As students prepare to return to school after the Term 1 break, this edition of Synergy captures some of the highlights of the event filled last fortnight of Term 1 including the day of Golden Jubilee celebrations.

A New Term Commences...

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the Parent/Student/Teacher interviews at the end of last term. Many productive conversations were held with affirmations for achievements and committed approaches to study. Important feedback on how to improve learning outcomes was also discussed between students, parents and teachers and we hope these remain in the forefront of the minds of all as the new term commences. Last term was nine weeks long and it flew by. This coming term is ten weeks in length but exams for Years 8 to 11 students commence in Week 7 so there is no time to waste in committing to sound home study and revision schedules.

Uniform Change...

I hope that all families have enjoyed a slower pace over the break. The much needed rain of the first week has been appreciated along with the beautiful Autumn weather of these second weeks. A reminder that students may wear either Winter or Summer uniform for the first week of this term but that all students must change to full Winter uniform on Monday 28th April. All students will however be wearing their PE uniform on Tuesday 29th April for the School Athletics Carnival.

St Joseph the Refugee...

The focus our school celebration of St Joseph’s Feast Day this year was the story of St Joseph as a refugee fleeing with Mary and the infant Jesus to Egypt and the plight and rights of all refugees seeking safer lives. The liturgy on the day was a reminder to all of the call of Pope Francis to respond to the plight of refugees with the compassion that is at the heart of the life of Jesus as told in the Gospels. Hence it was with great pride that the Mount St Joseph Girls’ College banner was held high by staff and student representatives at the Palm Sunday prayer service and march in support of the rights of asylum seekers. We were delighted to join with so many other thousands of Australians from many different faith and cultural backgrounds to support the call for greater justice for individuals seeking asylum in Australia. As the words of our national anthem state: ‘For those who’ve come across the seas We’ve boundless plains to share.’ As Lent ends, and the resurrection of Jesus reminds us of his sacrifice and gift of hope for all, we are reminded of the words of Matthew’s Gospel;

‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

Golden Jubilee Celebrations...

This edition of Synergy has images of the joyful celebration of our Golden Jubilee Mass and carnival afternoon. Students and staff are proudly wearing their Jubilee badges that were blessed by Archbishop Hart during the mass. Tickets for the Jubilee Dinner at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday 2nd May are also on sale via www.tickethost.com.au. As part of our jubilee year we are encouraging alumnae to register their details for future communication and reunion planning via the ‘Community’ portal on the College website: www.msj.vic.edu.au.

Wishing all families the blessings of the Easter resurrection and a productive term ahead.

God bless,

Cath Dillon
Principal

COMING EVENTS...

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“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”
JUBILEE MASS ADDRESS...

Good morning Your Grace, Archbishop Hart, concelebrating priests, Sisters of St Joseph, invited guests, staff, students, family members and all who gather here today as friends of Mount St Joseph Girls’ College.

It is an interesting coincidence that on this day in 1873 Mary MacKillop set sail on the long sea voyage to Rome to seek formal approval from Pope Pius IX for the Rule of the Institute of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart which would guide the hundreds of women who had joined the order since its founding in 1867. Undoubtedly Mary would have boarded her ship in Adelaide filled with mixed emotions. There would have been a sense of accomplishment in all that had been achieved by the Sisters to that point in time and probably anxiety at the unknown months ahead. As was the case throughout Mary’s life however, she would have been affirmed by her deep courage that God was with her and as such, the future was filled with hopeful opportunities for her faith filled ministry.

Today, we too stand at a point in time proud of all that has been achieved and excited about all that the future holds.

We give thanks to our God for the success of that voyage from Adelaide to the Vatican in 1873 as it has been the support of the Catholic Church for the vision of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods in founding the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart which inspired the founding of Mount St Joseph Girls’ College. Hence we gather here today at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for our mass in a spirit of deep thanksgiving for our vibrant and proud faith and learning community.

Much has changed since 64 students were welcomed by a small group of Sisters of St Joseph at the front gates of their new school in Maidstone Street Altona on a rainy February day some fifty years ago.

