Key Dates
Friday 4 November
Year 11 Final Day
Sunday 6 November
170th Anniversary High Tea
Monday 7 November
P&F Forum 6pm
Tuesday 8 November
Year 11 Exams Commence
Wednesday 9 November
Year 10 Drama Showcase
Thursday 10 November
Art Exhibition Opening Night
Monday 14 November
Year 8 Reflection Day
Tuesday 15 November
Year 8 Reflection Day
Year 8 End of Year Liturgy

Principal’s Report
It has been a stimulating Term 4 with so many key events held in the first few weeks and now students are preparing for and sitting final examinations. Year 12 students have started their external examinations and Year 11 begin early next week. It is a challenging time for students as they demonstrate what they have learned throughout the year. It also has an impact on family life as so much is put in place to support students during this examination period.

Student Leadership
The 2016 Prefects and Deputies were recognised for the last time at Presentation Evening and the 2017 team was also acknowledged with the announcement of Head Girl, Francesca De Nuccio and Deputy Head Girl, Emily Roberts. The new team has made a strong start and already organised a number of events and carried out other duties.

These student leaders take on a great responsibility. It is about serving the community and in particular being a role model to the younger students. Many of them spoke about their memories of previous Prefects and Deputies and the impact they made.

The Student Representative Council has also worked hard throughout the year and there is growing interest in this leadership team throughout the year levels. The 2017 Council is currently being selected. Peer Mentors also experience leadership training as they learn how to fulfil the requirements of this important role. Mercy Service is also a wonderful opportunity to learn leadership skills that can be used throughout life.

170th Anniversary Events
As our 170th anniversary year draws to a close I want to mention two key events. At Presentation Evening we were treated to the mini-musical “Mercy Past, Mercy Present and Mercy Future”. This celebrated our Mercy history and also the Year of Mercy.

This Sunday a High Tea is being held at the Pagoda to celebrate our heritage and to hear some reflections from people associated with Mercedes College over the years. It should be an afternoon to remember.

Best wishes

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Insight from Catherine McAuley:
If we love God, we will undoubtedly love our neighbour also; they are as cause and effect.”

Head Girl, Francesca De Nuccio and Deputy Head Girl, Emily Roberts
DOM’s End of Year Dinner
Thursday, 24 November / 6.30pm / Grosvenor Hotel
Bookings are available via TryBooking.

Art Exhibition
Thursday, 10 November / 6pm / Serisier Learning Centre

2016 Art Exhibition
Thursday 10th November
6pm
Serisier Learning Centre

Presentation Evening Photos
Photos are now available online to view and purchase.
To access the gallery, go to www.photohendriksgalleries.com, click on the Mercedes College logo and enter the password: luxe45
Pastoral Care News

Year 9/10 Community
Year 10 - Mrs Sherrin Adams
The Year Tens have been given a letter concerning our Adventure Day to be held on 18 November. Permission slips are due on 11 November. It is hoped that this day will give the girls an opportunity to have a fun-filled day prior to their examinations. A letter concerning the two Transition Days during the last week of term will be given out next week.

With exams fast approaching it is time for a reminder that less time on social networking, with more time on study and sleep will bring its rewards. A troubling trend seems to be emerging, with some students being absent on days when assessments are scheduled. Parents are reminded of the Assessment Policy and Procedures, outlined in the College Diary. A phone call must be made on the morning of the assessment with a Letter of Explanation forwarded upon your daughter’s return. It would also be good manners to contact the class teacher via email should your daughter be absent; this is positive role modelling for your daughter.

Congratulations to those girls who received Prizes at Presentation Night and also to the Year Tens awarded Certificates at this week’s assembly.

Curriculum News

Academic News - Mrs Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services
Year 11 Semester Two Exam Timetable
Semester Two exams will run from Tuesday 8 November until Friday 18 November, with a Home Study day on Monday 7 November. The timetable and instructions are attached here. Students with Special Exam Arrangements will be advised with a specific timetable to be emailed to them.

Year 11 students will not be required at school until Friday 25 November when they submit their Student Release forms and are informed of their results. A final meeting of the year group will be held on this day.

Elective Notifications 2017 – Year 7, 8 and 9 Students
Students in Years 7 – 9 will receive their elective notifications for 2017 today. This will assist in planning the purchase of items on the Booklist which will be released in the next two weeks.

English – Mrs Kathleen O’Toole, HOLA
Year 7 ALP English
Year 7 ALP English students Zoe Manson and Jessica O’ Brien recently received a fantastic glimpse into what it means to produce a newspaper. The girls won a place on The West’s junior editorial panel as a result of their entries in the GeNZ competition. On Sunday, October 23rd they attended Newspaper House with a small group of students from other schools. It was here that they found out what goes on behind the scenes at The West Australian, how news stories are selected and how a daily newspaper is produced. They met key editorial staff, and helped decide which stories would be included in the Monday 24 October edition of The West Australian. The girls also received $100 each. It was a fantastic opportunity and the girls really enjoyed their day. Well done Jessica and Zoe!

