Key Dates

Friday 23 September
Mercy Day
End of Term 3

Wednesday 23 September
Year 12 Trial WACE Commence

Friday 7 October
Year 12 Trial WACE Finish

Monday 10 October
Home Study Day

Tuesday 11 October
Term 4 Commences
Prefect Thanksgiving Liturgy & Dinner

Wednesday 12 October
2017 Prefects’ Commissioning Liturgy

Wednesday 18 October
Year 12 Graduation Mass & Dinner

Friday 21 October
Presentation Evening

Principal’s Report

Last Friday a Mercy Cross was installed in front of the Serisier Learning Centre. This heritage cross commemorates the pioneer Sisters and marks their grave site. This Saturday after Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral for the Feast of Our Lady Mercy a ritual will take place at the Mercy Cross followed by morning tea for the Sisters in the Conference Centre. We are very fortunate to be able to enjoy this cross provided by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea. It is a daily reminder of the importance of the Mercy charism at the College and the legacy of Catherine McAuley, Ursula Frayne and the pioneer Sisters.

Our students performed at a very high standard in the Catholic Performing Arts Festival and as a result we have won the prestigious Zenith Clock for the Zenith Commendation Award for sustained improvement. I acknowledge our talented students and the dedicated staff members who have nurtured these students and supported them to perform at their best. When we talk about our Mercy value of ‘excellence’ we are referring to every student aiming for a personal best and I believe we saw great evidence of this during the Catholic Performing Arts Festival.

On Saturday 10 September the ‘Music Showcase’ gave a wider audience the opportunity to hear our talented musicians and singers. The evening was also a testament to the strong relationship between Mercedes and Trinity College. Students from both schools combine well together and finished the evening with a powerful performance of ‘Total Praise’.

It’s hard to believe that Term 3 is drawing to a close. I wish our Year 12 students all the best for their examinations and their final few weeks at the College. Have a safe and happy holiday break with family and friends.

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

While we place all our confidence in God, we must act as if all depended on our own exertion.

The ACC Inclusive Education Athletics Team at the Carnival
Presentation Evening

Friday 21 October / 7.00pm / Perth Concert Hall

Tickets are available through www.perthconcerthall.com.au and are $20 each.
For more information visit the College website.

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.

Dad & Daughter Lawn Bowls

Sunday 16 October / 3pm / Tattersall’s Bowling Club / $15
Tickets available via Trybooking

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Tuesday 1 November / 11am / The Blue Duck / $65
Tickets available via Trybooking
Pastoral Care News

Year 7/8 Community
Year 8 - Mrs Alicia Sharpe
It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of Term 3. As the girls leave for holidays, it is important that they take some time out for themselves to relax and re-energise, so that they come back refreshed and ready to tackle the last term of Year 8.

Last week during Pastoral Care, the Year 8s had the privilege of hearing from Brett Stanford, a member of How Ridiculous. How Ridiculous began with them completing trick basketball shots in their backyard back in 2009 instead of studying for exams. Since then they have broken a world record, are followed by over 500,000 people and have had 48 million people view their YouTube videos. Brett shared his story with the girls, but also discussed the kind of characteristics the whole team has needed over the years to continue pushing themselves further and further, whilst not giving up, especially when things don’t go to plan. He left the girls with some ‘food for thought’ to think about:

- Keep a positive mindset
- Have goals, dream big
- Work hard
- Have a great ‘team’ around you
- Never give up, keep persevering – you never know the opportunities that may arise to help you achieve your goal
- Don’t miss out on this special time of your life by playing it safe, don’t miss out by not trying, don’t miss out by giving up, go for it all!

At the commencement of Term 4 the girls will be required to wear their Summer Uniform with the hat. There will be no transition period from the Winter Uniform. The Student Diary contains information on the correct Summer Uniform requirements. Please ensure over the holidays that the Summer Uniform is the appropriate length, as some girls may have grown over the last few months.

This term has seen Sabrina Hughes acting as the Executive Member of Year 8. I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation for all the support and guidance she has provided to the Year 8 students and myself. Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday. I look forward to seeing the girls back next term.

Year 9/10 Community
Year 10 - Mrs Sherrin Adams
This term certainly has flown by, with so many activities that the Year 10s have participated in positively – I thank them for their commitment!

