profiles student works of excellence from the 2019 Higher School Certificate, Textile and Design Course.

Angela demonstrated outstanding commitment and determination towards her HSC project and her Indonesian inspired costume excelled in all areas of textile construction and creativity.

Well done Angela.



**Mrs S Holman**  
**Textiles Teacher**

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## SMART EXPRESSIONS 2020

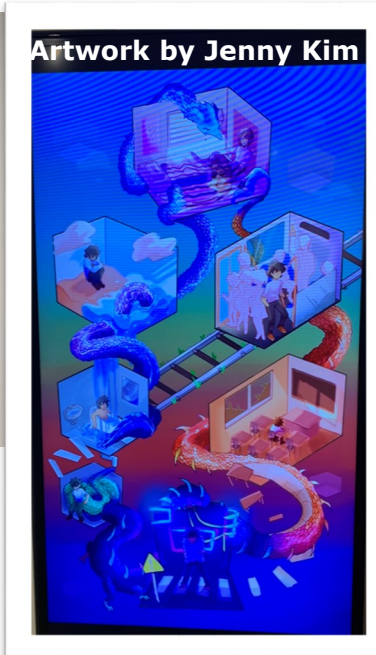
Three 2019 Year 12 students Remie Collins, Jenny Kim and Solomiya Sywak have been selected for inclusion in Smart Expressions. This is a Willoughby City Council curated exhibition of student artworks selected from the 2019 NSW HSC Visual Arts practical examination.

The student's work has been selected from five local schools. The work of our students hung in a professional gallery was very impressive. The exhibition is open from 26 February 2020- 22 March 2020 at the Concourse Art Space.



**Solomiya Sywak**

**Ms Jane Lennon**  
**Creative Arts Coordinator**



**Remie Collins**

### MEET THE MUSIC

Last week, students studying Elective Music from Years 10,11 and 12 attended the first 'Meet the Music' concert for 2020.

This event staged at the Sydney Town Hall featured the 20<sup>th</sup> century ground-breaking work 'The Rite of Spring' by Stravinsky and was performed by the sensational musical talent of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.



**Ms K McGreal**  
*Music teacher*

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### YEAR 12 BIOLOGY EXCURSION TO A GENETICS LABORATORY AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Year 12 students have been studying genetics in the new Biology syllabus. Part of this new syllabus, requires students to undertake a depth study. Students travelled to a genetics laboratory at the School of Biology, Macquarie University on Tuesday 18th February.

Students listened to lectures about how geneticists work in the area of conservation biology focusing on shark conservation. They then completed experiments to extract DNA from sharks, sequenced the bases, and then used this DNA in electrophoresis machines to get a DNA profile. Students thoroughly enjoyed working in the laboratory and they are to be congratulated for their enthusiasm and mature application.

Students will now be analysing this data back at school to compare the shark species identified and to relate this to whether shark nets work in targeting specific species.



**Mrs Smeulders**  
*Science Teacher*



### STAGE 5 TEXTILES EXCURSION

On the 20th of February the Stage 5 Textile classes were lucky enough to participate in a historical swimwear workshop and attend the colourful Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson exhibition at the PowerHouse Museum. Accompanied by Ms Cunningham and Ms Holman, we started our day with our busy commute on the train, then off we were to the Maritime Museum, via a scenic walk through Darling Harbour. As we gathered at the Maritime Museum we were welcomed by our lovely tour guides and workshop leaders.

