



# *Maronite College of the Holy Family* **NEWSLETTER**

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Email: [Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au)

**Term 1 - Week 6: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

### **MONTH OF ST JOSEPH**



Our College is using the Perspectives: Your school in focus suite of surveys developed by the Association of Independent Schools NSW to support our College improvement endeavours. The information gathered will assist in furthering the growth and development of our College community. We will use the survey results to help inform and direct future College planning and improvement strategies.

These surveys have been specifically designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of stakeholders' perceptions of five important areas: School Environment, Teaching and Learning, Student Wellbeing, Leadership and Community. All staff, students, parents/guardians, leaders and board members will be invited to participate.

The surveys will be available to all parents of students from Kindergarten to Year 12 and students from Years 5 to 12 from Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The Survey is conducted online, taking approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

Your input and contribution are important to the success of our continuous College improvement process as we aspire to improve the learning experience for everyone at our College.

A parent information letter was distributed to all parents on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. If you did not receive a copy please contact the College administration office.

If you are a parent of students from years 5-12 you would also have received an opt out form. If you do not wish your child to participate please return this form to the office by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Further information regarding access to the survey will be emailed closer to the survey date.

**Sr Irene Boughosn**  
**PRINCIPAL**

The following information is for the safety of **yourselves** and your **CHILDREN**. Please read these carefully and abide by them.

- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area. Never call out to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- Park safely and turn legally around schools, even if it means walking further to the school gate.
- **DO NOT** park in the driveways of the Units around the College. This is trespassing and if caught by a Police Officer there will be a fine issued.
- Never double park as it puts children at risk.
- Never park in a bus zone.
- **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.
- Please DO NOT park in the DISABLED SPOTS in the Church Carpark.
- At a supervised crossing, observe the directions of the school crossing supervisor.
- Model safe and considerate behaviour for your child – **they will learn from you.**

## HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

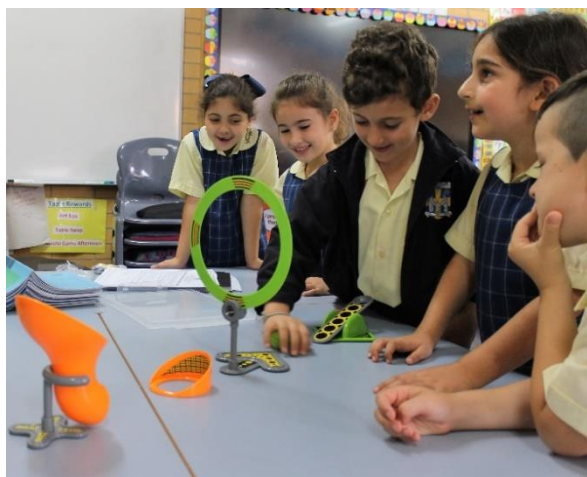


Yesterday we held our annual MCHF STEM Day in the Primary Department. STEM education is the integrated learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in a hands-on approach. It is a wonderful way for students to gain and apply their knowledge, deepen their understanding and develop creative and critical thinking skills. It was refreshing to see the students so involved in the activities and engaged in the learning. They worked collaboratively with each other and demonstrated some good problem solving skills. Days like these don't just happen. A great deal of planning goes into them to ensure that they are both meaningful and fun





for our students. A big thank you to all the staff for their organisation and to the many parents who supported the teachers and students in the classrooms.



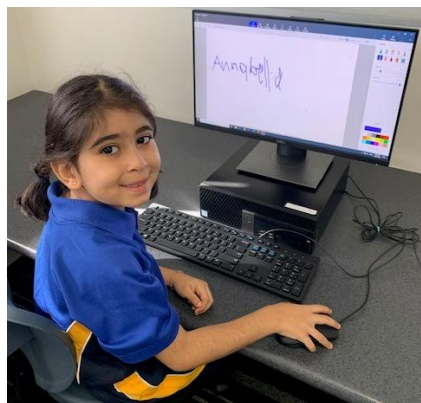
### Parent/Teacher Chats

Our Parent/Teacher Chats were held earlier this week. Feedback from staff was extremely positive with everyone agreeing that it was a wonderful opportunity to meet the parents/guardians and learn more about their students. This initial meeting also reinforces the importance MCHF places on the partnership of teachers and parents/guardians in the education of our students. For those that could not attend this week, please make contact with your child's teacher so that a meeting can be arranged.



