Careers and Pathways...

It has been very interesting to learn of the great variety of career pathways being explored by the Year 9 & 10 students during their recent Beyond Horizons and Work Experience programmes. The season of open days at tertiary and further training institutes is also upon us and students from Years 9 to 12 are encouraged to visit those offering courses in their areas of interest. Ms Jacqui Krell is the College Pathways Co-Ordinator and can provide support and resources to investigate a good breadth and depth of career options.

Catholic Identity Staff Learning Day...

On the last day of term all staff gathered for a day focussed on deepening our understanding of social justice in the Catholic context. Various speakers and workshops provided staff with the opportunity to learn more about the Catholic social teachings. A special mention to the student panel which ran a workshop on the day wherein the panel of girls from Years 7 to 12 shared with us their experiences of Religious Education classes, liturgical celebrations, prayer and social justice involvements. They were inspiring in their honesty, trust and ability to articulate their faith development. In a similar spirit of trusting and honest personal sharing, Sr Joan Healy spoke of her call to walk with the poor in the many forums within which she has lived her ministry as a Sister of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Generous Hearts...

Many members of the MSJ community have again responded with generosity in their donations to two recent causes. A food collection drive launched to accompany the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus resulted in many baskets of food being forwarded to Ozanam House to support their daily work towards empowering and supporting the dignity of people who find themselves homeless in Melbourne. In a similarly compassionate manner, the school community collected a wide range of sports balls to go to indigenous communities as part of the Have A Ball Foundation collection. These outreach initiatives give context to, and opportunities for, our Catholic faith in action. In the words or Mary MacKillop, we must continue to “…seek first the poorest and most neglected parts of the vineyard.”

“Be Our Guest”...

Many members of our extended MSJ community were blessed to enjoy the rich combination of talents and teamwork that took to the stage for the recent 2015 College production of Beauty And The Beast. Such was the quality of the performances, music, set, costumes and back stage support that many audience members commented on the need to keep reminding themselves that it was a school production and not a professional show. Congratulations to all involved and in particular to Belinda Sorbello, Helen O’Keefe, Ann Fichera, Cathy Hills and Gianna Galea for their many hours of rehearsal sessions and leadership. We owe a deep vote of thanks to the parents and carers who gave so much of their time to help or to transport students, and of course to the wonderful students in the cast and crew and the teams of teachers who supported them. The 300 primary school students who enjoyed a special performance before opening night certainly raised the roof with their applause, laughter and appreciation. We look forward with eager anticipation to which production might take to the stage in 2016.

Wishing all students and their families a safe term break and we look forward to all that Term 3 holds in store for us.

God bless,

Cath Dillon
Principal
Congratulations to all students for the effort they have put into their studies in recent weeks. As the semester concluded students were involved in a lot of assessment of student learning. This is intended to be a very positive experience for students requiring organisation, focus and concentration. The feedback from exams and SACs is an integral part of the learning cycle.

Term 3 is an exciting time with the opportunity for students to consolidate their learning and the opportunity to engage with new concepts and skills. With the benefit of results from Semester One students are encouraged to reflect on what they have achieved and set new goals for their learning this semester.

2016 SUBJECT SELECTION...
The process of subject selection is designed to equip students with the information to make decisions about the elective subjects that they select. Early Term 3 students from Years 8 to 11 will be involved in the process of selecting their subjects for 2016. It is important that students be informed about the available subjects and that the selection of courses is suited to their interests and abilities. An integral part of the process is that parents discuss with their child the subject choices they wish to make for the following year.

Subjects should be selected largely on the following basis and should be done in consultation with parents, teachers and careers counselors:
• The student’s personal interests
• Known ability and past success in a particular area of study
• Prerequisite and recommended studies for entry into Higher Education courses (Tertiary and TAFE)
• Career aspirations

YEAR 11 2016 SUBJECT SELECTION...
For Year 10 students, the transition into the Senior School is an important one, and marks the beginning of a significant phase for students at Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College. The process will include student and parent information sessions, course guidance and formal interviews. It is the start of a very personal journey for each student, as decisions about which courses of study to pursue are made. As with all journeys, some will have a final destination clearly identified and subject choices will be clear. For others, the pathway will not be as smooth; it may take some time to reach a point of certainty about which choices to make.

