Key Dates
Friday 12 August
Home Study Day
Hairspray - School Production 7pm

Saturday 13 August
Hairspray - School Production 1.30 and 7pm

Monday 15 August
Feast of the Assumption—Whole School Mass

Monday 22 August
P&F Forum 6pm
Year 11 & 12 Recital Night

Wednesday 24 August
Year 9-10 AIME Day
DOMs Hamburger Lunch

Friday 2 September
Fashion for Compassion 7pm

Principal’s Report

Last Saturday as I watched the College’s production of Hairspray it filled me with pride to see what our students achieve. They dedicate many hours to activities they are passionate about and bring joy to those who watch them. The Sisters of Mercy are strong advocates of the arts and the Sisters present on Saturday at the performance were very impressed with the quality of the acting, singing and dancing.

Throughout this month our students are involved in the Catholic Performing Arts Festival and I have witnessed great dedication at the Festival Performances. Once again our students have devoted many rehearsal hours to prepare for this event and have performed in the music, singing, drama and Bible Reading categories.

Student involvement in the arts contributes to a well-rounded education but also ensures that students have an interest beyond the classroom that will stay with them for a lifetime. I thank the staff members involved for their commitment to our students and also recognise the support provided by parents as they transport daughters to and from rehearsals and attend the various performances.

As I write this report I am conscious of the great commitment made by staff members to involve themselves in a service activity this Friday. Service is one of our Mercy values and it is inspirational to see staff members join together to commit to helping others.

I had morning tea with the students who went to the LEAP Conference and was impressed with their enthusiasm for the programme and the many ways they had benefitted from the guest speakers. Goal setting, building confidence and networking were just some of the many components of the leadership programme. Not only have these students personally grown from the experience but they will share this knowledge with their peers.

Insight from Catherine McAuley:
It is for God we serve the poor, not for thanks.

Some of the cast members of the College’s Production, Hairspray
We continue our aim to provide Mercedes students with the best possible educational environment that will stimulate and challenge them so that they aim for personal excellence in all that they do.

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Important: Pick-Up/Drop-Off

Parents are asked not to drive onto the premises to drop off students before and after school. Please do not block entrances to the campus or drive onto the driveway to drop off your daughter. Reversing out of the driveway is extremely dangerous. We have experienced a couple of near misses of casualties, it is dangerous for students as well as for staff.

Perth City Council will be patrolling the area to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

Open Morning

Monday 5 September / 9.30am –12pm

Prospective parents are invited to attend Open Morning for students enrolling from 2019 onwards. To register please visit

http://www.mercedes.wa.edu.au/openday

Fashion for Compassion

Friday 2 September / 7pm / College Hall / $18

You are invited to join us for our annual Fashion for Compassion. The parade showcases a dynamic mix of students’ work, designs from local boutiques, music and dance. Tickets available via Trybooking
Pastoral Care News

Year 9/10 Community
Year 10 - Mrs Sherrin Adams

Congratulations to the following girls who were voted by their peers as House Leaders for Semester Two:

**McDonald:** Phoebe Holmes 10.4, Mollie Bissett 10.1

**Wright:** Jess Muller 10.2, Erin Mincham 10.5

**Serisier:** Lauren Woldters 10.1, Bridget McDonald 10.5

**Frayne:** Jacinta Ferreira 10.7, Samaya Smith-Cameron 10.4

**Cooper:** Maddie O’Brien 10.3, Sarah Crowley 10.6

**McAuley:** Georgia O’Driscoll 10.3, Georgia Busslinger 10.7

I thank the many girls who nominated themselves for this leadership position.

Curriculum News

Academic News - Mrs Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services

**OLNA Testing – Round 2: August 2016**

Letters notifying parents and students about dates and times for OLNA testing have been sent home and should be delivered this week. Testing will occur on Monday 29, Tuesday 30 and Wednesday 31 August. Details of practice tests, testing dates and times are enclosed in the letters. If you would like to clarify your daughter’s status in Literacy and Numeracy testing, please contact Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services at lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au.

**Last date for withdrawal from ATAR or General courses – Year 12**

Please be advised that the final date for withdrawal from exams with a written exam is Friday 26 August. If Year 12 students need to discuss course options before this date, please make an appointment with Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services at lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au.

