



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 9: Friday 26th June 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to remind all parents to please ensure that they book an appointment with their children's teachers. Parent teacher appointments are very important as this is an opportunity for you to ask questions and receive feedback from the teachers regarding your children. Letters were sent out with the instructions on how to organise these appointments. Should you require any further details, please contact the College.

A reminder that the College concludes for the term next week.

School concludes for Term 2 for all students on Tuesday, 30th June 2020

School resumes for Term 3 for all students on Tuesday, 21st July 2020

Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

As Semester One draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge and thank Sr Irene for her leadership as she guided the College through the unprecedented and extremely challenging pandemic crisis. A situation that continues to be of concern as we begin our term break. Thank you also to Sr Marlene and Sr Cynthia for the continued support they provide to all members of the MCHF community. My appreciation also goes to the teaching and support staff who show great dedication in order to deliver quality learning experiences for our students whilst maintaining their wellbeing. To the students and parents, we thank you for the commitment you displayed towards learning during the Remote Learning period. Lastly, I would like to applaud the College Admin staff for the amazing job they do in assisting students, parents and teachers each and every day. I wish everyone a very safe and restful break.



Farewell

Today we wish Ms Azzi all the best as she takes leave in preparation for the birth of her first child early next term. I would

like to thank Ms Azzi for the many wonderful contributions she has made to the College over the years. We also say goodbye to Ms Denise Fares who joined the Arabic Teaching Team last year. She has done a great job filling in for Mrs Sassine whilst she took parental leave after the birth of her daughter. Mrs Sassine will return to the College at the beginning of next term.

Kindergarten Red

Ms Sandy Ters is currently on leave as she follows medical advice regarding the upcoming birth of her child. She will still conduct her Parent/Teacher Interviews so that she can discuss the achievements and Learning Goals of her students. I thank Ms Ters for her efforts with Kindergarten during the first half of the year.

To maintain a consistent approach to student learning, Ms Nicole Saap will replace Ms Ters as the Kindergarten Red class teacher from the beginning of next term. Ms Saap comes to our College with a great deal of experience, having taught in schools both here in Australia and abroad. We look forward to welcoming her to the MCHF family.

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. Your child's report will be made available to you from midday on Tuesday 30th June. Access to reports will be via the Parent portal.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

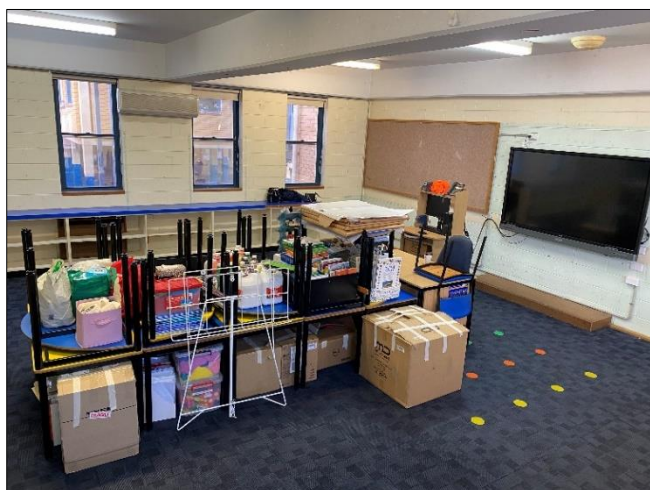
Primary Parent/Teacher interviews will be conducted by phone on the following days and times:

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

Phone Interviews allow the College to adhere to current NSW Government directives. It is compulsory for all parents/guardians to partake in an interview so that their child's progress can be discussed. Students are also encouraged to be present for their interview. Collaboration between parents and teachers ensures that all aspects of student learning are optimised in Semester 2. All interviews need to be booked online by **11:30 pm on Monday 29th June**.

Upgrade of Primary Facilities

The Kindergarten classrooms will undergo a total refurbishment during the coming Term Break. Once complete, each class will enjoy bright learning spaces featuring new cabinetry, freshly painted walls and expansive felt pinboards. As the final boxes were packed in each room today, both students and teachers found it difficult to contain their excitement.