The Course Selection Handbooks will be available from the College website to assist students to make well-informed decisions about their elective programme.

Please make a note of these dates:
Thursday July 16
Year 11 2016 Parent Information Evening and Domain Expo
6.00pm – 6.45pm: Students and parents interested in the VCAL Programme are invited to a VCAL information session
7.00pm: A general information session for students and parents covering the subject selection requirements, procedures and timeline
7.30pm – 8.15pm: Domain Expo – Domain Leaders and Subject Teachers are available to discuss subjects.

Thursday July 30
4.00pm – 7.00pm Interviews will be conducted for students and parents. Each interview is scheduled for 10 minutes and designed to support students and parents to clarify any concerns regarding VCE/VCAL subject selection.

Joanna De Bono
Deputy Principal - Learning and Staff

SEMESTER ONE STUDENT REPORTS...
There are four reporting stages throughout the year that provide reports about achievement and progress on learning including an indication of areas for improvement.

Access to Semester One reports is via the Intranet link located at intranet.msj.vic.edu.au.

Semester 1 Reports will be available from Wednesday 24 June 2015 at 4:00pm

PLEASE NOTE: Reports cannot be viewed on tablet or mobile devices when using the MSJ parent portal.
SUPPORTING YOUR DAUGHTER’S LEARNING USING TECHNOLOGY...

SchoolMate
The SchoolMate app provides parents with an overview of what their child is learning at school, and suggests ways for parents to get involved in their child’s education. The information in the app is matched to the curriculum taught at MSJ and every Victorian school.

SchoolMate will:
• Show parents what their children are learning in school in each subject in every year from Prep to Year 10 according to the Victorian AusVELS curriculum;
• Provide advice to parents about what they can do at home to help their child learn;
• Provide ideas for books and apps which parents can download, borrow or buy which are related to their child’s school work.

Schoolmate is available free from the iTunes store & Google Play.

X + Y...

On the 18th of May, our Year 11 General Maths class went to the Sun Theatre in Yarraville to watch X+Y. It was a film about young mathematicians who competed at the International Mathematical Olympiad, an event for math brains.

Main character Nathan was diagnosed in early childhood with Autism, his condition brought with it a fascination with numbers, colours and patterns of light. He found comfort in the world of maths and throughout the movie we observed the peculiar habits he displays such as not being able to eat food unless the serving adds up to a prime number.

It was an enjoyable experience and we learnt a lot about how maths is relevant in the real world. A big thank you to Ms Nguyen for organising the excursion.

Salma Khalil
11 Therese

WITNESS KING TIDES PROGRAM ARTICLE...

On Wednesday 3rd June, students from MSJ were invited to participate in the Hobsons Bay Witness King Tides Programme, after school. A presentation was given to us about ocean tides and how global warming will affect our future, if we don’t do anything to stop it.

After this, we walked down to Altona Beach with the school cameras and our jazzy new purple t-shirt supplied by the Hobsons Bay Council. We took heaps of photos of the tides and explored the scenery of the surrounding area. Later we walked back to school and uploaded our colourful photographs and wrote a reflection on our fantastic evening. This was to be displayed in the Altona Library for World Environment Day. We were ultimately rewarded with a light supper and hot beverage on what was a cold night.

Overall, it was a fantastic day and wouldn’t have been possible without the organisation of Miss Snooks, Ms Devic and the Hobsons Bay Council.

Maya Gauci and Sarah Peart
7 Anne

Note...
Since Giulia wrote her article, we have received the results of the competitions and we are pleased to announce we have three finalists: Mia Brittain (9A), Deana Galea (10A) and Laura Falzon (11C). We are proud of all of our students and they each performed exceptionally well, most receiving a certificate of ‘Merito’, ‘Lode’ or ‘Pregio’.

Giulia Abate
11 Veronica

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DANTE ALIGHIERI POETRY COMPETITION...

It’s that time of year again, when the Dante Alighieri Society Senior Italian Poetry Competition is back!

Students who study Italian from Years 9 -12 around Victoria are able to participate in the poetry competition. This year marked the 750th Anniversary of the birth of the esteemed poet and ‘father’ of the Italian language – Dante Alighieri.

