"Do not be afraid to take a chance on peace, to teach peace, to live peace... Peace will be the last word of history." Blessed John Paul II

It has been with great delight that MSJ has hosted thirty students and four staff from Holy Spirit Seirei High School, Nagoya Japan for the last two weeks. This visit is part of the Seirei and MSJ Peace Programme that commenced twenty-one years ago. The relationship established between our two schools has been based on a commitment to building strong friendships, learning about each other’s country, culture and customs and most importantly promoting peace and goodwill. The visitors and MSJ students have had a fantastic time and I am sure that many friendships have been established that will continue for many years to come.

Thank you to the thirty families who have opened their home and welcomed a visiting student to be part of their family. The girls, Holy Spirit Seirei staff and the MSJ community are very thankful and grateful for your amazing generosity.

I am very grateful to Takahiro Hayashi and MSJ staff for the huge amount of work they have done to ensure the program was a great success.

It is with excitement that I am able to provide for you the outcomes of the Curriculum Review that has been undertaken over the last six months. This review has taken into consideration feedback from students, parents and staff, evaluation of educational research and an analysis of MSJ data over a period of time.

The outcome of this review has been the development of a structure that allows student to:

- be challenged through a broad education
- experience a stimulating, supportive and competitive environment
- undertake a rigorous programme directed to the development of students’ knowledge and skills for further study
- receive a wide range of opportunities covering a variety of learning areas
- be given the opportunity to excel at their own level of ability

Details regarding specific changes at each year level can be found in the Learning and Teaching section of this newsletter and in the relevant 2017 Year Level Subject Selection Handbooks.

Celine Lopez and Alexandra Hosking, two Year Eleven students and Danielle Fairthorne, the College Director of Catholic Identity were very courageous when they made the decision to step out of their comfort zone, be people of faith and attend World Youth Day in Poland. We look forward to their return and the opportunity for them to share with us their experiences.

The recent events over the last month, in France, Syria and other parts of the world are tragic and concerning. We as individuals, as a community and as a nation need to continue to work towards, and pray for acceptance of all, and peace in our world.

Kate Dishon
Principal
Units 3 / 4 Workshops

Connect Education Workshops

Connect Education will provide revision and exam focus lectures for our students that are subject specific and provide resources to support our students. I would encourage all students undertaking the stipulated subjects to take advantage of the workshops. The cost to students is $10 per subject, which includes a 2 hour lecture and notes. Details below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Sept 19</th>
<th>Sept 20</th>
<th>Sept 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English 9.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Further Maths 9.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>English Language 9.00am – 11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Maths Methods 9.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Literature 9.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Biology 11.30am – 1.30pm</td>
<td>HHD 11.30am – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Chemistry 11.30am – 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Business Management 2.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Legal Studies 2.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Psychology 11.30am – 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Units 3 / 4 Trial Examinations

Trial exams are an important part of the preparation for the end of Unit 3 and 4 exams at Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College. Year 12 VCE studies have written exams that are externally set and marked and form a major contribution towards the final result in each subject. All students undertaking a Unit 3 and 4 study need to be familiar with the experience, expectations and conditions required in formal exams.

The Trial Exam period is Monday, September 26 – Friday, September 30.

Curriculum Review

Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College has undertaken a comprehensive review of the curriculum, with Year 7 to 10 Curriculum offerings and courses being mapped against the recently released Victorian Curriculum. The implementation of the Victorian Curriculum will be mandatory for schools from the beginning of 2017. The review considered feedback from parents, students and staff, educational research and MSJ data that provides a comparison between year levels over a period of time.

Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College curriculum is based on the expectation that its students will:

- be challenged through a broad education.
- experience a stimulating, supportive and competitive environment.
- undertake a rigorous programme directed to the development of students’ knowledge and skills for further study.
- receive a wide range of enrichment opportunities covering a variety of learning areas.
- be given the opportunity to excel at their own level of ability.

The significant changes include

A pastoral period for years 7 – 12 that will provide opportunities:

- for each student to be known and nurtured as an individual.
- improving student connectedness to teachers and peers and encouraging a sense of belonging.
- equipping students with strategies for making informed choices and taking responsibility for these choices.
- developing team-building and leadership skills.
- educating students on emotional and physical health.

Breadth Of Learning Areas

This new structure is designed to enhance student learning, provide an opportunity to access a breadth of learning areas and allow students to experience depth in their areas of major interest.

