“Entrusted with something precious”
VCE RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS ARE EXTENDED TO THE YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED THEIR UNIT 3 AND 4 VCE STUDY RESULTS MONDAY.

This year Stephanie Papadopoulos and Yu Yun Lim share the honour of being our 2013 Dux, both receiving an ATAR of 97.70.

A special mention goes to two of our students who received perfect subject scores. Tiffany Deguara received a score of 50 in Product Design and Technology and Kara L’Brooy received a score of 50 for IT Applications.

We wish our entire 2013 Year 12 Graduating Class the very best and are sure they will go on to have many more successes in the years to come.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE PARTNERSHIP

WE RECENTLY LEARNT OF THE SUCCESS OF OUR APPLICATION TO JOIN THE INAUGURAL UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NETWORK OF SCHOOLS PROGRAMME FROM 2014 TO 2016.

Our school is one of only ten Melbourne secondary schools accepted into the programme. Involvement with ground breaking world class researchers and programmes will support our core principle of ensuring learning success for every girl. We look forward to the benefits this partnership with one of the world’s leading universities will bring for the staff and students of Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College.

NEW BUILDING

THE FINISHING TOUCHES ARE NOW BEING PUT ON THE NEW SCIENCE, FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND VCAL BUILDING AND THE OLD FOOD TECHNOLOGY AREA IS BEING REFURBISHED SO THAT ALL WILL BE READY FOR THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

We look forward to the new learning spaces and the new opportunities for investigation, creation, learning and display that will be supported by the new learning spaces.

COLLEGE GOLDEN JUBILEE


Preparations for the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the College in 2014 are well underway and the following dates are worth putting in your diary now. On Friday March 28th at 11am the Archbishop will celebrate our Golden Jubilee Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral followed by a student picnic and concert in the Treasury Gardens. In second term on Friday May 2nd there will be a Golden Jubilee Dinner at Moonee Valley Racecourse. Past students are encouraged to register to receive publicity about the Jubilee events by emailing jubilee@msj.vic.edu.au

STAFF FAREWELLS

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE LEAVING THE COLLEGE TO FOLLOW OTHER PATHS IN 2014.

We wish all the best in their future endeavours to Doris Cini, Narelle Layton, Anna Keppel, Elaine Kent, Mark Stracey, Tom Phillips and Maya Wong. Collectively they have over 50 years contribution to the life of our College so we extend gratitude from our staff, students and families with whom they have worked.

ADVENT

ADVENT IS A TIME OF HOPE AND EXPECTATION AND THE CHALLENGE IS TO FIND THE TIME IN SUCH A BUSY PERIOD TO BE STILL AND TUNE INTO THE MANY BLESSINGS OF FAMILY AND GOOD HEALTH IN OUR LIVES.

As Christians the hope, peace and joy of the Nativity story speaks of the deep love of God and the expression of that love as taught through the life of his Son and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

We wish all our families time of great joy and peace in the coming Christmas celebrations and a safe holiday break.

Catherine Dillon

Behold, I bring you good news of great joy!
- Luke 2:10
2013 REFLECTIONS

THIS YEAR, THE TWO HALVES OF THE COLLEGE, MACKILLOP AND TENISON, CELEBRATED A THANKSGIVING MASS PRESIDED OVER BY FATHER TONY COX, OUR COLLEGE CHAPLAIN. EACH GATHERING HAD MANY STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROCESSIONS, WRITING AND SPEAKING THE PRAYERS, READING THE SCRIPTURES AND SINGING THE SONGS.

In past years, I have used this last Synergy article to refer to my “top ten” Faith Events of the year. Here are my 2013 reflections:

1. The Stations of the Cross, which is our signature event, and owned by all. The desire of the students to participate amazes me as they come up with suggestions for their station. The hour of the stations is prayerful, reflective and engaging. When students and staff draped the cross with many ribbons signifying our connection with the rest of the world who were also doing their own stations of the cross, was very touching.

2. On the male mentor day, two of our current fathers shared what it meant to them to be a mentor to their daughters in education. The event was well attended and provided inspiration to all who attended.