As we travelled to Melbourne University to recite our poems to a judge, we were all filled with a mix of nerves, anticipation and excitement. Lots of preparation went into learning our poems and trying to perfect them as the poems become more and more challenging each year.

After the recitations, we made our way to Lygon Street where we enjoyed a delicious Italian meal. We then completed a walking trail activity where we had to identify various landmarks, famous espresso bars and restaurants in the Carlton precinct.

It was a day enjoyed by all and we now wait anxiously to hear the results and hope our hard work has earned us a place in the finals.

Giulia Abate
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YEARS 8 FILM FESTIVAL - DIGITAL REPUTATIONS AND CITIZENSHIP...

Digital Citizenship is the term used for safe & responsible use of technology. This can include:
- Protecting private information
- Staying safe online
- Social media etiquette
- Being a positive contributor to the digital community

This term in our Pastoral Sessions the Year 8 girls have been learning about the importance of having and maintaining a positive on-line reputation. The culmination of the girls learning was a film festival where the girls presented a short film focusing on either how to keep your reputation looking good or what can happen if you are not careful with what you post.

Our video focused on bullying due to what was posted online. We chose to focus on this as this issue has a big impact on school students. We learnt how powerful your online reputation can be and how to be careful with social media. We enjoyed this very much as this was an experience that helped us understand how our actions online can effect our lives offline.

Madeline Mitchell
8 Veronica

Making the movie about cyber safety was very eye opening and fun. It was a great opportunity to learn about cyber safety and film techniques.

Emily Frydas
8 Catherine

The theme of our movie was to express the dangers of sending or posting explicit and inappropriate images online. We expressed this danger by implementing the ‘send’ factor and how it changed an individual’s online reputation and the consequences that occur.

Tegan Murphy
8 Anne

The digital film online reputation activity was a very interesting learning experience. We as a group, learnt many techniques and gadgets in the making/editing of the film. The fact that we worked together as a group, built our teamwork skills and we learnt how to work co-operatively. Now, we all know the dangers of posting inappropriate pictures or videos online. We will be cyber-smart forever.

Ellie Maher
8 Joseph

We felt it was essential to address the importance of posting things on social media, especially when trying to get a job. The first thing any good boss would do before employing anybody is to check any social media page of yours such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter etc.

Alysia Hahnel
8 Francis

We decided to pick the topic we did because posting or sending photos can not only ruin your life but you may even ruin someone else’s life. Sending or posting a photo of someone can get them into trouble, they can start getting bullied or even get them fired from their job.

Ella Downing
8 Therese
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL IN ACTION ...

On Tuesday 2nd June, Sarah Muscat (11A), Madhu Sayala (11T), Stephanie Tran (11T) and myself organised and participated in an interactive session of wheelchair basketball as part of the Wheel Talk School Awareness Program.

We joined together with the rest of Year 11 and 12 VCAL students, as well as teachers to take part in a basketball game. We were truly inspired after listening to a presentation from Mel Adams, an athlete with a disability. Mel plays for the Australian wheelchair basketball team, “The Gliders” and she spoke of the story behind her disability, her daily struggles and about the importance of determination and resilience.

Cassie Assaad
11 Anne

YEAR 11 PSYCHOLOGY EXCURSION...

Three Year 11 classes of Psychology students attended educational programmes at both the Melbourne Zoo and the Dax Art Gallery on 24th June.

At the Dax Gallery at the University of Melbourne, students listened to guest-speakers talk about their personal experiences of living with trauma and mental illness. Everyone appeared captivated by the richness of the stories the speakers shared. One student commented that it was “inspiring”, and it was evident through the questions the girls asked, that this forum was giving them the opportunity to explore new perspectives.

The gallery visit also involved listening to the education officer explain the history and purpose of the gallery: to display works of art created by people who have experienced significant mental illness and/or trauma. Students also had the opportunity to reflect on the artwork and read the stories that accompanied them.

The Psychology students also visited Melbourne Zoo where they participated in a forum on ethics in animal research and captivity. Students discussed various scenarios around treatment of animals that required them to apply their knowledge of ethical principles in psychological research.