Maintenance work will also be carried out in the Primary Hall. The current floor will be replaced with a stronger and more durable timber so that it can withstand the high level of foot traffic and varied sporting activities for many years to come.

Year 6 Mass

This week, Year Six participated in a special Mass held in the Primary Hall. Students prayed, reflected and sang beautifully as Fr Danny celebrated Mass. The hall was the perfect venue for the intimate and spiritual celebration as it allowed plenty of room for everyone to spread out. Thank you to Sr Cynthia for her organisation.



Attendance

A reminder that any student absence from school requires a letter of explanation specifying the reason for non-attendance. More detailed documentation such as a doctor's certificate, needs to be submitted for prolonged absence. This procedure is mandated by the government. When the College resumes in Term 3, we will continue

to insist that students who present with flu-like symptoms remain at home. We thank you for your continued support.

Library Borrowing

Library borrowing for the term ceased this week. All students are encouraged to return their library books next Monday and Tuesday by handing them to their class teacher. If your child has any overdue books, we ask that they are returned promptly so that Ms LeMerle and Mrs Coorey can update the Student Borrowing Records.

Holiday Reading

Over the holiday break it is important that you find the time to read with your child. This simple act will ensure that they do not regress as a reader. Research shows that two weeks of no reading can have huge implications on a student's ability to read and comprehend a text.



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.

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



Mrs Gahdmar's 8-1 English class went on a Virtual Reality trip to the Shakespearean Globe Theatre! Students also used Augmented Reality to bring to life The Globe theatre, Shakespearean costumes and so much more, proving this amazing playwright's relevance in the contemporary curriculum!

End of Term 2

The end of Term 2 is upon us. The 10-week journey was more like a rollercoaster for the staff and students. We commenced with remote learning and teaching was delivered online. We then moved into transitioning back to

full-time schooling and the teaching method was changed slowly back to face-to-face teaching. As soon as we completed the transition to full-time schooling, further adjustments were made to ensure we continued to meet the restrictions placed in schools. Year 7-10 students experienced online half yearly exams for the first time with positive feedback. I take this opportunity to thank the hard working secondary staff (teaching and admin) for the tremendous work, commitment and effort they have applied in their roles throughout this term. Thank you and congratulations goes out to all the students for their efforts throughout this term. Thank you to our parents/guardians for your support throughout this term. I wish you all a blessed and relaxing term break and look forward to continue the learning journey in Term 3.

Term 2 concludes for Students on Tuesday 30th June 2020

Term 2 concludes for Staff on Wednesday 1st July 2020

Term 3 Commences for Staff on Monday 20th July 2020

Term 3 commences for Students on Tuesday 21st July 2020

Social Media Concerns

The College has been addressing multiple concerns where students are breaching the mobile phone and ICT policy. We have been made aware of students using their mobile phones within College hours, taking videos and uploading them onto social media platforms such as Snapchat and TikTok. Students have been addressed this week over these concerns. Students were advised the consequences for breaching the mobile phone and ICT policy will be changed commencing Term 3 where automatic suspensions may be issued for breaches.

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 12 Pre Trial HSC Exams

For the last two weeks, our Year 12 students completed their pre-trial HSC exams. This provided our year 12 students an opportunity to assess their learning progress prior to sitting their Trials and HSC Exams. It is vital that students take on board the feedback provided by their teachers in order to improve to achieve the maximum results they are capable of.

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.

Term 3 Ease of Restrictions:

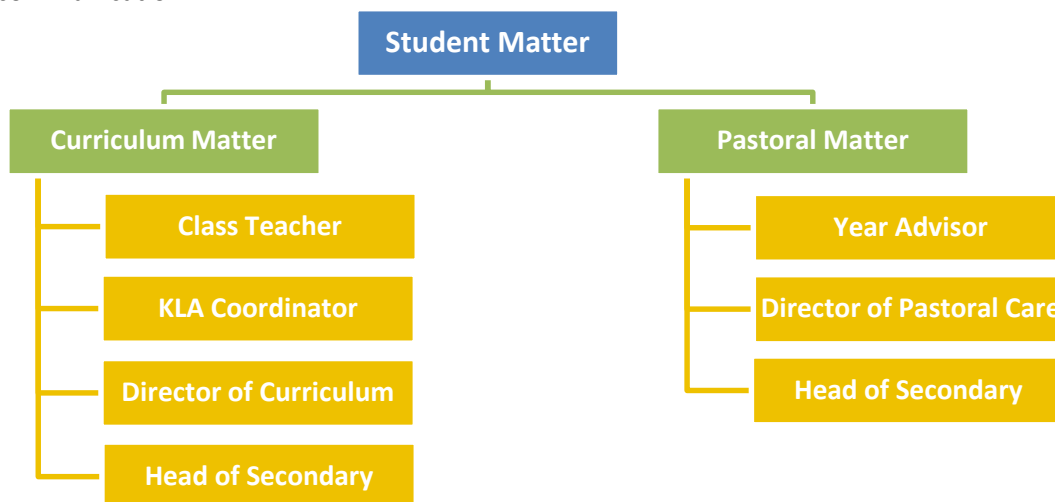
The following activities/initiatives will recommence in Term 3

- Inter-house sporting competition will recommence every Thursday.
- Assemblies will recommence; however, we will continue to limit to cohorts only unless absolutely necessary to do a whole secondary assembly.
- Parent Teacher meetings can be held (where these need to take place).
- Inter-School events and activities can recommence.
- VET work placement will recommence.

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:



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.

Year 5 Transition to Secondary Session

On Tuesday 23rd June 2020, Year 5 Opal students participated in their first transition to secondary session "Be a Secondary Student for the Day." The Year 5 students were buddied with year 8 students and attended classes with them for two periods and spent their lunch time with them before heading back to their class. The feedback from students was extremely positive and there is a high level of excitement from the students about transiting to secondary education. The remaining two classes will participate in their sessions next term.

EPIC Book Challenge

We congratulate Joy Sleiman of Year 10 who was awarded as the winner of the EPIC book challenge which was specifically designed for students during Remote Learning. Three challenges were exceptionally completed by Joy. Well done to Joy!

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.

Mr E. Asmar

Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday 30th June – Term 2 Ends for Students
- Tuesday 21st July – Term 3 Begins for Students

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards – Mariah Elia, Porsha Hawach, Brendan Bazouni (Year 1) – Lucia Saad and Leila George (Year 2) – Annabella Khoury (Year 5) – Tala Al-Ajrash, Sebastian Ibrahim (Year 6) – Monique Abou-Touma, Kaylah Marie Daher, Charbella Hanna, Hannah Margaret Youssef, Jonathan Semaan (Year 7)

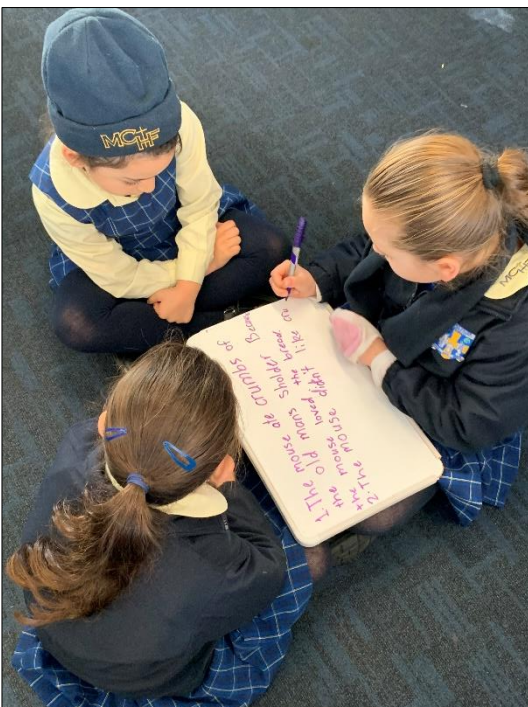
Bronze Awards – Sophia Khoury, Andrew Khoury, Mia Kerbaj, Bernadette Yaacoub, Maribelle Abdulahad, Isabella Deeb, Alisha Youssef, Mariam Jarjes (Year 4)

THIS AND THAT

As part of the History unit, 'Past and Present Life,' students from 1 Lilac were given the task to compile a list of questions to interview someone about their past. Sr Marlene was invited to the class. 1 Lilac's goal was to find out about Sr Marlene's daily life as a child. The students were able to learn a great deal as Sr Marlene patiently responded to their questions.



