



MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Fax: 9689 1662

Term 4 – Week 2: Friday 25th October 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



This week we celebrate World Teacher's Day. We acknowledge all the hard work and dedication by the Teachers at the Maronite College of the Holy Family. Mass was celebrated to mark this occasion as well as to acknowledge the members of staff who have completed 15 years of service to the College. Congratulations to all.

A Prayer for Teachers

Loving God, all wisdom and knowledge comes from you.

Bless all teachers so that as we guide our students, they too will be guided by your grace.

Let us always see your face, Jesus, in the faces of those we teach.

Help us understand that we instruct others much more by who we are than by what we say.

Strengthen us with enthusiasm for our ministry, and hold us up on the days
we need encouragement and sustenance.

Give us patience when managing classrooms and perseverance when marking papers.

May we have the support of administrators and parents as we collaborate in the formation of young people.

We also pray for adequate resources that allow us to do our jobs well.

Most important, God, let your love be the guiding principle that informs and upholds our ministry.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus, our Saviour and our Teacher. Amen.

Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE



World Teachers' Day is an annual event which first began in 1994. It is a day that recognises the wonderful job that teachers do and the important role they play in shaping the next generation. In NSW alone, there are over 160 000 teachers working in schools and early childhood facilities. This year, the focus of the day is on the beginning teachers who are just starting out in their career and those experienced teachers who provide invaluable support to them. Today we celebrated a beautiful mass in honour of all teachers and especially those who are celebrating 15 years of service at MCHF. In Primary, those teachers are Ms Delos-Reyes and Ms Deeb. I would like to wish all our teachers a very happy World Teacher's Day and thank them for the time and effort they put in to teaching our students each and every day.

New Furniture

Students in 1 Lilac and 1 Green were bubbling with excitement this week as they said goodbye to their old classroom furniture and welcomed brand new tables and chairs. The new furniture has certainly brightened up the learning environment and put a smile on everyone's face. I would like to say thank you to all members of the MCHF community who assisted in fundraising for the Walkathon, as the money collected from this event assisted in the purchase of the new furniture.



Primary Learning Centre

Our Primary Learning Centre provides many opportunities for students to develop their technological skills. Students are able to use desktop computers, laptops and iPads to assist their learning. Using technology as a learning tool allows for greater student engagement, encourages collaboration and provides students with the necessary life skills that they will need in the future. Recently, Ms Azzi has been focused on ensuring that all the technology in the Learning Centre is working efficiently. She has organised new covers for the iPads which not only look great, but will protect them from any unforeseen damage.

Kindergarten *(Pictured Right)*

Kindy Rose have been learning all about advertisements. The aim of their learning was to recognise and understand the author's purpose throughout the text. The students had a great deal of fun discussing and sharing their opinions about the advertisements. They then applied their understanding to create their own poster about their class.

Year 2 Excursion

This week, Year 2 students were transported back in time as they embarked on their excursion to Elizabeth Farm and Hambledon Cottage. Dressed in 19th



Century attire, they set off to learn about what life was like for the first settlers in the local area. Students also had the opportunity to view a variety of artefacts and participate in a range of practical activities. A fun day was had by all.



Year 2 Health

2 Jade have started learning all about the structure and function of the human body. This week they focused on the lungs and the important role they play in keeping our bodies functioning. The students loved creating their own set of working lungs. Over the coming weeks, they will continue to learn more about their bodies and how to take care of them.



Year 3 Science

In Science this term, Year 3 are learning all about the physical world around them. The focus of their learning will be on light, heat, electrical energy and how contact forces affect the behaviour of objects. This week, students in 3 Beige and 3 Yellow had so much fun becoming scientists and investigating light energy. The students completed a number of experiments to observe the different ways light can behave. They were truly amazed at their results.

Year 4 Excursion

Year 4 students have been learning all about the Earth and its Environment. To further develop their understanding and provide them with hands on experiences, they attended an excursion to the Auburn Botanic Gardens. During their visit, Ranger Jaime helped to enhance everyone's knowledge of the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of Australia. Students also had the opportunity to discuss the importance of managing environments effectively and how sustainability can be achieved in our community.



