Key Dates

Monday 9 May
School Photos—Group and Year 12 Individual Photos

Wednesday 11 May
Year 10 2017 Course information Evening 6.00pm

Thursday 12 May
Year 9 Ballroom Dancing Lessons 3.30-4.30pm

Tuesday 17 May
Whole School Photo

Wednesday 18 May
Year 7 ACC Lightning Carnival

Thursday 19 May
Year 9 Ballroom Dancing Lessons 3.30-4.30pm

Principal’s Report

Dear Parents

Students and staff have had a positive start to the beginning of Term 2. I hope
you and your family enjoyed the holiday break and that students feel refreshed
and ready for another term.

Triangular Meetings

A key feature of this week has been the Triangular Meetings held on Tuesday
and Thursday evening giving parents, teachers and students an opportunity to
meet and plan ways to assist students to achieve to the best of their ability.

School Climate Survey

As part of our commitment to ongoing improvement at Mercedes College we
are part of a survey process through Catholic Education that enables us to hear
the views of the community. A sample of students and parents are asked to
complete the survey. I urge you to do this if you are approached. It provides
us with important feedback on what we do well and what needs to improve.

Italy Tour

Once again this tour was very successful and I was privileged to be part of the
group. I was very proud of our students. The tour was busy and a lot of fun
but also requires maturity on the part of the students attending. It is not easy
for students to be away from their parents for a long period of time and to share
a room with two or three other girls when they are used to their privacy at
home. I believe the girls not only enjoyed what Italy had to offer but also
increased their skills in collaboration and became much more independent in
the way they operate. We received many compliments from people who had
contact with the students ranging from hotel staff, bus drivers and members of
the public. It was a valuable learning experience for all. Thanks to all staff who
participated especially Mrs Angela Velletri for her meticulous organisation of
the tour.

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

“If we love God, we will undoubtedly
love our neighbour also; they are
cause and effect.”
It was wonderful to see so many mothers and grandmothers with daughters at this morning’s Mother’s Day Breakfast hosed by the DOM’s.

I wish all the mothers a Happy Mother’s Day for Sunday. I hope your daughters make your day very special.

Best wishes

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Mothers, grandmothers and daughters enjoying their breakfast earlier today

College Photographs
Monday 9 May 2016
Non-Sporting / Music Groups / Yr12 Individual
Pastoral Care News

Year 9/10 Community
Year 9—Mrs Bernadette Dell
The second term has started well, with the excitement of Ballroom Dancing lessons a highlight for many girls. Both Mercedes and Trinity have established clear expectations of the way in which participants are to conduct themselves and, so far, the students have been very cooperative and enthusiastic in their approach. Past participants consider these lessons to be one of their memorable ‘milestones’ at Mercedes and I am sure that our group will also find this experience enjoyable as well as instructive, in a variety of ways.

The transition to winter uniform should now be complete. Please ensure that your daughter's uniform complies with school regulations, especially in terms of the length of the tunic. As stockings with holes can be very conspicuous, it is important that your daughter does not continue to wear damaged pairs. Our aim is for each girl's appearance to make a clear statement that she is a young woman who has respect for herself and wishes to create a positive impression on everyone she meets.

Curriculum News

Academic News - Mrs Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services
Year 11 and 12 Semester One Exam Timetable
Year 11 and 12 Exams begin Monday 23 May and conclude on Wednesday 1st June. The timetable can be accessed HERE.

Course Information Evening – Year 11, 2017 (for current Year 10 students)
Year 10 students and parents are invited to attend the Course Information Evening on Wednesday 11 May in the Coady Sports Centre starting at 6pm. This is an opportunity to find out about course offerings in 2016, pathway options and the process for course selection. We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any queries about this evening, please contact Liana Strutt at lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au or phone 9323 1379.

