



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

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

Term 3 - Week 5: Friday, 21st August 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week we commenced with the start of the Year 12 Trial Examinations. I would like to ask all parents and students to keep Year 12 in your prayers for the next few weeks.

My heartfelt thanks are extended to all parents, students and staff for your generous donations towards the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal and the Fundraiser towards the tragedy that occurred in Beirut. May our Lord protect you and your families from harm and keep you safe always.

No matter how bad a situation can be UNITED we can re-build the whole world not just Lebanon. Hoping and praying for a better future for us all.

*The greatest
GOOD
is what we do
for one another*

~ Mother Teresa ~



Should you wish to donate to this most worthy cause donations can be made straight to the main office in the College and will be forwarded as a lump sum to the Sisters in Lebanon. Alternatively details for donations are as follows:

Local Donations (All donations will be transferred to Overseas Account)

Account Name: The Trustees of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family

Bank Name: DDF

BSB: 067950

Account Number: 24775

International Donations

Beneficiary name: Congregation des Soeurs Maronites de la Sainte Famille- Hopital Libanais Geitawi

Bank Name: Credit Bank SAL

Account Number: 125201

SWIFT: CBCBLBBE

IBAN: LB66 0103 0001 1012 9101 2520 1001

**Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL**

Thank you for your generosity

Special thanks to our wonderful parents and friends who made very generous donations to our sausage sizzle fundraiser. The sausages, bread rolls, onions, sauces, water, utensils, foil dishes, decorations, etc., ensured that we were able to make 100% profit for Geitawi Hospital in Beirut.



On the Day

Our Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser was a great success, with more orders than we expected. A quick SOS Facebook/SkoolBag post had fifty parents calling the College, offering to bring us much needed bread rolls. Who knew we would need more than the 1000 we already had? Within the hour, we had bags of bread (literally) flying over the fence into the waiting arms of our SRC. We were saved!

No doubt, every Woollies in the Western Suburbs was cleaned out of sausage bread rolls by the most amazing parents in the world!

Our heartfelt appreciation to you all.

We can never express the love we have for you or the pride we felt when so many of “our family” members helped us in our time of need.

Our dearest thanks include the parents (at work) who offered to donate the money for us to buy more bread, and all the parents who kept calling to make sure we had everything we needed.

We truly are the luckiest school. Thank you!

WE RAISED OVER \$12,000!!

The Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family would also like to send their heartfelt gratitude to all who donated money. The hospital is in desperate need of funds and your generosity will, literally, save so many people. Every cent counts!

God bless you all!



St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal

This week, we received a certificate of appreciation from St Vincent de Paul Society, to acknowledge the donation we made towards this year's winter appeal. The items and funds will no doubt help those less fortunate than us in this winter season. Thank you to all our parents/guardians, students and staff who contributed in any way to this year's appeal.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Certificate of Appreciation

THANK YOU

Maronite College of the Holy Family - Parents & Friends and School Community

For your wonderful support with the 2020 Vinnies Winter appeal

very generous donations of winter knits, socks, blankets and money to support

people in your community who are at risk of homelessness.

The Society was founded in Paris in 1833 and established in Australia in 1854. It is active in 114 countries serving people of all races, nations and religious persuasions.

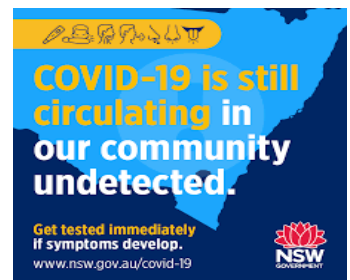
Its members bear witness to Christ by their personal service in relieving suffering and promoting human dignity.

.....
Nikki Cummins

Harris Park Hub Coordinator
Parramatta Central Council

HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

The year 2020 will certainly be remembered as a year that brought significant and ongoing change to our lives. On Wednesday this week, the NSW Government enforced further measures in order to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission in school communities. It is important for us all to remember that these Government directives stretch far beyond the College's level of authority. Observing the specific guidelines below is a key factor in maintaining the safety and wellbeing of all.



To ensure that the College continues to comply to all NSW Health Guidelines, we will:

- send any student or staff member home if they present with even the mildest symptoms of COVID-19.
- request any symptomatic student or staff member to seek immediate medical advice.
- prohibit anyone with documented symptoms from returning to school until a negative COVID-19 test result has been issued and presented to the College.
- ensure adults always maintain physical social distancing.
- continue to promote and demonstrate good hygiene practices throughout the College.

For all other members of our College community, you must:

- remain at home if unwell and immediately seek medical advice if suffering from flu-like symptoms.
- provide your child's COVID-19 test result upon their return to school.
- keep a minimum of 1.5m distance from others, especially at the end of the day when students are dismissed.
- quickly move off College grounds and away from exits once students have been collected.
- refrain from conversing with College staff both in the morning and afternoon. Meetings over the phone can be organised by contacting the Primary Admin Office.
- limit the need to enter the main office by making alternate arrangements for payments or return of documentation.

Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser

A big shout out to Miss Mourani for her superb organisation of the Primary Sausage Sizzle this week. Thank you also to Ms El Asmar, Ms Zdrilic and Ms Ghabache who along with the Year 6 SRC and Sport Captains, ensured that all our students were fed on time. Thanks also to Mr Asmar, Mrs Abdul Ahad and Mr Julius for coordinating this important event in support of the recent tragedy in Lebanon. The success of the day could not be possible without the generous donations and contributions from students and parents.



Holy Communion

Due to the latest restrictions imposed by the NSW Government, the College has once again re-scheduled this year's First Holy Communion. On the provision that restrictions do not worsen, the celebration will be held on 24th October 2020 in Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral. We appreciate the understanding shown by the students and parents with the changes that have been imposed upon us. We continue to keep all students in our thoughts and prayers as they continue their journey in preparing for this special Sacrament.



Technology Use

The world of social media and technology is fast becoming the centre of our children's universe. Children think that the internet gives them privacy and a sense of control, but the very opposite is true. Over the past two weeks, I have addressed our Stage 3 students about the dangers associated with the use of the internet and the ways that they can keep safe. I spoke to them about their 'digital footprint' which is the trail of [data](#) created while using the internet. It includes the [websites](#) visited, [emails](#) sent and information submitted to [online](#) services. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure they teach their child the dangers of the online world and monitor their online behaviour. Next week's newsletter will provide some useful tips to assist in keeping your child safe when online.

Primary Learning Centre

This week, Ms Le Merle and Ms Coorey received a special delivery of quality picture books and novels for the Primary Learning Centre. These were generously donated by Elyssa Wehbe and her family. This wonderful array of literature is bound to make our young readers smile.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Just a reminder that the closing date for the 2020 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is fast approaching. All student entries must be received by Friday 28th August 2020. Reading records must be completed prior to this date so that they can be lodged on time. Remember, even if you are finished, keep on reading!

School Uniform

Many thanks to the parents who are ensuring that their children arrive at school well presented each day. Teachers conduct regular checks to make sure that students are wearing the correct uniform. Haircuts are also checked to ensure that they are appropriate and adhere to College Policy. Wearing the school uniform with pride is an important message to give to your child about their identity as a member of the MCHF community. Please encourage them to wear the correct school uniform every day. We also ask that all clothing is labelled so that it can be returned to the correct owner if accidentally lost.

Mr D. Day
Head of Primary

HEAD OF SECONDARY MESSAGE

Update to COVID-19 Restrictions (17th August 2020)

This week, NSW Health provided tighter restrictions to schools for the remainder of term 3 as we continue to manage the current COVID-19 pandemic. Catholic Schools NSW advised the College that the tightening of restrictions impacted the structure of the Year 12 Graduation. Unfortunately, the College will not be able to invite parents/guardians or family members to this year's graduation for our Year 12. The College will continue to celebrate a graduation with only year 12 students and selected members of staff. The graduation will be streamed live via our YouTube channel and we will provide further information in the next few weeks. Year 12 Day Out will not be occurring this year and the formal, scheduled for term 4, will continue as planned unless further restrictions are advised.

Attendance Reminders

A reminder that students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home.

The College cannot accept students to be at home due to fear. We strongly request for families to consult the College and work with us to discuss this matter. We remind our families that the College is a safe place and we are adhering to all advice and guidelines in regards to safety and hygiene.

Year 12 Trial HSC Exams

This week our Year 12 students commenced their Trial HSC Exams. We continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers during this time. The exams are scheduled to conclude on Friday 28th August 2020.

Year 11, 2021 Enrolment Interviews

Parents of Year 10 will soon be receiving documentation for enrolling their child in senior years at the College. These documents will need to be completed and submitted back to the College. Interviews will be held in Term 4. Further information and the packages will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Wellbeing Wednesday and Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser for Lebanon

This Week we celebrated Wellbeing Wednesday with a focus on raising funds for Lebanon. Our theme for this is to serve, and we did just that on Wednesday as we worked together as a College community to fundraise for our homeland that has suffered greatly following the explosion that occurred on the fourth day of August. Thank you to Ms Abdul Ahad, Mr Julius, Miss Mourani, Ms Gahdmar and all the SRC students as well as other students and members of staff who assisted on the day. We also acknowledge and thank the amazing generosity of our parents and wider community who donated items for our sausage sizzle.



Year 8 into 9 Subject Selection

This coming week on Friday 28th August 2020, our year 8 students will be attending a session where we will provide them the elective courses they may wish to select to study for 2021. Following the session, students will complete a form to select two elective subjects.

Uniform and Grooming

It is great to see a big improvement with the majority of students taking extra pride in their appearance. However, we need to remind you of our expectations in regards to uniform and grooming:

- Students must be wearing their Blazer to and from the College. This displays a professional image of our College in the wider community.
- The College does not accept hair colouring or streaks or foils etc. Students must display their natural hair colour at all times.
- Boys haircuts must be clean, neat and tidy.
- Boys must ensure they are cleanly shaven. The College will be focusing on this in the next couple of weeks.