YEAR 7

Year 7 students will study one term of Arts subjects which include:

- Visual Arts
- Visual Communication Design
- Music
- Drama

and, one term of Technologies subjects which include:

- Multimedia
- Food technology
- Product Design & Technology
- Digital Technologies

YEAR 8

Year 8 students will have the opportunity to study two Arts and Technologies subjects from the above list per Semester.
YEAR 9

Year 9 students will have a choice of electives from LOTE, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Technology and Health and PE.

Research has shown that at Year 9, feelings of dissatisfaction and disengagement are at their highest and levels of resilience are at their lowest. Year 9 students will be involved in a program that focuses on addressing these issues and fostering spiritual growth, life-long learning and academic excellence for all students.

The Year 9 Program consists of four threads during the year and will occur on one day a cycle;
   i. Healthy Living and Wellbeing
   ii. Pathways and Learning to Learn
   iii. Faith
   iv. Making Connections – Community

YEAR 10

Year 10 students will have increased elective choices and enhancement subjects will allow students to be exposed to particular subjects in a more intense and rigorous way, that will develop their skills, knowledge and understandings to set them up for the challenges of the VCE and VCAL curriculum.

Each core subject will have an enhancement component. This approach will ensure that students have every opportunity to be ready to face the rigours of VCE and VCAL. Year 10 students will not be able to undertake VCE units, but in Year 11, if they meet the criteria, students will be able to complete Units 3 and 4.

YEAR 11 & 12 Structured Study Periods

Many of our students indicate that they have difficulties planning, organising and implementing a study and independent learning schedule. Year 11 and 12 students will have structured study periods to help students maximize the learning process.

The topics that will be explored include: place of study, time of study, duration of study, the study environment and specific skills such as reading, note taking, summarising, revising, studying for exams and exam techniques.

Semester 2 Interim reports

There are four reporting stages throughout the year that provide comprehensive reports to students about their achievement and progress including an indication of areas for improvement. There are two Interim Reports and two Semester Reports.

The Semester 2 Interim Reports will be available via the MSJ Parent Portal from 29 August at 4.00pm. These reports provide feedback on progress achieved in the following areas: Learning Progress, Preparedness for class, Use of class time, Meets deadlines, Revision techniques, and Seeks assistance when required.

After reading your daughter’s Interim Report on her learning progress, if you have any immediate concerns, please contact your daughter’s Pastoral Group teacher or Subject teacher.

The Interim report also indicates whether a teacher has requested an interview at this stage.

Semester 2 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews

Students are expected to attend the interviews to discuss their learning.

Interviews are booked online via the MSJ Parent Portal. Parents and carers receive details of their unique user names and passwords for the online booking program. Logins were issued for the family at the beginning of the year so, the login for a daughter in one-year level can also be used to book appointments for another daughter in a different year level. There are two interview times.

Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews
6 September 4-8pm
8 September 4-8pm

Bookings can only be made online and we advise that you book early to secure your preferred time slots. Booking instructions will be forwarded to all families via an email on 29 August after 4pm and Interview bookings can be made up to 5 September, after which time the booking system will close.

For all queries regarding reports or interviews please contact MSJ Reception.

Fran Dorgan
Director of Learning - Resources

Joanna DeBono
Deputy Principal - Learning and Teaching

“Be The Heartbeat of Gods’ Love”
Italian Poetry Competition

On Thursday the 16th of June the Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Italian students participated in the annual Dante Alighieri poetry competition at the University of Melbourne. The competition aims to promote respect towards the Italian culture to high school students.

We made it through the cold, rain and peak hour crowds before we reached the University at 9:30am. Each year level waited in trepidation to be called to recite their selected poem in front of one or two adjudicators. Each recital was scored out of 100, with a score of 99 or 100 granting one a place in the finals, judged on our ability to memorise the poem, pronunciation and expression.

Once all of our poems were recited and many photos were taken, we could all finally make our way to Lygon St. for an Italian lunch. Many made a beeline to Brunetti’s, whilst others explored other options. It wasn’t all about the food however, with each year level being assigned to make a short video on the many landmarks along Little Italy – in Italian, of course.

‘Buon lavoro’ to all students who participated, with special congratulations to all of our finalists.

By Katie Shumilov

Forensic Medicine Seminar

Over two weekends, the 16th and 17th and the 23rd and 24th of July, I attended a series of seminars regarding an Introduction to Forensic Medicine and Crime Scene Investigation. The sessions were conducted by The Medical Register of Australia and were held at Vic Uni, located in the city. As well as variety of other topics, the lectures covered autopsy, crime scene investigation, types of injuries and wounds, the role of the forensic investigator as well as discussing the different branches of forensic science, including forensic biology, toxicology and forensic odontology. Apart from being very enjoyable, and at times graphic, it was above all extremely interesting. This experience has helped me to explore a possible career in the field of criminology or forensic science.