On behalf of our students, past and present, I extend a vote of deep appreciation to all of the Sisters, priests, Catholic Education and College leaders, staff, alumnae and family members who have played their role in weaving the colourful fabric of our proud school history over the past five decades. We are the carriers of a precious flame today. A flame that has been lit, nurtured and protected by humble women and men of faith who have worked so tirelessly to build and nurture our school. Each year we cradle this flame and breathe new life into it as we continue to strive in our mission to walk with our young women in their journeys of self-discovery through faith and their pursuit of excellence through learning.

On behalf of the invited guests I extend to you the young women of Mount St Joseph Girls’ College, in this special Golden Jubilee year of 2014, the encouragement to continue to believe in yourselves and your many gifts. May you continue to use those precious talents to live fully and to reach out to those in need. Our College theme this year is inspired by the words of Mary MacKillop and invites each of us to find God in everything we experience. May you continue to feel God’s presence in your lives and live with virtue and courage to bring God’s compassionate love to all whom you meet. We are deeply proud of each of you and we rest easy in the knowledge that the Holy Spirit will shape the future through you as you live out the values of the Gospel through our Josephite charism in the world.

In Mary MacKillop’s words...

“We have much for which to be thankful”.

God bless.

Cath Dillon
Principal
THE MSJ MUSIC FESTIVAL...

After a fantastic St Patrick’s Cathedral Mass on the 28th of March, we all came back to school from Mass to continue celebrating MSJ’s Golden Jubilee year.

The year 12 music class rushed to school in the first bus, so they could get changed, and ready themselves for their performance. The acts started off with two brilliant performances from ‘The Diamonds’. Then followed ‘The Comrades’ and to finish it all off we had ‘The Brunette Quartet’ perform.

After the Year 12’s finished performing, we had an official cover band called ‘Tackleberry’ take the stage. They performed a brilliant set.

Whilst we were being entertained, we had magnificent picnics surrounding the entire stage. People had tea sets, Champagne glasses (filled with sparkling apple juice of course!) and numerous sweets and treats.

We had great weather, amazing and varied entertainment and tasty treats - so all in all, I think it would be safe to say that the whole school had a magnificent day!

Simone Curmi-Blackwell
12 Anne

After the Jubilee Mass, the whole school went back to MSJ and assembled on the oval to enjoy a range of entertainment. The Vet Music students kicked it all off with ‘The Diamonds’ being a light, but fun start to the afternoon, singing the likes of “Riptide” by Vance Joy and “Ho, Hey” by The Lumineers. Next up were ‘The Comrades’ who gave a mind blowing performance of “Feeling Good” originally sung by Nina Simone, but since covered by Muse. Finally, ‘The Brunette Quartet’ gave it that finishing touch with renditions of “Halo” by Beyonce, “Man In The Mirror” by Michael Jackson and “Sweet Dreams” by The Eurythmics.

Overall, each of the VET Music student bands were a hit!

- Faith (Year 12)
The energy of the students was palpable, and it was fantastic to see everyone up and getting involved in the many events dotted around the yard. From juggling and lollies, to photographs and jewellery making, there was something for all to do against the backdrop of tunes from our Year 12 bands and musician guests. A fantastic highlight in this, our 50th year.

- Rachel (Year 12)

From the Year 12 performances, to watching ‘Tackleberry’ and enjoying all the other festivities - it was a great day. Everyone enjoyed themselves in celebrating the 50 years of the College, it couldn’t have been any better. – Zoe (Year 12)

‘It was fun making pieces of jewellery with friends that we’ll keep throughout the year. :)’

- Caroline (Year 12)

Much fun was to be had at MSJ’s first ‘Day on the Green’ type experience. Some listened to the bands from the comfort of their picnic rugs, while others let their hair down for the afternoon in the mosh-pit.

Even the teachers could not resist getting up and dancing when ‘Footloose’ was performed by the lively cover band, ‘Tackleberry’.

- Claire (Year 12)

“There where you are, you will find God.”
EASTER - A REMINDER OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN OUR LIVES...

As the season of Lent draws to a close, it is time to stop and reflect on the importance of Easter in our Catholic tradition. Easter is a time of celebration and joy as we recall the resurrection of the Lord and celebrate our renewal of faith in the risen Lord.

