



MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Fax: 9689 1662

Term 1 – Week 4: Friday 22nd February 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Irene Boughosn

A big THANK YOU to all the parents who attended the information evenings in the last two weeks. We appreciate the gratitude parents show to the College. Teaching your children is an important task and we focus on their spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth at all times.



This week we had a practise Fire Drill to ensure staff and students safety at all times. We pray that such an event will never occur here at the College.

Reminders to all Parents, Staff, Students and Visitors to the College:

- **Entrance Gate security** – To ensure the safety of our students the gates will be open up to 9am after which they will be shut and access only given when you press the buzzer. Gates will then re-open at 3pm. **Parents should not be hanging around in the playgrounds after 8:50am and should not be in the playground before 3pm to pick up their children.**
- There are too many interruptions to the College life by parents who call or come to pick up students between 2:30-3pm. Unless there is a valid reason, no student will be called down.
- Please observe caution when parking in the Church Carpark. **Please DO NOT block the MAIN ENTRANCE when you enter to drop off your children. Please park in the allocated spots only and ensure that your children exit from the appropriate gate.**

St Elias Chapel Spiritual Programme

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

Every Tuesday 1.25-2.00 pm

Every Thursday 8.00-8.30 am

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

Every Wednesday Life Story of a Saint, Prayer and Rosary

Time: 1.45-2.00 pm

Every Friday Eucharistic Adoration

Time: 1.45-2.00 pm



Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

One of the most enjoyable parts of my day at MCHF is visiting the classrooms to see the wonderful learning opportunities that are being provided for our students. I often ask the students what was the most interesting thing that they learnt that day and explain why. I am always amazed at their responses and their willingness to share their newly gained knowledge and experience.

Asking the right questions is important if you want to hear more than, 'It was okay' or 'Good' which is quite often the response you will receive if you simply ask a child how their day was. Questions we ask should engage children in conversation that allow them the opportunity to give detailed responses. Positive questions will allow you as a parent to gain a deeper understanding of the day that your child has experienced.

These are some examples of questions that will lead to a quality conversation with your child.

1. What was the best thing that happened at school today?
2. Tell me something that made you laugh today.
3. If you could, who would you choose to sit next to in class and why?
4. If I asked your teacher about you, what do you think they would say?
5. How did you help somebody today? How did somebody help you?
6. What was the most interesting thing that you learnt today?
7. What would you do if you were the teacher tomorrow?
8. What did you write about in class today?

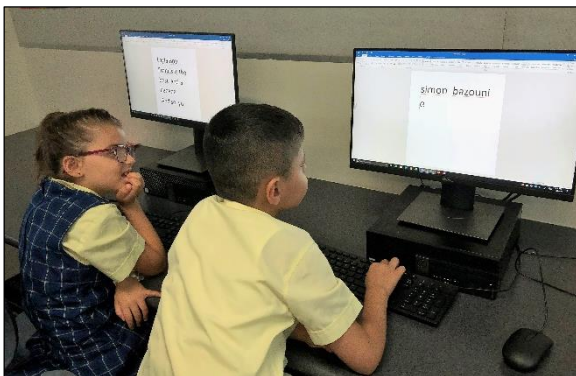
Reading and Writing in Kindergarten

This week, Kindergarten Rose read and wrote about the story, 'Hattie and the Fox'. They focused on developing expression and fluency during their reading. They also had the chance to explore the vocabulary in the book and use it in their own writing. Ms Alweddy and Mrs Vrontas are so impressed by the literacy skills that the students are beginning to display.



Technology Whiz Kids

Ms Khodeir was so excited to see her Year 1 class create a word document during her ICT lesson. Her students displayed many skills including how they could use the keyboard and mouse, type sentences and change font sizing. We can't wait to see what they create next week.



Yr 6 Buddies

At the start of each year, our Kindergarten students are buddied up with a Year 6 student. This program allows a special bond of friendship to be formed between both students. It also provides a safe environment for our new

Kindergarten students and allows Year 6 students to further develop their leadership skills. Throughout the year all students will partake in a variety of activities including peer reading, art and sporting games.

