We enter the last week of term on a wave of school pride from our Golden Jubilee Mass and Music Festival celebrations on Friday. It has been a year filled with proud achievements and a myriad of learning, faith and community opportunities. It seems like just last week that we were welcoming the Year 7 girls through the gate on the last day of January.

Vale Sr Kath Nolan
Past and present staff and students were saddened by the passing of a precious member of our school story. Sr Kath Nolan joined the staff of Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College in 1972 and is remembered by many for her commitment to her Science teaching and to her role as Deputy Principal and in the work she did supporting smaller groups of students in their learning up until 2009. Sr Kath was an inspiration for all in the way she lived her life as a Sister of St. Joseph and in recent years as she lived with cancer and found God’s grace in her journey throughout. We are sad to have lost a much loved friend of our school community but we know that her spirit will live on in the stories and memories of many.

Golden Jubilee Mass and Music Festival
This edition of Synergy features some photos from our most memorable Golden Jubilee Mass and music festival last Friday but there will be a special edition of Synergy circulated early next week with full details of the day. I would take this opportunity to thank the many past students and staff who joined us at St Patrick’s Cathedral for mass. Deep thanks also to the staff and students for their many hours of preparation by staff and students alike in the lead up to the day. In particular I recognise and thank Jacinta Chute and Danielle Fairthorne for their co-ordination of the day. Also to Cathy Hills, Ann Fichera, Nick Trezise and Barry Sims for their inspiring work with the Jubilee Voices choir and musicians. It was a proud day that will live in the memory of all but more will be written and further thanks extended to the large staff and student team who contributed to the joy of the day in the special edition of Synergy in the coming days.

Golden Jubilee Dinner
An invitation is extended to all alumnae, past and present staff, parents and the Sisters of St Joseph to join us at 6pm on Friday 2nd May at Moonee Valley Racecourse Function Centre for the Golden Jubilee Dinner. Ticket purchase details are in this edition of Synergy and on the College website and Facebook page. Alumnae are encouraged to register their details on the College website to be kept informed of happenings in this Jubilee year and beyond.

Palm Sunday
As part of our Lenten journey, on Palm Sunday (13th April) a group of staff and students will be joining the prayer service at St Patrick’s Cathedral from 1pm – 1.30pm in support of the plight of Asylum Seekers and we will then join Walk For Justice For Refugees March at 2pm commencing at the State Library. All staff, students and families are invited to join us in this issue of social justice. In the words of Pope Francis, “We are called to reach out to those who find themselves in the existential peripheries of our societies and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the disabled, the unborn and the sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment.”

Cath Dillon
Principal

COMING EVENTS...

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<tr>
<th>Monday to Wednesday</th>
<th>31st March to 2nd April</th>
<th>Yr 8 ACF Camp</th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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THE SEASON OF LENT HAS BEGUN...

On the 5th of March the students and staff of Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College joined together to mark the beginning of the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday liturgy. During the liturgy staff and students were able to reflect on the meaning of Lent as a time of preparation for the Easter season.

During Lent the school will be fundraising for, and raising awareness of, the work of Caritas through the Project Compassion Campaign. The message of Project Compassion this year is taken from the Gospel of John; “I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full” (John 10:10). Pope Francis himself has said; “Men and Women of all times and all places desire a full and beautiful life … a life that is not threatened by death but can mature and grow to its fullness”.

As we reflect on the words of John’s Gospel and the words of the Holy Father it is clear that as a faith community we are called to help those in need who may not have the security of a home, water, food or education. Through our donations to Project Compassion we can give hope to communities in Brazil, South Sudan, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Australia who may not currently have the opportunity to “have life and have it to the full”.

Each week of Lent the students will be introduced to a new community where Caritas is working. The first week of Lent introduces us to a brave young woman, Maristely, who is working to enable residents of the favelas (city slums) in Sao Paulo, Brazil to gain legal access to their homes and secure basic services. Our donations to Project Compassion will provide young people like Maristely the opportunity to become leaders for justice in their own communities.

For the remainder of the Lenten season I encourage you to explore the other communities that Caritas support through the Project Compassion website: www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

As we journey together through this season of Lent may we as a community of students following in the footsteps of St. Mary MacKillop be able to support people around the world who do not have an opportunity to live life to the full.

