Our College has had a busy start to the year. Already the year twelve retreat has been held at Rawson. The reports coming back from the retreat were very positive, the retreat has again been an important step in our year twelve's journey.

This week we were pleased to host the Diocesan Project compassion launch at Mary MacKillop College. Bishop Patrick O’Reagan led the ceremony. It was his first visit to our College and he told me how much he enjoyed meeting our staff and students and sharing the pancake lunch with us all.

Wednesday was Ash Wednesday and also our College Opening Mass. We are thankful to Fr Manny and Fr Ganesh for concelebrating this important occasion. At the Opening Mass we commissioned our student leaders for the year. Our Captains, Justice Captains, House and Class Leaders all received their badges of office. I thank all of them for their willingness to serve their College community in this way.

Also at the Opening Mass we presented our top Academic awards for 2015. The Humanities and Social Sciences Award, sponsored by Cardell Accountants, was presented to Breanna-Rose Dowling. Breanna will commence her Bachelor of Arts at Monash University this year. The runner-up for 2015 is Nicholas Argento, with an ATAR of 94.3. Anthony will soon commence studies in Engineering and Commerce at Monash University.

The Dux of the College is the student who attains the highest ATAR. The award for the Dux is sponsored by the College Alumni and was presented by our Advisory Council Chair, also a graduate of our College, Mrs Renae Littlejohn. The winner of the 2015 College Alumni DUX of the College with an ATAR of 98.1 is Sarah McCahon. Sarah addressed the College community and was strongly encouraging to the students who will follow her fine example. Sarah is going on to study Science at the University of Melbourne. We wish them all well as they move on to the next exciting phase of their lives.

Parents will have read about the wave of hoax threats that have disrupted many schools around the world and in our region lately. Our College always holds a safety drill early in the year. On Thursday we held a practice drill of our emergency procedures for a lockdown situation. The procedure worked smoothly and all students and staff were accounted for in a matter of minutes. You should have received an SMS message advising of the successful completion of the drill on Thursday afternoon.

The College is working to improve the methods and effectiveness of communication with its parent community. Every family should be registered to receive a SMS from the College at times when we need communicate information promptly. Parents are sent an SMS if your child had been marked absent in the morning rolls and no prior notification of absence has been received. This service is also used to notify select groups (e.g. an excursion group has encounter heavy traffic and will be delayed coming back to school).

The school is also using ‘Tiqbiz’ as a message carrier service and method to share information like the weekly newsletter. More information on how to obtain Tiqbiz notifications is also in this newsletter.

It is important for emergency management procedures that all families can receive SMS messages. Any family who did not receive the SMS about this week’s trial emergency management exercise is asked to please contact the College office who will be happy to assist in logging your details.

Mr David Leslie
Principal
From left, Mary MacKillop Catholic College 2016 Vice-Captain Matilda McNeil, Captains Kaj Patterson and Janie Gordon and Vice-Captain Anthony Argento.

From left, Mary MacKillop Catholic College 2016 Justice Captains are Sinead O’Callaghan Parker, Ebony Sartori, Bradley Denney and Brianna Wightman.

From left, Mary MacKillop Catholic College 2016 Cameron House Captains are Hannah Kelly, vice captain Tessá Zuidema, captain Benjamin Ellen and vice captain Luke Ollington.

From left, Mary MacKillop Catholic College 2016 McDonald House Captains Kristy O’Loughlin and Julian Patterson, vice Captains Kevin McGavin and Kaiah Jones.

From left, Mary MacKillop 2016 Chisholm House vice Captain Brianna Wightman, Captains Benjamin Green and Alexandra Braun, vice Captain Georgia Deenen.

From left, Mary MacKillop 2016 Tenison House Captain Philippa Littlejohn and vice Captain Sophie Clarke. Absent Sophie Thomas and Benjamin Austin.

Mary MacKillop 2016 Year 10 Class Captains are at back from left, Jordan Hill, Jai Stefani, Bailey Patterson and Lisa Mildenhall. Front from left, Ella Findlay, Meghan Minogue, Zlara Condoluci and Olivia Trease.

Mary MacKillop 2016 Year 9 Class Captains are at back from left, James Ryan, Benjamin Gibbons, Hannah Gilliam and Patrick Biro. At front from left, Kelly Geary, Luca Riseley, Andrew Hrvatin and Tomei Dal Pozzo.
Mary MacKillop 2016 Year 8 Class Captains are at back from left, Jarrod Ross, Hannah Perry, Darci Holmes and Molly Kent. At front from left, Adam Watchorn, Elouise O’Hare, Kylie Smith and Tennyson Ornsby.