### Digital Technology

As part of their Digital Technology studies, 1 Silver have been learning all about software programs. This week, students were shown how to explore and use the various features of the program, 'Paint'. Their task was to create a small poster about themselves. All students thoroughly enjoyed completing this activity and are eagerly looking forward to their next visit to the ICT Room.



### Homework Club

Homework Club occurs each Wednesday after school for students in Years 2-6. It is a supervised session run by volunteer teachers who assist students in completing homework and research tasks. Students are asked to have enough homework to complete in the hour session. A detailed note with an attached permission slip is available from the Primary Office.

### STEM Interest Groups

A variety of interest groups are conducted during student break times throughout the week. These groups provide students the opportunity to participate in fun activities whilst also developing essential social and teamwork skills. This term, Ms Alweddy has been using Bee Bots to explore robotics. Our younger students are enjoying using the Bee Bots and are developing a deeper understanding of basic control, directional language and programming through the interactive session.





### Swimming Program

It was another great week at the pools for students in Years 4, 5 and 6. To ensure students are prepared for their lessons each week, please remind your child to pack all the necessary items needed for their swimming lessons each Tuesday. This includes their towel, thongs, underwear and College sport jacket. It is important they pack their College sport jacket as they are required to wear it to and from the venue. We thank you in advance and look forward to our next swimming lesson.

### Earn and Learn

Last year, all members of the MCHF community worked hard to collect Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers for our school. On completion of the promotion, Ms Dib and Ms Alweddy ordered an array of resources to support the teaching and learning in the Primary Department. Some of these resources were used on our STEM Day, while others were distributed amongst the classes. Thank you once again to all those who assisted in the collection of stickers. Your efforts have certainly made a positive impact on student learning in all classes.

### Student Issues

I would like to remind parents that at no time should they approach another student either at school or outside the College grounds regarding an issue relating to their child. These issues must also be raised with office staff so that the situation can be referred to the most suitable staff member.

### School Bus

In recent weeks, there have been increasing issues regarding student travel on the afternoon buses. The College has been asked to remind all students who catch a bus, that they are required to use an Opal Card to tap on and tap off. The main reason for this, is that the Opal Card assists the bus companies in collecting data about the number of students who catch the bus and the route that is needed to ensure they get to their destination safely. I urge all parents to ensure their child has their Opal Card with them each day so that the College can be provided with required bus services.

### 2020 Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge officially began on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading in all students and enables them to experience quality literature. By logging into the site, students can search for books to read, add books to their reading logs and track their progress throughout the challenge. The Final date for entry of student reading records is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August. You can find the site at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>

### Applications for Approved Leave – Travel

A reminder that any student intending to take leave for a period of 5 days or more during the school term, must complete an application form in order to obtain Principal approval. Forms can be obtained from the main office.

**Mr D. Day**  
**Head of Primary**



## HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE



### Student Success: Part 2 “Collaborate”

This week we continue to breakdown the 7 aspects that achieve student success. This week is Collaborate. Students are encouraged to seek and take advantage of opportunities to collaborate with others – such as their peers and teachers. Collaboration is a key aspect of student success. Collaboration allows students to develop their knowledge and skills and provides an opportunity for students to self-assess and confirm their learning. Collaboration involves asking questions, discussion and taking on feedback.

### Swimming Carnival

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020, our swimming carnival was held at Granville Swimming Centre. We congratulate Charbel House for winning this year’s carnival. The final points were as follows:

- Charbel House: 460 Points
- Rafqa House: 452 Points
- Maroun House: 366 Points
- Mackillop House: 316 Points

### Year 7 Day Retreat

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, our year 7 students attended their Day Retreat at OLOL CYPC. The focus of the retreat was on the theme for this year: To Serve. The retreat included activities and presentations led by Sr Irene, Sr Cynthia, Fr Tony Sarkis, Fr Danny Nouh, Ms Abdul Ahad and Ms Cordina. Thank you to Ms Abdul Ahad and Ms Cordina who prepared the day and thank you to the staff who assisted on the day. The students enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate with one another and strengthen their relationship as a cohort.