The day concluded with students collecting data on various aspects of baboon behaviour. This was useful in learning how to apply recently learned skills in quantitative and qualitative data collection.

Overall, the girls gained a lot out of being able to apply their skills in real-life situations and gain first-hand accounts of people who have experienced mental illness.

Nigel Hartin
Teacher
Over the past couple of weeks I have been reading Margaret Paton, Mary Mackillop The Ground of Her Loving, and I have been challenged to reflect on my understanding and interpretation of the notion of the Sacred Heart.

The phrase ‘Sacred Heart’ has so many cultural meanings. In my mind’s eye, I can still see the images and icons of Christ with an enlarged pierced and wounded heart. Some of us even went to primary schools that were named after the Sacred Heart. Yet, this Sacred Heart seemed so intangible. The Josephites, while affectionately referred to as ‘the Joeys’, are officially known as the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. While I understand St Joseph and can relate to his story and values, the ‘Sacred Heart’ had me baffled. I was left wondering had the Sacred Heart been lost?

But as I kept reading, I kept wondering what is the theology and spirituality of the Sacred Heart and how does it influence and infiltrate my work as an educator of young people in the 21st century? As a parent of adolescents, how does the Sacred Heart speak to me?

The Sacred Heart is about leading, talking and doing with compassion and integrity. I am in the presence of the Sacred Heart when I hear the voice and story of my children, when I engage with love and respect for my family, and when I sit without judgement and preconception. As I am tired and restless waiting for the holidays let me be companion and guide to my family.

**PEER MEDIATION TRAINING...**

On Tuesday, twenty Year 11 students were trained in Peer Mediation - a process that allows student conflicts (e.g. name calling, property disputes) to be handled by the disputants themselves, with the assistance of other students who have been trained as mediators. Peer Mediation supports our Student Wellbeing Practices and the principles underlying Restorative Practice. Importantly, it reinforces a cultural shift in empowering students to resolve their own concerns before seeking support from an adult.

Peer Mediation:

- Is a voluntary and confidential process bound by specific ground rules
- Follows a step-by-step formula that assists students to work through immediate problems, take responsibility for finding their own solutions, agree on those that are mutually acceptable, and then work at implementing these
- Enables young people to develop a basis for future problem solving

Peer mediation can contribute to the prevention of bullying by providing a school environment that is positive, caring, safe and friendly. We look forward to watching this programme develop with our students in the lead.

**CYBERSAFETY...**

Over the past month, the Year Level Team Leaders and other members of the College’s Wellbeing Team have been supporting our learners and families in the area of cyber safety, awareness and technological boundaries. As we are aware, technology is a powerful means to access knowledge, be creative and to celebrate humanity, however it can also be dangerous and in parts destructive if not managed appropriately.

A gentle reminder that students should not be accessing technology from their bedrooms and that it is a good idea to charge mobile telephones, MacBooks or iPads in an open family area, not one’s bedroom.

Each one of us needs a good night sleep and the opportunity to ‘switch off from the world.’ I physically turn off the modem in our family home at 8.30pm allowing my own family to be with one another without distraction. This week I have visited an excellent website from Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and explored the Cybersmart section for parents. I encourage all families to visit the site:


**YOUTH SURVEY 2015: LET’S HEAR FROM YOUNG AUSTRALIANS...**

In 2015, MSJ will be participating in the Mission Australia Youth Survey. As part of our on-going commitment to best meet the needs of our young women, we are using the online survey as an another tool for the College to ascertain the views and attitudes of young people. Each student from Years 10 – 12 will be asked to complete the survey during the first week of Term 3.

Mission Australia has conducted the Youth Survey with young people around Australia every year since 2002. It has grown significantly over the past decade, and over the years it has asked hundreds of thousands of young people to share their concerns, values and thoughts about the future.

In 2015, the survey is focussed on issues of social inclusion/exclusion from the perspective of young people aged 15 to 19 years, including participation in education and employment, family and social support, values and concerns, sources of advice and support, and community participation.