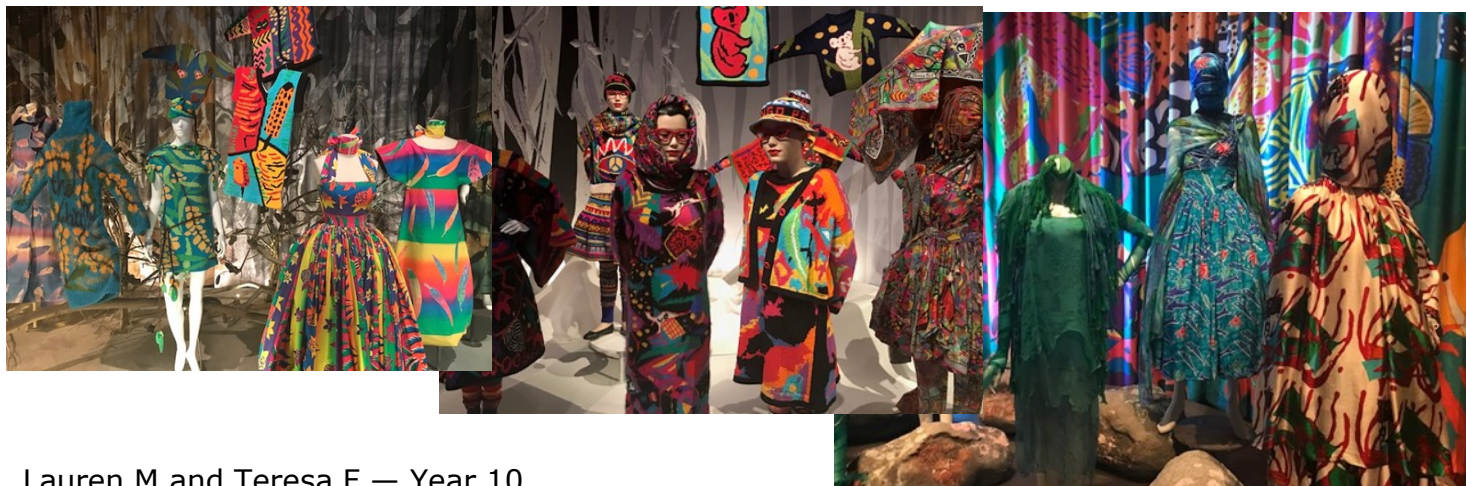
In the workshop at the Maritime, we looked at the span of swimwear, from the 1900's right through to current swimwear designs. It was really interesting as we got to feel and see first hand what the swimwear looked like and how the different fabrics were used back in the beginning. We even had a designing task that we had to complete, that had to be inspired by a piece of swimwear we saw. Many girls taking the idea of colours, patterns and styles from the swimwear.



We were lucky enough to have a quick lunch break down in sunny Darling Harbour, whilst trekking up to the PowerHouse Museum, with sore feet and legs. As we reached the PowerHouse, many girls were excited to get into the air conditioned exhibition, while others were excited to see the beautiful pieces of Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson.

As we got into the first room of the exhibition every student knew it was going to be filled with lots of bright colours and patterns. Even though it was pieces of clothing that many of the students wouldn't wear, we still all appreciated the work, effort and dedication these inspiring designers put into their designs. No matter if you loved the designs or didn't every student who attended was fully inspired and I am sure got some amazing ideas for their own textile creations.

The day was full with lots of colour and beautiful pieces of fashion, and without Ms Holman's organization and Ms Cunningham's presence, it wouldn't have been possible and every textile student in Years 9 and 10 were so thankful for the day we had. It was really fun and inspiring.



Lauren M and Teresa F — Year 10



### YEAR 10 DRAMA & ITALIAN EXCURSION

Commedia dell'Arte is the traditional Italian masked comedy. Recently, Year 10 Drama and Italian classes experienced a performance by Commedia troupe 'Fools in Progress' followed by a workshop for the Drama students.

We had never experienced this type of theatre before, so it was with much curiosity and anticipation we sat down and waited. It was 'in your face' theatre, where the actors mingled with the audience. They spoke half in Italian and half in English. The actors wore masks with exaggerated features and the theme was a comic love story.



Their antics were hilarious and their speech poured out in torrents of English and Italian. Some of the characters were Brighella, Pantalone, Colombina and Arlecchino the Italian students managed to make out that they sometimes spoke in the dialect of their city and not standard Italian.

There was a lot of 'slapstick' comedy where the characters actually chased and slapped the other character with a stick. It was interesting to know that this form of theatre actually originated in Italy in the 16th century, but that the actors took it into the 21st century with jokes and asides about society now.



Grazie Signora Caron e Signora Perrignon per questa opportunità!

Bianca, Year 10 Italian





### **CULTIVATING CURIOSITY IN OUR CLASSROOMS**

The ongoing professional learning of each staff member is highly valued at Mercy and all teachers are involved in professional learning opportunities throughout the year related to improving student outcomes. Every second Tuesday our staff meet in Professional Learning Groups to work collaboratively on common areas of inquiry. Our focus this year is on curiosity and how it can be leveraged to enhance student engagement and deepen thinking.

Ron Ritchhart, Senior Research Associate at Harvard Graduate School of Education, argues in his book *Creating Cultures of Thinking* that *"Curiosity is a highly valued disposition as a driver of new learning ... We know that when our curiosity is sparked and we have a desire to know and learn something, our engagement is heightened"* (2015). The NSW Curriculum Review Interim Report *Nurturing Wonder and Igniting Passion* released in October 2019 states that *"Motivation is enhanced when the learning environment sparks interest and curiosity, and arouses learners' interests to know more"*. Curiosity can be a powerful driver of student engagement and life-long learning yet much has also been written about how schools and schooling systems often do more to discourage than harness curiosity.

The question we are asking ourselves as a staff this year is *how do we cultivate curiosity in our classrooms to enhance student engagement and deepen thinking? In our Professional Learning Groups we will be exploring ways in which we can create more time for students' questions and contributions; demonstrate our own curiosity, passion and interest to our students; provide more opportunities for students to think and engage deeply with their learning; support students to become more independent in their learning and take risks; and inspire students and connect them to the larger world of ideas.*

We look forward to sharing our 2020 Professional Learning journey with you throughout the year and suggest ways you can support us in achieving this important goal for our students.