**Maths – Mr Peter Mee, HOLA**

UNSW Mathematics Competition (Tuesday 16 August)

Virtually all students in Years 7 & 8 plus the Year 7 to 9 ALP students will be participating in this competition during Week 5. Practice papers will be made available to the students in the weeks leading up to the competition via their course SEQTA cover page. Students will need to bring a 2B pencil and an eraser (students sitting the Year 8 and 9 paper also require a calculator). We wish them success in this competition.

**Social Sciences - Mr Tim Poga, HOLA**

Last week, over 50 Year 8 students gathered over two lunchtimes to witness the first ever Year 8 Economics Shark Tank Awards. Twelve of the best digital presentations created were showcased and both students and teachers were amazed at the range of ideas put forward, the creativity of those displayed and the level of demographic research that had been undertaken by all the finalists. Our guest judge had a difficult time selecting a winner but in the end Lily Graves took out the top award with Sophia Wood and Madeline Roberts rounding out the top 3 results. Congratulations to all finalists and the teachers who assisted them during the economics topic.

**Business and Information Technology – Mr Des Loh, HOLA**

The Year 9 Multimedia Information Technology excursion to Kudos Creative allowed students to appreciate and understand that good communication and design processes are a major contributing factor to any successful project.

The company director demonstrated their products and services, including the City of Perth Parking campaign, various product packaging and a themed calendar for a non-profit organisation. The excursion was an extension to course work using graphic manipulation software and Adobe Photoshop, to create effective paraphernalia for an event. It provided students with a valuable opportunity to gain an insight into the operations of a professional graphic designer.
Certificate III in Business – Ms Alison Armstrong

From Monday 15 August, Certificate III in Business students, will be operating small businesses on the College campus.

The students have studied a variety of aspects of running a small business including purchase of goods and services, marketing, dealing with customers, etc. As a requirement of the qualification students must operate their mini-enterprise at least three times and then deliver a business report on the outcome of their mini-enterprise.

Lookout for these small businesses on campus at various locations over the next three weeks:
- Syeobes – Delicious Sorbets
- Slice of Heaven – Excellent Home-made slices
- Cloudy with a Chance of Ice Cream Sandwiches – Yummy Ice Cream Sandwiches
- Fresher than You – Handcrafted Keyrings
- Melbs – Fantastic Cupcakes
- CoCo & Co – Devine Brownies

General News

Student Behaviour in Public and on Public Transport - Mrs Sabrina Hughes, Acting Deputy Principal – Student Life

Whilst I recognise and affirm the positive, courteous and considerate behaviour of the vast majority of our students, a small number of students have not behaved with integrity this term whilst commuting in public areas, or on public transport. Regrettably the College has received complaints related to these matters continually since the beginning of this term.

Please be reminded:
- To be courteous of patients and staff at Royal Perth Hospital, particularly when using the internal cross-over to travel to and from the train station
- Show respect to the bus drivers of our School Specials
- Be considerate of the public when lining up to board buses other than School Specials. Be patient in boarding as you are likely to be standing.
- Stand for adults on buses at all times

In relation to use of the CAT buses:
- Students* may only use CAT BUSES when they are travelling at times when the School Specials do not operate.
- Students* are not to catch CAT BUSES between 7.45 - 8.35am and 3.15 - 3.45pm. Students should be catching the School Specials or any non-CAT Bus travelling in the Free Transit Zone (FTZ).
- *Year 11 & 12 students may, after school, catch the RED CAT or SCHOOL SPECIAL CAT departing from the Travelodge Hotel, Hay St Bus Stop only.
- Students may apply for a special permission card if they need to ride the CAT either to/from their home or parent’s work between 7.45am and 3.45pm. Application forms are available at Student Services.

I look forward to a decline in the number of disgruntled members of the public who have been contacting the College.

Aboriginal Health Guest Speaker – Mrs Sabrina Hughes & Ms Deborah Humphries

On Thursday 28 July during Pastoral Care Period Ahmi Narkle from the Department of Health spoke to girls from Years 7-12 about careers in Health and the variety of pathways available to them. Ahmi is a 22-year-old Whadjuk Noongar woman from Perth and is in her third and final year of Nursing at Edith Cowan University. Ahmi has been given the opportunity to be an Aboriginal Cadet at the Department of Health where she is currently situated in the Nursing and Midwifery Office. In keeping with the theme of engaging strong Aboriginal women as role models for the girls, Ahmi also shared aspects of her personal journey to this point with the group.