**How The Survey Information Is Used**
The information gathered will be used to produce a report which is distributed widely each year to schools, community organisations and policy makers. Each year Mission Australia’s Youth Survey receives a high level of media interest and is a key resource document for policymakers, having been referenced both in academic research and government discussion and policy papers related to youth. It is used as a resource across all levels of government, as well as by NGOs and youth organisations, schools, communities and parents.

Each Year Mission Australia produces data from Young People and then provides comparative data for students from MSJ. This information informs our wellbeing practices.

Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing
STUDENT WELLBEING

WELLBEING DAY...

On Monday the 15th of June, the Year 11 and 12 girls dedicated their whole day to being involved in an array of fun and interactive activities to help promote personal wellbeing and positivity.

This year ‘Wellbeing Day’ was initiated to encourage students to become more mindful, active and healthy in their school and home lives. The day began with a positive psychology session with Kate Hood, where students learnt how to effectively deal with everyday struggles and how to overcome negative thoughts. Students were given an opportunity to be involved in workshops that provided further exploration of the mind, including positive self talk, stress and coping activities and sessions with MSJ alumnae and Naturopath, Caterina Morrison, who helped us investigate healthy options.

We then partook in some physical activities including boxing, fitness workouts, walking, dance and zumba. There was also opportunity for spiritual exploration through meditation, yoga and contemplative photography workshops. To conclude the day, we had an informative guest speaker who spoke to us about the consequences of alcohol and drugs, essentially educating us about the physical and mental dangers involved.

Overall, the day enabled us to learn about and practice a range of diverse techniques that we can employ to aid our own personal wellbeing and to build positive energy. A huge thankyou to Ms Bourke and Ms Sexton for their hard work and efforts in organising such a successful day!

Kira Arapidis (12F)
Wellbeing Captain

FAMILY ACCOUNTS...

The Term 3 fees statement will be emailed to all families during the holidays.

75% of 2015 fees should be paid by 31 July.

It would be appreciated if families could make sure their accounts are up to date.

GOVERNMENTS CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND (CSEF) AND REDUCING YOUR FEES...

Thanks to families who have applied for the CSEF.

Where eligible, this will be applied to your fees account on receipt from the Department of Education and Training. Any families who have not applied and are eligible should complete and return the form or contact the office as soon as possible.

Noel Kennedy
Business Manager

“Living in harmony with nature and God”
NEW HOPPERS CROSSING BUS ROUTE...

On the 22nd of June a new bus route opened for MSJ’s Hoppers Crossing Students. While the bus route will benefit many MSJ girls, there weren’t too many on the bus on its first day of operation – however it didn’t take long for the Hoppers Crossing girls to get on board.

The first three girls to use the new Hoppers Crossing bus route were sisters, Grace (7A) and Olivia (9I), and Niroshi (9I). Grace and Olivia, caught the bus at Derrimut Road, whilst Niroshi was waiting on Heaths Road. For a while the sisters were a little apprehensive as to whether the bus would arrive but sure enough, the bus appeared at their stop with Mr Mifsud and Mrs Bourke on board to greet them.

More and more MSJ students gradually got on, with everyone enjoying the ride to school and having a great time. This new bus route is very convenient for the Hoppers Crossing girls as it means their parents do not need to drive them to school.

Grace Drandi
7 Anne

Niroshi Dikmadugodage
9 Ignatius

Route 1217

AM: 7:25 Start Derrimut Road/Leakes Road at School by 8:15

PM Depart School 15:30 end of route by 16:30

Begins: Bus Stop near the Corner of Derrimut Road/Leakes Road in Derrimut Rd (50 mins)

Departs Derrimut Road/Leakes Road, Derrimut Road, Hogans Road, Morris Road, Andrew Rd, Taronga Rd, West Meadows Lane, Marquand’s Rd, Sayers Road, Old Geelong Road, Bladin Street, Maher Rd, Railway Ave, Merton Street, Hall Ave, Victoria St, Queens Street, Maidstone Street to the School.

The Afternoon will be the reverse
Parenting ideas INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

10 mindsets to improve your parenting

The best intentions may not be enough to raise happy kids. Here are 10 mindsets to help you on the path to parenting success.