Year 7 Poetry in Action
On Monday 24 October the Year 7 English students had a very special English lesson when they were lucky enough to have a performance from three talented young individuals from the Poetry in Action group. The actors used a Back to the Future framework to revise key poetic concepts covered in class this year. It was a very engaging and sometimes quite hilarious lesson and the girls thoroughly enjoyed it and responded with great enthusiasm. The English department is grateful for all parents who support us in making these very beneficial experiences available to the girls. I hope some of our young poets are now busily writing entries for the Poetry in Action challenge. Competition details may be found at http://poetryinaction.com.au/poetry-challenge/

Year 12 ATAR English and Literature
The English department wishes all our girls the very best of luck in their WACE exams next week and stress that they should not leave the exam early.

Art – Mrs Andrea Hosking, Arts Co-ordinator
Mercedes College Art Department warmly welcomes the College community to our annual Visual Arts and Design exhibition. Opening Night Thursday 10 November, 6 pm, Serisier Learning Centre. Badges designed by the Year 12 Design students will be on sale on opening night for $1. All proceeds go to the upcoming Cambodia Immersion.

The Exhibition will be open until 18 November. Viewing hours are 8.30am - 3:30pm. With the exception of opening night, visitors are asked to sign in at Reception.

Accelerated Learning Program – Mrs Alicia Sharpe
On Tuesday 25 October, The Year 8 and 9 Accelerated Learning Program students had the opportunity of visiting the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research. The students participated in a Diagnosing Diabetes laboratory experience in the Lotterywest Biodiscovery Centre, where they were able to step into the shoes of a pathologist for a day. The day consisted of two engaging sessions hosted by research scientists, where they were able to use technology, such as glucose meters, an ELIZA protocol and spectrophotometry to determine glucose and insulin levels in patient samples.

The Biodiscovery scientists guided the students through the use of digital technology to record, graph and analyse their patient samples to arrive at the best course of treatment. The laboratory experience was interesting, informative and engaging, whilst
also providing the students with an insight into the world of pathology and medical research and showed the students just how important and fun Science can be.

Mrs Julie Lamb, Enrolments Officer

Students not returning in 2017
If your daughter in Years 7-11 is NOT returning to Mercedes College next year, please notify Mrs Julie Lamb immediately by telephone on 9323 1340 or email jlamb@mercedes.wa.edu.au. A withdrawal letter addressed to the Principal is required stating the reason for withdrawal, exact date of intended withdrawal, and the name of the school/educational institution at which your daughter is enrolled. Please note that one term’s notice of withdrawal is required to avoid penalty charges.

Receipt of this information will assist the College with future planning for 2017.

Enrolment Interviews for Year 7 2019
Interviews are being conducted in Terms 1 & 2, 2017 for sisters of current and past Mercedes students. If you have forgotten to enrol your younger daughter, please contact Mrs Julie Lamb on 9323 1340 or email jlamb@mercedes.wa.edu.au.

IT Angels – Paul Reid, Director of Learning Technology
Two of the College’s IT Angels attended the recent CoderDojo event as part of the Perth Knowledge Week. The event was held at the stunning new City of Perth Library where students had access to mentors from Woodside Petroleum.

CoderDojo is a worldwide movement of free, volunteer-led, community-based programming clubs for young people. At Dojo students can learn to code, build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment. The CoderDojo movement believes that an understanding of programming languages is increasingly important in the modern world, that it’s both better and easier to learn these skills early, and that nobody should be denied the opportunity to do so.

Teachers, Mr Loh and Mr Mee and Director Learning Technology also attended and enjoyed discussions with the Woodside team on how they are integrating Computer Science and Maths into their Data Science initiatives.

Philosothon – Ms Callie Steven
Philosophy in schools continues to grow in popularity, with the skills of critical and creative thinking and analysis increasingly valued. On Wednesday the 26th of October, five intrepid Mercedes students went to Perth College to compete in the Perth School Philosothon. This is an annual event where students from all over the Perth area compete in the Community of Inquiry method. While always polite, the discussion became very vigorous at times with students debating four topics.
This year the topics were: How can a benevolent and omnipotent God permit innocent suffering? Can a robot be conscious? Is there a right to be rescued? And, why are human beings so easily deceived? All four are very complex and the College’s team of Caitlin Silas, Gillian Doyle, Aisling Incerti, Lauren Wolters and Hannah Anderson did extremely well on the night. Well done girls!

The Arts - Mrs Kathleen Cocks, HoLA

House Performing Arts Festival 2017

Our Year 12 House DramaDance leaders have been appointed and are getting ready to hold auditions for current Year 7-10 students in the last week of Term 4. (Current student audition form is attached).

New Year 7 students will be able to audition very early in 2017 and they will receive information about this on their Orientation Day on Monday 21 November, with an audition form.

Please remember that casting for this Festival is very competitive and numbers for each house are capped due to space at the performance venue.