3. The dialogue between Mary MacKillop (Sophie Wareham) and Julian Tenison Woods (Georgina Stewart) during our Founder’s Day Mass.

4. The Year 8 Class Captains who successfully applied for a grant of $1,000 and used the money to support various charities.

5. The set up for our Founder’s Day mass that separated the Liturgy of the Word from the Liturgy of the Eucharist as the Altar and the Lectern were situated at opposite ends of MacKillop Centre and the students gathered around each of them.

6. Reconciliation Week with Konrad Ross teaching us about Aboriginal Spirituality and letting us express it through art.

7. Our Year 11 VCAL class who, after failing to find a picture of Jesus to put around the altar for the opening mass, painted their own expressions of Jesus as part of their Religious & Society class. These paintings are now on display in the chapel area.

8. Our SRC ministry team, who met most Wednesdays to design liturgies and other events as well as providing great leadership by just being present at Wednesday morning prayer and other events.

9. The booming deep voice of God coming through a student’s phone as we re-enacted a “Call” story from the Bible. This prayer was typical of the creative style that the SRC worked hard for under the leadership of Meheret Hailemelekot.

10. “The Cage” – an event that gave the girls an experience of homelessness as they gathered around the fire in the Sails area to share stories, fund raise and eat their humble meal of soup.

2013 is my last year in this role. I thank all those people – staff, parents and students for your support of me in this role.

May you have a happy and holy Christmas, a wonderful New Year and I hope you are refreshed for when we meet again in February 2014.

Mick Leonard
Director of Mission
LEARNING & TEACHING

FROM INSPIRATION TO CULINARY CULMINATION…

AFTER FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE ‘PRINCESS LOVE BOAT DREAM’ DURING HER PRINCESS CRUISES HOLIDAY ASHLEIGH HOOPER (10C) ENLISTED THE HELP OF MS STAFRACE TO DEVELOP THE CHOCOLATE DELIGHT, HER OWN DESSERT SURE TO SATISFY THE PALATE OF ANY CHOCOLATE LOVER.

According to Ashleigh, “this dessert is a chocolate lover’s dream.” Ashleigh & Ms Stafrace’s recipe was submitted to the Mouths of Mum website. They loved the dessert and published it on their food blog (www.mouthsofmums.com.au/chocolate-delight-dessert-recipe), where it received the thumbs up from readers.

Ingredients (Serves 10 – 12)

For the mousse,
- 250ml thickened cream
- 1 vanilla bean, split and scraped
- 80g good quality dark chocolate, roughly chopped

For the biscuit,
- 250g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 125g (3/4 cup) caster sugar
- 300g (2 cups) plain flour
- 70g (1/2 cup) cocoa powder
- 2 tablespoons milk
- Melted chocolate, raspberry coulis and whipped cream, for serving

Method

1. To make the mousse, place cream in a saucepan and bring to a simmer. Remove from heat. Add vanilla and allow to infuse for 5 minutes. Return saucepan to a low heat and add chocolate. Stir constantly until the chocolate has melted and the mixture is smooth. Refrigerate until set or for approximately 3 hours.

2. Meanwhile, to make the biscuit, beat butter and sugar together in a bowl using an electric mixer until pale and fluffy. Add flour, cocoa and milk. Mix until the mixture comes together and a dough is formed. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

3. Preheat oven to 180°C. Remove dough from refrigerator and roll to 5mm thickness between two sheets of baking paper. Cut using a large heart shaped cutter and place on a baking paper lined oven tray. Bake for 10 minutes or until firm.

4. To assemble, sandwich biscuits between a layer of chocolate mousse. Drizzle with melted chocolate and serve with raspberry coulis and whipped cream, if desired.

Tips

1. Biscuits can be made the day before and stored in an airtight container until required.
2. The raspberry coulis can be made ahead of time and refrigerated until required.
3. If desired, premium vanilla bean ice cream can be used instead of whipped cream.
4. The chocolate biscuits and the mousse are delicious as individual recipes.

