



# MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Fax: 9689 1662

Term 2 – Week 2: Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Irene Boughosn

*Happy Mother's Day*

Last week we celebrated the First Holy Communion of the students in Year 4. May Jesus lead and guide them and be present in their lives always.

This week we will be celebrating Mother's Day. We wish all our Mothers and all the Mother's at our College a very blessed day with their families. May God bless you with joy and love.

I would like to share this prayer as a gift to you all.

In God's Love

**Sr Irene Boughosn  
PRINCIPAL**



*Loving God,  
We thank you for all the mothers in  
the world. Bless them so that they  
may always give life and  
nourishment to their children  
through their firm faith, generous  
and selfless love, good example and  
constant concern for their bodily  
and spiritual health. Grant that  
we, their children, may honour  
them always with a spirit of  
profound love, respect and  
thanksgiving.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

### St Elias Chapel Spiritual Programme

All Staff, Students and Parents are invited to celebrate Mass in the Chapel as follows:

- Every Tuesday 8.00-8.30 am
- Every Thursday 8.00-8.30 am

In addition, all are invited to the following prayer sessions:

- Every Friday Eucharistic Adoration 8.00-8.30 am

**"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." - Philippians 4:6**

## ★★★ SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS★★★

A very special thank you to **Mrs Norma Douaihy** (Claudia's Kitchen PL) and our **anonymous** sponsor who have both made extremely generous donations to our College Walkathon.

If you would like to be mentioned on the backs of our Walkathon sponsorship pamphlets, you have until Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May to make your sponsorship donations. Any donations afterwards will have a special mention in our newsletter, on Facebook, and on our electronic board. For more details, please scroll down to the "Advertisements" section of the newsletter.

## HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

Today we celebrated Mother's Day with a beautiful mass prepared by the Year 2 teachers and Arabic staff. It was a wonderful celebration honouring all of our mothers and ending with a beautiful reflection by the K-2 students.



There is a special story of how Mother's Day first began in Australia. A Sydney woman Janet Heyden, is said to have first come up with the idea of giving gifts to mothers on Mother's Day. She started the tradition after becoming concerned for the lonely, forgotten aged mothers at Newington State Hospital where she regularly visited a friend. She then began traveling around to give gifts to lonely, elderly mothers who had lost their children in the war. This tradition has continued in Australia and every year we now acknowledge all the great things that our mothers do for us. I wish all our mothers a very special day on Sunday.

### Mother's Day Stall

The Mother's Day Stall was a great success again this year. Our students had a variety of wonderful gifts to choose from and were excited to pick the perfect present for their mum. A big thank you to Mrs Mary Bechara for organising the event and to all the parents who assisted in the purchasing, wrapping and selling of the gifts. Your dedication to our College is much appreciated.



### Holy Communion

Congratulations to our Year 4 students who celebrated their First Holy Communion last Saturday. It was a magnificent ceremony and a very important day for our students who were able to receive the Eucharist for the first time. The day was a culmination of a great deal of organisation and planning since the beginning of the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sr Irene and Sr Cynthia for their guidance and support, Ms Rozario and the Year 4 teachers for their organisation and preparation of the students, the Support and Admin staff for their hard work behind the scenes, as well as Mrs Sasseine, Mr Wood and all the teachers who assisted on the day. Special thank you to the Year 5 and 6 choir students who sang so beautifully throughout the mass.



SNAPIX

### Farewell

Mrs Victoria Dikha who is currently on maternity leave, has decided not to return to MCHF on a permanent basis so that she can spend time raising her young family. We thank her for the contributions she has made to the College over the past 13 years.



SNAPIX

## Soccer Gala Days

This term, students in Stage 2 and 3 will have the opportunity to represent our school at the Parramatta Diocesan Soccer Gala Days. Activities such as these would not be possible without the support of our dedicated staff. I would like to thank Mr Bechara, Ms Talarico, Ms Assaf, Mrs Saada, Mrs Ramsay and Ms Zdrilic who have volunteered to train the teams for this event after school each week.



