Key Dates

Thursday 2 June - Monday 6 June
Camino Walk

Friday 5 June
Home Study/Service Day

Sunday 5 June
Production Rehearsals 1 - 5pm

Wednesday 8 June
Year 12 Retreat
Production Rehearsals 3 - 6pm

Thursday 9 June
Year 12 Retreat
Year 9 Ballroom Dancing Lessons 3.30-4.30pm

Friday 10 June
Year 12 Retreat
ACC Inclusive Sports Indoor Soccer

Sunday 12 June
Production Rehearsals 1 - 5pm

Monday 13 June
Year 10 Exams Commence

Wednesday 15 June
Production Rehearsals 3 - 6pm

Thursday 16 June
Year 12 Mentor’s Breakfast
Year 9 Ballroom Dancing Lessons 3.30-4.30pm

Principal’s Report

Dear Parents

We were fortunate to be visited by Sisters Elaine Wainwright RSM, Deidre Gardiner RSM and Maryanne Loughry RSM from the Institute’s Mission and Ministry Team on Wednesday of this week. Some of our Year 10 students took them on a tour of the College. It was an opportunity for the Sisters to engage with our students as well as see the facilities. They also met with members of the College Executive and Religious Education Department. We always appreciate the presence of the Sisters at the College for key events and visits.

2015 Annual School Report and School Performance Data

The 2015 Annual School Report and Performance Data is now available on the College website. It provides an account of what was achieved in 2015 as we continue to implement the ‘Future Plan’ which sets the strategic direction for the College 2016 – 2019. Goals for 2016 are also outlined. You can access this information by clicking on ‘Our College’ then ‘Our Future and School Performance Data’ and finally ‘2015 Annual Report’.

Communication between Home and School

The use of SEQTA as a platform for storing information about courses, assessments and resources has assisted students to study and complete set assignments. Gone are the days when homework or assessment information could get lost in school bags or on the journey home from school. SEQTA is also of great use to parents providing them with access to assessment/test results and outlines of what their daughters are learning at school. At our recent Triangular Meetings parent feedback about SEQTA was very positive.

Teachers are still uploading information and this will vary from one learning area to another. Course outlines, resources and topics are what teachers will provide on SEQTA. It is a time-consuming task and I am very appreciative of their effort in this area. An increase in the number of emails between home and school has been a result of the provision of more information. The positive side of this is that issues can be ‘nipped in the bud’ before becoming a major problem. Please be aware that emails sent by your daughters or yourselves in the evening will not necessarily be dealt with that night. Your daughters’

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

“If we love God, we will undoubtedly love our neighbour also; they are cause and effect.”

Inclusive Education students with the winning shield, after taking out first place in the ACC Inclusive Sports Activity Fun Run
teachers will explain the timeframe they can manage as they juggle work and family commitments.

**Body Image**

Last week I attended the Butterfly Foundation Presentation held by the P & F. As well as being informative it was a powerful reminder of the way adults can influence how a child perceives their body shape. It reminded me of the great responsibility we all have to help the students at Mercedes have a hopeful, positive view of themselves and the world they live in. I thank the P & F for organising such an important presentation. Students also had the opportunity to hear from the Butterfly Foundation with information and activities suitable for their age.

**ACC Inclusive Sports Fun Run Day**

Congratulations to the team for the spirit they showed at this event. They won a trophy for displaying good teamwork skills, supporting other teams and interacting with other schools. Mercy values were definitely enacted on the day.

Best wishes

*Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal*

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*Students taking some Sisters of Mercy, visiting from the Eastern States, on a tour of the College*

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**PerF Family Fun Bollywood Night**

*Saturday 25 June / 7pm / College Hall*

Join us for a Family Fun Night, Bollywood style on Saturday 25 June at 7pm in the College Hall. Tables of 8 or 10 are available. Join MC Lisa Fernandez (Alumni) & Channel 9 Presenter of Today Perth for an evening of fun and games. Loads of door or raffle prizes to be won. Click [HERE](#) to book.
Pastoral Care News

Year 9/10 Community
Year 9 - Mrs Bernadette Dell

Year 9 have had a number of sessions with guest speakers who were able to provide additional information about living a positive lifestyle and about personal responsibility and safety. With advice from two of our presenters, our students have been able to see the importance of looking at themselves and their peers in ways that recognise potential for growth and achievement. We also had a talk that reiterated the need to be careful about what details we place in the public forums of social media, even when we think that the space is ‘private’.

We have been examining the suggestions for appropriate clothing for the social. Some textile students have produced informative and eye-catching posters that have been placed in the Village for display. The two creators of the most outstanding posters, Olivia Smyth (9-1) and Madigan Gordon (9-4), will receive prizes at our social. I am sure all of the girls are excited about this coming event.