FOOD TECH GOES HIGH TECH…

WONDERING WHAT TO COOK FOR DINNER TONIGHT?
JUST SCAN THIS QR CODE DEVELOPED BY OUR YEAR 10 FOOD TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS AND CHOOSE ONE OF THE RECIPES THEY HAVE ASSEMBLED ON THE WEB.

QR Codes are being used across many industries, including the food industry, to advertise and inform consumers about products. So as part of the Year 10 Food Technology assignment to develop their own recipe cards taking inspiration from well known chefs, the students decided to trial the use of a QR code to make those recipe cards available online.

So download your QR Scanner from the App Store, choose your recipe and get cooking!

By Year 10 World of Food

2013 DANTE ALIGHIERI POETRY COMPETITION – WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS TO GIULIA ABATE OF YEAR 9 FOR WINNING THE 2013 DANTE ALIGHIERI POETRY COMPETITION.

Giulia was one of 3,300 Victorian entrants. She was shortlisted and then made it through to the finals last week. Giulia came first in the Year 9 Italian section of the competition. She was presented with her prize and award on the evening of the 13th September at Melbourne University, where she recited her poem once again for the audience. Congratulations also to Ainslee Kennedy of Year 10 for making it to the final round of the Year 10 Non – Italian section of the competition.

Year 12 Coordinator

Lidia Morlin
STUDENT WELLBEING

HALOGEN’S NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY CONFERENCE

HALOGEN’S NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY CONFERENCE, FOUNDED IN 1997, IS AN ANNUAL EVENT AIMED AT DEVELOPING STRONG LEADERSHIP VALUES AMONGST YOUNG AUSTRALIANS. As the Tenison Captains for 2014, we were privileged to attend this year’s Melbourne event, which was held on 25 November at the Melbourne Convention Centre. The theme of the conference was “I am somebody” and encouraged each of the 1000 participants to be the change they want to see in the world.

Whilst attending the conference we heard inspirational speeches from an array of leaders in many fields, including World Vision CEO Tim Costello and footballer Dan Jackson. Each speaker shared their own stories to remind us that leadership comes in many forms (both with and without a badge or title attached). They also shared important tips for how we can lead in our own lives because we have the ability to help others shine (just like the Halogen gas inside the lightbulb).

Another highlight of the conference was taking part in the 10,000 ideas initiative. This initiative saw students record their ideas about problems in the world and what they want to do to make the world better. We were very lucky to have our ideas about the environment and not putting each other down selected and included in the final video presentation. You can watch it at http://youtu.be/iwP3wUACj3k or on the MSJ website.

We had a wonderful time at the Conference and look forward to implementing our new found knowledge at MSJ next year.

By Courtney Rogers (8 Anne) and Nicola Verhoef (8 Veronica).

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

THE GIFT OF GIVING…

ON WEDNESDAY THE 20TH OF NOVEMBER, THE YEAR 8 CO-CLASS CAPTAINS AND A FEW OTHER LUCKY YEAR 8’S HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT SPORTING GOODS TO FOUR DIFFERENT ORGANISATIONS AROUND MELBOURNE, THANKS TO REBEL SPORT.

Earlier this year, the Year 8s won a voucher for $1000 to spend at Rebel Sport for being the most active year level in the Victoria’s Premiership Active Challenge.

Instead of buying things for MSJ, we decided to buy and donate the goods to charity. The organisations that received the sporting goods were; Women’s Health West, Edmund Rice Tutoring Organisation, ACRATH and Visy Cares Hub.

Each of these organisations was founded to assist youths in need. We were able to supply equipment such as: soccer balls, portable soccer rings, basketballs, portable basketball rings, netballs, footballs and more.

The organisations were very appreciative of our donation. We enjoyed helping out these worthy causes and we loved meeting the volunteers who make this happen by caring for and helping out children in need.

By Alexandra Hosking & Emma Livori – 8 Anne

ICE SKATING SUCCESS…

CONGRATULATIONS TO BAILEY MCKENZIE (11 JOSEPH) ON HER SUCCESS AT THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ICE SKATING.