House Choir leaders will soon be announced and information about rehearsals will be forthcoming. Remember that House Choir is non-auditioned and one of the best co-curricular activities you can do to get involved and meet new people.

The House Performing Arts Festival will be held at Perth Concert Hall on Monday 3 April 2017 (week 10, term 1).

Exciting News!

Our 2017 Musical will be The Little Mermaid. We are pleased to announce that Mrs Fraser is supporting us to move our production to a professional theatre venue next year, so our show will be held at The Regal Theatre in late July. This is very exciting step forward and will ensure our production with be amazing.

Auditions for The Little Mermaid will be held in Week 2 of Term 1 2017. We will be looking for a cast of approximately 70 girls. Rehearsals will start from the beginning of Term 2. More information about rehearsal days, casting information etc. will be available from the start of 2017.

ACC Inclusive Sports Day – Ms Julie Wilson

On Friday 28 October, 17 girls represented Mercedes College at the ACC Inclusive Sports Day hosted by John XX111 College. The girls took part in a range of activities including netball, football, cricket, golf, soccer, touch rugby and lawn bowls.

A favourite was the inclusion of “Catch Music” performances where many rhythmic talents were exposed and students were encouraged to take the microphone and perform for their peers. This was a great success, enjoyed by both participants and audience members.

The girls enjoyed catching up with old friends from previous ACC events and making new acquaintances. The level of cooperation and good sportsmanship was outstanding and students should be very proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout this entire event.

Kate Armstrong has been selected to play in the U/13’s National Training Centre State Soccer Team. Congratulations Kate and we wish you the best of luck in your future games!

Congratulations to Adysyn Savy who competed in the Showcase National Dance Championships and entered in 4 solos. She placed 2nd in Ballet, 3rd in Tap and 1st and regional champion in her Jazz Trio. She also placed 6th in the regional top 10 soloists and received an award for Most Entertaining performer in the 13-14 age category.
Congratulations to Jacinta Bray who is an Airforce Cadet and recently graduated as a Glider Pilot, allowing her to fly solo! She received a scholarship through the Australian Airforce Cadets for her Glider lessons and is hoping to become a Pilot after completing University at the Australia Defence Force Academy.

Sabrina Serra and her dance partner Lucien Maart, competed in the WA Open DanceSport Championships at HBF Stadium on Sunday and became the State Junior Open Ballroom, Latin and New Vogue Champions. She was also recognised with a Junior Achievement Award. Congratulations Sabrina!

Happiness doesn’t mean that everything’s perfect…” - The Japanese have a philosophy called wabi sabi that encourages people to learn to their love faults and weaknesses, and those in others too, to improve wellbeing and happiness. To learn more: http://www.juicedaily.com.au/spirit/living-the-perfect-life-in-an-imperfect-world/

Exams are stressful! Why not recharge your batteries with the help of Cat Haven’s smallest and cuddliest? The City of Perth Library are hosting two kitten sessions for young adults. Upon arriving, students can book ten-minute sessions with the kittens. Times are Wednesday 16 November 11am – 2pm and Monday 21 November 11am – 2pm

Alumni are invited to celebrate over 170 Years of history, friendship and memories made at Victoria Square for the inaugural Mercedes College All Year’s Reunion on February 11 2017 at 2pm in the College Hall. Please RSVP to the Alumni Officer, Joanna Creighton at mca@mercedes.wa.edu.au or 9323 1366.

Melbourne Cup Lunch - A combination of 24 mums/ex staff members and a dad spend a wonderful day at the Blue Duck in Cottesloe. The weather was amazing, the company was great and food delicious. Some of us left as winners from the Cup Race but we believe that we all left as winners after a very enjoyable event. Hope to see many more in 2017.
**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 Trinity has to offer. To book contact the Registrar registrar@trinity.wa.edu.au or call 9323 8121.

**Group Fitness Training** - Led by experienced instructors Circuit Training incorporates varied functional movements and exercises to build muscle tone and increase cardiovascular fitness. Sessions 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.

**VacSwim** - Enrolments for December/January lessons are now open. It is important for every child to learn vital swimming and water safety skills. VacSwim offers affordable school holiday swimming lessons run by qualified instructors at a range of locations throughout the state. For further information and online enrolments visit education.wa.edu.au/swimming

**Academic Task Force Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 Weekend HELP Classes** – English, Maths Science classes on Saturday and Sunday. Experienced teachers work with students to build skills and understanding in a small group environment. For more information, learn@academictaskforce.com.au

**Perth Maths Methods Tuition Centre** - Powerful and intensive revision seminars to help you achieve your best in your Mathematics Methods examination. Whether preparing for your Year 11 exam or your Year 12 ATAR exam, find out more: www.perthmathsmethodstuitioncentre.com.au

**Mood Meter Program: Building Emotional Intelligence** - Join Michael Grose for our 3-week online parenting course. For more information visit http://www.parentingideasclub.com.au/