Amen.

Danielle Fairthorne
Director of Catholic Identity

LEADERSHIP & COMPASSION...

On Friday the 7th of March, six Year 9s from MSJ travelled to Emmanuel College to be a part of a Social Justice Conference run by Caritas Australia.

Many other schools were represented on the day and it was a chance for us to interact with people from other Catholic schools in a positive way. The purpose of the day was to become more aware of our world’s social, political and economical issues and to brainstorm ideas for how we can raise awareness and fundraise for causes such as Caritas at MSJ.

We were posed with questions such as; “What does it mean to have a full life?” which drew on Caritas’ theme for this year, ‘Have life and have it to the full’. This and other questions about past and present leaders and what they did for their cause inspired us to work hard to help people in need.

We also watched a video about Maristely, a young woman who has grown up in the favela’s (slums) of Sao Paulo, Brazil. We were struck by the poverty they have to live in and the uncertainty of their lives because, at any moment, the Brazilian government could evict them from their homes. We met André and Ana Maria, who work in the favelas of Sao Paulo. They travelled to Australia to talk to us and other schools about the favelas and where the money raised for Project Compassion will go.

The day ended with a chance to brainstorm in our school groups about how we could raise awareness about issues in the world and how we can creatively present these problems to other students so that they want to help out too.

The main themes of the day were solidarity, charity and social justice. We learnt more about Caritas and how they help with problems in other countries and explored and discussed why and how we should do our bit to help those in struggling circumstances too. We are excited to bring our newfound knowledge and our creative ideas back to school so that 2014 can be a great year for Social Justice!

Charlotte Cameron (9T)
Junior Social Justice Leader

The theme for Caritas this year “Have life and have it to the full”; how can we help others enjoy a full life?

“Where you are, you will find God.”

9 Veronica engaged in the Ash Wednesday liturgy.
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ARCHBISHOP...

On Thursday the 13th of March, five Year 12 SRC leaders were privileged enough to attend the annual Archbishop’s Conversation with Student Leaders at the Catholic Leadership Centre in East Melbourne.

The day consisted of sharing ideas about faith and our role as leaders in a Catholic School. We were able to brainstorm ideas about our own leadership with other schools in the Melbourne Archdiocese.

His Grace, Archbishop Dennis Hart, shared with us his own faith journey and inspired us to be who we are, value ourselves and have confidence in who we are. His Grace also explained to us that the love of Jesus Christ is the foundation of everything that we do at school and at home. We, as leaders of MSJ, hope to take this message back to the students and encourage them to value their uniqueness and dream big, because the love of Christ is with them.

Lydia Zeleke (12J)  Winnie Lam (12F)
Social Justice Leader  Liturgy Leader

Malia Corrigan (12C)   Maddison Grima (12V)
Wellbeing Captain  Ministry Captain

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION...

Each year students from both Secondary and Primary schools throughout Melbourne are invited to enter artworks for the Catholic Education Week Visual Arts Exhibition.

This year, the work from 2013 Year 12 Studio Arts students Nicole Satalich and Maysn Smith were chosen for the exhibition.

Nicole has created a mixed media sculptural piece based on a David Attenborough documentary on deep sea life. The work entitled ‘Weightlessness’ showcases both her skill and passion for textile design. Nicole has also had her folio work for Visual Communication and Design and Product Design selected for VCE Season of Excellence Top Designs. Her work will be on display at Melbourne Museum from 22nd of March to 13th of July. She has now commenced her studies in Fashion Design at RMIT.

Maysn’s stencil painting depicts Iconic women throughout the decades, starting from the 50’s to the present. Maysn incorporated pattern design and colour to reflect the changing styles of each decade.

The work will be on display at the Catholic Leadership Centre, Corner Hoddle Street and Victoria.

David Meilak
Visual Arts Domain Co-Ordinator

“There where you are, you will find God.”
LEARNING & TEACHING

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING...

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning program at Mount St. Josephs Girls’ College. Teachers plan for assessment when developing teaching and learning activities. Different forms of assessment are implemented to monitor student learning. Students receive feedback through rubrics outlining the criteria assessing the task or unit of work.