### Season of Lent

The season of lent is providing opportunities for students to discover their Lenten journey and travel on their journey towards Jesus. We are called in this Lenten season to come back to Jesus through abstinence, fasting, reconciliation and prayer. Our students have designed our playground notice board to promote the season of lent and specifically focus on our Lenten journey.





### **Year 8 Swimming**

Year 8 students completed their three-day swimming program, this week, from Monday to Wednesday. The students participated well and completed the program, impressing their instructors. We received positive feedback from the staff and the venue staff regarding their behaviour and participation. Well done Year 8!



### **Extracurricular Activities**

The College is proud to provide opportunities for students to participate in the life of the College through various extracurricular activities. It is important to highlight the time and effort the staff make to these activities to provide opportunities for students to enjoy and participate in the life of the College. Some of the initiatives and activities available for students this year include: Bandana Day, Book Week, Bullying Awareness Week, Chess Club, Children's Hospital Visit, Choir, Debating, Drama Club, Duke of Edinburgh, Enrichment Project, Environmental Group, Expo Extravaganza, Homeless Feed, Homework Club, Lebanon Independence Day, Maths Olympiad, Mirath in Mind, Mock Trial, Peer Mentoring, Project Compassion, Public Speaking, Representative Sport, SRC, Vinnies Christmas Hampers, Vinnies Winter Sleepout, Carnivals, Walkathon and Wellbeing Wednesday.

### **College Forms**

A reminder to parents/guardians that the following forms are due to be returned to the College:

- College Events Permission Form (provided at the Parent Information Evening)
- Photography Form
- Medical Forms (if there are changes from 2019).

These must be returned as soon as possible to ensure the College can effectively operate this year. If you need additional

### **Thursday Sport Uniform**

There seems to be some confusion amongst students in regards to the required uniform to be worn on Thursdays. Students are required to wear the College sport uniform on Thursdays with their House Polos. This includes rep students. Rep students must either wear their rep uniform under their sport uniform or bring in a separate bag and change into before rep sport. Any student who fails to comply with this will result in out of uniform infringement being issued.

### **Year 12 Driving to the College**

Year 12 students are required to seek approval from the College to drive to the College. This is a policy which must be adhered to by students. Students must complete the application form and submit to the College for approval. Failure to seek approval may result in severe consequences.

### **Applying for Approved Leave – Travel**

A reminder that as of this year an application for approved leave must be completed and submitted to the College if the leave is for 5 days or more.

### Travelling on the Bus

A reminder to students travelling on the bus to ensure they have their opal cards ready when getting on the bus. There should be no eating or drinking on the bus and they are required to take their rubbish with them off the bus and not leave it on the floor. Finally, we expect students to be on their best behaviour while travelling on the bus and cooperate with their bus prefects. It is important for students to remember that they are still under the College's responsibility while wearing the College uniform travelling to and from the College.

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Years 4-6 Swimming
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Social Justice Mass (Years K-6) at 9am
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Bullying Awareness Week
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Years 4-6 Swimming
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – St Joseph Mass (Years 7-12) at 9am
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4-6 Swimming
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Primary Maths Olympiad
- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Years 4-6 Swimming
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews from 3:30pm to 7:30pm
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Term 1 Ends
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Term 2 Begins

## ★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

**All Rounder Awards –**

**Bronze Awards –**

**Silver Awards –**

**Principal's Award –**

## THIS AND THAT

Kindy Red were learning about grouping objects based on shape, size and colour. They worked in pairs to group different fruits, followed by explaining to the teacher how they grouped their objects.

