This Week’s Prayer

Lord, please show me what I should give up for Lent
And when I’ve given it up
Remind me to pray to You instead
To thank You
To love You
To hear from You
Each and every day in Lent
Amen

Message from the Principal

What would you do if you were given a whole extra day? Many people say things like “I’m so busy” “There aren’t enough hours in the day” “If only I had an extra day this week…” Well, next Monday is the 29th of February, leap day in this leap year. We have all been gifted an extra day this year. Think of it as a chance to think about the things that are really important, rather than the things that press on us to create an ongoing sense of urgency and business. This is what Lent calls us to. What will you do with your extra day this year?

This week started with a very successful Year seven camp. I had the enjoyable duty of visiting the camp on Monday afternoon and overnight with four of our senior student leaders. Camp was full of enjoyment, activity and fun. To see our new year sevens getting to know each other and their teachers was most encouraging. I am sure they all had great stories to tell when they got home.

Our year sevens can be very pleased with themselves – they have made a great start to their secondary schooling. I look forward to seeing them grow on their journey here at Mary Mac. It will seem like no time and they will be the graduating class of 2021!

This week we have sent out teams in Swimming, Girls Cricket and Boys Cricket. All have acquitted themselves well and there have been some great performances – these will be reported in this and the next newsletter.

Tuesday 1 March is the annual Year 7 Mass of welcome, followed by our family barbecue in the courtyard. Mass starts at 6pm in the Multi-Purpose Hall. Year 7 is a crucial year of transition. It helps your child enormously if there is a good relationship between school & home.

This is a great opportunity to welcome our new families and meet your child’s teachers. We will also commission the Year 7 class leaders at the Mass. I look forward to seeing you there.

It is important for emergency management procedures that all families can receive SMS messages.

Any family who did not receive the SMS about our recent 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

A reminder that now is the time to organise your winter uniform.
Please see Panther’s Mensland to order your new girls tartan skirts or boys long grey pants.
Alternatively the Parents & Friends Secondhand Uniform Shop is open on Fridays between 1.30pm and 2.15pm
The new school year arrived suddenly for most students as we suddenly realised that our holidays were over and school routine had once again commenced (for some a final time).

We were greeted by the Senior School team which consists of the Director of Senior School Courtney Blair, Wellbeing Co-ordinator Bron Kalos and VCE Administration Co-ordinator Cade Maskell. We know they will help guide us through what can be a challenging year. There has also been a change in the way homerooms are structured. Now students who are in the same house, Tenison, Chisolm, Cameron or MacDonald, are also together in the same homeroom. This not only encourages team spirit but it ensures participation in all house and sports events and allows students to share their ideas about the best way to support their house and dress up for events.

Without a doubt, this year will not only be one of the best years at Mary MacKillop, but it will be a year that all students will never forget!

Pastoral
Pastoral lessons so far have allowed each student to understand entirely what they are striving to achieve and to become familiar with the VTAC system. This has helped students to feel comfortable with the upcoming year. Pastoral is also aiming to help students to have a clear understanding of what they will be doing in 2017. We look forward to working with Mrs Steenholdt as she helps us to plan what life after school may look like.

Activities involved connecting to our spiritual selves, acknowledging our personal goals and relationship building, all of which will assist each student in achieving their intrapersonal aspirations.

We are all looking forward to the reflection day later in the year, before our final exams where we have the opportunity to reflect on our year and to narrow our focus onto what is important.

Academics
Despite only being back at school for just over two weeks, the 2016 VCE academic year is already well underway. With classes timetabled, subject changes made and SAC dates set, the senior school students are looking forward to a year of both the hard work that comes with goal-setting and the celebration of achieving those goals. On our first Monday back at school we were lucky enough to have guest speaker Darren Pereia return to the college to present a VCE success seminar on shaping our destiny. This provided students with a range of strategies to assist us in facing the many decisions we are all about to make regarding our post-high school pathways and the futures that will come of these. Darren’s enthusiasm and passion for his work inspired us to pursue a career in which we “do what we love and love what we do” allowing us to “play and get paid”. Through his clever and very persistent repetition, Darren has well and truly wedged these incredibly catchy, yet indisputably poignant phrases into minds, and this has provided senior school students with solid foundation and a positive framework upon which our 2016 academic year can begin to form itself.