This joy experienced at Easter emerges from the assertion of God’s undying love, which was made visible through His son, Jesus Christ. We are reminded of the transformative power of God’s love in our lives and are reminded of His presence in all that we do. This conviction and faith in God provides great joy for us over the Easter season.

This joy of Easter and faith in God is also reflected in our College theme this year “There where you are, you will find God” (Mary MacKillop). As we move into the season of Easter, the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, take time out to experience the joy of God’s presence in your life.

I wish you all a safe, peaceful and enjoyable break, I hope that the joy of the Easter season renews and refreshes you.

EASTER PRAYER

We give thanks to you, Lord, for you have done marvellous things!

When we were walking in darkness you were there, you were there, when we were kneeling in weakness you were there, you were there, when we drew near feeling worthless you were there, you were there, when we were needing forgiveness you were there, you were there, when we were searching for your grace you were there, you were there.

We give thanks to you, Lord, for you have done marvellous things!

Danielle Fairthorne
Director of Catholic Identity

A YEAR OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP FROM POPE FRANCIS...

In the days before Easter 2013, the world learned of the appointment of 76-year-old Jesuit Archbishop of Buenos Aires to Pope after the retirement of Pope Benedict XVI.

In his first speech the Pope, having chosen Francis as his name after St Francis of Assisi, asked the people to pray over him before he blessed them and with that a new style of papal leadership began. Ever since that day, Pope Francis has committed himself to the servant leadership principles he advocates.

- Upon his election he immediately chose not to wear the traditional red shoes and gold crosses of the position.
- He has spoken many times of a “poor church for the poor”.
- After he was named the new leader of the Catholic church he took the shuttle bus with the other bishops to the hotel where he had been staying to pay his bill.
- On Holy Thursday 2013, the Pope washed the feet of 12 young offenders including two girls and two Muslims at a Rome prison in an unprecedented version of an ancient Easter ritual.
- He has lived in a clergy hostel rather than in the papal palace and is driven in a small Ford Focus sedan, not a limousine.
- His first pastoral trip outside of Rome, was to Lampedusa, a small island south of Italy which is often the destination of refugees fleeing Africa. He was compelled by a particularly deadly crossing in which a dozen migrants lost their lives. The Pope condemned what he called the “globalisation of indifference” towards the plight of refugees.
- He appointed eight cardinals, one from each continent, to advise him on reform of the church.
- In December he celebrated his birthday by asking three homeless men to join him for breakfast at his small dining table in his hostel.
- In February he installed new cardinals calling them not “princes of the church” as in the past but “humble servants”. He continues to inspire all as he enters the second year of his papacy as in his words he commits himself and invites all to serve others,

“Whoever is the most high up must be at the service of others,” the Pope said. “I do this with all my heart because it is my duty as a priest, as a bishop. I have to be at your service.”

The Pope with the three homeless people with whom he shared breakfast on his birthday.

“There where you are, you will find God.”
SO MANY THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR...

On the 1st & 3rd of April all the students in Year 8 went on our Reflection Day. We travelled to the Laverton Community Hub where we settled into a new room and participated in a number of activities.

We learnt a lot more about Fr Julian Tenison Woods and his call to stewardship, to take care of our land and all creation. Father Julian was truly filled with the fire of his love of God. He found God not only in the people he served, but in the rocks, trees, plants, skies, animals and in all of creation.

The activities we participated in helped us realise what our world is like today and we worked in groups to explore ways in which we can make our world more sustainable and how we can preserve the earth’s resources for future generations.

To conclude the day we had a liturgy where each student got to decorate a leaf. We wrote our names and a special quality about ourselves on the leaf. The leaves will be put into a large tree to be placed in the Year 8 area so we can be reminded of our Year 8 reflection day and the gifts that God has provided us.

We are thankful for the things that God has given us in life, like our family and friends. We very much enjoyed reflection day and being able to interact with new people.

Annita Martin, Kelly Chan and Namita Sisodiya
8 Catherine

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK MASS...