Stage 3

This week we welcomed Start Smart to our College to deliver their free, financial education workshops to the students in Stage 3. The main purpose of the Start Smart workshops is to change the perception that young people have about money and provide them with the confidence and competence they need to make smart financial choices. Through the use of fun and engaging interactive activities, our students were taught about money management and how they can make smart and sensible decisions about their own money. Our school has proudly joined the Commonwealth Bank's Start Smart Program in its mission to improve the financial literacy of Australia's young people. The program proved to be a highly beneficial and enjoyable experience for both students and teachers. More information regarding the program can be located at www.startsmart.com.au



Mr D. Day
Head of Primary

HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

2019 College Theme

To Love – *“Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one come to you without leaving happier.”*
St Teresa of Calcutta

Term 4 Focus

Love for Self – *“What can I do to be a better person?”*

Secondary Celebrates Teacher’s Day

Today our secondary staff and students celebrated Teacher’s Day with Mass followed by a morning tea for staff. Following morning tea, a special assembly was held for staff where certificates of appreciation were issued to each staff member written by various students. As each staff member’s name was called, the staff member walked down a guard of honour and received their certificate. At lunch time, a teacher’s vs students offside touch football game was held which was prepared by the SRC. We take this opportunity to recognise the efforts of the secondary staff and thank them for their continued dedication, work and commitment to the College. Happy Teacher’s Day!

COME AND SUPPORT SAMANTHA!



Samantha Abboud of Year 11 is our Parramatta Dooleys Max Potential program participant for 2019.

Throughout 2019, Samantha has been working with her community coach on a personal leadership journey. This culminated last week when Samantha executed her Community Service Project at Manly Beach through Clean Up Australia. Samantha has issued the following personal statement regarding her project –

“I come from a very tropical country and some of my best and most cheerful memories come from going and spending the day at the beach. So, it breaks my heart when I see people littering and throwing around rubbish in one of the most beautiful and lifeful ecosystems on the planet. I hope to gain the satisfaction of knowing that I did something, leading a group of people and creating some inspiration for others to do the same...”



Samantha and other student participants will be part of a showcase next week. Be inspired by our future community leaders as they share the challenges and the change experienced in their six-month journey.

When – Monday 28th October 2019
Time – 5-7pm (Official presentation at 6pm)
Where – Dooleys Catholic Club 24-28 John Street Lidcombe
RSVP – To me ASAP



Attendance

Education for your child is important and regular attendance is essential for your child to achieve their educational best. We do our best to work with our parents/guardians to encourage and support regular attendance. When your child attends the College every day, their learning becomes a lot easier and successful. Refer to the resource regarding compulsory school attendance for more information (*Please scroll down to the end of the newsletter*).

Year 6 Transition Program

Year 6 will have their final transition program into secondary session on Tuesday 29th October 2019. The session will be led by Mr Asmar and Ms Abdul Ahad.

Visit by Dr Raymond Damadian

On Wednesday 23rd October 2019, the College welcomed an inventor who has saved so many lives! The founder and inventor of the MRI, Dr Raymond Damadian, was at the College to educate our Senior Science students, some STEM and junior Science students on the MRI and its importance in detecting strokes and other conditions. The College was joined by students from S Maroun's College Dulwich Hill. The American physician, author and medical practitioner is visiting Australia to open a School in Blacktown Hospital for postgraduate medical students wanting to further their studies in MRI.



HSC Exams

We keep in our thoughts and prayers our Year 12 students who this week commenced their HSC exams. A reminder to parents/guardians of Year 12 that your child must ensure they continue to adhere to the College's uniform and grooming policy during these exams. We wish the cohort all the success in these exams.

Year 9 and 10 Exams

Over the next couple of weeks, our Year 9 and 10 students will be sitting their yearly examinations. Year 10 exams will commence on Monday 28th October 2019 until Monday 4th November 2019. Year 9 exams will commence on Tuesday 5th November 2019 until Tuesday 12th November 2019. Students should be spending as much time as possible studying and preparing for their exams. Exam timetables have been emailed to all students. We look forward to seeing terrific results from our students.

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 30th October 2019 from 3:30pm – 7:30pm. **Please note the venue for the interviews has changed. The interviews will now be held in C Block due to HSC exams occurring in the A Block.** These interviews are compulsory as stated and signed in the student's senior contract. Bookings via the Parent Portal are now open and will close at 11pm on Tuesday 29th October 2019. Please refer to the letter sent home to parents/guardians for more information and details.