Formative assessment is used to monitor learning progress during a learning sequence. It provides continuous feedback to teachers and students, which enables them to monitor progress and identify and address needs in learning.

Summative assessment seeks to establish the level of achievement attained by a student, and typically occurs at the end of a learning sequence, course or unit. The main purpose of summative assessment is to establish levels of achievement for reporting.

Reporting in 2014 will occur in various forms:

- Interim reports – Term 1 and Term 3
- Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews – Term 1
- Semester 1 Reports – End of Term 2
- Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews – Term 3
- Semester 2 Reports – End of Term 4

Joanna De Bono
Deputy Principal - Staff and Learning

COFFEE CONNOISSEURS...

On Monday 3rd March, the Year 11 VCAL class went to Hospitality Training Australia, in the city, to learn the skills of a Barista.

Jonathan, our teacher for the day, showed a slideshow about different types of coffee, and then we got to make an Espresso, which is a shot of strong black coffee. We then made Café Latte, which is black coffee with steamed, warm frothy milk. We also made a Mocha, which we did by squeezing chocolate sauce into the bottom of the cup and adding the coffee and milk. We also learnt how to make Hot Chocolates, by squirting the chocolate sauce around the inside of a glass and adding the warm, steamed milk.

This excursion was an enjoyable experience, as we learnt how important it is to concentrate or you may make the coffee taste badly if it is too strong. We appreciate the school doing this for us because we might be getting a coffee machine at school, so we now know how to make good tasting coffee for everyone to enjoy. We will be receiving a certificate to show we completed the class, so this may help us in the future if we want to apply for a job where making coffee using a manual machine may be required.

Ashleigh Hooper
11 Joseph

TOP ARTS EXHIBITION...

With just 94 exhibitors selected from 1600 applicants, inclusion in the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority’s (VCAA) Top Design Exhibition is quite an achievement.

This year, 3 talented MSJ students made the cut and their outstanding work is currently on display at the Melbourne Museum.

Congratulations to Nicole Satalich (Class of 2013), Rachel Barber (12J) and Thien Anh Vu (Class of 2013).

The VCAA Top Designs Exhibition is now on, and runs until Sunday July 13, at the Melbourne Museum in Carlton.

MAY 5th - ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS

All students will be dismissed at 1.00pm on this day.

Mount St. Josephs Girls’ College is a Restorative Practice school and as such emphasises the importance of sound, healthy relationships between all members of the school community. All staff will be involved in restorative practice professional learning to further develop safe and supportive environments that promote student wellbeing and connectedness for our students.

“There where you are, you will find God.”
MOTION IN ACTION...

On Thursday the 6th of March, the Year 12 Physics class, accompanied by Mr Krishna and Ms Devic, went on an excursion to Luna Park to further their knowledge on the study area of motion.

The morning began with an aeroplane stunt display over St Kilda Beach. The pilot demonstrated a number of aerobatic manoeuvres all of which coincided with what we had been learning about G forces - the total reaction forces acting on an object at any time.

Next it was into Luna Park and onto the rides. We rode the famous Scenic Railway roller-coaster and experienced first-hand the thrills of changing acceleration with the rise and fall of the slope – credit to Sir Isaac Newton.

We experienced a wide variety of motion on the different rides: collisions, free falls, epicyclic rotation, inclined planes and the dreaded pendulum motion that didn’t mix too well with the fairy floss that we had consumed beforehand.

Overall, we gained a superb insight into the application of physics in the real world while having a bucket-load of fun.

Kara La’Brooy
T2 Catherine

BEYOND HORIZONS...

During the Beyond Horizon’s Programme, the Year 9 students engage in many interactive and varied activities, including a local excursion, that lead up to a final showcase of their work in Term 4.

By having access to mobile technology, the students are also able to capture and create exciting work on the move.

We encourage you all to ask your daughters how they are finding the programme. Their ‘Rich Task’ ideas are already starting to take shape and are inspiring.

We will provide snippets of the students’ activities and work throughout the year.

Here are a few things students are saying about Beyond Horizons:

“In this programme I will be able to learn more about how I learn.”

“I can investigate a topic that would not be possible in my usual classes.”

“I just want to do this all the time.”