Regardless of specific intentions to pursue a career in a particular Health field, Ahmi provided information on a variety of pathways, both vocational and university bound that will assist students in planning study and career pathways. She encouraged them all to make the most of their opportunities at school, and to persevere in order to reach their goals.

Ahmi spoke passionately about the realities of health statistics amongst the Aboriginal population, the continuing disparity between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians’ health and life expectancy, and the significant cultural barriers Aboriginal people can encounter within the Health system itself. She encouraged students to consider a career in Health which would enable them to work alongside Aboriginal people, especially women.

Aboriginal Health has created a booklet on career pathways into Health specifically designed for Aboriginal teenagers. Each student received a copy which contains all the information necessary for school-based traineeships, university pathways, vocational, and on the job training employment options.
Languages Week – Mrs Cynthia Villarosa

Bonjour, Buongiorno and 你好 to all! National Languages Week is a celebration of Australia’s rich linguistic diversity and an opportunity to embrace other cultures and traditions. It was celebrated in style at Mercedes College this year, with exciting activities for all students and staff.

Students in all years of study in Languages embarked on a gastronomic journey. Students of Mandarin enjoyed Chinese delicacies from Mint Asian Café. They learnt how to make crispy spring rolls and dumplings and danced along to C-Pop. Students in lower school Italian and French participated in excursions to pâtisseries and cafés such as François, Jean-Claude and Stuzzico Pizzeria, ordering delicious food in the target language. Students in upper school French and Italian enjoyed meals and/or pastries at the café, Scents of Taste and restaurant, Il Mandolino.

The celebrations continued throughout the week: Catherine’s Café offered Italian, French and Chinese specialties; there was a lucky lotto competition; European monuments were built with Spaghetti; Pétanque and Bocce competitions took place; there was a performance and lesson in Chinese Martial Arts by Miss Zhou from the Confucius Institute; and finally the week culminated with the Amazing Race with students searching all corners of the school for clues, participated in language related activities and danced the Tarantella. There were prizes and fun for all.

What a fantastic way to celebrate our linguistic and cultural diversity! Despite English being our national language, over 200 languages other than English are spoken in Australia with over 15% of the population speaking a second language at home, statistics likely to show an increase following this month’s census. Language is an integral part of cultural expression and the cultural diversity of this country adds to its strength. Our students are blessed in the opportunities we have to engage with other languages and cultures, something that we have all enjoyed celebrating this term.

Music - Ms Claire Glendinning, Director of Music

Catholic Performing Arts
The Catholic Performing Arts Festival is well under way and we have received several Honourable Mentions and Merit awards. A full list will be published at the conclusion of the festival. Thank you to the Instrumental Music staff involved in preparing students for their performances.

Soloists – please make sure you have advised the school of your absence for your performance day.

Diary Dates – evening performances only for CPA listed here
Saturday 13 August ABODA – Wind Band, Wind Ensemble
Sunday 14 August ABODA – Wind Orchestra
Monday 15 August – Wind Band
Friday 19 August – Wind Ensemble, Wind Orchestra
Monday 22 August – Year 11 & 12 Recital Night
Thursday 1 September – Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Select Choir
Saturday 10 September Music Showcase. Rehearsals 9am – 1pm, performance at 6.30pm. More details to be advised later in the term.

Hockey – Ms Lorraine Brown

ACC Hockey
Following our narrow defeat by Mandurah Catholic College in the Champion Schools Hockey Challenge, we have started a new tradition of Mercedes v Trinity Hockey Challenge... After a thrilling 1-1 draw in the first half unfortunately Trinity stepped up their game in the second to secure a win in the inaugural match. There was an interesting game analysis following the match over a pizza or two and it was a fun outing for both sides..... bring on the return match in 2017!

Saturday Hockey
The Perth weather has produced some cold and wet weekends but our hockey teams are not phased and show up each weekend to battle it out on the pitch. With only a few weeks left in the competition our Yr 7/8 team are currently sitting 5th on the table but a couple of wins are needed to secure a finals opportunity. Our Yr 9/10 team have been running and playing their best hockey recently and notched up some impressive games against the top teams but just need to secure the points each week to move up the ladder into final contention.

It has been great to see the extensive support from parents and friends at the games on weekends despite the weather. With three games left before the end of the round games we are hoping to work our way into the top four spots for finals.