Bandana Day

On Friday 25th October 2019, our Year 8 students hosted Bandana Day for this year. Students were terrific in supporting this initiative to raise funds for CanTeen to help young people cope with cancer. Thank you to Ms Youssef and the Year 8 cohort for hosting this year's event.



Mr E. Asmar

Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November – Year 10 Yearly Exams
- Friday 1st November – Kindy Sea Life Sydney Aquarium excursion
- Friday 1st November – Leaders Induction Mass (Years K-11)
- Monday 4th until Friday 8th November – Year 9 Yearly Exams
- Friday 8th November – Year 10 AMOW and HSC Minimum Standards Text
- Monday 11th until Friday 15th November – Year 10 Work Experience
- Monday 11th until Friday 22 November – VET Work Placements
- Tuesday 12th November – HSC Exams Conclude
- Monday 18th until Friday 22nd November – Years 7 and 8 Yearly Exams
- Friday 22nd November – Mass for Lebanon and Lebanon Independence Day Lunch
- Friday 22nd November – Year 12 Formal
- Wednesday 27th November – Year 6 Rewards Day at the Aquatic Centre
- Friday 29th November – School concludes for Year 6 students

Final College Tour for 2019 + Orientation for new students - Wednesday 20th November

Tour bookings are required, so **please complete the tour booking form** located on the College App or via the link – [Tour Booking Form](#)

For more information please contact Ms Georgette Baini: 9633 6600 or gbaini@mchf.nsw.edu.au

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards – Samia Taouk, Anastasia Ishak, Rebecca Sassine, Jerome Akoury, Izabela Abdou, Naya Al-Ajrash, Mariah Mary Elia (Kindy) - Bianca Maroun, Anthony Taouk, Anderson Ghosn, Charbel Mallouhi, Charbel Bou Assi (Year 1) - Claudia Hawache, Charbel Kassas, Tony Khoury, Elias Bassil (Year 5) - Tony Bechara, John El Barhoun, Ella-Marie Bassil, Christina Elkhoury, Taylor Harb, Milad Ibrahim, Angelina Kassis, Charbel Khoury, Eliana Zaidan, Matthew Al-Chakty, Steven Estephan, Anthony Habib, Angelina Koura (Year 8) - Ann Marie Yaacoub, Charlie Barbour, Matthew Yaacoub (Year 9)

Bronze Awards – Noah Semaan, Sienna Karam, George Taouk, Laurice Zoghaib, Christian Abboud, Ethan Azzi, Ciena Abdou (Kindy) - Theresa Bassil, Jon-Claude Loulach, Nathaniel Malouhi, Luke Hobeich, Nicolas Atie, Jazz Sleiman, Elio Ephrem (Year 1)

Silver Awards – Anabelle Rose Kobayaty, Jacob Tawadrous, Michael Sassine, Elissa Harb, Charbel Tannoury, Mia Rose Barbar (Kindy) - Elianna Eljer, James Koura, John Daher, Angelina Moussa, Charbel Sleiman, Elizabeth Ayoub, Sienna Ghabache, Sophia Ghabache, Sarkis Semaan, Gianno Sleiman (Year 1) - Antonio Katrib, Roshanan Suresh, Yohanan Suresh (Year 2)

Principal's Award – Naya Al-Ajrash, Elizabeth May Azzi, Ava Therese Melhem, Joseph Richard Dababneh, Amelia Yaacoub, Michael Saba, Adriana El Khoury, Julian Baissari (Kindy) - Eva Nakhoul, Georgia Hobeiche, Heavannah Nehme, Cecil Diab (Year 1) - Jacob Layoun, Christian Barakat (Year 2)

THIS AND THAT

Our Timber and Construction students learn about the safety aspects that go into construction industry major projects, specifically the Parramatta Light Rail project. Special thanks to Charbel Abou-Azar of Transport for NSW and his team for offering us such a great opportunity. A wonderful day had by all.



9-1 Science students take a virtual journey to the kingdom of forest and the ocean, to learn about different ecosystems.



As a part of the Living World science unit, each kindergarten class adopted a new pet...mealworms! The students discussed the needs of a mealworm in order for them to stay alive. We are all excited to watch the mealworms grow and change over the next few weeks.



PARENT CORNER

2020 school travel applications now open!
Details have been emailed to your child/ren.

SEARCHING FOR ALUMNI!