By Rebecca Donaldson, 10 Catherine

Discovering Melbourne with our Seirei Sisters

On the 28th of July the Year 9 Japanese students went on an excursion to the city. We were all separated into groups of roughly 10, five MSJ students and five Seirei students. Before going on the excursion we all planned where we were going to go. Our group went to Queen Victoria Market, Hosier Lane & Federation Square. It was a first for the Seirei students visiting these places but also a first time for us to visit some of these places. It was a great experience and we hope that this excursion continues for many years as we learned new things about the Seirei students and about the city. We also felt a great sense of responsibility as the teachers weren’t with us on the day and we had to plan the excursion ourselves.

From Maddison Azzopardi and Anna Nonaka

MSJ Student in National Hockey Competition

On Wednesday 6th of July, I flew down to Tasmania with the other members of my team to compete in the U18 National Hockey Tournament in Launceston. Although we were given a tough pool and had a difficult tournament, we achieved many of our personal and team goals. We played all other states and territories in Australia and made a few interstate friends along the way. It was a great experience and a great opportunity to improve and learn.

Thanks to all of my teachers for helping me prepare and catch up on the work I missed.

By Gwendolen Lynch (10A)

Good Luck Gwendolen from the Staff and students at Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College.

GO VICTORIA!!
But Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

(Luke 5:30-32)

As we begin the second half of the school year, two events in the life of our College call us to reflect on what we have done so far. The first is the imminent celebration by Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College of St. Joseph, Julian Tenison Woods and St. Mary McKillop through JJAM week. The second is the pilgrimage of thousands of young people to Krakow, Poland, for World Youth Day, which includes two students from our College community, Celine Lopez and Alexandria Hosking.

The theme for World Youth Day in 2016 was ‘Blessed are the merciful for they shall see mercy’ (Mt 5:7). As Pope Francis addressed those at the World Youth Day this year, he called not for us to be bound by a rigid, distant and insensitive God who is “good to the good and bad to the bad” but to see that God is infinitely merciful and to “believe in a new humanity.”

The life of Mary MacKillop provides us with a model of mercy. Her life was not simply a story of outreach to the poor and dispossessed but also of conflict, from both within and outside of the Church. Her excommunication in 1871 and her struggle to maintain the Josephites as a congregational order rather than one under the authority of each diocese might easily have caused resentment. Yet in none of her writings can we see any bitterness take root or distaste take hold. This message of mercy can be seen in the actions of the Sisters of St. Joseph through their creation of refuges for women recently released from prison and in helping the poor of Australian society.

As we celebrate in the coming weeks the lives of St. Joseph, Julian Tenison Woods and St Mary McKillop in the 150th year of the Sisters of St. Joseph, we are called to reflect on our own acts of mercy towards each other. We are called to act as Jesus did when he spoke to Zaccheus, to have mercy towards each other and to act not just with just our hearts but with our hands.

“...The Lord doesn’t want to remain in this beautiful city, or in cherished memories alone. He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly he desires that you bring all this to him in prayer! How much he hopes that, in all the “contacts” and “chats” of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer! How much he wants his word to be able to speak to you day after day, so that you can make his Gospel your own, so that it can serve as a compass for you on the highways of life.”

(Pope Francis, Sermon at World Youth Day 2016)

Voices of Angels

In July, Teneale D’Costa, Emilie Washington, Giulia Abate and I sang for the Religious Education Conference Mass held by the Catholic Education office Melbourne in East Melbourne. With a total of 6 hours of rehearsal and a mindset for success, we managed to learn a whole mass worth of songs and the Hymn for the Holy Year of Mercy. Songs in Latin, songs we had never heard of and songs with a modern twist. This experience allowed us to learn about how powerful four voices and two instruments can sound together. It also allowed us to appreciate the place of music in the Mass and how best to support the celebration as performers.

This celebration of the Eucharist wouldn’t have been as great as it was without the sensationally talented Genevieve Bryant and Vincent ‘Vas’ Clementine who lead us through a series of rehearsals. As a whole, we would like to thank them for giving up their time to spend with us. We hope to share these experiences with the College as we continue to support music at College events.

