

Maronite College of the Holy Family

NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150
Tel: 9633 6600 Email: Admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au

Term 2 - Week 8: Friday 19th June 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



As the term starts to wind down I would like to ask all parents and students to keep the Year 12 cohort in their prayers as they continue to study towards their upcoming trials next term.

It has been a road of uncertainty and great stress for the HSC students. May our Lord guide them and shower them with the knowledge needed to excel in their exams. As we celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart today, may the Sacred Heart of Jesus continue to provide the motivation needed to finish this very important stage in their school life.

God of Wisdom,

I thank you for the knowledge gained and the learning experiences of the Semester.

I come to you this day and ask you to illuminate my mind and heart.

Let your spirit be with me as I prepare for exams, guiding my studies, and giving me insight so that I can perform to the best of my ability.

Please grant me the strength to bandle the pressure during these final weeks of the semester, the confidence to feel secure in my knowledge, and the ability to keep an appropriate perspective through it all.

Help me to keep in mind what is truly important, even as I focus my time and energey on these upcoming exams.

Finally, may I sense your peace in knowing that I applied myself to the challenges of this day. Amen.

Sr Irene Boughosn PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

When visiting classes, I am always impressed to see our students use an array of new and interesting words when speaking and writing. A child's vocabulary, or the amount of words they are able to understand, speak and write is an important indicator of literacy success. Reading is more than verbalising a text, it involves the complex task of comprehending the written word. This becomes extremely challenging if words are not understood. The task of writing is highly complex as it requires children to transform their ideas into a written text. Possessing an extensive vocabulary not only makes the writing process easier for a student but also allows them to create pieces of writing that are both interesting and engaging for the reader. By encouraging students to develop their vocabulary, we are enabling them to not only enjoy reading and writing but also feel a degree of success when undertaking such tasks.

An effective way that parents can assist in broadening their child's vocabulary is to encourage them to read books, magazines or articles that are directly related to their areas of interest. If your child displays an interest in sport, music, cars or space for example, buy or borrow reading material that allows them to expand their knowledge and vocabulary about that particular topic. Use your child's topic of interest in your daily conversations at the dinner table or on your way to school so that they get the opportunity to share their knowledge and use new vocabulary learnt. Learning new words can be fun, even for adults.

Kindergarten Interviews

This week we held the Kindergarten interviews for students beginning school in 2021. It is always wonderful to see the fresh new faces that will be joining our school community. A big thank you to Mrs Vrontas, coordinators and our Kindergarten teachers for their organisation and assistance with the interviews.





Semester One Reports

The College has carefully analysed the Semester One reporting structure and adjusted it to accommodate the recent period of Remote Learning. The student report will focus on Next Step Learning Goals and the assessment of student effort in all Key Learning Areas. Parent/Teacher interviews will continue as scheduled but will be conducted over the phone and not face to face. This will allow the College to adhere to current NSW Government directives. Please see the note sent home yesterday for further details.

Library Borrowing

Library borrowing is an important part of a child's wider reading experience. Students are able to borrow a range of fiction, nonfiction, picture books and chapter books. Mrs LeMerle is always adding new books to our collection. Please encourage your child to bring their library bag to school each week so that they can borrow some of the wonderful books that are available. If your child has any overdue library books, can they please be returned so that other students have the opportunity to borrow them.



Bread Making in Year 4

This term, Year 4 are learning all about food and the process that takes place to produce it. Today students enjoyed baking their own bread. The results were delicious!







School Uniform

Many thanks to the parents who are ensuring that their children arrive at school well presented each day. The teachers will be doing regular uniform checks to ensure that students are wearing their full school winter uniform. Appropriate haircuts will be continually checked as well. Wearing the school uniform with pride is an important message to give to our students about their identity as a member of the MCHF community. We ask that you continue to always encourage your child to wear the correct school uniform.