Mary MacKillop 2016 Music Captain is Alliza Miel.

The winner of the 2015 Mary MacKillop Catholic College DUX with an ATAR of 98.1 is Sarah McCahon.

Cardell Accountant’s Humanities and Social Sciences 2015 award is awarded to Breanna-Rose Dowling. The 2015 Leongatha Healthcare award recipient is Nicholas Argento.

Encounter Mission and Development, Encounter Love and Justice, Encounter humble volunteers, Encounter faith, Encounter God. Palms Australia will be conducting a guided tour of the communities in which their global volunteers are working in East Timor from

11 - 23 April 2016
4 – 16 July 2016
26 September – 8 October 2016

There are limited places. Enquires need to be processed by February 22nd so call 02 9518 9551 or register interest online: www.palms.org.au/Encounters

BOOKLIST ERRORS
NOTE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF
YEAR 8 AND 10 STUDENTS

YEAR 8 & 10 ENGLISH – ENGLISH SKILLS
BUILDER 1 (Pcode 07842) and
ENGLISH SKILLS BUILDER 2 (Pcode 07844)
YEAR 8 LOTE (FRENCH) – Tapis Volant 1
Workbook (Pcode 07232) and
Tapis Volant 1 ebook (Code E04602)

The notes on the Year 8 and Year 10 booklist about retaining the English Skills Builder Books from the previous year was incorrect and should not have been there. This also applies to a note under LOTE (FRENCH) for 2 items titled Tapis Volant (one is a workbook and one is an ebook, requiring an access code). This has been acknowledged by our Booklist provider as an error at their end.

Please take note of the following advice:
ENGLISH -- All Year 8 students need English Skills Builder Book 1 and all Year 10 students need English Skills Builder Book 2 so the English teachers have been asked to find out how many are needed in each of their classes. The school will then order the correct number from Campion which can be paid for at the College office.

FRENCH -- All Year 8 students need the Tapis Volant Workbook. This will be bulk ordered by the College once we have lists from each class as to how many are needed. Payment can then be made at the College office.

ALL YEAR 8 students need the Tapis Volant ebook which needs to be ordered by contacting Campion (Phone: 1300 433 982) to order and pay for this item (Code E04602) An access login will then be given for your student. (No delivery or other charges will be added for this order)

We regret any inconvenience and confusion this error has caused.

SENIOR MATHS AFTER SCHOOL HELP

Anyone who would like extra help with Mathematics in Years 11 and 12 is welcome to attend in the library on Thursdays from 3.30pm - 4.30pm.

We regret any inconvenience and confusion this error has caused.
Hasn’t the year just started in full gear? Walking around the rooms I am pleasantly surprised on just how the students have just settled into our expectations and way of doing things. On a whole the correct uniform is being worn and correctly and students have embraced the SunSmart Policy and wearing hats at break times.

Training for the School Sport Victoria representative team has also progressing well and the House Captains will be excited about encouraging participation and involvement in this coming weeks swimming sports. It is also encouraging to note the large number of parents offering assistance for the upcoming sporting events. This is a good way to engage with the school community and to see a different side of Mary MacKillop College life.

While on the topic of parents and engagement each year we as a school subscribe to well renowned psychologist Michael Grosse’s Parent Ideas Publication. On various occasions (with permission) we reproduce the interesting articles for the parent and staff community. This week we look at ways parents can help children achieve while at school. I strongly encourage all families to make the most of this resource. You will also note in this newsletter information about an upcoming ‘Parenting Teenagers’ seminar series run in Leongatha by Anglicare. I hope some of you are able to get along and enjoy this local offering.

College Planner Reminder -- By now each and every student should have received a Mary MacKillop Student Planner. This is a vital link in the communication with the whole Mary MacKillop community as well as a passport to the rights and responsibilities, calendar, policies and expectations of our students. Contained in this year’s planner is a Wellbeing section dealing with several help seeking strategies for students and parents. I encourage all member to peruse these new additions.

Staff Professional Development -- The start of the year is an important time for students and staff alike to get into routines and establish good practices around learning and teaching. We believe our staff are well versed in the sound pedagogical knowledge and practice to help your children achieve. We have an excellent mix of young and enthusiastic teachers along with experienced and dedicated teachers. On a regular basis we will be updating the College community, via the newsletter on the vital professional development that are teachers are currently undergoing.

Unfortunately some of this professional development occurs while classes are held. In this case replacement teachers are placed in classes and every effort is made to ensure staff taking over the classes in the short term are similar teaching experiences and that work left is engaging and pertinent to the current semester planners for each subject.