Matilda, Brianna, Ebony and Sinead (Year 12)

Year 12 Retreat
This was an opportunity for all year twelve students to channel their efforts into their final year. The retreat provided support, unity, comfort and guidance to allow each student to overcome internal challenges and worries that they may be dealing with, in regards to their studies.

The retreat allowed all students to connect with each other and to further develop strong friendships with one another, which will act as a support network throughout the year. Activities were aimed at developing these relationships and they proved successful as the students walked away from the retreat as a community, rather than individuals.
On Tuesday 23 November 35 students represented Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College at the School Sports Victoria Swimming Sports. This was held at the Korumburra Pool and we competed against other Secondary Colleges from Wonthaggi, Korumburra, Leongatha, South Gippsland and Mirboo North. We were delighted to come out second for the whole day, with 14 students progressing to the next stage at individual events.

Individual Champions
13 Years    Kelsey Dal Pozzo and Lily Maxwell
14 Years    Tyler Newton
15 Years    Will Little and Taylah Brown
16 Years    Jarvis Pryor
17 Years    Luke Malherbe

Age Champions, from left were Kelsey Dal Pozzo, Taylah Brown and Luke Malherbe.

Senior Girls Relay team were from left Tessa Zuidema, Claire Wylie, Kaiah Jones and Georgia Deenen.

U17 girls relay team winnes were, from left Madelyn Krausz, Madison Wright, Georgia Blogg and Sara Riseley.

Dominic in Papua New Guinea has learnt communication and problem solving skills to lead his community towards a more peaceful, prosperous future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help empower communities in Papua New Guinea to lead their own development and create more harmonious futures.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion  1800 024 413
Important Notices and Dates

**HAIRDRESSERS**

Wanted for the Mary MacKillop College upcoming production of “All Shook Up”.

The dates needed are Thursday 14 April 10.00am – 1.00pm for a practice run through of the show, then the actual shows which are Friday 15 April, (2 shows) and Saturday 16 April (2 shows).

It will all take place at Wonthaggi Cinema. You don’t have to commit to all the shows, any help would be greatly appreciated.

Parents and helpers can contact Lisa Hogan at the College on 5662 4255 if they are interested.

**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.

**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!

**VOLLEYBALL**

Leongatha SPLASH Stadium

New players welcome

Senior comp starts 11 February

Juniors (secondary) and Spikezone (primary from 8 years old) starts Thursday 25 February at 6.00pm.

For more details phone Tom BH 5658 1043 or AH Mandy 5662 4395 / 0418 361 240

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29 Feb</td>
<td>SSV - Super 8 Cricket B 7-10, Tennis G 7-10, Volleyball 7-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 1 Mar</td>
<td>Year 7 Mass of Welcome and barbecue, 6.00pm</td>
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<td>Mar 5-17</td>
<td>Students from Shibuya Junior High School, Japan</td>
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<td>Thu 10 Mar</td>
<td>Immunisations Years 7 and 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Mar</td>
<td>SSV Super 8 Cricket G 7-10 Tennis B 7-12</td>
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<td>Tue 15 Mar</td>
<td>Student free day Parents &amp; Friends Meeting, 7.30pm College Boardroom</td>
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<td>Fri 18 Mar</td>
<td>St Joseph’s Feast Day, guest Father Rob Galea</td>
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<td>Mon 21 Mar</td>
<td>House Athletics</td>
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<td>Thu 24 Mar</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1, school finishes 2.05pm</td>
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<td>Fri 25 Mar</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td><strong>TERM 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>First day of Term 2</strong></td>
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<td>Mon 11 Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-16 Apr</td>
<td>“All Shook Up” School Production Wonthaggi Arts Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 18 Apr</td>
<td>OEG Year 9 Information Evening, 7pm-9pm</td>
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<td>Wed 20 Apr</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 26 Apr</td>
<td>Parent &amp; Friends AGM 7.30pm College Boardroom</td>
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<td>May 2-6</td>
<td>Year 9 OEG Camp</td>
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<td>Sat 28 May</td>
<td>Debutante Ball</td>
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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.

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