The College is seeking to re-establish the Alumni Association (for Our Lady of Lebanon College and MCHF) to provide an opportunity for ex-students to be involved with the College and give back to the College community. A constitution will also be redeveloped. If any ex-student would like to be involved with the association, please email your name, contact number and email address to Ms Georgette Baine gbaini@mchf.nsw.edu.au

Current Expectations:

1. Meetings to be held once a term or as agreed upon by the association
2. Main function and operation of the association is to keep former staff and students involved in the College community.
3. Activities the association may be involved with include presentations to students, annual awards for various assemblies, annual function. The association may wish to organise and host other activities to support the College ethos and mission.

Looking for Apprenticeships for Students in 2020

We are looking for parents/families, who own businesses, to take on students for apprenticeships in 2020. If you are interested in hearing more, please contact Mrs Abdul Ahad on 9633 6600 or email fabdulahad@mchf.nsw.edu.au

BYOD Link and Code –

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>
School Code: MCHFBYOD2019

COMMUNITY HUB

Stay fit and have fun!
Join our fitness class every Tuesday at 9am.



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

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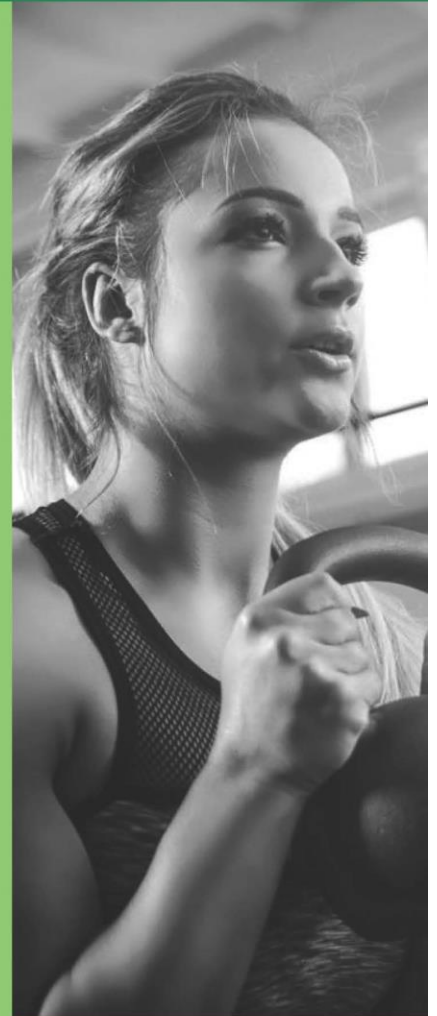
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COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Information for parents and carers

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. Schools work in partnership with parents and carers to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Legal responsibilities for PARENTS AND CARERS

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with NSW Education Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of ARRIVING ON TIME

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Makes sure that students do not miss out on important learning activities early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to spend time with their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents or carers.



Absences FROM SCHOOL

Sometimes your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment during school hours
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence, you must provide your child's school with an explanation of the absence within seven school days. However, the school may contact you to discuss the absence if they have not received an explanation from you within two days.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens, the principal will let you know the reasons why they have made this decision.

The school may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long-term absences are explained as being due to the child's illness. Principals may also seek parent's permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the absences can be recorded as unjustified.

When your child has difficulties

ATTENDING SCHOOL ▼

You should contact the school as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to support within the school or linking your child with appropriate external support networks.

The principal may seek your assistance to help develop an Attendance Improvement Plan that identifies the issues that prevent your child from attending school regularly and collaborates with you and your child to seek strategies to enable your child to get to school.

Consequences of

CONTINUED ABSENCES ▼

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- **Compulsory Schooling Conferences**

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference that is convened by a person authorised by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Education. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place, so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

The Compulsory Schooling Conference is the final school-based intervention that can be taken to address matters of unsatisfactory school attendance. It is important to understand that the school may refer the case to the Department of Education Legal Services to take further action where children of compulsory school age continue to have unacceptable unexplained or unjustified absences from school, despite attempted interventions at the school level.

- **Compulsory Schooling Order**

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- **Prosecution in the Local Court**

School and Department legal staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

Travel during

TERM TIME ▼

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school before the proposed period of travel. An Application for Extended Leave-Travel may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and will contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.



School LEAVING AGE ▼

In New South Wales, students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in PARTNERSHIP ▼

Working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school. We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Please get in touch with the school for support with getting your child to school.