Daily Organisation Update
Staff Professional Development this week:
12 Feb  Mrs Mills attending the VCE Food Tech. Teacher’s Conference
18 – 19 Feb Mr Wright will be attending the ‘Student Self-ham 2 day workshop)
19 Feb  Mrs Bland, Mr Pellin, Mrs Roscoe, & Ms Viljoen will be attending the VCE English Teacher’s briefing discussion the new 2016 course outline
Mr Gordon will be attending the VCE History Teacher’s Conference

Students Excursions/Incursions this week:
12-17 Feb College Captains & Miss Blair attending the JAMM conference in Sydney
16 Feb Swim Team Training 7am Leongatha SPLASH
17 Feb Year 12 Chemistry excursion Federation University
18 Feb Inter-House Swimr North

Mr Sam Wright
Deputy Principal - Wellbeing and Organisation

Shibuya JHS School (Japan) are planning to visit Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College in March. 18 Japanese students, girls & boys aged 14 – 15 yrs will be arriving on Saturday 5 March 2016 for a 12 day visit.

Students are in need of a Host Family

If you are able to home-stay a student for this short time, please contact: Mrs Jenny Damon, on 5662 4255 or jdamon@mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au
A payment will be offered to cover hosting expenses.
This year our College hosted the Diocesan Launch of Project Compassion. We ate pancakes on Tuesday and attended Mass on Wednesday but why do we do these things?

God blesses all humans with the gift of food. But over 800 million of our brothers and sisters around the world do not have the resources they need to access food. Resources like land, seeds, water, training or income. We all have the right to food. We all depend on others for the food we eat. So we can all share the goal of a fairer food system. We are part of the system- which means we have the power to change it.

**Shrove Tuesday** -- The name Shrove Tuesday comes from the custom of ringing the “shriving bell” to call people to church to be “shriven”. This means to confess their sins at the beginning of Lent. The tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday started as a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar before fasting commenced for the 40 days of Lent. This week our students made and sold pancakes raising over two hundred dollars.

**Ash Wednesday** -- During Lent, many people may fast and pray in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are vulnerable to poverty. Some people may also choose to give up certain foods or to eat more simply to challenge a habit of over-indulgence. This can help us focus more on God. The temporary experience of hunger and tiredness is also reminder of the daily experience of many people around the world.

**Thank you** -- A massive thank you Mr van der Velden, and all the College singers and musicians for their wonderful support of our College Opening and Project Compassion Launch.

**Prayer** -- Lord, we pray for our school community. May we see Lent and Project Compassion as an opportunity to look beyond ourselves to the needs of others. Amen.
When I first heard about all shook up I was unsure whether I wanted to participate, so I went along to the auditions and gave it a go. Ever since that the cast and crew have become family to me. We all are enjoying ourselves and having so much fun whilst doing it but we are also working very hard to prepare for April. The part I have chosen is a big character in the play who is Chad. I choose him because I want to put myself out there since I didn't do the show last year. I have had a lot of experience with plays after being in 4 short plays in drama and also making my own movie with JIA Films. I am so glad I have chosen to do this and I would defiantly recommend any other musical’s the school offers.

Aidan Clark
Year 11

I was initially encouraged to audition for All Shook Up by my teachers and friends, and looked to extend myself in my final year of school and try something out of my comfort zone. I chose the character of Sandra because I like to pretend I have her sass, and she extends me to take on a personality so different from my own. In the past I have taken several years of dance and singing training, and was a part of Wonthaggi Theatrical Group’s production of Jesus Christ Superstar. The All Shook Up cast is an incredible group of people, who are already working hard to bring the show together in the short amount of time we have. It's going to be an amazing show, and I hope everyone comes to support it!

Bree McRae
Year 12

Mitchell comes from a musical family and has been learning the drums for about 8 years. He was interested in the idea of playing in a larger musical group and although it has been hard to find the time to practise, he has enjoyed learning the numbers in “All Shook Up”

Now that rehearsals are well under way Mitchell can sense the thrill of being part of a great team that is aiming high to produce another outstanding musical event.

Mitchell Scrimshaw
Year 12

After the role of Mr Myers, the Drama Teacher in “FAME” fell into the lap of Jacob he decided to audition for this year’s performance of “All Shook Up”. Despite having little formal training, Jacob has the right “look” and “attitude” for this Musical and has learnt a great deal about the importance of on-stage presence and learning to project your voice. Jacob came along way in last years show and is eager to show his extra-ordinary talent off this year.