On the 20th of March a group of fantastic Year 9 leaders made their way to St. Patricks Cathedral to attend the Catholic Education Week Mass.

Many students and teachers from both primary and secondary Catholic schools in Melbourne gathered to celebrate this event. The mass was celebrated by His Grace, Most Reverent Denis Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne.

As this is our jubilee year, we led the procession of college banners and Michaela Collins had the honour of reading a prayer of intercession as recognition of the significant year in our College community. We were very privileged to have this experience and thank Ms Dillon and Ms Fairthorne for making this possible.

Courtney Rogers, Nicola Verhoef, Michaela Collins, Alison Ramsey, Charlotte Cameron and Christine Yankoulas
Junior SRC Representatives

“Where there you are, you will find God.”
CAMP WYUNA...

This year MSJ’s Year 8 students went on camp for three days to Camp Wyuna in Queenscliff.

We participated in multiple activities including surfing, snorkelling, pizza making, surf life saving, visiting the marine discovery centre and a 9km bike ride. The most popular activity was surfing, we all had a go and had a great time, just as we did in all the activities.

On the first night we went for a night beach walk and learnt about the sea and the creatures within it, but most importantly we learnt about how to respect them and the earth.

‘To respect nature’ was the key message at Camp Wyuna. On the second night everyone participated in a liturgy that reflected on our time at camp.

We would like to say a big thankyou to all MSJ and YMCA staff for making this possible and letting us have such an amazing time.

Hannah Clarke, Summer Galea and Jessica Binovski
8 Anne

Camp Wyuna was an ideal location for the Year 8 Camp. Bursting with a magnificent natural setting of sand dunes and native trees and having great access to Port Phillip Bay.

With the bay close by, we took the opportunity to go snorkelling and explore a whole new underwater world. We saw many schools of fish, coral beds and the vibrant colours, that jumped out at us, of the sea life and shells scattered around the ocean’s floor.

The food was also delicious, a YUMMY balanced meal!

Trinh Tran
8 Catherine

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

PATHWAYS...

YEARS 10 & 11
Term 3 for Years 10 & 11 involves selecting a course of study for Senior Years. To assist and guide students and parents, universities and other organisations offer valuable experiences for students of Years 10, 11 and 12 during the holiday period.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY IN THE HOLIDAYS
‘Experience La Trobe’ takes place in April, June and July each year. Designed especially for Year 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents, Experience La Trobe offers a taste of what it’s like to be a uni student for a day. The event is structured around discipline-based workshops. This is a great chance for future students to chat to La Trobe staff, to be a university student for a day, and to pick up course information. For details, other campus dates, and to book see:
www.latrobe.edu.au/experience

KEEPER FOR A DAY AND VET FOR A DAY
The Werribee Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary run Keeper For a Day and Vet For a Day programmes during the school holidays. To book phone 9285 9406.

ANIMAL CAREER DISCOVERY DAY
Spend the day at the RSPCA Animal Career Discovery Day! Hear from RSPCA staff currently working in the industry in various roles and gain helpful insider knowledge on planning pathways to a fulfilling career with animals:

Dates: Thursday 12 June
Tuesday 9 September
Thursday 4 December

Time: 9:00am -3:30pm

Location: Burwood East RSPCA

Cost: $59 (includes registration, morning tea, RSPCA Career show bag, and all activity costs)

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA AT HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE
Did you know that it is possible to obtain a University of Canberra degree, studying in Melbourne through Holmesglen Institute? For example, this year Holmesglen is offering the University of Canberra’s Bachelor of Interior Architecture. The program will give students the skills to plan, design, detail and supervise the construction of industrial, retail and residential building interiors. For more information, see:
http://www.canberra.edu.au/melbourne

‘AT MONASH’ SEMINAR SERIES
Register for ‘At Monash’ Seminar Series to hear from current students, graduates and staff about a range of different courses offered at Monash. All seminars commence at 6.30pm and finish at 8pm. For more details go to:
http://www.monash.edu.au/at-monash-seminar

THE UMAT TEST
This test is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level. UMAT 2014 will be held on 30 July 2014. You must register for this test by 6th June 2014.