On Mercy Day, we were lucky enough to follow the tradition of ‘A Comfortable Cup of Tea’, hosting the Sisters of Mercy at our High Tea. It was wonderful for the girls to have had the opportunity to be with those women who followed the examples of Catherine McAuley and Ursula Frayne, and who have made such a great contribution to our Mercy Heritage. The girls also had the chance to participate in a cookie bake-off, Mercy Quiz and had fun dancing for each other.

One of our fantastic homeroom teachers Mr Mark O’Brien is leaving us at the end of term. Mark has been a wonderful homeroom teacher to 9.6 last year and 10.2 during 2016. He has always put the welfare of his students first and I sincerely thank him for his wisdom and concern for his students. I hope to see the Year 10’s back fit and healthy next term.

Year 11/12 Community
Year 12 - Mrs Hannah Lalor
Mercy Day this year has a special focus on celebrating the 170 Anniversary of Mercedes College and the Year 12 students will be participating in an Amazing Race of Mercy, which involves finding clues and completing challenges around the city. Mercy day is a compulsory day for all Year 12s to attend.

Graduation is on Tuesday 18 October, with rehearsals and final assemblies at the College, starting at 8.40am and running until 12.40pm. Students will be required to gather on the Cathedral lawn at 4.30pm for a 5pm start for Graduation Mass and Ceremony. This will then be followed by a Graduation dinner at the Hyatt for Year 12 students and their parents. All students and parents have been emailed the letter with ticketing information. Extra tickets will be available during the holidays, once initial numbers are confirmed and I will inform students and parents via email.

Left to Right: Brett Stanford from How Ridiculous speaking to the Year 8s, Year 7s enjoying their recent social at Trinity College
Mercedes College Newsletter
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Presentation Evening is the final farewell to the Year 12’s on Friday 21 October, with rehearsals from 8.30am – 9.30am for all Year 12 students. Students in Year 12 do not need to purchase a ticket for the event, however family tickets must be purchased through www.perthconcerthall.com.au.

We wish your daughters all the best for their mock exams during the holidays and for their study break next term before their WACE exams. If you have any queries about any of the above, please email me at hlalor@mercedes.wa.edu.au.

Curriculum News

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

iPad/Laptop Survey
Thank you to those parents who responded to the iPad/Laptop survey sent out in recent weeks. Your feedback has given the Information and Learning Technology Committee an insight into the use of devices in the school. The information is now being processed and the strategic direction of the school’s IT and its connection to curriculum delivery is being shaped over the next twelve months. We appreciate the time taken to complete the survey.

Online Literacy and Numeracy results – Round Two
These are due to be released on Monday 24 October and will be available to parents after this date.

Trial WACE Exams
These start on Wednesday 28 September and run through until Friday 7 October. Morning exams start at 8.20am and afternoon exams start at 12.30pm. In the event of illness, please contact the Receptionist at the College who will pass on information to the supervising Executive member on call. A medical certificate is required to cover the absence from an exam. If possible, the missed exam may be rescheduled.

Year 12 Completion of School Survey
This week, Year 12 students will be invited to respond to a Completion of School Survey. This will offer the Leadership and Executive Councils valuable insight into the performance of the school in relation to Mercy values, academic, pastoral care, co-curricular and other aspects of school life. It is an opportunity for graduating students to register their ideas and opinions, suggestions and points of gratitude as they complete their education at the College.

Science - Miss Elizabeth Morgan
Coding Workshop
Week 7 and 8 saw the opportunity for the ALP students to explore the use of coding in real world situations. This STEM incursion engaged the students in issues of third world sustainability and highlighted the use of technology and coding to protect natural resources such as water. The students were involved in programing a moisture detector and the Arduino Uno board to detect when a plant had sufficient moisture to survive. These hands on activities allow students to experiment, question, and consider endless possibilities of the future.

“I really enjoyed putting in to practice my programming skills and learned a lot about the irrigation and water conservation issues within 3rd world countries.” – Chloe Keeffe 9.3

General News

Student Life - Mrs Sabrina Hughes, Acting Deputy Principal

Term 4 Summer Uniform - Tuesday 11 October
As we welcome the sunshine of Spring, it will also hopefully bring with it some warmer weather. Please check the condition and length of your Summer uniform and your hat prior to the commencement of Term 4. Summer Uniform as per the Student Diary includes:

- Light green check dress
- Polished black lace-up shoes with College white socks
- Jumper
- Blazer (optional)
- College hat – compulsory wear with the summer uniform

ASPIRE EXCEL LEAD

COMPASSION EXCELLENCE JUSTICE INTEGRITY SERVICE

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Music Bursary

The Sisters of Mercy 2017 Music Bursary Application forms are now available on the College website or from Student Services. Applications close on Friday 14 October and auditions will be on Monday 24 October.