Attendance

All students absent from school are asked to bring in a letter of explanation upon their return. Detailed documentation will be required for prolonged absence. We also ask that students who present with flu-like symptoms remain at home. Any students showing signs of sickness or become ill during the day, will be sent home.

Communication with Teachers

Just a reminder that all communication with teachers is to be conducted via phone or email through the Primary Office. Alternatively, you can write a brief note for your child to pass on to their teacher. This will ensure that any queries or concerns can be addressed promptly. In line with new health and safety procedures, we ask you not to communicate with teachers at the end of the day as students are dismissed.

Parking

The College has been receiving numerous complaints regarding parents parking in private driveways and car spots of neighbouring unit blocks. We ask that all members of the community respect our residents and their property by only parking in permissible areas. Alternatively, you can use the pick-up zone to drop off your children in the morning or collect them in the afternoon. We thank you for your cooperation.

Applications for Approved Leave – Travel

Any application submitted for leave to travel, will not be accepted. If any family returns from an overseas trip, they **MUST SELF ISOLATE for 14 days before returning to the College.** Medical documentation must be provided prior to a student returning to the College.

Mr D. Day Head of Primary

HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

Congratulations and Celebrations

Our MCHF community and family congratulates Mr Marcel Abboud on his recent engagement and to Mr Daniel El-Hage on the birth of his first child. On a different note, we congratulate Ms Maree Zaferis who has been appointed Curriculum Assistant and will commence her new role in Term 3. She will be working close with the Director of Curriculum.



Visible Learning

Over the past month, the College has completed various evidence gathering tasks to assess and evaluate the impact of visible learning at the College. Student Surveys, Learning Walks and Focus groups took place as part of the evidence gathering tasks. The Primary and Secondary Leadership Teams held a session on Friday 19th June 2020 with a consultant from Corwin Education to continue the work on visible learning and improving our teaching and learning at the College.



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews will be going ahead this year as planned. However, the method will be different this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. This is an opportunity to connect with your child's teachers to gain feedback on their progress and address the issues relevant to your child's education. The interviews will be held on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday 30th June 2020 from 3:30pm 7:30pm
- Wednesday 1st July 2020 from 8:30am 1:30pm (Student Pupil Free Day)

This year, the interviews will **NOT** take place face-to-face. The College has provided two options for parents/guardians to connect with teachers:

- 1. Email sent to your child's teacher
- 2. Video Chat function through your child's Microsoft Teams account (Bookings Required).

Please refer to the letter for further information. A copy of the letter has been placed on our College Skoolbag App.

Volleyball Mixed Tournament

Over the past few weeks, we have held a mixed volleyball tournament at lunch times organised by Mr Julius. There were various teams entered by our students – even a teacher team compete in the tournament. This week the final of the tournament between Team T and MCHF Wanderers. A close game in the final ended up being won by Team T (teachers team). Congratulations to all the teams who entered the tournament. A special thank you to Mr Julius who organised the tournament.



Enrichment Challenge

Our Learning Support team, led by Mrs Macura and Mr Naim, have introduced an enrichment challenge for students to extend their knowledge and skills in various topics. The challenge, which has been established similarly to the PE Challenge, includes points to achieve for their House. It is great to see so many students take on this challenge and earn points for their respective Houses. The challenge continues and we hope to see more entries from our students.

Semester 1 Reports

Year 7-11 Semester 1 reports will be issued as normal. However, the reports will be released on Friday 24th July 2020 (Term 3, Week 1).

Year 5 Transition to Secondary

Year 5 Opal will be participating in their transition to secondary session next week on Tuesday 23rd June 2020. The students will be buddied up with year 8 students and will be experiencing secondary education for a part of the day.

Year 6 Transition to Secondary Session

On Tuesday 16th June 2020, Year 6 students participated in their second transition session for this year. Students viewed two presentations. The first presentation was on the Pastoral Care life at the College – presented by Ms

Abdul Ahad (Director of Pastoral Care). The second presentation was on the Curriculum life at the College – presented by Ms Dalla (Director of Curriculum).