By Yvette Dimalanta (Year 11 student)

Students taking a break from rehearsals with the talented leaders, Vas & Gen

CLICK HERE TO LISTEN

By Yvette Dimalanta (Year 11 student)
The term has begun quickly and our students have been involved in many activities and opportunities to enhance their wellbeing, faith and learning. Our learners have engaged with the many experiences in both the learning program and co-curricula aspects of College life.

With the support of Ms Snooks, our Year 10 students have been busily organising the School Formal which will be held at Grand Star Receptions. A committee of students have planned the evening and taken full ownership of this event. These organisational and planning skills support the development of the whole person.

Whilst this has been organised, students across the College have been preparing for our Feast Day on Monday 8th August. We are excited to celebrate as a community and to participate in the many activities organised by the students.

Last week we welcomed our Seirei (Holy Spirit) High School Sisters, I am again grateful and impressed by the generosity of our families and the sense of welcome and hospitality demonstrated by our community. Our visible witness of welcoming of neighbour and being witness of Christ's hope was evident. The Peace Program offers a wonderful opportunity to meet another young woman from Japan. It is these Programs that promote genuine dialogue and open communication between people from different cultures, it is in these acts that we learn to develop acceptance and not tolerance. Thank you to the staff who have embraced the students, the families who have been generous with their time and resources and students who have shared the Mary MacKillop legacy. A heart felt thanks to Mr Hayashi who ensures families are supported and students cared for.

Restorative Practices with the Humility of Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop wrote to her Sisters about the need for true humility as opposed to false humility. To Mary MacKillop, true humility was the desire to serve God and to serve one another. Mary argued that each member of the community is to respect the needs of one another; to celebrate their gifts and the contributions that they make. Her notion of false humility was one that was boastful and self-deprecating and one that focused on the negatives of others in the community. MacKillop's language of humility resonates strongly for me as we work with our young women and guide them in their faith, learning and wellbeing. We are reminded of the need to hear one another's story and to listen deeply and patiently to our stories.

In writing to Father Woods, 'she was concerned with true humility as an inner disposition that was free from any illusions about self importance, grounded in reality and an acceptance of truth about oneself and others. . . . Humility or freedom from self distortion is the fertile soil that ensures other virtues will take root and grow . . . so leave a person free to love and serve God and others wholeheartedly.' As we begin a new term how do we model and live a life of humility and justice?

Over the past couple of months you may have heard or read about the Child Safety Standards that have been developed for all organisations who work with children. With the support of Catholic Education Melbourne, the Wellbeing Team have developed our Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct, both will be available on our webpage. Over the next few months we will be calling for two parent nominees to form our Child Safety Committee.

Why focus on Child Safety?

The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people are central and fundamental responsibilities of Catholic education. The CECV is committed to strengthened practice for the protection of children in line with the Victorian Government child safety reforms.

The Victorian Government's 2012–2013 Betrayal of Trust Parliamentary Inquiry found that more must be done to prevent and respond to child abuse in all organisations working with children. The Betrayal of Trust report highlighted gaps and inconsistencies in child-safe practices in organisations and recommended immediate steps for the safety of children through the introduction of a comprehensive set of child-safe standards.

On 26 November 2015, the Victorian Parliament passed the Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Child Safe Standards) Bill 2015 (Vic.) to introduce the Victorian Child-Safe Standards into law.

Preventing and responding to child abuse requires a whole community response to bring about broad cultural change. To this end, the Victorian Child Safe Standards apply to a broad range of organisations that provide services for children, including schools, churches, sporting clubs and youth services.

For schools, these child-safe standards represent holistic education and organisational preventative measures in ensuring the safety of children and young people.

The Catholic sector’s response to the Victorian child-safe reforms reflect our commitment to ‘lead the way’, not only by meeting our compliance and legislative requirements but through cultural change and strategies that ensure child-safe practices are embedded in everyday practice.
What are the Child-Safe Standards?

There are seven minimum child-safe standards with an overarching principle of inclusion, which applies to each of the Standards.

The intention of these new Child-Safe Standards is to make organisations, including schools, consider and address child-abuse situations and risks in an integrated and proactive fashion.

Principle of inclusion

Ministerial Order 870 ensures that school governing authorities must take account of the diversity of all children, including (but not limited to) the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities, and children who are vulnerable.