## Year 4 News

Students from 4 Amber and 4 Olive have been enhancing their scientific and technological skills by using Makey Makey to test if classroom items are conductive. Makey Makey is an electronic invention tool that allows users to connect everyday objects to computer programs.

## Head Lice

We have had a number of reported cases of head lice in different grades across the Primary Department. We ask that parents check and treat their children's hair as well as wash bed linen and school hats accordingly. Head lice is an ongoing problem within schools which can only be combatted with the support of parents.

## Earn and Learn

A reminder to keep collecting the Earn and Learn stickers from your shopping at Woolworths. Students can return sticker sheets to their classroom teacher to hold on to or they can place them in the Collection Box located in the Primary office. We thank you for your support.

## Mr D. Day

Head of Primary

## HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

### Mock Trial

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, our College Mock Trial team competed in their round competition against OLMC Parramatta. Our team compromises of year 10 students: Ashton Tannous (Barrister), Celine Harb (Barrister), Simon Zaiter (Solicitor), Jack Jabbour (Solicitor – called up in the last minute), Christina Geagea (Defendant), Nina Bousaid (Witness) and Roula Abou-Chedid (Court Officer). Unfortunately, our Year 10 students were up against Year 11 students who had a lot more experience in the competition, resulting in us not winning based on points – however, we did win the actual case, in that our defendant (Christina) was found "not guilty" of assault. The students were very impressive and they represented the College exceptionally well. Our barristers, Celine and Ashton, did a great job in objecting the prosecutions witness' statements and provided very impressive opening and closing statements. They were both quite strong in pushing their agenda, causing a lot of stress to their witnesses. Nevertheless, it was great to see our students do so well, making the College proud. Thank you to Ms Esber-Dayoub for preparing and coaching these students. Also thank you to Mr Khoudeir who attended the event and supervised the students on the night. We look forward to their next round in the competition.

## Year 7 Immunisations

The next round of immunisations was held this week on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Students, with parental consent, received their immunisations. If any student was absent on the day and missed out on the immunisation, they may receive it when the nurses return to the College (for Year 10 immunisations) on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August.



## Year 8 Day Retreat (Pictured right)

Year 8 students attended a reflection day as part of the Maronite Dioceses' theme for this year on Maronite Spirituality. The day was held at OLOL CYPC and the program included

morning prayers dedicated to St Charbel (on this day we celebrated his birth), group work, a presentation on Mary in the Maronite Tradition and praying the Rosary followed by a procession. We thank the priests, sister, deacons and staff work prepared and presented on this day.



(Above) Year 8 Reflection Day

### **Year 7 Elevate Education**

Year 7 held their Elevate Education session this week on Wednesday 8th May. The session was titled “Study Skills kick Start”, which introduced students to three core study skills: dynamic reading, note-taking, and conceptual learning. We hope our year 7 students benefited from the session and will apply the advice and strategies presented in their own learning. Further follow up of this session will be held during the year.

### **Online Practice Minimum Standards Tests**

This week our Year 10, and some year 11 students, completed the online practice minimum standards tests. The reason for the practice was to assess and ensure that our College infrastructure would be prepared for the actual test dates as well as where the students are academically. Overall the practice tests went extremely well confirming we are well prepared for the actual test dates. The student results were overall good, however, there were some students who are required to do some extra work in literacy to ensure they meet the test requirements when they occur.

### **Year 11 Work Placement**

Some of our Year 11 VET students attended their week of work placement this week as part of the course requirements. We our other VET students attend their work placement this coming week. We wish all our VET students the very best while on work placement and we hope the experiences gained will benefit their knowledge and skills in the course they are studying.

### **Staff Professional Development Session: NCCD**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May, our staff held a professional development session focusing on NCCD (National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability). The session was led by our Learning Support Coordinator, Ms Macura, who presented content on the NCCD. This was followed by staff completing a collaborative activity where each group was assigned a specific task to complete and present back to the remainder of the staff.