The Beyond Horizons Team

YEAR 9

TOP IN THE STATE...

Rebecca Catalano (Class of 2013) has been selected to present her A+ 2013 Drama solo performance, The Detective, as part of the Season of Excellence at the Melbourne Recital Centre. She created a sophisticated and flawless 7 minute solo in the style of film noir that incorporated a soundtrack created by herself.

To be selected into Top Class means that Rebecca’s solo performance is an example of the best performance work in the entire state. I am extremely proud of this achievement and look forward to being in the audience with our current VCE drama students, Ms Sorbello and Ms Dillon when Rebecca steps onto the stage.

Katharine Anastasi
Teacher

“Rebecca as ‘The Detective’

“There where you are, you will find God.”
STUDENT WELLBEING

Thomas Groome, an American theologian, wrote that another expansive way to think of education is as an “ontological” affair. This auspicious sounding word is from the Greek ontos for “being” and has the dual sense of both noun and verb, as in human being and how I do, ‘to be.’

A moment’s reflection brings the realisation that education, at its best, moulds the very “being” of people - both who they become and how they live in the world.

So, regardless of what teachers teach, they teach people, and the better they teach the more they influence the whole person - head, heart, and hands. To be educator is to stand on holy ground - people’s lives. No wonder the Bible promises that those who do well, “shall shine like the stars of heaven forever” (Daniel 12:3). Clearly Groome was writing for educators, however one needs to recognise parents as the primary and first educator of young people.

Adolescence can be best described as a time of rapid change, an opportunity to question our values, explore our identity and to seek and understand our true selves. It is during these turbulent times that young women begin to express themselves and to question themselves and those around them.

I encourage you to support your daughter in helping her ‘to be.’ To be comfortable in her skin, to be the best person she can be and most importantly ‘to be’ in a healthy and open relationship with you, her parent. Adolescents need to continue to be in relationships with family and friends and during this time of change to be supported with an open heart and a listening ear.

Our student leaders demonstrated leadership, service and hospitality skills during our recent International Women’s Day Breakfast. The students kindly gave of their time and were ambassadors to many past students and truly valued members of our community that were in attendance. It is the legacy of our past which so poignantly defines us, today and into the future. This morning highlighted the tapestry of our College, whereby previous students met current students. The MSJ Spirit was alive and the passion for our College was so tangible.

Steven Mifsud
Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing

HOUSEKEEPING...

Healthy Eating, Healthy Mind: Just a gentle reminder to families and students that breakfast is an essential meal for the day. Students should not begin school without a breakfast of cereal, toast or yoghurt. A good breakfast establishes good eating routines for the day and fuels our body for learning and physical activity. Students are reminded that the College canteen provides a selection of breakfast items and healthy lunches of garden and fruit salads. Students should not visit Harrington Square before a school day.

Absences: A reminder to telephone and notify reception between 8.00am and 9.00 am on 9398 2000 if your daughter is unable to attend school. Students need to provide a note from their parents explaining their absence, which is to be given to their Pastoral Group Teacher when they return to school. Notes are not to be written in the diary as staff are required to keep these on file. Students who arrive late to school must report to the office to receive a late pass before going to class.

CYBERSAFETY EDUCATION...

We place great importance on the need to understand the way society uses the internet. Our key message for everyone is to saturate the internet with stories about the wonderful things we achieve, no matter how small.

In our recent Cybersafety Information talks we were reminded of the importance to talk about what we see, hear and do when we interact with others online.

Our guest speaker this year was Brett Lee an expert in internet crime. He challenged families to always chat with each other about what we see and say online. He reminded us that although we change to new apps and new social networks over time, that it remains important to take the time to know what we are doing and saying online.

Our next session in this series for families is an evening workshop where we share tips and develop skills in using online sites. You are all very welcome.

Fran Dorgan
Director of Learning and Teaching

FAMILY ACCOUNTS...

The first payment of 2014 fees was due 28 February. Thank you to all the parents/carers who have made a payment or put arrangements in place for 2014.

If you haven’t had the opportunity to attend to fees, it would be appreciated if you could contact the College so that arrangements for 2014 can be made.