To assist schools to meet the expectation for each of the seven child-safe standards, an initial set of resources and tools are provided for each standard 1–7 below:*  

1. Organisational culture of child safety  
2. Child safety policy  
3. Code of conduct  
4. Human resource practices  
5. Responding to and reporting suspected child abuse  
6. Reducing or removing risks of child abuse  
7. Empowerment of children

Steven Misfud  
Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing

Enrolment Information

Currently Accepting Applications for 2016, 2017 and 2018  
Limited places are available for 2016.  
Further information can be found at our website:  
www.msj.vic.edu.au or by contacting the College Registrar at registrar@msj.vic.edu.au or Ph: 8398 2007.

Year 7, 2018

Some parents may be aware that a number of schools have decided to not adhere to the dates prescribed by Catholic Education Melbourne and have brought the application dates forward to August/September 2016. We wish to assure parents that girls in our feeder Catholic Primary Schools are our highest priority. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the College.

Please be advised that Year 7, 2018 applications to MSJ close:  
17th February 2017.

Year 7, 2019

Applications to MSJ close 25th August 2017

**MSJ Open Mornings – 9.30am – 10.30am (Thursday)**  
11th August, 8th September, 10th November 2016

**MSJ Twilight Open Evening – 3pm – 7pm (Thursday)**  
6th October 2016

MALE MENTORS’ BREAKFAST

Please join us for our Male Mentors’ Breakfast

Date: 2 September 2016  
Time: 7:45am to 8:30am  
Venue: Tenison Woods Learning Centre

This promises to be a lovely morning filled with much laughter and conversation.

RSVP: CLICK HERE to RSVP by Monday 29 August 2016  
Tickets can be reserved through www.tickethost.com.au  
(Invitation Code is MMB2016)
National Tree Planting Day

National Tree planting day is a day where we promote planting and caring for the native trees and plants of Australia, to improve the environment in which we live. By planting trees on this day, we raise awareness of climate change and help to maintain a healthy environment.

On Sunday the 31st of July, students from all year levels at MSJ, started off their morning by planting trees at Truganina Park. The day began with students getting a quick lesson on how to plant the trees, from a member of the Hobsons Bay Council. This was to ensure that the plants were planted correctly to ensure that it developed into a strong and healthy tree. Following that the girls then planted over a hundred trees along the marked track. The day was a great success as there were many trees planted and we were helping the environment by creating a healthier ecosystem for the surrounding wildlife and community. It was also a great morning filled with fun and beautiful sunshine!

Edmund Rice Camps

In the second week of the recent holidays I was involved in volunteering for Edmund Rice Camps. It comprised of a 6 day commitment to support families in need. This camp was held at Edmund Rice Centre Amberley in Lower Plenty. The purpose of this camp is to help families by allowing the parents to have some time to rest without their kids, for the kids to have fun because they live in circumstances that are challenging, and be allowed to just be kids for a while. Also these camps help build strong family units and encourage trust and love between all members of the family.

I have been involved in these camps since I was 7 years old, following in the footsteps of my parents who have supported this valuable organisation for over 20 years. I would encourage everybody who can to get involved in this organisation as it is an amazing experience and it gives you a chance to make a massive impact on the lives of people who desperately need it and change their lives for the better.

I love working with children, and the Edmund Rice Camps experience is one of the most valuable and rewarding things you will ever have the chance to do.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact me or follow the link below for further details.

http://www.ercvic.com/

Alison Ramsay 11 Anne

Mary MacKillop Foundation ~ 2016 Fundraising Dinner ~ Celebrating 150 years of the Sisters of St Joseph

Friday 26th August, 2016
From 7pm with appetisers
At Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College
Cost $40pp (3 course meal, BYO drinks)
For tickets call MMHC (03) 9926 9300
RSVP: 10th August, 2016

“Be The Heartbeat of Gods’ Love”
MSJ Student World Ambassador

Former MSJ student Chau Nguyen (Class of 2013) received a scholarship from the Young Endeavour Foundation to embark on a 6 months study as an exchange student between Swinburne University and Hongik University in Korea. The scholarship covered all travelling, living and studying expenses. She was invited by the Governor of Victoria to a function to celebrate all the scholarship winners.

In May 2016, it was announced that she had won another scholarship. In July, she will be representing Australia to go to New York, as an official delegate of Australia to participate in the United Nations ECOSOC High Level Political Forum. In June, the Foreign Affairs and Trade Department gave her an all expenses trip to Canberra so that she can be briefed on all diplomatic matters. Chau was also invited by the Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove to a function at the Government House.

Pictured below is Chau Nguyen and the Victorian Governor Linda Dessau

Staff News

Farewell...

This month we bid a fond farewell to two of our staff members.

Thu Tran - Assistant Business Manager
Thu has been with the College for 2 years and is moving onto a new role at Catholic Regional College, Sydenham.