Students not returning to Mercedes College in 2017 – Mrs Julie Lamb, Enrolments Officer

If your daughter in Years 7-11 is NOT returning to Mercedes College next year, please notify Mrs Julie Lamb by Monday 31 October 2016 by telephone on 9323 1340 or email jlamb@mercedes.wa.edu.au. Please note that one term’s notice of withdrawal is required to avoid penalty charges. Receipt of this information will assist us with our planning for 2017.

Music - Ms Claire Glendinning, Director of Music

Thank you

Thank you to all of the students involved in the Music Showcase last week. The performance was a result of weeks of dedication and hard work from students and their directors, and was a wonderful display of versatility from many students across varying genres and styles. Thank you to the generous parent helpers, led by Ms Jan Lawson and Mrs Jackie Stacey, who never cease to amaze me with their organisation and efficiency! It would not have been possible without your help.

Ellington Jazz Club Contemporary Evening

This exciting performance is selling out fast, so if you would like to secure one of the last tickets, you can do so here. The evening will feature a number of student ensembles across a range of different genres. The Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble will be returning after their sell-out shows in 2013 and 2014, and will be joined by the Rock Band and special guests ‘Salimi’. Also featuring guest vocalists and instrumentalists throughout the night, you are sure to be dazzled by this showcase of contemporary cross-genre talents, set against the stylish backdrop of The Ellington Jazz Club.

Catholic Performing Arts

The Mercedes/Trinity Chorale were featured as part of the Catholic Performing Arts Final Concert last Monday evening, after being awarded the Shield for Secondary Choir and the Shield for Sacred Choral. In addition to the awards listed in the last edition of Sorelle, Mercedes College were awarded the Zenith Commendation Award for Sustained Improvement. This award is in recognition of five years of continuous improvement, and all members of Dance, Drama and Music should be very proud of their contribution to the Catholic Performing Arts Festival. The beautiful pendulum clock will be on display in different areas of the Arts for the next year.

Diary Dates

Saturday 24 September: Feast of Our Lady of Mercy Mass – Small group of choir members
Wednesday 5 October: 10 – 12.30 Holiday rehearsal – Select Choir for Presentation Evening
Monday 17 October: Ellington Concert – Jazz Band, Jazz Ensemble & Rock Band
Tuesday 18 October: Graduation Mass – Select Choir (evening)
Thursday 20 October: Trinity Presentation Evening – Wind Orchestra & MT Chorale
Friday 21 October: Mercedes Presentation Evening – MT Chorale & Select Choir

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Debating – Mrs Anne McPherson

The AHISA (Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia) debating competition is over for another year. This demanding competition involves debating five topics over five successive weeks during Term 3. Debate topics this year covered themes such as Sport, Business and Economics, Media, Ethics and Social Justice, and Indigenous issues. Our team of Year 10 students - Mia Duplock, Alysha D’Souza, Teehani Ralph and Jade Mascarenhas - were very successful in winning four out of five debates against schools such as Hale School, Aquinas College and two St Mary’s teams. The only team to defeat them was Scotch College, who won all their debates and were named winners of the division. A very creditable achievement by our girls.

It was only made possible by their wonderful commitment to attending lunchtime meetings and their preparedness to research and edit their debates in their own time. Thanks must also go to our parents who not only were a supportive audience but who often had to brave cold, wet conditions to get their daughters to the venue (Perth College) in plenty of time each week. I am confident that the knowledge and skills developed by our students will prepare them well for the demands of Upper School next year.