Noel Kennedy
Business Manager

PARENT ONLINE LEARNING WORKSHOP

Date: 20th May 2014
RSVP: rsvp@msj.vic.edu.au
Subject line: Online Learning Workshop

“There where you are, you will find God.”
WINTER UNIFORM...

From term two, all students will be required to be wearing their full winter uniform to and from school. Please ensure that your daughter’s uniforms are in good order and that they still fit.

Winter Uniform (Terms 2 and 3)
- Blue and grey Winter kilt
- Navy College blazer
- Navy College jumper
- Long sleeved white stiff collared shirt
- Navy College tie
- Long white socks or navy or black opaque tights
- Black leather lace up or ‘T-bar’ buckled shoes with low heels.

Physical Education (PE) Uniform
- Navy and yellow College sport shorts
- Yellow and navy College polo shirt with emblem
- White College sport socks or plain white ankle socks
- Navy and green College spray jacket (optional)
- Navy College tracksuit pants with MSJ embroidery
- Predominantly white runners with non-skid mark soles and appropriately supportive for sports activity
- College rugby top
- Navy sports hat with College emblem.

Please refer to the College website for further details regarding uniform.

The Academy Uniform shop is not open over the holidays, but you can purchase any items from our on-site store now.

Academy uniform shop opening hours:
- Monday 3 – 4pm
- Wednesday 8 – 9am
- Friday 1 – 2pm

The retail shop at 238 Wolsely Place, Thomastown is open:
- Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm
- Saturday – 9am – 12 noon

We also have some 2nd hand uniforms for sale from the MSJ canteen. These sales occur on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 3 – 3.45pm. Please contact Denise Spiteri if you need to make an alternate time to purchase 2nd hand uniforms.

All girls must be in full winter uniform by Monday April 28th at the latest. This allows some extra time in the first week of Term 2 to get organised.

The Uniform Pricelist for 2014 can be found on our website, but we have included a copy below for your convenience.

Kelly Sexton
Student Wellbeing Assistant

Celebrate with us...

Golden Jubilee Dinner

Friday 2nd May, 2014
6pm
Moonee Valley Racecourse
The Committee Room
McPherson Street
Moonee Ponds

A Sumptuous 3-Course dinner
Tea, coffee & celebratory cake
Drinks at bar prices
Tickets $60

Tables of 12 or individual tickets can be purchased at
www.tickethost.com.au

Bookings close 3pm
Monday 28th April 2014

“There where you are, you will find God.”
10 TIPS FOR STAYING POSITIVE...

1. Spend Time with Positive People
Spend time with friends and family members that make you feel good.

2. Take Responsibility for Your Behaviour
Acknowledge your role in situations. Accepting responsibility can help you learn from mistakes and prevent you from blaming others unfairly.

3. Contribute to the Community
Volunteer, or help others.

4. Read Positive and Inspirational Material
Spend time each day reading something that encourages positive thinking.

5. Recognise and Replace Negative Thoughts
Learn to recognise and replace thoughts that are overly negative. If you find yourself thinking something such as, “I always mess everything up,” replace it with something more realistic such as, “Sometimes I make mistakes but I learn from them.” There’s no need to make your thoughts unrealistically positive, but instead, make them more realistic.

6. Establish and Work Toward Goals
Small, achievable goals will give you motivation to work toward something.

7. Consider the Consequences of Negativity
Create a list of all the ways negative thinking impacts your life. Then, create a list of the ways in which positive thinking could be beneficial.

8. Offer Compliments to Others
Be genuine in your praise and compliments, but offer it frequently. This will help you look for the good in other people.

9. Create a Daily Gratitude List
List 5 things each day that you are grateful for.

10. Practice Self-Care
Get plenty of rest and exercise and practice managing your stress well.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP...

The Mary of the Cross Award recognises students who have been a fine example of the teachings of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop and who have made a sustained, positive contribution to the Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College community.

It is presented twice a term and award recipients can be nominated by any staff member. They are chosen by the Pastoral Group Teacher in conjunction with the Year Level Co-ordinator. Award recipients also receive 1 House Point.