NAPLAN Testing - (10 – 12 May)
NAPLAN testing will be held for Year 7 and 9 students in homerooms during Period 1 and 2 on each of the testing days.
- Tuesday 10 May – Language and Conventions / Writing
- Wednesday 11 May – Reading
- Thursday 12 May – Numeracy (calculator and non-calculator)

We ask your daughter supply a 2B pencil to avoid scanning errors. For the Writing task, students may use a 2B pencil or blue or black pen. Felt tip pens must not be used.

Students must also supply a working calculator for the Numeracy calculator test. Please ensure battery power is high. The school will NOT supply calculators.

If your daughter is absent due to illness, a make-up test day has been arranged on Friday 13 May. Please note that the prescribed break times will not be in place on these. Tests will NOT be administered after Friday 13 May. Year 9 students who miss the NAPLAN will be required to sit the OLNA Test in 2017.

Please notify Mrs Strutt if you anticipate your daughter will be absent on any of the test days by emailing lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au or phone 9323 1379.

Online Literacy and Numeracy (OLNA) Test results
Results for the March round of OLNA testing will be made available through the School Curriculum and Standards Authority on Monday June 6. Reports will be sent home to students from Tuesday 17 May.

Mathematics - Mr Peter Mee, HOLA
TISC bonus for studying mathematics subjects at the higher levels
Relevant to Year 10 students going into subject selection, and current Year 11 students

TISC have recently announced a bonus scheme to encourage students to select mathematics subjects at the higher levels (i.e. Methods only or both Methods & Specialist). Details of the scheme can be found at the following link http://www.tisc.edu.au/static-fixed/school-circular/circular-2016-2.pdf. They are also available on the maths portal and were sent as a SEQR direct message to the current Year 11’s studying Methods and Specialist.

The basic summary: A student will receive a bonus to their Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA) equal to an additional 10% of their final scaled score for each of Methods and Specialist. This bonus will apply to students graduating in 2017 and onwards.

Example 1: A student studying Methods who achieves 70% as a final scaled result in Year 12 will receive an additional 7 points added to their TEA.

Example 2: A student studying both Methods & Specialist achieves final scaled scores of 80% and 60% respectively. This student will receive an additional 14 (8+6) points added to their TEA.

Note: The subject does not need to be part of the student's top four to achieve the bonus.
Note: As a consequence of this change, the pre-requisite required by a student in Extended 2 Mathematics to get into Mathematics Methods has been reduced from an A to a B.

If you need further clarification, please consult your Mathematics Teacher.
Social Sciences - Mr Tim Poga, HOLAA
Year 9 Textbooks
There are a number of Year 9 students who have not, as of Week 1, had the required Politics and Law (Civics and Citizenship) ebook loaded on to their iPad. Parents should check with their daughters whether there are still any issues and if need be refer to the email sent to all Year 9’s on 26/4 which replicates the information from the College booklist. Please note that students will need, as per the booklist, the Economics text for Term 4.

Year 7 Ancient Roman iMovie Awards
During a lunchtime next week a number of the best Year 7 Roman iMovies will be shown during a lunchtime at the 2nd Ancient Roman iMovie Award Ceremony. The iMovies, submitted as part of a Year 7 assessment, highlight life in Ancient Rome and have created a bit of a buzz amongst the students. Our guest judge will be awarding ‘Silver Rabbit’ trophies to those lucky enough to make the judge’s top five. Good luck to all those who make it to the lunchtime showing.

Inclusive Education
The first Friday of Term Two provided our Inclusive Education girls the opportunity to represent the College in the annual ACC Inclusive Sports Day – something that they took on with eagerness and enthusiasm! The girls participated in a variety of fun and engaging sports activities with a range of schools, specialist coaches and mentors. These included Cricket with the some of the Perth Scorchers, Catch Music and Ultimate Frisbee. The wet weather didn’t stop the girls from demonstrating their sportsmanship and making new friends with great day had by all involved.

