



MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 – Week 1: Friday 2nd February 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Margaret Ghosn

Dear Staff, students and parents, I welcome you to the 2018 academic year and trust we will work together to achieve the best in each of us. Please note the following:

We are moving our IT system in new directions - Our administration system will be School Edge. Our communication will be through Microsoft Sharepoint. We have introduced a parent portal and skoolbag app. STEM days are also on the agenda this year with emphasis on robotics and coding.

Our enrolment numbers are increasing and we are becoming a little more multicultural.

MCHF Welcomes Chinese International Students: Two groups (approx. 50 students) will be at the College next week with one group (approx. 30 students) the week after. The students will be experiencing education in Australia and will be buddied with our students.

College Fete on Sunday 18th March 2018 from 10–3pm - The day will include rides, stalls, entertainment and much more. Further information will be released soon. Sponsorship opportunities are available for the fete – please contact Mr E Asmar for more information on sponsorship packages.

The Theme for 2018 will be based on our College motto 'To Know, Love and Serve.' We will take 'To Know' as our focus for the year. The theme 'To Know' has three key points:

1. To know God – this is our ultimate purpose in life. To realise that God is love and we matter to God.
2. To know oneself – in our journey of life we will be faced with positive and negative realities about ourselves. We can only become the person we are meant to be when we know ourselves honestly. As Paul writes in his First Letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor 13:12), 'For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.'
3. To grow in knowledge – we are always invited to know more. What knowledge have we gained over our lives and to what use do we put our knowledge? Do we seek to better ourselves through knowledge? Have we a desire to know more, know the truth, know about the mysteries of life?

DOING THE ROUNDS

Staff reflection Day 30th January – theme was 'To Know.' Presenters included Sr Margaret, Theresa Simon Chahine and Mr E Asmar. Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay and Batroun Bishop Mounir Khairallah celebrated the Mass.





New staff for 2018: Welcome to new staff in 2018 – Ms L Moyer (Secondary English Coordinator), Ms C Nabaki (Secondary music/drama teacher), Ms L Yarak (Secondary TAS teacher), Ms K Teh (Secondary Art/TAS/Math), Ms A Nguyen (Secondary Visual Arts teacher), Mr J Munce (Y2 teacher), Ms J Dimassi (Y4 teacher), Ms E Talarico (Primary teacher – assisting K and Y5).

New C Building - The Opening of the new C block will take place around July and staff and students will have access to a new learning environment with the latest in technology and spaces that allow for team teaching and collaborative learning. The Secondary will now be on the one campus ensuring better security.

Donating Towards New Furniture in the New Building: The College has partnered with SchoolsPlus to seek donations towards purchasing new furniture for the new building. Donations are tax deductible. Please refer to the donation booklet for more information. To donate and support this project please visit <https://www.schoolsplus.org.au/projects/modern-furniture-new-secondary-building/>



School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) - students who are progressing to Yr 3 and Yr 7 do not need to reapply if they meet the following three conditions:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

If students need to update info or reapply, go to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>. Students in the Opal network applying for an SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address.

Back to school – 1/2/18. May it be a blessed year for all



Secondary Assembly held 1/2/18 to welcome students back and lay down the expectations!



Yrs 7/8 Pastoral session 2/2/18 - designed to assist Y7 with their transition into Secondary and informally 'buddy' them with Y8 students who they can approach for guidance and help.

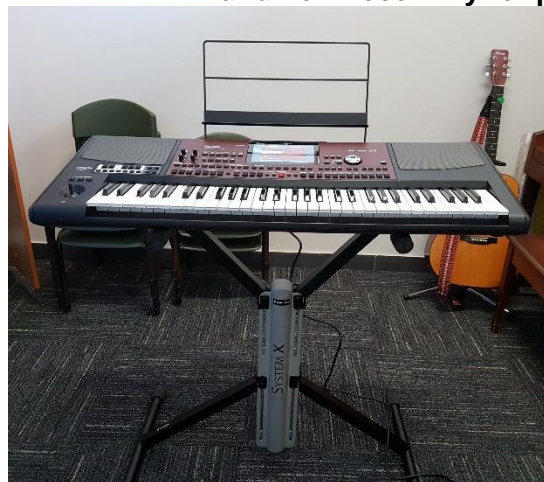


The JB HiFi BYOD Portal - Please read the specifications of each device to ensure you choose the correct device. Go to <https://www.ibeducation.com.au/byod/> and enter the School BYOD Code: Maronite2018

Access Free Microsoft Office suite, including Word, PowerPoint and Excel: <https://portal.office.com>

The College is seeking a psychologist to commence in the Secondary for 3 days per week as of term 2 till the end of the year. If interested please email CV to Sr Margaret at mghosn@mchf.nsw.edu.au

Purchase of a new oriental keyboard to be played at Masses and concerts. Thanks to Ms Sarlog and her niece Amy for painting the corridor over the School holidays



PARENT CORNER

Uniform and Grooming - students must be in the correct uniform and must adhere to the College's grooming policy especially with correct haircuts and jewellery worn.

From the Parent Education and Support Network (PESN): 5 things to remember when starting at a new school - Starting at a new school can be a difficult experience for any student. Five things to remember:

1. It probably won't be amazing straight away
2. It helps to keep doing the things you like to do
3. Talking to new people is hard – but worth it
4. Your old friends will still be there
5. You can reach out if it gets too much.

Click on the link below for more information:

https://au.reachout.com/articles/5-things-to-remember-when-starting-at-a-new-school?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=180122_EDM_Back%20to%20School_DM&utm_content=180122_EDM_Back%20to%20School_DM+Version+A+CID_79fd4cbfa267fecff88e2fa62032f51c&utm_source=emailCM

The Maronite Ladies of the Gospel are organising the **St Maroun Family Festival and Food Fest on Sunday 4th Feb 2018 at Auburn Community Picnic Area**. This is a **FREE EVENT** for all. Money raised from this event goes towards supporting the construction of the seminary at St Maroun's Redfern

Parent Volunteer Induction - will be held Tues 13th February 2018 at 2pm in the Secondary Hall. This is a great opportunity for parents/guardians to assist in various voluntary roles at the College.

Ms Julie Owens - speech made in Parliament on the Marriage Amendment https://youtu.be/mfxUm2l_QBU

Community hubs – term events include . . . Contact Afrah on 0401 451 686 and see attached flyer.

Prayer time – Sr Irene will lead reflection on Fridays at 2:30pm in the Church commencing 16/2/18.

Canteen Online Ordering - register and activate your account at www.QuickClik.com.au.

Join the BIGGEST AND BEST Taekwondo school in the Holroyd area! Fearless Martial Arts - 187 Fairfield Road, Guildford West. High energy Taekwondo classes with experienced, qualified instructors. Call Master Chris Barnes on 0415 663 966 or visit www.facebook.com/fmataekwondo

Events: <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/events/> **To receive the e-newsletter email**

admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au **W:** <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/> **F:** <https://www.facebook.com/mchfparramatta/>