If these are courses you want to pursue you need to read the information on the following links as registration and preparation is required.
http://umat.acer.edu.au/
http://www.medentry.edu.au/

YEAR 12
Year 12 students will be faced with selecting options for VTAC preferences in Term 3. Open Days provide valuable information for students.

OPEN DAY DATES - 2014

Saturday August 2nd
Monash University (Berwick & Peninsula campuses)

Sunday August 3rd
Deakin (Warrambool)
Monash University (Caulfield, Clayton & Parkville)
Swinburne University & TAFE

Sunday August 10th
Australian Catholic University (Melbourne)
Deakin (Geelong)
RMIT University & TAFE (Bundoora, Brunswick, City)

Sunday August 17th
La Trobe University (Bendigo)
University of Melbourne

Sunday August 24th
Box Hill Institute
Deakin University (Melbourne)
La Trobe (Melbourne)
Victoria University
William Angliss Institute

Sunday August 31st
Australian Catholic University (Ballarat)
Federation University (Ballarat & Gippsland)

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.”
LEARNING LAW...

On Thursday the 27th of March, nine senior Legal Studies students had the privilege of listening to former High Court Justice, Michael Kirby, at Victoria University.

His Honour spoke about numerous contemporary and social issues, his experiences as a Judge and his current work on Human Rights with the United Nations.

His talk was inspirational and we were delighted to have the opportunity to ask questions and learn from one of the premier legal minds in the country.

Simone Curmi-Blackwell  
12 Anne

Sonia Gavirko  
12 Francis

MSJ'S BIG WEEK OF FASHION...

March was a mega month of fashion in Melbourne as the 2014 Fashion Festival came to town, and here at MSJ we took this opportunity to inspire our budding fashionistas and help them gain an insight into the fashion industry.

On Friday night, Miss Zvi, Mrs Kubacki and Mr Milik attended the opening night of The Top Designs Exhibition 2013. Nicole Satalich’s Product Design – Textiles folio had been chosen for the exhibition, along with an Interactive Digital Media and Visual Communications folio from the College.

On Saturday afternoon, Miss Snooks and Miss Zvi took the VCE Textiles students to The Virgin Australia National Graduate Showcase Rehearsal. With front row seats students were inspired by the spectacular designs and able to start developing ideas for their own designing in the coming weeks.

On Tuesday, March 25, the Year 11 and 12 Product Design and Technology students attended the Top Designs exhibition at the Melbourne Museum. The Top Designs exhibition showcases students’ folios and products that were produced for VCE subjects. A lecture was given about the standard of work expected in Product Design and Technology. Fashion designer, Genevieve Kulezsa, also spoke to the students about her ongoing career within the fashion industry. The quality of work was outstanding and helped the students understand how they could approach their folios.

On Thursday Night, Mrs Kubacki and Miss Zvi accompanied students to the Academy of Design and VAMFF fashion show rehearsal, including a behind the show tour and chance to see a new exhibition about fashion and the social history of Canberra. Students were once again able to pose in front of the media board, an essential of fashion shows.

Finally, MSJ staff supported Miss Zvi in attending another runway show; this time at the Melbourne Pavilion. The event was called Raw, and Miss Zvi was one of the featured Designers.

After all this creative exposure, it’s now the students’ turn to DESIGN!

Alexandra Zvi  
Teacher

“Where you are, you will find God.”
THE MSI EASTER EGG HUNT...

On Monday the 31st the Year 12 VCAL held an Easter Egg Hunt for the Year 7 girls.

The class decided that it would be a great project to take on. We thought it would be a good way to encourage teamwork and friendship amongst the Year 7s as well as complete some of our planning and organising outcomes for our VCAL certificate and, of course, to celebrate Easter!

It took a lot of time and effort to get it up and running but it was worth it because everyone had so much fun. I would like to thank everyone for being so enthusiastic and excited to participate and for all the students and teachers that helped, especially Ms Frith!

Meg Tarrant
12 Catharine

2014 TUITION FEES...

A statement will be issued to all families at the start of Term 2.

Families who have elected to pay fees each term should note that the 2nd instalment is due on 28th April, 2014 (the beginning of the 2nd week of Term 2).