Social Sciences - Mr Tim Poga, HOLASocial Sciences
Anzac Day: Plant a Poppy Activity
On the final day of term, in the lead up to Anzac Day, students were invited to participate in an activity to remember the sacrifice of those who have served our nation. 521 poppies were made available and students were encouraged to plant them along pathway next to the Conference Centre. By mid morning all the poppies were planted. The Social Sciences Learning Area would like to thank everyone who took a moment to respectfully reflect upon the day and the service and sacrifice of our nation’s defence personnel.

Mercy Service Learning - Mrs Christine Aldous
The recent school holidays provided an opportunity for our Year 10 girls to commence their community service. Sixty-one Year 10 students chose to assist MercyCare at their two aged care facilities in Wembley and the child care and learning facilities in Heathridge, Wembley, Bedford and Serville Grove. The girls contributed over 200 hours each week in supporting these services. We are grateful to Louise Mason from MercyCare for arranging these very popular opportunities for our girls. Louise said, ‘The staff at Bedford Early Learning Centre always love having students.’ They and were moved by the effort and creativity of Ariana Pesce and Sophie Hadfield who created a Pizza store for the children’s indoor play area. ‘It has been played with every day since.’

A Reflection from Anne Kenneway
On the 7th of March, I invited two family friends over for wood fire pizza’s. I did this activity because one of my friends went to a different high school and I haven’t seen her since I graduated from primary school. So I invited her over for dinner. My other
friends’ mum passed away, and sometimes it is still painful for her to talk about her. So because it was my friend’s mum’s anniversary I invited her over and provided her with hospitality and support.

My mum helped me make the dough for the pizza’s and dad lit the fire and cooked the pizza’s, because I don’t trust myself with a naked flame. My friends and I had the delight of kneading the dough into flat bases and putting the toppings on the pizzas. We also had a late night swim in our pool and as the pool lights transformed the water into a red blood bath, we pretended we were dead and floating in the water.

I had a great time, and I’m sure my friends did too. I felt very blessed that I have such fantastic friends and that we get along so well.

Year 11 Literature Excursion - Mr Edward Slotwinski

The Year 11 Literature class attended a rather startling play, ‘Picnic At Hanging Rock’ on Thursday, 7 April at the State Theatre. The play, directed by Tom Wright, was adapted from Joan Lindsay’s classic 1967 novel of the same name. Having watched a selection of scenes from the 1975 film directed by Peter Weir, the girls came to the theatre with a sound idea of the story but were not prepared for the often bone-chilling representation of the story that interpreted the presence of Hanging Rock and the ethereal nature of the school girls in a very vivid manner. One or two scenes had girls literally jumping out of their seats with surprise at the mystical school girls on the stage and their enchantment by the Rock which was represented magnificently via sounds actually recorded at Hanging Rock in Victoria.

The feedback from the girls was overwhelmingly positive (despite a few nightmares after those chilling scenes) and we look forward to further visits to the theatre during the year. It was enjoyable to attend the theatre together and hopefully theatre-going will become a new favourite pastime for the girls.

A big thank you to Mrs Debbie-Jo Marando for accompanying us to the theatre. The novel is Mrs Marando’s favourite and one she studied when she was a student at Mercedes College. We certainly appreciated her insights and enthusiasm in the lead up to our theatre excursion!

Music - Claire Glendinning, Director of Music

Thank You
Thank you to all of the students involved in Music throughout Term 1. The House Performing Arts Festival was a wonderful way to end the Term and there were over 230 girls involved in House Choirs this year. Thank you to the Year 11 and 12 Directors and Assistants, you all did a wonderful job in preparing your choirs and have been wonderful role models for the students. If your daughter is interested in continuing her music, Choir is another non-auditioned group and anyone can join. Choir rehearses every week on Thursday, from 7.30 – 8.20am in Rostrevor Lecture Theatre. Girls may join at any stage of the year.

Trinity Middle School Music Night
Wind Ensemble and String Ensemble will be performing at Trinity’s Middle School music night on Friday 20 May. The performance is in the evening and the girls will be required from approximately 6pm – 9pm, however exact times will be confirmed at rehearsals next week.