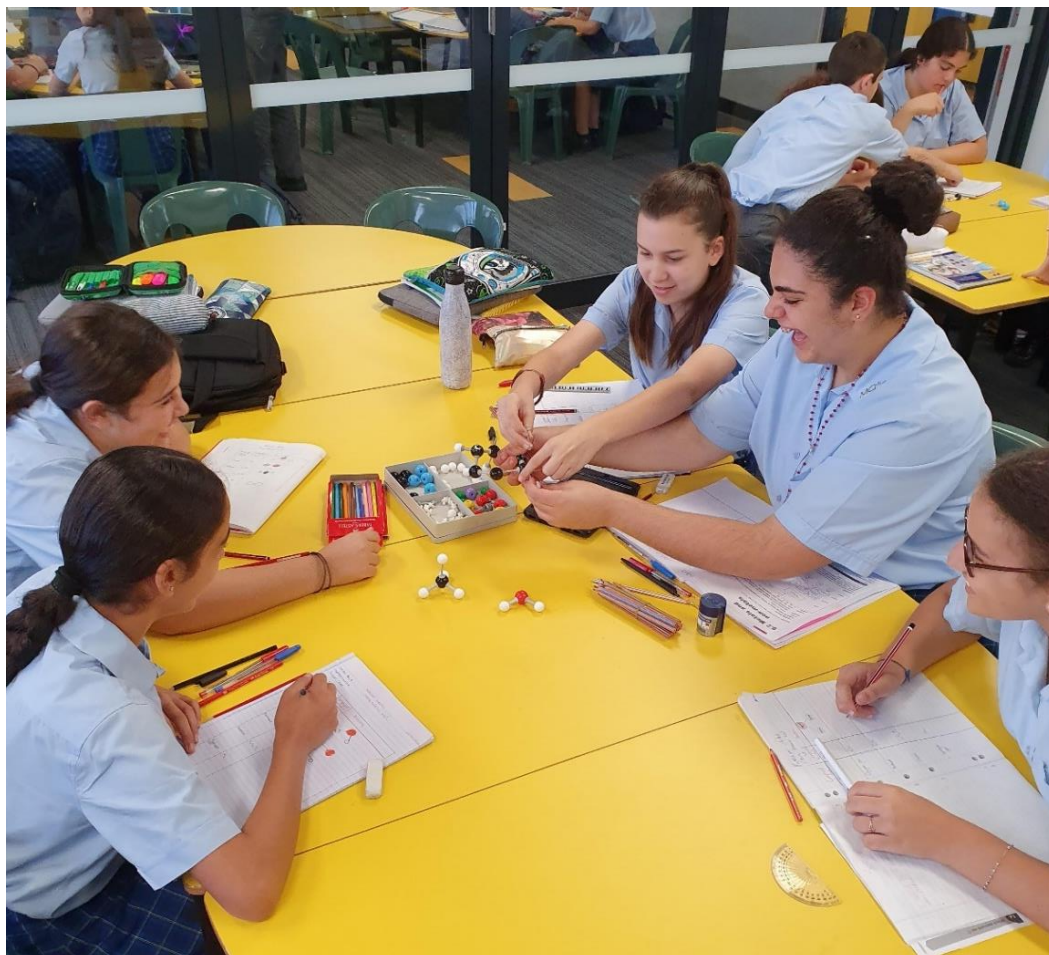




Year 12 Industrial Technology- Multimedia students attended the Shape 2019 seminar run by NESA at the Powerhouse Museum.



Ms Pietak's Year 8 science class- Making models of molecules





## PARENT CORNER

The Parent Association is organising our very first College Easter Stall for our infants and primary students.

We are kindly asking for donations of small confectionery and a variety of Easter Eggs (any size) from our generous parents to go towards putting together items for the stall.

We will be creating a variety of Easter Bags and Easter Boxes for the students to purchase at the stall (pictured right).

We are also organising an Easter raffle for our high school students where we will be raffling off a variety of Easter hampers. We greatly appreciate any donations made towards putting together our hampers.

All donations can be made to the Primary Admin Office.

If you have any questions in relation to donations, please contact **Mary Bechara on 0411 033 231**

As always, we appreciate your continued support.



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MARONITE BISHOP OF AUSTRALIA

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(COVID-19)

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IN ARABIC AND ENGLISH

**THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2020**

7:00PM SHARP

OUR LADY OF LEBANON HALL  
40 ALICE ST, HARRIS PARK

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
MARONITECARE ON  
1300 627 227

#### BYOD LINK AND CODE

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

School Code: MCHFBYOD

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