Jacob Beckwith
Year 11

Chad

Sandra

Band

Dennis
Mary MacKillop House
Swimming Sports
Thursday 18 February
Mirboo North Swimming Pool

- Students may wear sports uniform on the day and change into house colours at the pool.
- Students must apply sunscreen, wear a hat and shirt at all times unless they are competing in an event.
- Students who are going directly to the pool must supply a note in writing to their homeroom teachers, signed by parents, prior to the day. These students must also check in at the pool with their homeroom teacher to ensure their attendance is recorded.

At school
- Normal beginning to the day & homeroom
- 9:05am assemble at front of the College in Homerooms
- Teachers will travel with their Homerooms on the buses
- House supervisors please make sure students go to house areas
- House Captains organise students
- All students must heed the sun smart message, ie. hat, shirt and sunscreen

First races: Fashion parade at 9:40am followed by U13 males 50m freestyle
Lunch: 12:05pm - 12:20pm
Last Race: 2:00pm U21 Relay
Presentations: 2:10pm (no free swim allowed)
Depart: 2:40pm
On return to the College all students must attend homeroom for attendance to be marked.
Dismissed 3.20pm

Parents and Friends
BARBECUE at the swimming sports next Thursday.
A reminder to all students, staff and parents to bring along some loose change for a sausage or two in bread for their lunch. And if there are any parents who would like to help with the BBQ, please contact the College office with your details, and the P&F will contact you.

Parenting Teenagers
‘PARENTING TEENAGERS’ IS A PARENTING PROGRAM THAT HELPS PARENTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR TEENAGERS AND BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS IN THEIR FAMILY

This program is free and will be facilitated by Parentzone Gippsland. The content will be based around the needs and interests of the participants and may include any of the following topics:
- Factors that influence how we parent.
- Adapting your parenting style to meet the changing needs of your teenager.
- Developmental changes in our teenagers.
- Developing a positive relationship with your teenager.
- Understanding causes of your teenager’s behaviour.
- Ways to encourage cooperative behaviour.
- Strategies to deal with difficult behaviour.
- Self Esteem— theirs and yours.
- And any other issues that are challenging you as a parent.

The parenting program is free.

For more information or to register please contact: Parentzone Gippsland on 5133 9998

anglicarevic.org.au

Program Details
2016 Dates:
Wednesday for four weeks
24th February
2nd March
9th March
16th March

Time:
10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Venue:
Anglicare Victoria
5A Church Street
LEONGATHA
NOTICE TO PARENTS

A reminder to parents that the drop off/pick up area for students is at the car park behind the multi-purpose hall only.

Leaving the College at the end of the day

The back car park

All parents are to wait until the buses have left the front of the College to leave the College grounds, someone is usually on duty at the T intersection stopping the traffic. This is to avoid a bank up of cars at the corner of Ogilvy Street and Horn Street. We need to get the buses to the Secondary College asap after the end of the school day.

Also a reminder to staff, parents and students of the following:-

ALL students leaving the College on foot must use the footpath to exit the property via the main gate. It is not safe to be crossing Horn Street between the main gate and Strzelecki Highway. Nor is it safe for a parent to stop and collect or drop off students in this section of Horn Street.

In order for buses to run to schedule, no student, parent or staff vehicles (with the exception of the teacher on bus duty at the Leongatha Secondary College) should leave ahead of the first group of buses.

BUS PASSES in 2016

Bus passes must be applied for through student reception with preferably 48 hours notice. Bus drivers will not accept a note from a parent - the pass must be issued by the school.

Just handing a note in at the office does not automatically mean a bus pass will be accepted.

Bus passes will not be issued for sporting or social purposes. This year bus passes to Korumburra, Nyora, Poowong, Outtrim, Arawata and Mirboo North will not be issued under any circumstances due to the buses being full. The capacity of other buses may also change throughout the year.

We are a tiqbiz school

Receive our newsletter and information by downloading the tiqbiz app to your phone, ipad or computer.

Please update your child’s year level preferences.

AMBULANCE MEMBERS

All families are encouraged to be members of the ambulance service. At times of accidents or illness, the First Aid trained staff member/s in attendance will make a decision as to whether or not they should request the attendance of the ambulance service.

In doing so, the health and safety of the patient will be the only determining factor. Ambulance membership, or potential costs to families will not be a point of consideration. Such a decision will always be made with a conservative ‘better safe than sorry’ attitude. Parents (or next of kin for an adult) will always be contacted as soon as possible so that they may be in attendance when the ambulance arrives. A familiar staff member will always accompany a student to the hospital if the attending ambulance officers approve. Thank you.

ENGLISH HELP

TUESDAY LUNCHTIME

ROOM 19

HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL 7-12 STUDENTS WHO ARE WANTING TO IMPROVE THEIR ENGLISH SKILLS.

Even when we are achieving we can still do better.

Success doesn’t come to you, YOU GO TO IT!