Diary Dates
Please check these dates each fortnight for information regarding performances and extra rehearsals. On occasion, dates and information may change slightly from the school calendar, however all details sent home on notes from the Music Department will be the current information.

Monday 9 May Music Photos
Friday 20 May Trinity Middle School Music Night: Wind Ensemble and String Ensemble
Friday 24 June Trinity Senior School Music Night: Wind Orchestra, String Orchestra, Select Choir & Chorale
Monday 27 June Farewell Concerts for Music Tour: More details to be advised

Languages - Mrs Angela Velletri, HOLA
An Italian Language and Cultural Tour in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

What a special tour this was for the lucky thirty-five year 10 and 11 students studying Italian and the five accompanying staff. Each of the twenty days of the tour brought with it a new adventure, a cultural and language learning experience and an
opportunity to see famous monuments which before were only images in books or on the Internet come to life right before our very eyes.

A highlight of the tour and a great way to experience the Italian way of life was the amazing medieval city of Orvieto sitting high on a tufo rock. It is where we attended our full immersion language lessons at the school of Dante Alighieri as well as our cooking and ceramic art classes. We also experienced the countryside around “the rock” with an excursion to Bolsena, the largest volcanic lake in Europe and where the miracle of the Corpus Christi took place many years ago. The incredible city of Civita di Bagnoregio, a city clinging to life, was simply unforgettable.

The other jewels of Italy that we visited included the cities of Rome, Sorrento, Positano, Pompeii, Capri, Siena, Florence, Pisa, Venice, Verona and Milan. Each with its breathtaking views, amazing architecture, historical treasures, captivating Cathedrals and Basilicas, magnificent art works, scrumptious food, and incredible shopping opportunities.

After we landed in Rome, we headed for the incredible Saint Peter's Square for the Mass of Divine Mercy concelebrated by Pope Francis. We ended our last day of the trip in Milan, with a visit to the Dominican convent near the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, where the famous “Last Supper” by Leonardo da Vinci is housed.

From the very beginning of our tour in Rome to the end in Milan, and the amazing experiences in between will remain with all participants forever.

Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Program—Maya Matty

On the 19th of April myself and 29 other year 10s from around the state had the privilege to be selected by Curtin University for the Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Program. I didn’t know what to expect of this four-day camp but I was promised that it was an experience that will completely change my life. It certainly delivered on that promise. The program was a four-day camp driven by a vision to strengthen our leadership quality and make us determined to make a mark on the world. We were given many wonderful lectures, motivating us to have “10 Seconds of Courage” and we were inspired by guest speakers like the youngest councillor in WA who encouraged us to make our voices heard and helped us to realise that age was no barrier. I was pushed to step out of my comfort zone and face my fears. Be that climbing and jumping off a 15 metre pole (with a harness of course) to building a raft and putting it to the test in the river. Before going on this camp I could never have been able to call myself courageous. The camp opened our eyes to the conflicts in our society by activities that explored big issues and how we can make a change. It was truly the most exciting week of my life and through it I have gained more confidence and vision for my future. I walked into the program with 29 strangers and walked out with 29 of the best friends I had ever made who were supportive and motivating and I can’t wait to change the world with them. I am so thankful for this experience and the memories that come with it that will never fail to make me smile.

Non-Sporting / Music Groups / Yr12 Individual College Photographs Monday 9 May 2016

The second round of school photos will be held on Monday May 9. Please ensure your daughter is wearing her full winter uniform.
ANZAC Service—Mrs Jackie Stacey
Mercedes started the new term with an ANZAC Dawn service. While last year was the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign and birth of the ANZAC legend, it’s important to remember that many diggers also fought (and a lot more lost their lives) on the Western Front and over the next couple of years centenary anniversaries continue for the battlefields of western Europe.

Commencing just after sunrise 30 students, parents and staff listened as students led a service with guests from the RSL and the services. Kelvin Liddiard from the RSL’s Victoria Park branch delivered an engaging address, surprising the audience with his ties to the College. The flags were raised, wreaths laid and the Ode recited, followed by a beautiful rendition of the Last Post and Reveille by Charlotte Teakle.