Uniform and Grooming

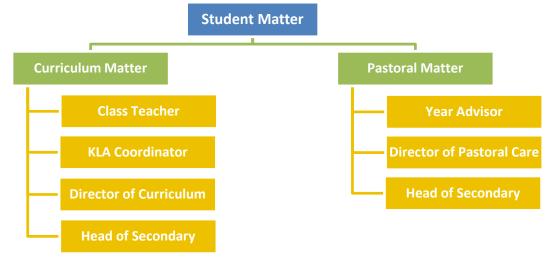
A reminder that all students at the College must be in full Winter Uniform. This includes blazers and ties. Students grooming must also ensure it meets the College's policy. Students who do not meet these requirements may be sent home.

Homework Club

Homework club has been moved to Monday afternoons from 3:20pm – 4:20pm. However, homework club will not commence this term due to COVID-19. Homework Club will recommence in Term 3.

Lines of Communication

The College welcomes parent/guardians to contact the College to discuss any matters regarding your child. However, we request that the lines of communication and procedures are adhered to. Below is a summary of the lines of communication:



Mr E. Asmar Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday 23rd June Year 5 Transition Session (Year 5 Opal)
- Tuesday 30th June Term 2 Ends for Students
- Tuesday 21st July Term 3 Begins for Students

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards – Elyse Habak, George Saba, Raphael Semaan, Joseph Saleh, Anthony Mekary (Year 5)

Bronze Awards -

Silver Awards -

Principal's Award -

THIS AND THAT

Sr Cynthia conducting a mini-spirituality session with 5 Sapphire.



This week, 2 Purple worked in pairs to discuss strategies and solve mathematical problems.



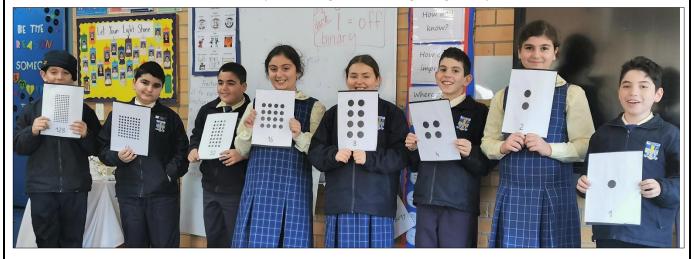
Year 7 Visual Arts – Drawing mythological creatures.







Year 5 Ruby is learning about coding using binary.



Fake or Real? - Students in 1 Lilac had to look at the evidence in a section of an animation and make an inference about the main character's behaviour! They then had to convince their classmates to change their ideas. Great critical and analytical thinking!



Year 8 were involved in Experimental Probability. They made their own spinners and conducted an experiment where they had to tally 200 spins.



Year 10 Geography creating 3D models of coastal land forms.



Year 9 Commerce invited their coordinator, Ms Hadchiti, to their product differentiation experiment. The students surveyed each other in being able to determine the various brands of chocolate, coke, plain and salt and vinegar chips. We all had plenty of energy to burn by the end of the period. - *Mrs P. Esber- Dayoub*



PARENT CORNER

ALL FAMILIES are required to download the **SkoolBag app** (free) from your app store and create an account linked to our College. This ensures you receive urgent College news immediately.

Parents/Guardians: If you have changed any of your contact details, including your email address, please remember to make the change/s through the parent portal.

This is extremely important, especially at this current time, as you will receive important documentation and urgent messages via email.

BYOD LINK AND CODE

https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/ School Code: MCHFBYOD

Website: http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/

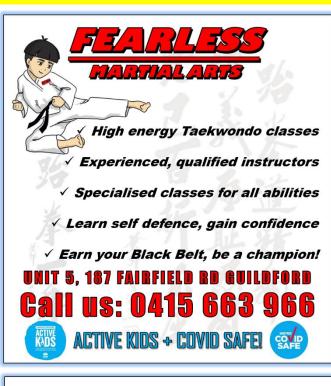
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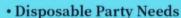






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