**Debating – Mrs Anne McPherson**

The 2016 WADL debating season has now officially ended. This year Mercedes again entered four teams, two in the Novice Division and two in the Junior Division. Teams debated topics over five rounds that took place over Terms 1 and 2. Overall, twenty one students participated, comprising team members from Years 8, 9 and 10. The teams were well mentored by four committed teachers; Mrs O’Toole, Mr Doria, Mr Beare and Mrs McPherson.

This year our results showed an improvement from 2015, with all teams scoring at least one win and Mrs Beare’s Novice team achieving four wins out of five, and making it to the Preliminary final. Unfortunately, they lost narrowly to Perth Modern. Congratulations must go to Vy Tran, Sophia Wood, Gabriella Miocevich, Olivia Pedretti and Lisa Le for their committed, spirited efforts in their very first year of debating.

All interschool debaters and coaches gathered early in Term 3 for a celebratory conclusion to the debating season. All students were quick to agree that they had increased their knowledge and skills through their involvement with debating, as well as learnt a lot more about commitment and teamwork.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all students, teachers and, most importantly, parents, for their continued support of interschool debating. Hopefully, Mercedes will continue its involvement in this worthwhile competition in 2017.

**Angelico Art Exhibition - Ms Andrea Hosking , Art Co-ordinator**

Congratulations to the following students who have had their artworks selected to represent the College in the 23rd Angelico Exhibition: Julia Colangelo, Adeline Holli, Megan Humphries, Sophie Woods, Brittany Anderson and Georgia Clarke.

The exhibition showcases selected works from WA Catholic schools and is incorporated with the Catholic Performing Arts Festival annually. The exhibition runs from 15—26 August, 9—5pm weekdays at the Forrest Centre, 221 St Georges Terrace, Perth.
House Film—Miss Bridgette Sattler
The House Film Festival will be held on Wednesday September 7 at the Cygnet Theatre in South Perth. Stay tuned for more information.

Hairspray - Mrs Kathleen Cocks, HOLA
This weekend sees the final shows of our 2016 production Hairspray. Congratulations to the entire Cast, Crew and Band for their energy and commitment to this show. It has been an extra-long season and the students have had to dig deep into their energy reserves to keep delivering such an energetic and fun show. You have all been amazing! I am very proud of all of you! The feedback has been incredibly positive and audiences have left the show wanting more and singing all the songs.

We look forward to another weekend of excellent performances and then we will hang up our Good Morning Baltimore costumes, props and instruments for the last time and know that this show has been one of our very best. Congratulations again!
Wellbeing

Understanding Teen Emotions
Building in a pause when you talk with your teen is a key strategy being taught to parents who find their home life emotionally charged as their children become teenagers. Find out more: http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-02-25/emotion-coaching-teaches-parents-to-tune-into-their-teenagers/7200158

Parent Workshop: Understanding Teen Emotions
A teen’s job is to transition into an adult. This is a complex task, which often brings emotional turmoil. During this time, teens have the daunting task of learning to balance their own emotions. A private course for parents on this topic, developed by MindSmart, will be running for parents in August and October, with more details available at: http://www.mindsmart.com.au/parent-workshop-understanding-teen-emotions/

Student News

Congratulations to Millie Doherty, Mackenzie Peattie, Lauren Wolters and Rosie Savage who have been selected to represent Western Australia at this year’s Australian Under 15’s Lacrosse Tournament. It will be held at the Glenelg Lacrosse Club in Adelaide during October. Congratulations and we wish the girls the best of luck!

Parent & Friends’ Association

80s Disco Postponed
We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but due to insufficient bookings, the upcoming 80s Adults Only Disco will not take place on Saturday 20 August. Therefore, the Wine Raffle cannot be drawn on Saturday 20 August. Thank you so much to the parents who had supported this event. Your payment will be refunded via our accounts department.

Wine Raffle
Thank you to the families who have contributed wine or a donation of $15 towards a bottle of wine for this year’s Wine Raffle. Families who have yet to contribute wine towards the raffle prize, can still donate wine or $15 which will help towards the prizes. Thank you also to the families who have returned their SOLD Wine Raffle book. Please send in your sold ticket butts and money by Monday 15 August. More books/tickets are available to families who can sell another book. Please email jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au. The raffle will be drawn at the 80s Disco on Saturday 20 August.