### **Homework Club**

Homework Club has recommended for this term and I stress the importance of this service we are providing for our students. This is an opportunity for students to stay back once a week from 3:20pm – 4:20pm to work on assessments, homework, study or get extra help on a certain topic. Every week members of staff are staying back to assist and support students. I encourage all parents/guardians to promote and encourage their child/ren to attend homework this term – a term where assessments, mid-year exams and reports will be taking place. For further information regarding homework club, please contact the Learning Centre Supervisors, Ms Badr or Ms Azzi.

### **Year 7, 2020 Enrolment Interviews**

This coming week we commence our Year 7, 2020 enrolment interviews. This is an important and compulsory component of the transition of primary students to secondary. The interviews will be held over the coming two weeks.

### **Mother's Day Celebrations**

On Friday 10th May, we celebrate Mother's Day with Mass followed by a morning tea for all our mothers. Mother's Day is the occasion to pay rich tributes to a person who has had a great impact on our lives, a person

whose love and care knows no boundaries, a person who does everything to keep her children happy and joyous. Mother's Day is when individuals express their love and respect that they have for their mother. To our students, tell your mum on this day how much she means to you. I wish all our mothers and grandmothers all the very best this weekend as we celebrate and recognise the work and sacrifices you make each day for your child/ren.



**Mr E. Asmar**  
**Head of Secondary**

*Our students' most adoring fans – Their mums, taking photos of their performance during the Mother's Day Mass ☺  
Thanks to the Year 2 teachers, Primary Arabic Staff and Primary Admin Staff, our mums were able to enjoy a beautiful Mass and spectacular morning tea.*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING NAPLAN

A reminder that Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be sitting their NAPLAN exams next week from Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May until Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The following tests will be conducted:

- Tuesday 14th May 2019 - Language Conventions
- Tuesday 14th May 2019- Writing
- Wednesday 15th May 2019- Reading
- Thursday 16th May 2019- Numeracy

### How can I help my son/daughter during NAPLAN time?

- As a parent, one thing that you can do is to keep your child calm. Reassure them that these tests are designed to see where they are at from a literacy and numeracy perspective compared to other students in their age group in Australia.
- Remind them that every child in Australia in these Year groups are doing these tests, so they are not alone.
- Ensure that they are actually at school and sit each examination as a formal roll needs to be sent back for statistical purposes.
- Put screen time to good use. Download apps that encourage students to use their numeracy and literacy skills, rather than just gaming.
- Take an interest in how they are going with their preparation.

### How will my son/daughter sit the tests?

These tests will be completed on Paper and will have designated time frames to complete them. Class teachers will notify Primary students of times. For Year 7 and 9 students, a timetable listing all details will be emailed once it is complete.

### What will my son/daughter need for the tests?

- A 2B pencil
- pencil sharpener
- eraser
- calculator (for the calculator part of the numeracy test - for Years 7 and 9 only)
- a blank sheet of paper for each test (i.e. 3 blank pieces of paper- for Years 7 and 9 only)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup>– Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May – VET Work Placements (Group 2)
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup>– Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Year 7 Enrolment Interviews
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – **NAPLAN**
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Years 9-12 Visual Arts Excursion
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 10 into (2020) 11 Subject Selection Evening, 6:30-7:30pm
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Mass for Vocations (Years 7-12)
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Kindy Orientation – **Please contact Admin to enrol your child.**
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Years 9-10 Examinations
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Years 9-10 Timber Excursion
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Pentecost Mass (Years K-6)
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY

**College Tour Dates...** For tour bookings, please complete the booking form available at <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/college-tours/>

- Term 2 Tour – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May
- Term 3 Tour – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August
- Term 4 Tour – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November (*Term 4 is also an orientation for new parents and students*)