Parent Volunteer Induction

Thank you to all the parents who attended one of the induction sessions held this week. We had an overwhelming response which demonstrates the commitment parents have to their children's learning. Quality education involves a healthy partnership between the school and home. We very much appreciate the support that our parents provide. The next Induction session will be held early in Term 2.

Mr D. Day
Head of Primary

HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

This week we held our Parent Information Evening and it was great to see the secondary hall full with members of our College community – staff, students and parents/guardians. I hope the evening was a success for you and it gave you an opportunity to collaborate with members of staff and answer any inquiries you may have had. During the presentations, we focused some of our time at the importance of ensuring a collaborative relationship where parents, staff and students are involved in the education at MCHF.



Over the next few weeks our staff will be undergoing professional development sessions analysing the 2018 HSC data. The analysis will include completing online modules followed by developing strategies to continue improving our HSC results.

This coming week our year 8 students will be heading out to their mandatory learn to swim program on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Our year 7 students will be attending their Day Retreat on Tuesday at OLOL Co-Cathedral CYPC. Furthermore, we will have our Semester 1 Student Leadership Assembly on Friday 1st March 2019 at 2pm in the Secondary Hall. I congratulate the students who have been elected leaders and look forward to seeing their leadership skills in action. All parents/guardians are welcome to the assembly.

You may have noticed that your child is working on the computer to enhance their literacy skills. If so, then they are working on Word Flyers, the new programme we use in the English Department to enhance students' skills in reading and writing. This programme allows students to practice their skills by regularly engaging with reading texts, fictional and non-fictional, which contain the optional extra of an auditory function. The auditory function allows students to read and learn how to pronounce words which are sometimes non phonetic – they are not spoken as they are written – while simultaneously engaging with a range of new vocabulary words and expressions. More so, it should thrill you to know that this programme includes NAPLAN style exercises and activities. I can also track your child's progress, as it allows me to know who has (and has not) completed which activity and their score.

Therefore, parents, if your child is saying they have English homework and it looks like fun, it may even look like NAPLAN tests, then they are completing Word Flyers and learning for fun! If you would like more information regarding Word Flyers, please contact the English KLA Coordinator, Ms Moyer.

Have a great weekend and looking forward to next week.

Mr E. Asmar
Head of Secondary

CONGRATULATIONS

All Rounder Awards – Natasha Younane (2 Pink), Amber Fasavalu (4 Violet), Janae Diab (4 Violet), Charbel El Hakim (5 Sapphire), Christian El-Bahrour (5 Sapphire), Mia Al Helou (5 Sapphire)

Bronze award –

Silver award –

Principal's Award –

THIS AND THAT

Years 9, 11 & 12 elective music students on their way to Encore...



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Ash Monday – 4th March
- Bullying Awareness Week – 11th-15th March
- **College Tour Dates...** For tour bookings, please complete the booking form available at <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/college-tours/>
 - Term 1 Tour – Wednesday 27th February
 - Term 2 Tour – Wednesday 29th May
 - Term 3 Tour – Wednesday 28th August
 - Term 4 Tour – Wednesday 20th November (*Term 4 is also an orientation for new parents and students*)

PARENT CORNER

From the lovely ladies in the Primary and Secondary Learning Centres...

All students now have access to our school's library system 'Oliver'. You can access Oliver via the **MCHF** link provided --your log in details are the same as your school log ins. Students can use Oliver in a number of ways:

- search for a resource in the MCHF library and other listed libraries
- reserve a book (older students)
- look at their current loans and their loan history
- check to see if a book is overdue
- find out if a book belongs in the Premier's Reading Challenge list
- write book reviews and give books a rating out of 5, and find links other interesting sites

K-6 Primary Students may log into Oliver and Orbit and have access for searching only (OPAC) at present.

MCHF OLIVER LINK - <https://mchf.softlinkhosting.com.au/oliver/home/browse/list>

The new Parent Association... Great to see you all smiling, ladies!