**Mrs Kate Fairbanks**  
***Professional Learning and Teacher Accreditation Coordinator***

## MERCY COLLEGE OPEN DAY 2020

Thank you to the 75 parents and many students who helped the P&F Executive on Sunday. You cooked and served 1,200 sausages sandwiches (with 30kg of onions) and poured about 900 cups of cordial and 100 cups of water.



You inflated, distributed and decorated with about 400 balloons.

However, most significantly, you gave your time, to support your daughter's school and welcome prospective new families to MCC.

I am very grateful for this overwhelming support and enthusiasm.



I would like to thank the amazing Ms Kayrooz. She ensured we had all the equipment to create and serve the delicious BBQ food and then stayed back to help some of us clean and pack away.

## MCC P&F MEETING

Thank you to the P&F executive, the regulars who attended, the new parents and executive staff who attended our recent meeting.

We are very keen to encourage social activities for MCC parents. In 2019 the school sent all parents a link inviting you to submit contact details to the P&F for year group lists. We will be resending this link shortly and invite you to forward your details to us, to create and distribute updated lists. We hope to increase the number of social activities for parents and family events. We accepted offers from parents to take on P&F Parent Year Co-ordinator roles to organise these events.

Ms Kavanagh updated us on HSC results, current student numbers and activities, links to other schools and the school uniform.

## MCC P&F COCKTAIL PARTY—FRIDAY 13/3/2020

I look forward to seeing many of you at the **MCC 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. Tickets \$45 for Canapés and Initial Bar Tab (2 hours)

The response from Year 7 parents has been wonderful. It would be lovely more parents from other Years were also able to attend.

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



Please book ASAP and before Monday 09/03/2020.



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

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](mailto:perrysobb@gmail.com)

*We look forward to welcoming you*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mothers' Day Breakfast - Thursday 07/05/2020 from 7.00am til 9.00am. TryBooking link will be forwarded for catering purposes.
- P&F Meeting – Wednesday 03/06/2020 from 6.00pm.

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](mailto:perrysobb@gmail.com)

0411 429 629

Day	Date	Time	Event	Details
Friday	13/03/2020	7.00pm to 11.00pm	Parent Cocktail Party	Chatswood Golf Club Tickets via <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/BIGVM">https://www.trybooking.com/BIGVM</a>
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.
Saturday	25/07/2020	7.00pm	MCC P&F Trivia Night	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.





VIP EVENT FOR  
**ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS**  
ONE DAY ONLY - 12TH MARCH



**20% OFF**  
ORIGINAL PRICES  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
& EVERYTHING ELSE

STAY TUNED - ONE DAY ONLY - 12TH MARCH



DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR ONLINE &  
START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS. \*T&C'S APPLY.

\*Offer available instore & online, ends midnight (AEDT) 12/03/20. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount. Excludes Gift Cards & schoolwear lay-bys. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, no rainchecks.



### 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.

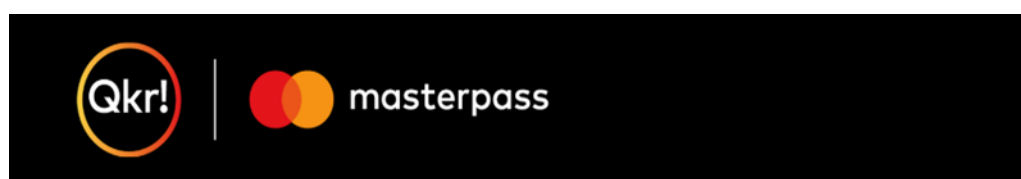
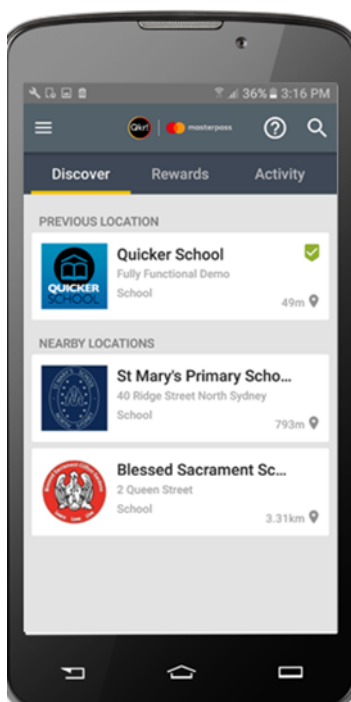
**Note: The [Qkr web client](#) is available for those not wanting to complete transactions from their mobile phone.**

### 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'.