Believe in your child

This is easy if you have an early mature child, a child who has talents you value, or one who easily achieves anything he or she puts his mind to. But it’s a different story if you have a child who struggles at school or to make friends, or just has a different intellect to you. Your belief in your child’s abilities is revealed through your expectations, your body language, even the expression on your face.

Look for the best

What you focus on expands so if you see no misbehaviour, weakness and poor performance than you’ll get more of those things. Set your antenae for children’s strengths, abilities and social behaviours and you’ll invariably get more of those.

Think long term

If you want your child to become independent then don’t do everything for him or her, you need to teach them some skills so they can become self-sufficient.

Awareness, teaching and opportunity are the main requirements for kids to pick up these skills. They need to be aware of what can be done. They need to acquire the skills. Some take more teaching than others. They also need the opportunity to put things into practice.

Be brave

Parents of large families invariably give their later born children more freedom than they gave their first-born. We are always stricter with our first-born than later born as by the time you have 4 or 5 kids you’ve worked out what’s worth worrying about. So if you are parent of one or two kids give them more freedom and responsibility; you need to be brave.

Think family

Successful parents have found a way to lead their family in one direction. To do this you must think in terms of parenting ‘the gang’ rather than individual children. “What’s in the best interest of my child?” has replaced “What’s in the best interest of the family?” as the guiding family principle. This has partly come about as a result of small families, and partly it’s a social imperitive that is common among aspirational parents where wanting the best for your kids means wanting what’s best for each child as an individual, rather considering what may be in the best in the best for the entire gang.

Accept challenges

There are always challenges raising kids. It’s important to embrace these challenges whether they are behavioral or a child has struggles at school or he is moving into puberty. It’s these challenges that will make you a better parent.

Build your community

Parents don’t raise kids in isolation yet there is often a reluctance to share the parenting with others. Successful parents know they haven’t all the answers so they build a community of support and expertise around them.

Trust the process

Sometimes the desire is to want the very best for our child can lead us to interfere at school, preschool, childcare, even when kids are at their grandparents. It’s best to trust the process and allow people to educate, care for and look after your child in their own way.

Adversity builds character

It’s natural to want life to be easy for our children, but sometimes in an effort to ensure their well-being we smooth things over for them. This is through the small hardships that kids experience that they build the resilience and resilience necessary for continued success.

This too shall pass

The hardest part of parenting is supporting kids when life doesn’t go their way. There is plenty of research that suggests that kids benefit from having parents who have a positive parenting style that gets the balance right between protecting, teaching and nurturing kids when life gets hard. This starts with the belief that “This hardship too shall pass.”


parentingideas.com.au

“Living in harmony with nature and God”
AN UMPIRING HAND...

On the 13th of June, 18 girls went and volunteered to umpire netball games for local primary schools. Each pair had a court that they were in charge of umpiring. Everyone had a great time and learnt some new skills they may not have previously known.

All our girls put in a great effort and we received great feedback from everyone. We would like to thank Emma McGuirk for offering us the opportunity to help out and Mrs O’Brien for her support and organisation of this event.

Nicola Verhoef and myself helped prepare our fellow volunteers for their roles. We thank Lily Girvan, Elizabeth Bell, Teagan Scicluna, Mia Erbsland, Felicia Schwarz, Emma Fjeldstad, Sarah Fjeldstad, Isabelle DeSimone, Mia Paladino, Lola Coombes, Gemma Egan, Sarah Peart, Olivia Caldwell, Laura Whitfort and Martina Hennes for volunteering to umpire on their day off school.

Elli Kyriazopoulos
9 Catherine

HAVE A BALL...

MSJ staff and students got the chance to fulfil the Have A Ball foundation’s motto of “putting smiles on the faces of kids in need”. The students donated a variety of sports equipment to the foundation, all of which was headed into the hands of kids in remote schools and communities in Outback Australia.

This act of kindness from the MSJ community also assists Have A Ball Foundation to encourage Indigenous children to live a healthy, active and fun sporting life as well as raising money to support their health and wellbeing.

Thank you to the staff and students who participated in this great cause and special thanks to the PE department for organising this event.

Jennie Dao (12J)
Sports Leader

BACK TO PRIMARY SCHOOL TO LEND A HAND...

On Tuesday the 16th of June MSJ sent a group of students to help out with the Lumen Christi Primary School Athletics Carnival.