DOMs member Wes Sutton said it was fantastic to be part of this small service. While it’s great to see the number attending other services around the country, the large numbers can sometimes make it feel a bit distant. “The service today was a fantastic tribute to our service men and women who have sacrificed so much to enable us to live the lives we do today. My congratulations to Mercedes College and all involved. I hope to see this important event continue and grow in the years to come.”

Thank you to Wes Sutton, Deputy Chairperson of the Dads of Mercedes group for his initiative and support of this important event. Thanks also to the Prefects, Ms Speranza, Mrs Trolio, Mr Dave Green, Ms Leslie Dorrington and P&F President, Louise Comiskey for their support.

April Dads and Daughters Super Golf Event
Weather turned out perfect for the new 9 hole Super Golf event. The dads and daughters were putting the final touches on their skills ahead of the PGA tournament. It was great catching up with some of the regulars and meeting some new Dads and their daughters over a picnic and a few drinks afterwards. Later in the year we will host our annual Father & Daughter lawn bowls event.

DOMs Dinner
Our regular DOMs dinner down at the Grosvenor just keeps growing from strength to strength. Approximately 24 Dads caught up over a casual meal and a few responsible drinks. It’s always a lot of fun with many stories and jokes being told. Thanks to Kevin de Souza for introducing and organising the quiz which was loads of fun. All dads are invited to join the DOM’s Facebook Group. Click here to join. http://www.facebook.com/groups/dadsofmercedes/ or email jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au and request an invite to the group.

Mums of Mercedes Facebook
All current Mercedes College mums are invited to join the MOM’s Facebook Group. A great way to tap into the MOMs events and get involved at your daughter’s school! This groups aim is to build on the Community at your daughter’s school and bring more families together at a social level as well as support the College at various events. Click on the link to join https://www.facebook.com/groups/mercedesmums/ For more information, please contact jstacey@mercedes.wa.edu.au or email a request to join.

Gymnastics
Congratulations to Makayla Felix, who has been selected as a member of the 2016 Western Australian Rhythmic Gymnastics State Team. Makayla will compete in the Australian Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in Melbourne.

Thank you to Parents
Thank you to Ron Phonemyint for helping with setup for this year’s Relay for Life. Thanks also to Wes Sutton, Paul Boulden & Mat Micale for assisting with pack up.
Mother’s Day Breakfast
Thank you so much to Paul Boulden, Wes Sutton, Steve Eggart, Ed Greenway, Jim McDermott and Kim Harris for helping with the Mother’s Day Breakfast setup. We were finished in record time, 4pm. Huge thanks also to Michael Bruest, Keven de Souza, Ronny Flendt, Wes Sutton, Rudy Perone, Paul del la Cruz, and Dom Gonsalves for all their efforts in making the breakfast a huge success with the cooking. Special thanks to Jason Holmes for this marathon dishwashing effort.

Noticeboard

Young Carer Through the Lens Photography Competition—This competition has been put together to draw awareness about young people aged 8-25 years old who help look after a family member who needs extra support at home. The person they care for may have a disability, mental illness, a drug or alcohol problem, or a long term illness. To enter, applicants must submit a photo that is focused around the theme of “The role and/or feeling of being a young carer”. For more information about Young Carers Program please visit http://www.youngcarerswa.asn.au/

Free Netball Clinic—Come a try a free netball clinic held every Tuesday, beginning 10 May—14 June from 3.30pm—4.30pm at the College. To register for the FREE event, please contact Caitlin Farano on 9380 3731 or email caitlin.farano@netballwa.com.au.

Group Fitness Training—Circuit training incorporates varied functional movements and exercises to build muscle tone and increase cardiovascular fitness. Sessions are led by experienced instructors. Maximise your workouts and try new exercise routines! Sessions are run for kids 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 953 317 or email courtney.spanbroek@hotmail.com.