Curriculum News

Business and Information Technology - Des Loh, HOLA

This term, Year 9 Multimedia Information Technology students have been introduced to robotics. The field of robotics plays an integral part in today's modern climate in attempting to solve various problems. Students have been asked to consider the increasing impact of robots and artificial intelligence in our society.

In class, we are using the Lego NXT robot kits. It is a fun and exciting way to allow students to discover the complexities and nuances of computer programming. They need to code instructions that allow the robots to manoeuvre in specific ways. Various sensors have also been included onto the robot in order to increase its capabilities in trying to solve problems.

Accounting & Business

On Tuesday 10 May, the Year 10 Accounting and Business and Year 12 Accounting and Finance students attended the annual conference called ‘Meet the Business Leaders’ at the Perth Convention Centre. Over 400 students attended this conference from various schools around WA. It provided students with the opportunity to meet, network and talk to leaders from a range of businesses about career pathways. Throughout the conference, a variety of guest speakers discussed their personal experiences and pathways to becoming a successful business leader. On the day, we were set an engineering task challenging our team work and creative abilities in creating the Eiffel Tower out of simple materials that were provided. Our Year 12 students won the challenge and were awarded an iTunes gift card each. This conference was most informative and proved to be an excellent educational experience. By Nikki Humphreys (Year 12)

General News

Habits of Mind Quote

“The most beautiful experience in the world is the experience of the mysterious.” Albert Einstein.

IT “Surf Online Safe” - Paul Reid, Director of Learning Technology

On Friday the 20th of May we hosted Paul Litherland to speak to the year 9 and 10 cohort about their safety while socialising online. Mr Litherland was a WA Police Officer for 20 years and for the last 5 years of his career, he worked in the field of Technology Crime, where he worked directly with children and adults who were the victims of online crime. His insight as a father to teenagers and work in the field gives him and authoritative insight into the challenges facing students and parents in today’s age. These regular events reflect the ongoing conversation required around a rapidly changing real online world and the true concerns parents and schools are having.

The presentation focussed on teenage internet use, social networking design as well as the psychological profiles of teenagers and the offenders that prey on them. There were over 30 questions from students many of which were very perceptive. The
teachers in attendance were impressed with Mr Litherland’s content, subject knowledge and presentation style as well as the advice and solutions offered. Mr Litherland spoke of the number of Mercedes students he hadn’t identified online that hadn’t set the correct privacy settings and provided steps on how these can be corrected.

He also spoke of the fact young people between the ages of 12 and 18 make up almost 40% of all internet users, whilst almost 75% of teenagers use Social Networking on a daily basis. The online world is vastly different from how the Gen X and even Gen Y grew up and it is a constant worry for parents to try and keep their teenagers safe online. Please consider asking your daughter what they thought of Mr Litherland’s presentation when the opportunity arises.

Red Shield Appeal
The Red Shield Appeal is a fundraising drive by the Salvation Army which raises money for a vast network of social and community services throughout Western Australia. Twenty-one Mercedes students from Year 10 and 11 were privileged to participated in the Red Shield Appeal on Saturday 28 May. We gathered at the Marian Campus of Newman College in Floreat Park and started collecting from there. We went out in groups of two or three and collected donations by door knocking. We then gathered again back at the Marian Campus and accumulated the donations to send to the Salvation Army. On average each group collected at least a $100. Thank you to all the teachers who were involved - Miss de Lima, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Kagi, Mr Shine, Mrs Gunawardena and especially Mrs Aldous for their efforts in organising the Red Shield Appeal for the students. Overall it’s was a very rewarding experience and I would love to do it again.

By Christina Mathew (Year 10)

Inter-House Athletics Carnival - Mr Greg Smith, HOLA Health and Physical Education
The Inter-House Athletics Carnival will be held on Thursday 23 June at WA Athletics Stadium, Stephenson Avenue, Mt Claremont. The first event is scheduled to start at 9.45am and the Carnival will conclude at 2.30pm. Due to time constraints, the Javelin and 1500m events will be conducted prior to the Carnival. These events will be conducted at the College, at lunchtimes, in Weeks 7 – 8.

To view pre carnival events click HERE.

On the Inter-House Carnival day students are to wear their House shirt, as part of their sports uniform, to school and to bring their sports bag. Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled. Students will be transported to and from the WA Athletics Stadium on hired buses in their respective House groups.

As there will be no canteen facilities on the day at Mercedes College and there is no student access to the Stadium kiosk, students will need to bring their own lunch, some snack food and drink bottle. The Kiosk will be available to parents and will be open from 10.00am – 2.00pm on the upper level of the stadium.

Parents are welcomed to attend and support on the day. If parents intend on taking their daughter home from the Stadium they will need to provide a note addressed to their daughter's homeroom teacher by Tuesday 21 June. Students who are being picked up from the Stadium must be collected from their House area, in the Athletics Stadium.