**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP OFF /
PICK UP ZONES!
THESE ZONES ARE FOR DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP
YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN ONLY!**



BYOD Link and Code –

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

- If you are after some great parent ideas, take a look at the last few pages of our newsletter.
- Please find a letter, attached, from the Prime Minister and Minister for Education.

Events: <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/events/>

For E-newsletter email admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au

W: <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/>

F: <https://www.facebook.com/mchfparramatta/>

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COMMUNITY HUB

Some more English conversation...



Learning to dance can be a great deal of fun. Join us!!



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Come and play Junior Rugby League

Boys and Girls aged 4.5-11 years old are welcome

Registration held Fridays Nights 6-7pm

Training Friday Nights 6-7pm

Games Played Sundays

Address: Nemesia Street Park, Nemesia Street, Greystanes

Single Player \$100

This includes: Training
Shirt/Socks/Shorts/Beanie
Government Active Kids rebate for \$100 Come
and see us for more information



Follow us

<https://www.facebook.com/MerrylandsMaulers/>

Contact: Karen - 0416 211 490
Laura - 0427 087 344 / Tony - 0414 351 221

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

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

If you are a big-hearted, generous person,
please contact Georgette on 9633 6600 or
Email: gbaini@mchf.nsw.edu.au



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Dear parents, carers and the school community,

Keeping our children safe is a shared responsibility. Schools, governments at all levels, the Australian community and, first and foremost, parents take this obligation seriously.

As parents, we know that it can be challenging to raise children today in a world where risks to safety can appear not only on the street but online. And it is not always easy to navigate when the online world can have real world physical and mental health impacts.

That is why our Government has developed resources to empower parents (and schools) to protect children and prepare them to be resilient, responsible and respectful adults:

- **www.esafety.gov.au**- resources that promote online safety including tackling image-based abuse and a complaints service for young Australians who experience serious cyberbullying.
- **www.studentwellbeinghub.edu.au**- support for students, parents and teachers to create a learning environment that promotes student wellbeing and the development of respectful relationships.

You can also visit **www.bullyingnoway.gov.au** for education and advice for kids, parents and schools on how to combat and respond to bullying.

Whatever age your kids, it is never too late to make changes to improve their welfare. With the fresh start that a new school year brings we encourage you to use these resources for practical advice on keeping your family safe and well through the year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Morrison'.

SCOTT MORRISON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Tehan'.

DAN TEHAN

Encourage kids to help at home (every day without pay)



by Michael Grose



The best way to help kids to have a strong sense of competency is to encourage them to help at home.

Many parents struggle to get their children to help unless they pay them or offer some type of reward. This approach teaches kids to think “what’s in it for me?” which is a self-centred view of life.

In this article you’ll read eight ways to encourage kids to help at home without being paid and develop a sense of teamwork.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Win kids' cooperation webinar

Stop struggling to get cooperation from your kids. In this webinar, Parenting Ideas founder Michael Grose shows you how to stop yelling, bargaining and bribing your kids to get the cooperation you want.

[VIEW WEBINAR DETAILS](#)



Switching on your child's strengths webinar

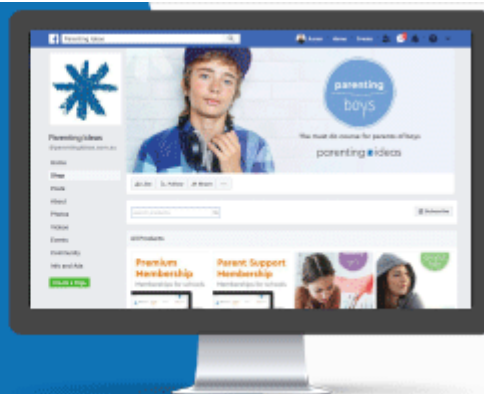
This is a rare opportunity to hear from internationally-recognised strength-based scientist Professor Lea Waters.

This webinar will reveal the extraordinary results of focusing on a child's strengths rather than always trying to correct their weaknesses. With many specific techniques for parents, Lea demonstrates how to discover your children's strengths and talents, use positive emotions as a resource, build strong brains, deal with problem behaviour and talk about difficult situations and emotions.

[VIEW WEBINAR DETAILS](#)

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