Congratulations to the following recipients of the award:

7 Anne Sarah Daher
  7 Catherine Clare Cauchi
  7 Francis Taylor Burke
  7 Joseph Jessica Saunders
  7 Therese Kieran Singh
  7 Veronica Louise Camilleri
  8 Anne Shauna Smith
  8 Catherine Namita Sisodiya
  8 Francis Naomi Parker
  8 Ignatius Kriesha-Mae Parulan
  8 Joseph Rida Hussein
  8 Therese Kyla Griffin
  8 Veronica Isabella Morlin
  9 Anne Micheala Collins
  9 Catherine Yvette Dimalanta
  9 Francis Courtney Utber
  9 Joseph Natasha Sullivan-Kelso
  9 Therese Kyra Jordan
  9 Veronica Ally Chapin Tatnell
  10 Anne Gabrielle Duke
    10 Catherine Lauren Azzopardi
    10 Francis Terri Georgiadis
    10 Joseph Emma Jansen
    10 Therese Naomi Moustos
    10 Veronica Guila Abate
  11 Anne Monique Camilleri
    11 Catherine Nicole Steer
    11 Francis Madeline Malone
    11 Joseph Madeline Bosanko
    11 Therese Tahlia Kotiau
    12 Anne Faith Angaika-Peter
    12 Catherine Megan Clerkin
    12 Francis Jessica Medra
    12 Joseph Rachel Barber
    12 Therese Michaela Mastroianni
    12 Veronica Georgina Stewart

“There where you are, you will find God.”
CELEBRATING WOMEN...

This year at MSJ we celebrated International Women’s Day and the social, political and economic achievements of women in many ways. We had students attend events at Parliament House, Crown Palladium and hosted our very own breakfast at the College.

On Monday the 3rd of March, eight students in Years 10 - 12 went to Parliament House to attend an International Women’s Day Breakfast. The breakfast with, numerous other girls’ schools, celebrated International Women’s Day in the amazing setting of Queens Hall, Parliament House. This annual event is organised by the Alliance of Girls’ Schools to bring students from Years 10 - 12 and teachers together to celebrate the importance of International Women’s Day.

At the breakfast, the guest speaker, Sally Strautins a Senior Account Director at Ogilvy PR Health, spoke of her life journey, including her failures and successes. Sally has more than a decade of PR experience in Australia and the UK, working with some of Australia’s leading brands including, Telstra, Specsavers, Bupa and Fitness First. Sally has worked on a number of campaigns to raise awareness and promote health and wellbeing to Australians. Recently, Sally worked on a campaign to relaunch Fitness First. In her spare time, Sally is a passionate member of Can Too and an active fundraiser for Cure Cancer.

She told us that no matter how hard or how many times you get knocked back, to keep going and not to let anyone stop you. One key message that was taken from her inspirational story was to “Not ask your self who is going to let you but rather who is going to stop you?”

Thank you to MSJ for giving us the opportunity to experience this event and to Ms Bourke and Ms Meurant for accompanying us. We have all taken inspiration from Sally Strautins.

Emily Payne (12A), Mary Williams (11C), Charlene Teeken (12J), Steph Sponner (11C), Megan Grant (11J), Giulia Abate (10V), Mariya Snizhko (10T), Jess Wolff (10C)

On Friday the 7th of March, MSJ held its annual International Women’s Day breakfast. With over 150 women of all ages sharing a beautiful breakfast, the atmosphere was electric to say the least. Winnie Lam and Monaliza Ziba began the morning with a beautiful prayer.

We also had the opportunity to hear from three past students about their lives, their successes and the challenges they have faced. We were inspired by the stories of; Alison Cini, a forensic accountant; Geraldine Cini, a lawyer specialising in environmental damage and Dr Sandra Neate, a specialist in human organ donation.

Each of the women spoke of their love of, and gratitude to, MSJ. I was inspired to hear such passionate women share their journeys. Upon leaving the breakfast I felt a sense of empowerment and strength leaving with the belief that I, and other girls around the world, can do anything we set our minds to.

Congratulations to the Year 11 VCAL class who co-ordinated the morning.

Jess Deller (12C)
College Captain

MSJ students sharing breakfast with their female role models and listening to the inspiring stories of some of our past students

The girls at Parliament House

“There where you are, you will find God.”
PANCAKES FOR A WORTHY CAUSE...