Bailey’s aim was to achieve a personal best and make the top 10 nationally, both of which she achieved placing 9th overall.

“Well done Bailey” from all the MSJ community.
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ADVENTURE PARK

ADVENTURE PARK IN GEELONG IS VICTORIA’S ‘TOP OF THE CHART’ MOST FAVOURITE WATER THEME PARK. IT FEATURES 22 RIDES AND ATTRACTIONS THAT ENTERTAIN ADULTS AND CHILDREN OF ALL AGES. MSJ PAID A VISIT TO THIS TOURIST ATTRACTION AS A MEMORABLE END TO YET ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR.

There are 2 varieties of rides, dry and wet rides. If you prefer to get soaked from head to toe, rides suitable for you may include the Aqua Racer, Gold Rush Rapids, Wild West Canyon and the Bonito’s Bay playground. If you prefer to stay dry and away from the watery mess, activities include Archery, Go Karts, Wave Swinger, Mini Golf and paddling away on the park’s pedal boats around a small lake.

My favourite water ride was perhaps the Lazy River, lazing around with my friends, laughing our heads off when our dear friends fell off their raft, plunging head first into the water. We all hung on and went with the flow of the river’s current while our rafts propelled along the tropical style river oasis. Archery was one of my favourite dry activities. I got to be Robin Hood for 5 minutes. I got to test my skills, challenge my friends and see if I was skilled enough to hit the bull’s eye.

The day was a memorable event for me as I had great fun, free roaming around with my friends as we skipped through Adventure Park trying out every single ride and activity on offer.

By Trinh Tran, 7 Veronica

SPREADING CHRISTMAS CHEER…

ON THE 18TH OF DECEMBER, A GROUP OF GIRLS FROM MSJ VOICES HEADED DOWN TO THE ALTONA RSL TO SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO THE ALTONA BRANCH OF VIEW (VOICE, INTERESTS AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN) CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA.

The VIEW are a group of women who enjoy each other’s company and further themselves through discussion and education, they are also committed to actively contributing in their local communities and providing educational opportunities for disadvantaged Australian children.

We sang a range of carols as a group with Emma Grant, Ms Fichera, Tamsyn Nolan & Bridget Griffiths performing solos. Bridget’s beautiful rendition of ‘O Holy Night’ moved one member of the audience to tears.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed our performance and offered us plenty of lemonade and biscuits.

It was great fun and everyone sang really well. A big thank you to Ms Fichera and Ms Hills for bringing us all together for the event.

By Lydia Zahra (9 Francis) and Tamsyn Nolan (8 Veronica)

YEAR 9 2014 LAPTOP UPDATE

Reminder to all Year 9 2014 students to drop off their laptops for software update and iPad Mini sync.

Surnames A-K: Monday 13 January - Drop-off to IT Friday 17 January - Collect from IT (Please not before this date).

Surnames L-Z: Monday 20 January - Drop-off to IT Friday 24 January - Collect from IT (Please not before this date).
The annual fee includes the cost of tuition, materials, excursions and compulsory camps and retreats. Fees can be reduced by:

- An early payment discount if payment in full is received by 28 February 2014, and
- Family discounts where sisters are attending the College at the same time.

### 2014 fees

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<td>1 to 1 laptop learning programme</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>468</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>4,320</td>
<td>4,832</td>
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<td>4,992</td>
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### Payment options

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<tr>
<td>Per annum – pay in full by 28 February</td>
<td>4,320</td>
<td>4,832</td>
<td>4,832</td>
<td>4,992</td>
<td>4,496</td>
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<td>Less early payment discount</td>
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<td>-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per annum fee less discount</td>
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<td>4,892</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per month</td>
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<td>624</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per fortnight</td>
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<td>302</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>281</td>
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**Per annum**
The discount will only be provided where payment in full is received by 28 Feb 2014.