We were all ex-students from the school and it was great to be able to go back and help out our old school. It was really nice to see our primary school teachers and some friends that still attend Lumen Christi.

We had the opportunity to help out with the different sporting events which was fun. I am looking forward to helping out again next year!

Sienna Clemente
7 Anne
THE ART OF ARGUMENT...

This year, MSJ is proudly being represented in DAV debating by eleven teams, all working hard to compete with multiple schools within the Williamstown district. Each team is faced with the challenge of debating very difficult topics, such as “That we should get rid of state governments” (D Grade), “That we should have compulsory military service” (C Grade) and “That women should pay less tax” (B Grade).

Teams must work together to create logical arguments supported with evidence prior to each debate. This means debating comes with a lot of commitment, including spending many lunchtimes with our teams to discuss our topics and time outside of school researching the issues and writing speeches.

Our B grade and C grade teams have both participated in the difficult challenge of secret debate topics, where the topic is only given to teams an hour before a debate. These debates are quite difficult to prepare for. Therefore, we have often experienced uncertainty and a lot of nervousness in unknown topics as opposed to topics we can prepare for.

With much anticipation, nerves and hard work, the year so far has been quite a successful one for most of the debating teams. In D grade, we have four teams that are currently in 2nd place, and two teams just below them on the ladder in 3rd place. The B Grade team are currently undefeated, thus are in first place.

There is one debate left in the season for our teams. We hope all teams across the grades will keep up the good work and we wish them the best of luck!

Sabrina Bignoux
11 Catherine

THE CURTAIN FALLS ON BEAUTY AND THE BEAST...

On the 17th, 19th and the 20th of June, our wonderfully talented MSI girls performed ‘Beauty and the Beast’ at Mackillop College in Werribee.

Our first performance was a full dress rehearsal on Wednesday 17th June. We performed the musical to 400 primary school children from some local catholic primary schools. When it was about to begin, we were all nervous, but by the end of the show everyone was proud of what we had all accomplished.

Friday 19th of June was opening night and everyone was even more excited. Thanks to the dress rehearsal, we knew how everything was supposed to work. With almost a full house, the crowd was wild, and we all did amazingly well!

Saturday saw us performing our third and fourth shows. Everyone was a bit tired but we were ready to go on stage and perform to the best of our ability. We wanted to make our final performance, our best seeing as it was the last time we would perform Beauty and the Beast! The show was amazing and everything fell into place. All of the tickets from that night were sold out.

On behalf of everyone involved in the play, the cast, the orchestra, the back backstage crew, and the hair and makeup crew, I would like to thank Ms Sorbello, Mrs Fichera, Mrs Hills, Mrs Galea, Ms O’Keefe and all other staff members involved in the show!

We all had the times of our lives performing ‘Beauty and the Beast’.

Alexia Kyriazopoulos
7 Catherine
MSJ ADRENALINE GOING TO NATIONALS...

On the 7th of June, 3 MSJ teams competed in the School Aerobics State championships, after having made it through an earlier round of qualifications. We competed against various teams from around Victoria all vying to earn the right to go to Nationals.

All 3 MSJ teams worked hard and performed well, but it was MSJ Adrenaline that took 1st place and are going to the Gold Coast, Queensland to compete at the Nationals this August!

We would like to thank our coaches Mrs O’Brien and Ms Hawkins for giving up their weekends and after school hours to practice and train with us, getting us to where we are now.

We would also like to thank our parents, other family members, teachers and friends who came on the day to support us at the competitions. We are all very excited and can’t wait to make the most of this great opportunity to represent MSJ in the National School Aerobics Championships.

Elizabeth Bell and Maddie Mitchell
8 Veronica

SENIOR WINNING STREAK AT SCSA HOCKEY...

On Friday the 19th June, around 30 girls travelled to Footscray Hockey Club to compete at the SCSA Hockey Competition.

The junior girls, led by Gwen Lynch (9C), had a slow start but improved as the day continued. With a strong defence, made up of Alex Tsantarlis (9C) as goal keeper and Presi Petkova (9J) and Reese Stanley(7C) keeping the other teams at bay with their strong tackles, the junior girls went on to win their next three games.