Families who have provided direct debit or credit card details will continue to have instalments deducted in accordance with the authority.

If you have any queries regarding fees, please contact administration.
GRANDPARENT/GRANDFRIEND AFTERNOON TEA...

Each year the College hosts an afternoon to acknowledge the integral work of grandparents and grandfriends. It is an afternoon whereby our daughters’ say thank you and show appreciation and gratitude to these wonderful role models and support people in their lives.

Grandparents offer a special place in the family as trusted adult, yet separate and different from the child’s parents. Grandparents or grandfriends may provide a safe place for young women to turn to in times of stress when they feel they cannot approach their parents. It is important we honour this sacred relationship.

As you celebrate the resurrection of the Lord during your Easter Sunday Festivities share the date with your daughter’s role models and advocates.

Grandparents/GrandFriends Afternoon Tea will be celebrated on

Tuesday May 6th from 2pm - 3.20pm.
The afternoon will have two aspects: a light afternoon tea and a guided tour by your daughter.

More information will be emailed on the first day of Term 2, whereby you can RSVP online. We would invite all students in years 7 - 9 to invite their grandparents or grandfriend to this significant afternoon.

D&M@MSJ..

No it is not some new text message shorthand invented at MSJ, but rather an acronym to launch a new initiative designed to build and harness healthy and open relationships between daughters and their mothers.

As the title does suggest, it is an opportunity to have a deep and meaningful (D&M) with your daughter without the usual family interruptions and the chance to have this conversation guided by the two experienced mothers, whom are also psychologist.

So pencil the following date in your diary and more information will follow via email.

Tuesday May 20th from 7pm - 9pm.

This promises to be an exciting evening filled with much laughter and conversation.

The best gift we can give one another is to be present and in the moment.

Steven Mifsud
Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing

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.

| Blazer: Embroidered | $199.00 |
| Pullover: Embroidered | $72.00 - $84.00 |
| Summer Dress: | $60.00 |
| Winter Kilt: | $105.00 |
| Girls Tights: Cotton Black or Navy Blue | $15.00 |
| Winter Blouse: | $24.00 |
| Tie: | $20.00 |
| Scarf: Embroidered | $15.00 |
| Socks: White Summer Sock Sport Sock with logo | $8.00 - $9.50 |
| Rain Jacket: Embroidered | $82.00 |
| Rugby Top: Embroidered | $79.00 |
| Track Pant: Embroidered | $45.00 |
| Polo Top: Embroidered | $44.00 |
| Sport Shorts: | $31.00 |
| Sport Hat or Cap: Embroidered | $15.00 |
| School Bag: Normal | $63.00 |
| Trolley Bag (By Order Only) | $125.00 |

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

On March 21st the MSJ community came together to recognise and celebrate cultural diversity in our school community, and in Australia as a whole, by observing Harmony Day.

Led by members of the SRC, staff and students began their celebrations during recess by creating posters that showed their cultural heritage and recorded a message of unity or multicultural celebration. These posters were displayed on the walls and taken around the school to reiterate the need to share and embrace who we are as individuals and where we come from.

At lunchtime, the SRC kept the atmosphere going by playing international music and placing markers on a map of the world (created by Mr Meilak and senior Studio Arts students) to record the diversity of the MSJ community.

Overall, Harmony Day was a great success. The SRC led initiatives enabled staff and students to celebrate multiculturalism and diversity with music, art, drama and good company.

Faith Angaika-Peter (12A)

MASS FOR THE ELDERLY...

On Thursday the 27th of March, 9 excited Year 7 students went to St Leo’s the Great Church, in Altona North, to assist the sick and elderly in their healing mass.

While we were there, we helped people who needed assistance to get to their seats and served food to the elderly attendees at the luncheon after the mass. We also had the chance to have some great conversations with the attendees, making their days as well as our own!

It was fabulous that we took new information and perspectives away and left the attendees smiling after sharing a few hours of enjoyable company. We were extremely proud to represent MSJ at this event and make a difference to some members of our local community whilst living out the MSJ values of virtue and courage.