Year 1 Gold students collaborate in small groups to describe and explain the actions of a character in their Shared Reading lesson. 100% student engagement.



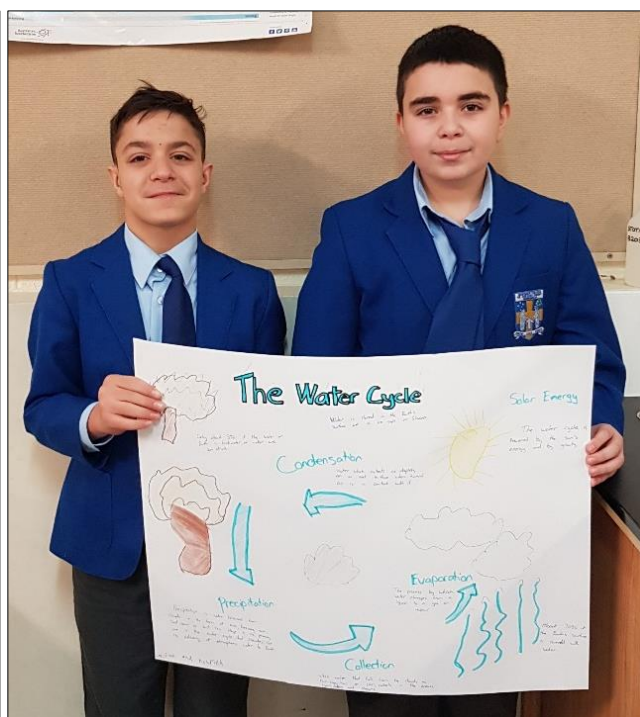
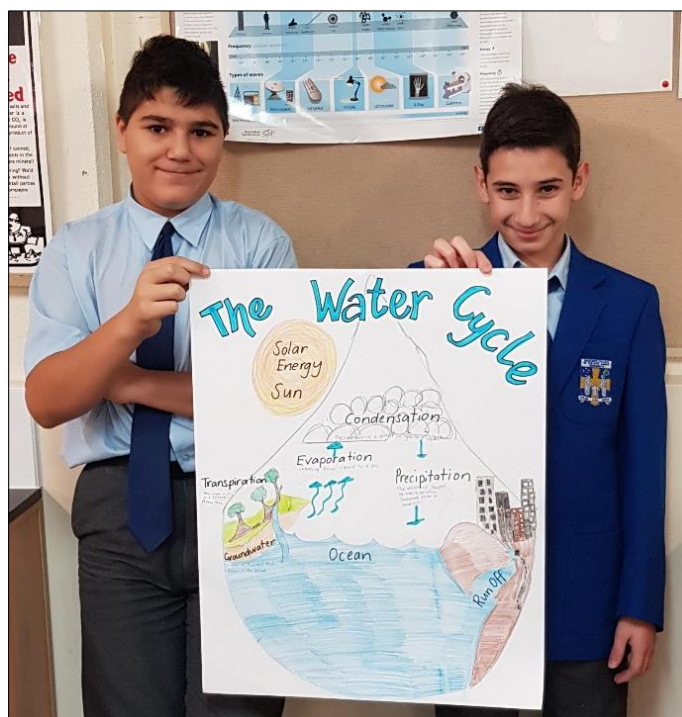
Year 3 Lavender sharing their Arabic stories with Kindy White



Year 1 Silver students, measuring their tables with counters and blocks. They stated a prediction and measured their table with a partner.