Whole School Hamburger Lunch (DOM event) - Tuesday 23 August
Mercedes College Dads and Grandads are needed to assist with the annual Dads of Mercedes Hamburger lunch. This is a wonderful event for Dads and Grandads to come together and cook up a storm for all the students and staff. Please email jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au to offer your assistance.

Father’s Day Breakfast (MOM event) - Thursday 1 September
Book now for the Father’s Day Breakfast Trybooking. Mums are being called on to assist with this year’s Father’s Day breakfast. We will need help with set up on Wednesday 31 September from 12 noon and help on Thursday 1 September from 5.30am with hosting, cooking and clean up. More details will be provided. Please email jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au and let me know your availability.

Mother & Daughter High Tea (MOM event) - Sunday 18 September, 1.00pm
Please join us for the annual Mother & Daughter High Tea at the Broadwater Resort & Spa in Como. It’s a lovely way for all mums, grandmothers and daughters to enjoy a lovely afternoon of good food and company. More details to follow soon.

Mercy Day - Friday 23 September
Mercy Day is a fun filled day for all students and staff. This year, in our 170th celebration, the College is inviting parents to assist the College with the days activities. More information to follow soon.

Entertainment Book
The NEW 2016-2017 Entertainment™ Membership is packed with thousands of up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers for the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel, and much more! 20% of the purchase of every Membership sold contributes towards our fundraising. For a limited time, postage is FREE to any address in Australia when you buy the Entertainment™! To purchase a copy of the book, please click here.

Noticeboard

Retrospective Exhibition by Noongar artist Bella Kelly - Monday 20 June - 21 August / 11 - 5pm Monday to Friday and 1 – 5pm on Sunday/ John Curtin Gallery, Bentley. For more information visit http://www.bellakelly.com.au/

 Abilities Expo - Thursday 8 September / 9.15am– 1.30pm & 4.30pm - 7.30pm / Crown Perth - Grand Ballroom. The Abilities Expo is for people with disability, their families and carers who want to know more about the services they can access.
St Mary’s Church Guildford Anniversary and School Reunion – Sunday 14 August, 9.30am at St Mary’s Church, 21 James Street Guildford. Former students and past and present parishioners are invited. Please RSVP to Cheryl Harris (nee Morley) on 93781909 or 0417923417, Jim McCarthy on 92744498 or 0400151076 or Emmanuel Calleja on 93792012 or 0405974432.

Under 15’s UWA Softball and Baseball Club - Well organised, fun environment and absolutely no experience needed. Training is once a week and games are usually on Saturday mornings (October to March). Call Angelica on 0439 905 946.

Pilates for the Soul - If your soul could do with a bit of stretching, the Centre for Faith Enrichment is for you! Check out the wide range of online and face-to-face courses and events on offer by visiting www.cfe.org.au.

Celebrating 150 Years, Sisters St Joseph of the Sacred Heart - La Salle College Saturday 13 August 9am. All relatives, associates, friends and past pupils are invited to celebrate 150 years of their Foundation. Dr Michele Connolly RSJ will talk on The Mission of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: Invitation into my mission as a disciple of Jesus. Refreshments provided. RSVP, Laura 08 9334 0999 or laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au.

2016 Cathedral Concert Series - Sing the Classics! Sunday, 14 August, St Mary’s Cathedral, Perth 2-4pm. The second of our 2016 Concert Series with the Cathedral Choir, organ and small string ensemble. For tickets visit www.ticketswa.com or call 08 6488 2440.

Inglewood Little Athletics - Open Day/Registrations Saturday 3 September 10am – 1pm at Dianella Reserve via ResultsHQ. Fees are $200. For more information www.inglewoodlac.com.au or email admin@inglewoodlac.com.au.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2016 - To celebrate National Literacy and Numeracy Week, DSF is officially launching the new DSF/AUSPELD Parent Portal. This resource is the online version of the Understanding Learning Difficulties. Join us for lunch and meet guest speaker, Jackie French. Jackie has struggled with Dyslexia all her life and understands only too well the challenges this brings. To book please click HERE.

Group Fitness Training - Led by experienced instructors Circuit Training incorporates varied functional movements and exercises to build muscle tone and increase cardiovascular fitness. Sessions are run for children aged 10 - 18 years. Tuesday and Thursdays 4:00 - 4:45pm at the Coady Sports Centre. To enrol contact Courtney on 0403 953 317 or email courtney.spanbroek@hotmail.com.