**Per term**
4 instalments due 28 February, 28 April, 28 July and 28 September.

**Per month**
8 instalments are due on the 28th of each month from February to September.

**Per fortnight**
16 instalments are due each fortnight from 28 February to 26 September.

**Other**
The College may accept alternative payment arrangements where it can be demonstrated special circumstances exist. Such arrangements would need to be made with the Business Manager prior to the commencement of the school year.

**Please note that fees must be paid by 30 September.** Statements will issue during the course of 2014 so that families can monitor their account. If difficulties are experienced, families should notify the Business Manager in writing and include a proposal for settlement of the account. Any alternative arrangement would apply for 2014 only.

**Sibling discounts** - The annual tuition fee will be reduced by 10% for a 2nd daughter and 50% for a 3rd daughter attending MSJ in 2014. This discount does not apply to the laptop learning programme.

**Additional program fees** - Extra curricular activities that are available at additional cost include music, interstate / overseas trips and VCAL courses undertaken at a TAFE. These programs are only available to students where annual fees have been or are being settled in accordance with an approved payment option.

**The 1 To 1 Laptop Learning Programme** - For years 11 and 12, laptops were purchased with the Commonwealth’s assistance under the National Secondary Schools Computer Fund - families contribute to the cost of accessories, finance and insurance. The annual charge is greater for years 7 to 10 as it also includes the full cost of the laptop. Laptops and accessories remain the property of the College for the duration of the arrangement. Ownership will only be transferred to families where enrolment is maintained for the duration of the arrangement and all fees are paid in accordance with an approved payment option.

**Re-enrolment fee** - Each year, notice of an intention to return and payment of a re-enrolment fee is required to confirm your enrolment for the following year. Re-enrolment fees are credited off the following year’s fees. This fee is not imposed for Year-12 students.

**Payment methods** - The College accepts cash, cheques, credit cards (Visa & Mastercard) and direct debits.

**Refunds** - A pro-rata reduction in fees is made for students leaving MSJ provided a minimum of 6 weeks’ notice is provided and an exit interview is attended. 6 weeks’ tuition fees are imposed in lieu of notice unless granted an exemption by the Business Manager.
Please be aware that individual requests made at the Front Office will be attended to as soon as possible. Students can only be called during Pastoral Recess & Lunchtime periods. Thank you for your understanding.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS

PH: 8398 2000

The Administration office will close at 4.30pm on Friday 20th December 2013 and will re-open at 8.30am on Monday 13th January 2014.

Payment of fees can be made at the Office from 8.00 am - 4.00 pm Monday - Friday. For any enquiries regarding the school accounts, please contact Administration.

JOSEPH’S CORNER

Joseph’s Corner offers a free counseling service to the families and carers of victims of drug and alcohol abuse. This professional confidential service is available each Tuesday at 3 Birmingham Street, Yarraville, 9.00 am – 5.30 pm. Wednesday at 38 Guinane Avenue, Hoppers Crossing, 9.00 am – 5.30 pm. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 13 Bellin Street, Laverton, 9.00 am – 3.00 pm.

For further information or to make an appointment, please phone 9315 2680. This is a non-denominational service.

ACADEMY UNIFORM SHOP

238 Wolseley Place, Thomastown

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday 9am - 1pm. Phone: 9460 8011

College Uniform Shop

The uniform shop at the College will be open on the 28th January from 9.30am-4.30pm.

Normal trading hours commence in February as follows:

Monday 3pm-4pm
Wednesday 8.00am-9.00am
Friday 1.00pm-2.00pm.

INTERESTED IN PLAYING OUTDOOR SOCCER IN 2014?

Altona City Soccer club, on Millers Rd opposite Cherry Lake, caters for boys, girls, women and men of all age groups with an even greater focus in 2014 on adopting the nationally recognised curriculum and coaching program.

No need to register or pay up front. Simply come and try. It all recommences in January / February 2014, Under 5s to 7s in March.

Huge pre-season tournament planned as well as new strips, bag, tracksuit and spray jacket (all to keep) … with no increase in fees.

We are always also looking for coaches that believe in the curriculum, development and fun.

Keep an eye out on our website for more information www.altonacitysoccerclub.com.au, call 9398 3974 or join us on Facebook.