The program for the day can be viewed HERE.

ACC Fun Run and Activity Day
The Inclusive Education girls had a great day on Friday at the ACC Inclusive Sports Fun Run and Activity Day held at Jackadder Lake, in Woodlands. We were extremely lucky with the weather and enjoyed the time networking with students from other schools and participating in all of the extra fun activities after the Fun Run. The girls thought that our Tug of War activity was the best.

Best of all Mercedes College won the shield on the day for demonstrating Mercy Values and the best sportsmanship. The team was ecstatic with their win which also meant they were the first in line for the much anticipated sausage sizzle lunch.
Street Soccer - Rosa Speranza, Deputy Principal of Faith and Mission

Anyone in the vicinity of the Rostrevor Kitchen Tuesday afternoon would have been quickly made aware of the flurry of activity in there. In this Year of Mercy teachers from St Gerard’s Primary School have been celebrating their Mercy heritage by putting faith into action. All day staff lovingly tended to slow cookers full of chicken and vegetable casseroles and ovens baking chocolate and blueberry muffins. The staff prepared 140 meals that were served down at Wellington Square to poor, disadvantaged and homeless folks. Later in the evening a few staff were assisted by our Apple partners and served meals at the Street Doctor Hub on the corner of Pier and Wellington St. Every mouthful was enjoyed!

St Gerard’s Motto is based on significant principles of the Sisters of Mercy; Truth, Love and Mercy, it is evident this community strives to live by these ideals and be living witnesses to Christ. It was obviously at the forefront of their generosity and care on Tuesday afternoon. The Street Soccer Ministry Leaders who worked alongside the staff thank them.

Reconciliation Week and Sorry Day 2016 - Mrs Sabrina Hughes and Ms Deborah Humphries

Reconciliation Week has been celebrated and acknowledge in a number of ways at the College. Special lunch menu items were offered throughout the week, while a number of lunch-time activities kept students occupied. Students wrote personal messages of reconciliation for a prayer rope activity; they celebrated Sorry Day at Wellington Square, and AIME joined us on Friday to host a weaving activity and traditional face-painting in Catherine’s Garden.
Wellbeing

When a parent recognises a teenager needs help, they’re more likely to get it
ReachOut Parents provides information, tools and resources to help parents and carers support the 12–18 year-olds in their family environment. This is a great new initiative from ReachOut and we encourage you to check it out.

Parents’ beliefs about failure are crucial for kids
If your children fail or do poorly on a task, would you prefer them to just give up, or dust themselves off and keep trying? Most of us would choose the second option. But how can we encourage this attitude in our children? The following article introduces a concept called ‘growth mindset’, and it all starts in the home… http://www.mamamia.com.au/parents-beliefs-about-failure/

Parent & Friends’ Association

Body Confident Children & Teens
The presentation to parents 23 May was well received by the parents who did attend. It gave the parents an idea of what to look for in order to discuss and promote positive body image with their daughters at home. Thank you to all the parents who attended.

P & F Family Fun Bollywood Night
Join us for a Family Fun Night, Bollywood style on Saturday 25 June at 7pm in the College Hall. Tables of 8 or 10 are available (including student tables). Join MC Lisa Fernandez (Alumni) & Channel 9 Presenter of Today Perth for an evening of fun and games. Loads of door or raffle prizes to be won. Click HERE to book.

Noticeboard

Retrospective Exhibition by Noongar artist Bella Kelly - Monday 20 June to the 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/

Future Footprints Career Expo - Sunday 26 June / 4pm-7pm / UWA Business School, Hackett Drive Crawley. Designed for Indigenous secondary students to explore post school education, training and employment opportunities. An excellent opportunity for Indigenous students to listen, discover, talk and ask questions about their career interest and opportunities in a friendly and informal environment. More information at rforrest@ais.wa.edu.au, 9441 1647, 0408 259 954.

Free Netball Clinic - Every Tuesday, from 10 May—14 June, 3.30pm—4.30pm at the College. To register, please contact Caitlin Farano on 9380 3731 or email Caitlin.Farano@netballwa.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 and the organisations that provide those services.

Preparing for Life after School - Wednesday 22 June / 6.00 - 7.30pm / Newman College Auditorium. An informal gathering for Parents to hear from Service Providers (TAFE, Disability Program Human Services, Activ, Interchange, LAC, Rocky Bay) about the post school services they offer.

Group Fitness Training - Led by experienced instructors Circuit Training incorporates varied functional movements and exercises to build muscle tone and increase cardiovascular fitness. Maximise your workouts and try new exercise routines! Sessions are run for children aged 10 - 18 years. Tuesday and Thursdays 4:00 - 4:45pm at the Coady Sports Centre. To enrol in Term 2 classes contact Courtney on 0403 963 317 or email courtney.spanbroek@hotmail.com.