580! That’s the number of pancakes bought and eaten last week as part of the MSJ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Sale.

Members of the SRC, VCAL and Year 12 class excitedly gathered throughout the day to sell pancakes and raise awareness about an important organisation, which McCormack House will continue to support throughout the term, Caritas Australia. Both teachers and students got behind the event by buying the delicious pancakes and staying to enjoy the atmosphere and music. The event helped kick off the Term 1 Caritas fundraising in style and proved an enjoyable event for all.

Many thanks to Miss Kubat, Mr Mifsud, Mrs Fairthorne and all the volunteers who helped make the event a great success.

Jess Deller (12C)
College Captain

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2014...

Sunday the 2nd of March saw more than 80 MSJ students and around 20 staff assemble at Cresser Reserve in Seaholme for the annual Clean Up Australia Day school event.

Students and staff began cheerfully and methodically collecting rubbish of all kinds from along the foreshore from 9.30am until 11.30am.

Aside from the usual multiple bags of plastic and paper collected, some interesting items were also discovered and taken to the skip provided by the local council. These included: a roll of carpet, a wooden boat rudder, scrap metal and a vanity basin!

Michaela Mastroianni and Jessica Daley took it upon themselves to care for the local wildlife when they discovered two sick and injured seagulls on the beach and promptly sought assistance. Well done to them for their display of care and compassion.

The clean-up ended with a barbeque held at Cresser Reserve to thank the girls for their tremendous efforts in helping to restore the beachfront to its natural beauty. A big thank you is extended to all involved for your participation and for giving up your Sunday morning to contribute to this worthy cause.

Nigel Hartin
Sustainability Officer

Did you know that Australia has just become the eighth country to begin recycling used cigarette butts? They will eventually be transformed into hardened plastic products.

The girls choose their favourite toppings

The SRC selling pancakes to hungry fellow students

The pancakes ready for sale.

The 2014 MSJ Clean Up Australia Day team

Michaela (12T) & Jessica (12C) with one of the injured seagulls

“The where you are, you will find God.”
ROCK CLIMBING...
This term the Year 9 students went on an excursion to Cliff Hanger Rock Climbing in Altona.
It was an experience that was fun and enjoyable, but scary at the same time. We learnt how to support each other on the ropes and work as a team. We also encouraged each other and made the day as fun as possible.
Some students were very scared but with the encouragement and support of the class, they were able to climb and achieve their goal.
Overall it was a great day and we would all definitely do it again.

Olivia Jones
9 Joseph

Tessa Oldani
9 Francis

TENNIS ACES...
On Wednesday the 5th of March, a select group of girls travelled to Boroondara Tennis Club to compete in the SCSA Interschool Tennis Competition.
Our seniors made it to the Grand Final and placed second on the day. Brooke Bakaric won the best senior player of the day medal and we are very proud of her for that.
Congratulations to the other teams who all played tremendously and better luck next time. Overall we had a great day with a few drops of rain but not enough to dampen our spirits. Everyone played their best. Well done.

Matilda Murrihy
9 Franci

CONGRATULATIONS...
We would like to congratulate our two Year 8 athletes that travelled to NSW to compete in the recent All Schools National Athletics competition.
Grace Goldsworthy (8C) competed in the 200m and 400m sprints and placed second in each.
Demi Utber (8F) competed in the steeplechase and placed 8th.
A fantastic effort for both girls and you have made all at MSJ very proud.

Demi and Grace

“There where you are, you will find God.”
A HELPING HAND...

Last fortnight, I had the opportunity to be among the first group of Year 11’s doing community service at Ozanam Community Centre in North Melbourne, which prepares and serves food to less fortunate people in the community.

As we arrived at the centre, we honestly didn’t know how to feel. As we walked inside, a young woman at reception greeted us and introduced us to the co-ordinator of the program, Caroline. Caroline gave us a tour of the building where we saw many people lining up and waiting for their meals. They greeted us with friendly smiles. At first, I was a little surprised and also a little nervous by how nice and friendly they were considering their situations.

Then we were taken to the kitchen where we would be serving food. At the kitchen, we met Yang, the head chef at Ozanam for the past 10 years. We were offered a meal to eat before our shift started. The menu for that day was fish with potato bake with a side of peas and corn, which was extremely delish!