Students at the College must demonstrate a sense of professionalism at all times and their appearance and presentation is a key and important factor of demonstrating professionalism. We thank all our parents/guardians who comply and support our expectations.

Mr E. Asmar

Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday 25th August – Years 7 and 10 Immunisations
- Friday 28th August – Year 9, 2021 Subject Selection
- Saturday 12th September – 4 Amber Holy Communion at 10am / 4 Olive Holy Communion at 3pm
- Sunday 13th September – 4 Aqua Holy Communion at 10am / 4 Violet Holy Communion at 3pm
- Wednesday 23rd September – Year 12 Graduation
- **Thursday 24th September – Term 3 Ends for Students**

- **Tuesday 13th October – Term 4 Begins**
- Tuesday 20th October to Friday 11th November – HSC Exams
- Thursday 22nd to Friday 23rd October – Year 11 Leadership Camp
- Monday 26th October to Friday 6th November – Years K-3 Swimming lessons
- Tuesday 10th November – Catch-up Immunisations
- Wednesday 11th November – Years K-6 Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Friday 13th November – Year 3 First Reconciliation
- Friday 27th November – Year 6 Graduation
- **Tuesday 8th December – Last Day for Students**

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards:

- ★ Zoe May Sahyoun, Raphael Cortese, Charbel Mawad, James Koura, Richard Semaan, Savannah Anjoul, Lucia Saad, Jamie-Lee Boutrous, Leila George, Sienna Ghabache, Matthew Abi-khattar, Elizabeth Ayoub (Year 2)
- ★ Amber Fasavalu, Juliana Licha, Christian Youssef (Year 5)
- ★ Steven Bou Habib, Grace El Khoury, Sophia Haddad (Year 7)
- ★ Dominique Lahood (Year 12)

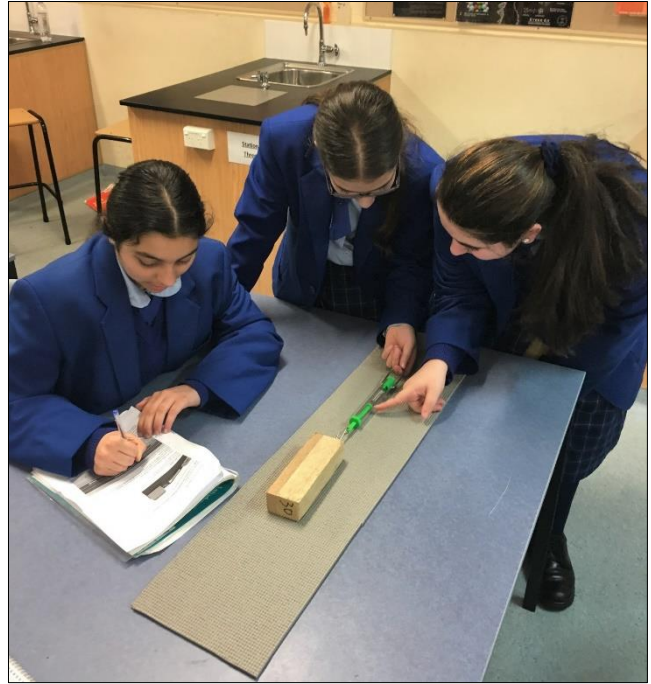
Bronze Awards:

- ★ Lucas Tadros, Jacob Layoun, Jason Zalloua (Year 3)

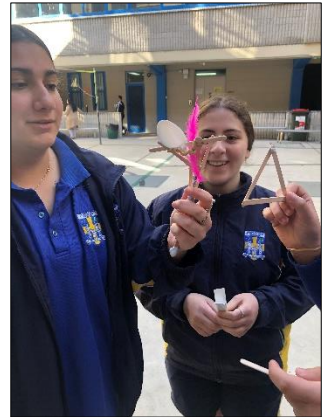
THIS AND THAT

This week, we celebrated Science week!

Ms Carlos' Year 7.3 Science students worked on an experiment to measure the amount of friction of different surfaces.



Year 10 participated in a Stem Activity, during their pastoral period today. The purpose of this activity was to create a catapult out of paddle pop sticks, rubber bands, and sticky tape. This allows students to develop skills in problem solving, innovation and critical thinking. At the end of the session, all students lined up their catapults and we had a competition to see whose creation was most effective at flinging a small pom pom!



Constable Dusan spoke to Year 7 and 8, during Pastoral today, about the appropriate use of social media.



PARENT CORNER

Update to COVID-19 Restrictions (17th August 2020)

As of 17th August, some of the changes required from schools are -

- Schools must not travel outside of their local community area or zone for all interschool activities.
- Some group activities such as choirs, chanting and the use of wind instruments in a group setting are not permitted.
- Dance activities will require risk assessments and a COVID-19 Safety Plan.
- Trade training centres are required to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan.
- School based apprenticeships, traineeships and VET work placements will require employers to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan.
- A Year 12 graduation assembly is allowed with restrictions.

BYOD LINK AND CODE

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

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

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