Margaret Banks - IT Network Manager
Margaret has accepted a new role at Catholic Education Melbourne. Margaret has been maintaining our IT networks over the past three years.

We wish them both continued success in their new roles and we thank them for their contribution to our College.

Welcome...

We welcome to our College, 2 new staff members.

Jacinta Chute - Individual Differences Co-ordinator
Jacinta has been a familiar face at the College over the past few years but will assist our students and families in this role until the end of the year.

Debra O’Neill - Learning Support Officer
Debra will be working with our students to support them with their learning until the end of the year.
Seirei Peace Program 2016

As I mentioned in my speech at the welcome ceremony in late July, our two schools’ sister-school relationship shows our commitment to an open and international education based on the Christian hope that we can all live peacefully together as God’s children.

Our exchange program began NOT as a language program, but as a peace and cultural exchange program because the originators of this program realized that the people of our two countries, which fought such a destructive and hateful war a mere seventy years ago, needed to make an active choice to live in peace. Peace and friendship—especially between countries—does not come easily or naturally; they are nurtured and realized only through our choices and actions.

This year 2016 marked a special step for peace as President Obama became the first incumbent U.S. president to visit Hiroshima. He eloquently proclaimed that “…the memory of August 6, 1945 must never fade. That memory allows us to fight complacency. It allows us to change. And since that fateful day, we have made choices that give us hope. What a precious thing peace is. It is worth protecting, and then extending to every child.”

I would like to thank you all for making the choice to actively work for peace by opening your school, your homes and especially your hearts to us.

Fr. Michael Lindstrom
Seirei High School

Seirei Sisters Experience

At 3 o’clock on Sunday the 24th of July, 20 Holy Spirit Seirei students arrived at MSJ to begin their two-week exchange program. This cultural exchange program has been running with MSJ since 1996, providing both schools with twenty years of harmony, peace, friendship and education.

On Monday the 25th of July, MSJ hosted a welcome assembly where our Japanese students and staff were acknowledged by our students and community. Later in the assembly, Father Michael (from Holy Spirit Seirei) gave an inspirational and strong speech to our MSJ community.

Later in the week, on Thursday the 28th of July, Seirei students and MSJ’s year 9 Japanese students participated in an excursion held in the Melbourne CBD. The following day, Seirei students and MSJ’s year 10 Japanese students explored Hanging Rock where they took lots of ‘kawaii selfies’.

Overall the 2016 Japanese exchange program was an absolute success.

A big thanks to the MSJ staff and Seirei staff members for organising such a wonderful exchange program. I look forward to next year when I am eligible to visit Seirei Holy Spirit School.

Written by Sarah Peart (8J)

The rewarding Seirei Host Experience

Our host sister Anna is such a wonderful addition to our family. She is enthusiastic, engaged and always smiling. She has eagerly joined my girls in their after school sporting activities, including Hannah’s ballet class (Anna is at a similar level in ballet to Hannah). The girls have exchanged help with each others homework. I am very happy that Anna didn’t bring with her any devices to connect to the internet which has, in turn, made my girls stay off their devices. So instead, in their spare time, they have been making origami, watching K.O.N! (Anime which they all like) and Anna has really found our program The Bachelor entertaining.

There have been so many laughs and hugs and we are looking forward to sightseeing over the weekend. It has made Hannah keen to keep studying Japanese next year (as she was slightly torn between Japanese and French) and she is looking forward to trying to do the exchange to Japan if the opportunity arises.

I just wanted to share with you all how much we are enjoying this experience.

By Jannine Yost (MSJ Host family)
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.

SCHOOL FEES

FAMILY ACCOUNTS...

The term 3 fees statement was emailed to all families during the holidays.

Please note - 75% of 2016 fees should have been paid by 31 July.

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

Families paying by direct debit / credit card will continue to have payments deducted in accordance with their authority. It would be appreciated if families could make sure their accounts are up to date.

Noel Kennedy
Business Manager

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.

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.

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.

ACADEMY UNIFORM SHOP
238 Wolseley Place, Thomastown
Phone: 9460 8011

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday 9am - 12pm
Open at the College: Monday 3pm - 4pm, Wednesday 8am - 12pm and Friday 1pm - 2pm

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

Please note that no classes will be held on Friday 12th August

Students are asked to study at home on this day. All MSJ staff will be participating in Professional Development Activities.

The Front Office will also be closed. All messages and emails will be attended to on Monday 15th August.

"Be the Heartbeat of God’s Love"