Tayah Peters

7 Joseph
RALLYING FOR REFUGEES...

On Sunday the 13th of April, a small group of MSJ staff and students went on a trip into St Patrick’s Cathedral to participate in the Palm Sunday Prayer service, in solidarity with refugees and asylum seekers, and to join in the ‘Walk for the Refugees’ being held in the city.

Our first stop was the amazing, St Patrick’s Cathedral. The prayer service was very powerful and really expressed sincere concern for those who are trying to seek asylum in our country. After thanking Bishop Vincent Long for the service, we made our way to the State Library, where thousands had gathered to listen to a few speakers and to rally for the refugees.

It was a great excursion, and we achieved much throughout the day. With each speech, the topic became bolder to every listener. In the end we all realised that we have to show compassion and concern towards the refugees.

Tara Mallia
9 Therese

ST JOSEPH THE REFUGEE & PROJECT COMPASSION

The Feast of St Joseph falls during Lent every year and always provides a good opportunity to celebrate the feast of the inspiring saint after whom our College is named whilst raising money for Caritas’ Project Compassion.

This year we focussed on St Joseph as a refugee and our assembly invited everyone to stop and think about the fact that the Aboriginal people are the only traditional people of our country and that all others who live in Australia in 2014 are the descendants of immigrants.

A speaker from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre informed students about the many challenges facing people fleeing their country of origin due to war, poverty and persecution. At lunchtime students made paper chains drawing attention to the injustices faced by asylum seekers due to current Australian legislation.

The money raised by MSJ students and staff during the Project Compassion Campaign (nearly $2,000) will assist Caritas to support asylum seekers by alleviating the oppression in their home countries and supporting them when they are forced to seek refuge in other countries.
SCSA INTER-SCHOOL CRICKET...

On the 31st of March, the MSJ girls competed in the SCSA inter-school Cricket competition and although we didn’t manage to come home with any awards, all our teams did an amazing job and showed great team spirit and cooperation.

After training for a few weeks, the actual day came around and there we some good teams in the competition. It was a long, hot day filled with challenges as we further developed our grasp of the game and mastered tactics that had been explained to us at MSJ. Despite the challenges of the day, we all showed great enthusiasm, dedication and sportsmanship and gave everything we had as we strove to win.

We all gained new skills from this experience, so we will definitely come back better and stronger next year. Both the junior and intermediate teams tried really hard showing great team work, and improving with each game.

A big congratulations to the senior team who made it all the way to the grandfinal where they unfortunately lost, but not without a fight. As Isabella Zerafa said, we can only get better for next year “when we play in the Ashes”.

A big thanks to Ms Bourke, Ms Baka, Mrs Matthews and Mr Rafferty for organising and taking time out of their day to support and coach us all.

Emily Payne
T2 Anne

SCSA INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING...

All the early morning training sessions at Sweeney’s Swim Centre in Pier Street paid off as the MSJ Swim Squad achieved personal bests and handfuls of ribbons at the SCSA Inter-school Swimming Carnival held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatics Centre.

Supported by a large group of parents, family members and staff, the swimmers each proudly took their place on the starting blocks before diving in to turn their adrenaline into their best freestyle, breast stroke, butterfly or back stroke action.

Congratulations to every girl who committed themselves to the training programme and achieved their best on the night. It has been great to see the squad build over recent years and all eyes are set on a top-three podium finish for the squad next year.

On behalf of all swimmers, thanks are extended to the parent chauffeurs and the PE staff who supported Ms O’Brien with the supervision of training. It was certainly a great team effort.

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

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.

ACADEMY UNIFORM SHOP
238 Wolseley Place, Thomastown
Phone: 9460 8011
Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday 9am - 1pm
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.

Come and join us for a great afternoon of High Tea.

Sunday May 4th, 2014
Mary MacKillop Centre
Mount St. Joseph Girl’s College
2pm - 5pm
Tickets are $30 per person

There will be music, raffles, door prizes, guest speakers, party planners, great food and lots more.

All funds raised will go to Joseph’s Corner.

For bookings please call
Joseph’s Corner on 9315 2680 or
Tania on 0439 165 660

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.

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.

“Where you are, you will find God.”