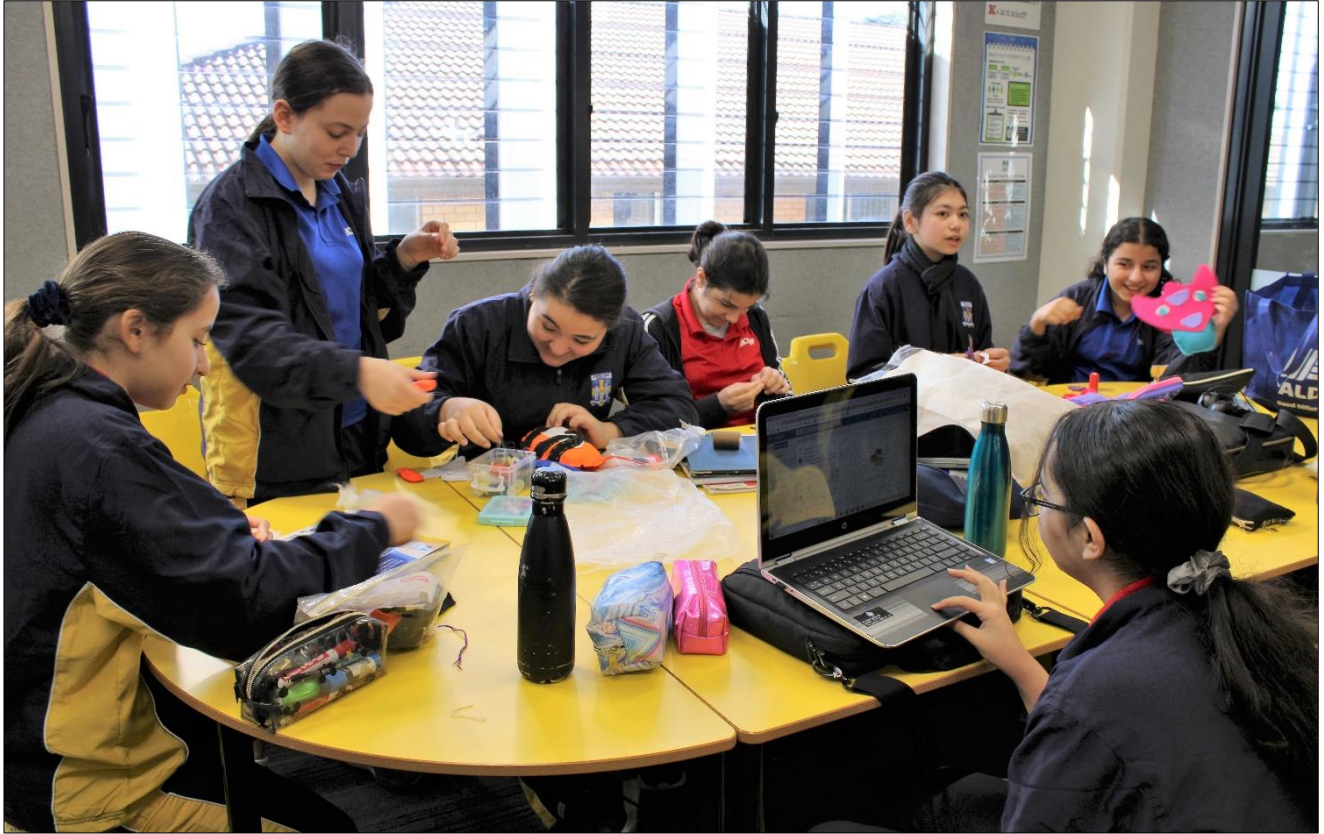
Mrs Macura's Year 8 Science students have been studying Our Precious Water Resources. What a great job they did making these descriptive posters.



6 Emerald creating clay figurines for Creative Arts



Year 7 Technology students, finalising practicals on their Textile Technology mythical zoo animal toys.
It looks like a lot of fun!



Mr Asmar demonstrating to the Year 11 VET Construction students the importance of marking out and measuring timber. His golden rule “Measure twice, cut once!”



PARENT CORNER

**Please read the 2020 Non-Government School Census collection notice
(Email attachment with this newsletter).**

SCHOOL HOLIDAY REMINDER

With the School holidays fast approaching please remember to follow the 5 simple steps for sun safety:

1. Slip on sun protective clothing that covers as much of your body as possible.
2. Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, at least 20 minutes before sun exposure. Reapply every two hours when outdoors or more often if perspiring or swimming.
3. Slap on a broad-brimmed hat that shades your face, neck and ears.
4. Seek shade.
5. Slide on sunglasses.

Younger children would enjoy the message from Sid the Seagull found on the link below;

<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/tools/videos/current-tv-campaigns/slip-slop-slap-seek-slide-sid-seagull.html>

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/>

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