House Film Festival - Miss Bridgette Sattler, Media Coordinator

On Wednesday September 7 the House Film Festival screening night was held at the Cygnet Theatre in Como. This historic venue was a beautiful space to host our competition. The evening began with some stand out student work from Years 8-12. Each director then took to the stage to introduce their film, before it was screened. There was some outstanding work from each house, and while it is a team effort, the directors are to be commended for their dedication and hard work! Congratulations to Ella Parker for Cooper, Sascha Coates for Frayne, Sarah Clifford for McAuley, Georgia Barton for McDonald, Adrianna Rivas for Serisier and Olivia Jansen for Wright. There were many worthy award winners on the night across the different categories, congratulations to all of you. The main event, the winning house for Best Film 2016, went to McDonald - well done to Georgia and the McDonald cast and crew!

Mercy Service Learning – Mrs Christine Aldous

St Vincent de Paul Street Appeal – Sydnee Watson

Early in the morning on 9 September, a group of Year 10 students were situated around the city to shake tins for the St Vincent de Paul organisation. St Vincent de Paul is a not-for-profit organisation which supports the homeless and those struggling financially. It is committed to making the world a more just and compassionate place. Participating in this service gave me time to reflect on how lucky I am and I know everyone who collected that morning took time to reflect on what they have to be grateful for. We were very humbled to have an opportunity to raise money for those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Although the tin shake was only for an hour, we were all very surprised at how giving people were and we were pleased with our efforts. I gained a lot from participating in this activity and I would definitely recommend this to any students who have the opportunity in the future to complete this service as it is a very rewarding experience.

Inclusive Education

Abilities and Careers Expo – Mr Nathaniel Yow

Last week a group of the Inclusive Education students attended the Abilities and Careers Expo at Crown Perth. The girls had the opportunity to hear from a number of speakers sharing their career stories which were full of inspiration for their lives after Year 12. The girls were also able to view over 90 exhibition stalls from service providers and left enriched with both show bags and information!

ACC Inclusive Athletics Carnival – Ms Rosemarie Wiley

On Friday 9 of September the College was represented by the largest Inclusive Education Sporting team to date comprising of 19 students at the ACC Inclusive Athletics Carnival held at McGilvray Oval, Mt Claremont.

The students participated in running events, long jump, relays and novelty events. All of the girls were outstanding in their efforts. Samara Hopkins won a medal for the Under 15, 400m race and Reece Gavranich won a medal for the Under 15, Vortex throw. The girls had a wonderful time competing in the events and displayed great team spirit and sportsmanship. We
would like to thank Mr Greg Smith’s Year 11 Sport and Recreation class for coming along and supporting the team.

**WA State Volleyball Schools Cup - Miss Corinne Kirry**

Six teams competed in the recent WA State Volleyball Schools Cup. Competing was six teams. This large competition required many training sessions with dedicated coaching and early morning trainings. Out of the six teams, four made it through to the semi-finals. All four teams fought hard and won their games, progressed into Grand Finals. Unbelievably, they all won their Grand Finals. No game was easy!

Every team that played in the Grand Final won it and came home with gold medals.

Morgan Aquino (Year 9 B Div), Nadia Pisano (Year 8 B Div), Taylah Stewart (Year 11 A Div) and Jasmine Serra (Year 10 A Div) received the ‘Most Valuable Player’ award for their divisions.

Congratulations and well done to our Volleyball Players, parents who supported their girls with driving to trainings and to support the finals games on Father's Day. Coaching staff were Miss Corinne Kirry, Mr Aaron Pearsall, Miss Lara Fresson, Mr Liam Smith, Miss Sara Kononan and Miss Shelby Maher.

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**Wellbeing**

**What Teens Need Most from their Parents**

This article is a ‘must read’ if you want to better understand your teenagers and how to help them.

http://www.wsj.com/articles/what-teens-need-most-from-their-parents-1470765906

**How ‘Mindful Parenting’ can mean Less Stressed Children**

New research shows that when parents are more mindful of their emotions, children benefit. Read more at: https://www.theparentswebsite.com.au/how-mindful-parenting-can-mean-less-stressed-children/

**Can Self-Compassion Improve Well-Being in Teens?**

One way to cultivate self-compassion is by doing a loving-kindness meditation. To find out more click on the link below

http://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/can_self_compassion_improve_well_being_in_teens

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**Thank you to Parents**

**Music Showcase** – Thank you to all the parents who assisted with this wonderful event: Arlene Soares, Pauline Moran, Gizella D’Alesio, Nicole O’Rourke, Lucy Tan, Christina Bormolini, Suzanne Biundo, Naomi Chapman-Greenway & Ed Greenway, Sara & Donald Macmillan, Toni Saxon, Ian & Liz Hamer, Kevin de Souza, Jo Kay, Clorinda Di Dido, Rosalba & Dario Bottega, Jodie Harders, Christina Bormolini. Your help and support is always appreciated.