## ★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

**All Rounder Awards** – Mia Mejalli, Sophia Chamoun, Mia Rose Barbar, Anthony Fakhri, Alyssa-Maree Chehade, Anabelle Rose Kobayaty, Naya Al-Aj rash (Kindy) ~ Charbel Lobana, Hannah Ghabach, Monica Sabbagh, John Tawk (Year 1) ~ Charbel Estephane, Yvonne Taouk (Year 2) ~ Claire Khoury (Year 3) ~ Gabriel Deeb, Gabriella Helou, Joseph Assi, Christian Youssef, Zac Moujalli (Year 4)

**Bronze Awards** – Jacqueline Haklani, Isaac Dahdah, Joseph Richard Debabneh, Carlos Boumina (Kindy) ~ Clarita Deeb, Sophie Esber (Year 1) ~ Mariebelle Abdulahad (Year 3)

**Silver Awards** – Charlise Sassine, David Kozah (Kindy) ~ Julian Azar (Year 1) ~ Annalise Khoury, Michael Boumelhem (Year 3) ~ Amber Fasavalu (Year 4)

## THIS AND THAT

Year 9 Elevate Education Session - Different techniques for memorising content...



The year 12 English Advanced students attended the HSC symposium for the Richard III performance on Monday, during which they engaged in many quality learning activities to strengthen their HSC responses.

A superb day for everyone overall.



## PARENT CORNER

Many thanks to the very special mums, from our Parents Association, for organising a fantastic Mother's Day gift stall! All your hard work is greatly appreciated.



### For Opal Card Errors:

1. Please ask your child to record the error code they receive when they scan their card.
2. Please call the number on the back of the opal card for assistance. They will ask you for the error code, so make sure it is near you when you call.

### BYOD Link and Code –

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>

School Code: MCHFBYOD2019

**To receive our newsletter via email, please email us -** [admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

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## COMMUNITY HUB

Stay healthy - Come and join our walking group ☺



If you are interested in joining the Community Hub family, or would like more information, please contact

AFRAH HADDAD  
Community Hub Leader  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
and Friday  
Mob: 0401451686  
Email: [ahaddad@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ahaddad@mchf.nsw.edu.au)



1 in 3 Australians are touched by Cancer and the funds raised in this morning tea will make a difference in the lives of Cancer patients and their families



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on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2019

At Our Lady of Lebanon Church Hall

40-46 Alice St, Harris Park, NSW

From 6am till Noon

Suggested Donations \$20.00 per Adult & \$5.00 per Child

This includes a hot and cold Breakfast, tea/coffee, juices, sweets and much more.

Everyone is welcome to the biggest spread of breakfast and morning tea if you're on your way to work or after dropping children off at school, please drop in and join us for either breakfast or morning tea.

Any form of donation will be welcomed for those unable to attend on the day and wish to support this worthy cause. For any enquiries contact Shirley Wehbe on 0409 330 028 or Noelle Zeidan on 0433 373 720 or email: [shirleywehbe1@hotmail.com](mailto:shirleywehbe1@hotmail.com) or [noellez1@hotmail.com](mailto:noellez1@hotmail.com)

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## **MCHF IS LOOKING FOR SPONSORSHIP FOR OUR 2019 WALK-A-THON**

**MONEY RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF AND  
RESOURCES FOR OUR COLLEGE**

Any offer under \$500 – Your name is mentioned on the back of the pamphlet (if payment is made by 13<sup>th</sup> May), on our Facebook page, in our newsletter, and on the Electronic board (for the two weeks leading up to the Walkathon).

\$500 – Your Business Advertisement on the back of the pamphlet (if payment is made by 13<sup>th</sup> May), on our Facebook page, in our newsletter, and on the Electronic board (for the two weeks leading up to the Walkathon). The advertisement will take up the entire page of the electronic board.

The Walkathon is on 14<sup>th</sup> August so the Electronic board will run the advert from 29<sup>th</sup> July up until and including 14<sup>th</sup> August.

Please contact Georgette on 9633 6600 or  
Email: [gbaini@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gbaini@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