The senior girls dominated their division, going undefeated all day. Their winning streak continued into the grand final where they came up victorious against Avila. Jess Sinclair (10J), Kiara Weerasekera (9V), Jess Gough (12J) and Megan Prentice (12A) all contributed to the goal tally that resulted in MSJ’s 9-0 grand final win.

A big congratulations to all the girls who played on the day. We would like to thank Ms Bowring for her support in the lead up to the competition, running training sessions, and also Ms Sexton and Ms Sofarnos who came along to support us on the day.

Ainslie Kennedy
12 Francis

Our Juniors receiving some invaluable tips on technique from Senior player Ainslee (12F)
SENIOR WINNING STREAK AT SCSA HOCKEY...

On the 16th of June a group of MSJ girls attended the SCSA Cross Country event. As the bus left school it seemed like the rain was going to hit and it would be a long, wet day, but luckily the weather held off long enough to get through all of the events.

Although it was cold and a bit muddy, the girls had a great day together and came 3rd in the Juniors section and 4th in the Intermediate section. Well done to Juniors Brooklyn Utber (8T) and Emma Stankic (8V) on placing 1st and 3rd respectively and to Intermediate Demi Utber (9C) for placing 1st in the intermediate race.

Gwendolen Lynch
9 Catherine

STUDENT V STAFF VOLLEYBALL...

On the 18th of June, the staff finally met their match in the annual staff V student game. Challenged by the seniors to a volleyball match, both teams spiked, aced, peppered and set the ball in an intense match.

It was a tough game between the teams, but in the end the students were defeated by the staff for a change. It was great to see the whole school cheering and supporting the staff and students on throughout the tournament.

Thank you to all the staff that competed in the Volleyball match and we look forward to an opportunity to settle the score, next term.

Jennie Dao (12J)
Sports Leader
“Living in harmony with nature and God”
PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY DAYS

St Joseph’s Convent
61 Melbourne Rd
Williamstown 3016

Afternoon Session: 1:30pm - 3:00pm
(repeat) Evening Session: 7:30pm - 9:00pm

The JOY of the GOSPEL
Being Missionary Disciples Today

21st MAY
COME and SEE (John 1: 39)
The Adventure of Consecrated Religious Life
Sr Anne Porter

18 JUNE
A Missionary Disciple as a Widow in 2015,
Meeting the Bent Woman , (Luke 13: 10-17 ) enables me to see the Face of Jesus more clearly and helps me continue my journey.
MRS Mary Friby

16 JULY
I am a stranger and you welcomed me” ( Matthew 25:35 )
Rita reaches out to Asylum Seekers.
We are all asked in our own way to welcome the stranger.
Sr Rita Malavisi

20 AUGUST
You have not only a great history to remember and to recount, but also a great history still to be accomplished.
You have ..a great history still to be accomplished
– 17) Jesus blesses the little children.
Sr Cath Quirk

17 SEPTEMBER
A Missionary Disciple as a Bishop in 2015
Meeting the Bent Woman , (Luke 13: 10-17 ) enables me to see the Face of Jesus more clearly and helps me continue my journey.
Bishop Vincent Long

15 OCTOBER
Contemplative Listening to the Vision of Pope Francis
We will explore Pope Francis’ vision of a Church of Mercy within the context of compassion, hope and healing. Scripture: (Luke 18 :15
Yvonne Harte

19 NOVEMBER
The Missionary Heart of St Therese of Lisieux:
Her message for us today in the light of Pope Francis’ invitation to be Missionary Disciples.
Afternoon 1:30pm-3:00pm
Sr Maya Uthukuru

19 NOVEMBER
LIFE- Aspects of growth on Earth
The joy of yielding fruit one hundred fold ( Luke 8: verses 4 and 8) The Sower and the Seed
Evening 7:30pm-9:00pm
Miss Mary Hannebery

RSVP
By the day before...please to
Sr Therese Quinn therese.quinn@sosj.org.au mobile: 0419 280841

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 3 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 blouses, tights, socks, hats, scarves and shoes.

STAY IN TOUCH...

Follow Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and keep in touch with all the latest news and events.

“Living in harmony with nature and God”