**Mercy Day 2016** - Thank you to all the parents below who gave up their time this week to help with the Mercy Day preparations: Anastasia Williams, Gabrielle Metcalf, Arlene Soares, Clorinda Di Dio, Katrina D’Cunha, Diana Toohey, Louise Comiskey, Anne Bond, Sally Cook, Tammy Streckfuss, Rani Aria Retnam, Anne Cornish, Vanessa Henbury, Rosetta Middleton, Jude Clayton, Carol Mitchell, Toni Saxon, Suzanne Biundo, Helen Dwyer, Jenny Davidson, Lydia Hadfield, Erin Skinner, Rita Panebianco, Tina Morton, Mary Greenshields, Carolyn Cheng, Caroline Smith, Denise Norrish, Julie O’Donoghue, Monika Costello, Sonia Friet and Natasha Spanjich.

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**Parent & Friends’ Association**

**Mums Dinner** – Thank you to all the mums to joined us for a lovely dinner at Café Bellavista on Thursday 15 September. It was a lovely evening and we all look forward to the next in Term 4 with the view of filling the room.

**Mother & Daughter High Tea** - Thank you to the mums and their family members who attended the Mother & Daughter High Tea last Sunday at the Pagoda. Although the service was a little bit disappointing, this did not deter everyone from enjoying themselves. It was a lovely afternoon with plenty of delicious food, good atmosphere and excellent company, including a special Cooper table organised by one of the mums… go Cooper! Thank you to Teresa Perone, Sharon Casey, Mary Greenshields and Julie Hargreaves for providing giveaways on the day, and to those parents who provided information about their businesses—we hope Mercedes families will support other families who own and run their own business!

**P & F Wine Raffle Results**

On behalf of the P & F thank you again to all the families & staff who supported the Wine Raffle which was drawn on Saturday 10 September at the Music Showcase. Funds raised will be used to assist with the improvement of College facilities. The raffle raised a total of approximately $12,500.

Congratulations to the following winners:

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<tr>
<th>1st Prize</th>
<th>2nd Prize</th>
<th>3rd Prize</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R Phillips ticket # 06783</td>
<td>Mick Davey ticket # 01224</td>
<td>Rosanna Cordisco ticket # 07016</td>
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All winners have been notified. Please remember that if you still have a raffle book, please return it to the office as books have to be accounted for. Any money from sold tickets that missed the draw and haven’t been handed in, should be refunded to the
person who purchased a ticket. Email jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au to report a lost/misplaced book or believe that you did not receive a book.

Mercedes College Alumni

Class of 1986, 30 Year Reunion - Saturday 15 October 2016. Join us to celebrate at the Grosvenor Wine Room from 7pm onwards. Please contact Rita Panebianco (nee Lombardi) at panebianco.rita@cathednet.wa.edu.au or 0419 905 922

Notices

MercyCare Illuminations Concert - A concert to shine a light on acts of mercy in our community. Sunday 20 November, 2.30pm, St Mary’s Cathedral. To purchase your ticket visit www.mercycare.com.au/illuminations or email illuminations@mercycare.com.au for more information.

Trinity College Tours - Visit the expanding campus and all the Trinity has to offer. To book please contact the Registrar via registrar@trinity.wa.edu.au or call 9323 8121.

Term 3 Holiday Revision Classes - 26-20 September at Rossmoyne Senior High School. An intensive 5 day revision featuring Maths, Physics, Chemistry and English. For more information visit www.scholasticexcellence.com.au

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.

Kingsway Swimming Club - Kingsway Swimming Club is excited to announce Rio 2016 Olympian and Silver medallist Tamsin Cook will be at Mercedes College pool on Saturday 15 October for the Swim Clinic. The clinic is open to all swimmers of all levels. There will be swimming lessons and games with accredited swim instructors for younger children; as well as coaching and a specialised workshop with Tamsin and coaches for older squad swimmers. As one of Swimming Australia’s ambassadors, Tamsin will be speaking about her Olympic journey and will be available to sign shirts and caps as well as take photos with her Olympic medals. To register for the clinic or for more information, visit www.kingswaysc.net