The doors opened at 12 o’clock and we started plating up the food. Before we knew it, it was 12.15pm and the room and patio area was full of people eating. The people who came through the door were not people we would have expected and it really surprised us. There were young people, old people, indigenous people and other people from different nationalities. If you saw some of these people on the street, you wouldn’t even be able to tell that they were disadvantaged. The people we served were really nice to us. They did not complain about the food they were receiving, which really showed us that we often take our living conditions at home for granted. As people finished their meals, they waited around for a call for seconds. Many took advantage of the seconds’ call, which made me regret throwing away left over food because it could have gone to someone else who was really hungry and didn’t have any food.

After an hour of serving the doors closed. This is when most people moved to the activity room to hang out. During that one hour, we served at least 120 disadvantaged people and we didn’t regret a single minute of our service. Then we cleaned the dining area and mopped the floors and in the end, we were rewarded with ice creams.

The staff at Ozanam thanked us for volunteering our time to give back to the community. This trip was a wonderful experience and I am confident in saying that it bonded us and certainly made me appreciate everything I have.

Thank you to Ms O’Keefe, Miss D’Mello and Ms Dillon for making this all happen.

Maria Dinh
11 Francis

THE ART OF DEBATE...

This year we have eight teams, from Years 8-11, participating in the Debaters Association of Victoria regional competition.

In preparation for this, on Wednesday March 12th all students participating in the debating program were fortunate enough to have two tutors from the University of Melbourne Debating Society hold a workshop for us.

We learnt how to research a topic, write a speech and also the best way to present it. These points were fantastic, particularly for the new Year 8 debaters. We were then fortunate to watch the experienced Year 11 students and the tutors hold a mock debate, which was very insightful, entertaining and helpful in getting a feel of how a real debate works. Then it was our turn! We were thrown into the deep end with only 5 minutes to prepare and then debate against another MSJ team as a practice for the first round of debates.

It was a fabulous experience and on behalf of all of the students who participated, our sincere thanks goes to Ms Skahill for organising such a wonderful event and all staff who helped out on the day.

Olivia Kivlighon
9 Francis

“There where you are, you will find God.”
NOTICE BOARD

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS
PH: 8398 2000
Payment of fees can be made at the office from
8.00 am - 4.30 pm
Monday – Friday.
For any enquiries regarding the school accounts, please contact Administration.

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.

STUDENT ABSENCES
PH: 8398 2000
Please report student absences on the above number prior to 9.00am.
Please leave the following details: student’s name, student’s Pastoral Class, reason for absence, your name and relationship to the student.

CYBERSAFETY SEMINAR FOR PARENTS
An informative, entertaining and enlightening session for parents and guardians that will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of. The session will explore potential danger and safety tips and how to assist young people in your care to stay safe online, exploring parental controls and restriction pass codes. Learn how to take control and how to be confident in setting rules and boundaries around internet use in the home. This session will be presented by Susan McLean who is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people.

Title: Keeping safe in Cyberspace with Susan McLean
Date: Wednesday 23rd April 2014
Location: Laverton Community Hub
95 - 105 Railway Avenue, Laverton
Time: 6.45pm – 8.30pm (7.00pm start)
RSVP: 9932 4000

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 93152680.
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
Open at the College
Monday 3pm - 4pm, Wednesday 8am - 9am and Friday 1pm - 2pm

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
• Second Hand Uniforms can be purchased from the College every second Tuesday of each month between 3.00pm and 3.45pm (this does not include school holidays).
• There are no exchanges or returns permitted on any items.
• Please be aware that all purchases are cash only, no cheques or credit cards will be accepted.
• All permitted items you wish to sell through the College are on consignment for a maximum period of 6 months, after which they will be returned if not sold.
• Blazers, jumpers, rugby tops, rain jackets and school bags must have the current school logo.
• Blazers, kilts and jumpers are required to be dry-cleaned prior to being brought in for sale.
• Any other items such as dresses, t-shirts, track pants and shorts must be washed and ironed.
• Any school bags up for sale must be in good and useable condition.
• The College does not accept any of the following items: Winter blouse, tights, socks, hats, scarves and shoes.