



# 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 4 - Week 9: Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Advent is a time when we need to prepare ourselves spiritually in order to fully understand and share in the joy of Christ's arrival. Jesus came into the world in a very simple and humble manner. We should strive to find God in the simpler aspects of our lives.

Advent is about the expectation of hope. We need to be aware of the daily opportunities to be kind and compassionate. In sharing a smile, a caring word or some small act of kindness, we will find peace at Christmas and throughout the year.

**My Prayer for you this Christmas  
is that you would know the greatest gift –**

**JESUS**

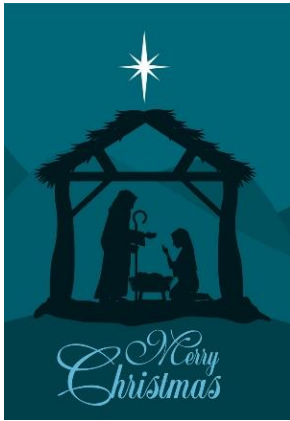


This is the final newsletter for the year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your commitment to the College over the year. It has been a very challenging year and we have accomplished many wonderful achievements. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas with your families and may 2021 be a very blessed year for you all.

**Sr Irene Boughosn  
PRINCIPAL**

*MerryChristmas*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMARY EXECUTIVE



As 2020 draws to a close, I take this opportunity to wish all our MCHF parents, students and staff a happy and blessed Christmas.

It has been a busier year than usual, filled with the added uncertainty of the ever changing COVID restrictions. I would like to acknowledge and thank Sr Irene and Sr Marlene for the guidance and support they continue to provide to all members of the MCHF community. Thank you also to the Primary Leadership Team who support me in leading the Primary Department each and every day. To the teaching and support staff who show great dedication and passion in order to deliver quality learning experiences for our students, thank you. I would like to recognise and thank the office staff, Business Services Department and Maintenance Team for the amazing job they do to ensure that everything continues to run smoothly on a daily basis. To Ms Mary Bechara and the members of the Parent Association, thank you for

the amazing job you did this year to provide the events that were permitted to be held. Lastly, I would like to thank the students and parents for the commitment you display towards learning here at the College. Keep safe over the holiday period and enjoy the festive season with your family.

### Christmas Mass

Last Friday, the College held its annual Christmas Mass. It was a beautiful celebration attended by Year 1, Year 2 and Year 9 students. Special thanks to Mr Nouh for organising the mass and to the Primary students who sang a beautiful rendition of *The Little Drummer Boy*.



### Farewell

This week we wish a fond farewell to the following staff who are leaving the MCHF community. Mr Anthony Bechara, Ms Alysia Redden, Mr Christopher Perrett, Mr John Watkiss, Ms Laurise Dasouqi and Ms Lamia Mourched have all accepted positions at new schools in order to further enhance their teaching careers. We thank them for the contributions they have made to our College and wish them well for their future endeavours. We also wish Ms Sue Monday and Mrs Eugenia Vrontas all the best as they take some well-earned leave in 2021.



### End of Year Reports

Student reports will be released to parents on Friday 11th December 2020 via the Parent Portal. These reports capture student learning for the second semester and inform parents about their child's progress for the year. Reports are a significant communication between school and home. Teachers have the responsibility to honestly inform parents about student learning measured against syllabus outcomes. Teachers can only report on what students demonstrate. This can be challenging for some parents who may see different skills displayed at home or in other extracurricular activities. Teachers cannot account for learning that is not demonstrated by a student in the school setting. Student achievement is reported on an A - E scale. It is important to recognise that every student is different and that they cannot all achieve an 'A' or a 'B'. In fact, receiving such grades is rare and celebrating individual student growth is far more important and should be acknowledged. Being awarded a 'C' grade means that a student has achieved set outcomes and is where they need to be in regards to learning. Such grades can reflect a lot of hard work on a student's behalf and if they have applied maximum effort, no one can ask for more. It is important that students have a positive disposition to learning and parents play a key role in this. Your response to your child's grades can make a significant difference to a student's future learning.

## End of Term Assembly

The Primary End of Term Awards Assembly was separated into two separate events yesterday. These assemblies not only celebrated the special academic achievements of our students, but also recognised the students who have been selected as the leaders in the Primary Department for 2021. Due to restrictions, students were unable to have their parents attend, however they were given the opportunity to phone them afterwards to tell them their wonderful news. We congratulate all our future leaders. I am sure that they will do a wonderful job next year.

<b>School Captains</b> Amber Fasavalu Joshua Ghabache	<b>Vice Captains</b> Natalia Ibrahim Jason Azar
<b>SRC</b> Grace Ghabache Gabriella Helou Alyssa Habib Jade Nicholas Janae Diab Danielle Hobeich Jonah Botros Christian Chiha Mykal Abdou Youssef Sarkis Aaryan Basnet Hanna Elias	<b>Sport Captains</b> <b>St Charbel (Yellow)</b> Angelina Deeb Joseph Karam <b>St Rafqa (Green)</b> April Zdrilic Gabriel Deeb <b>St Mary MacKillop (Blue)</b> Lynn Nakhoul Jacob Harmouche <b>St Maroun (Red)</b> Rene El Khoury Julien Nabhan

## Learning in the Holidays

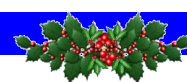
During the Christmas Break, it is vital to keep children's minds active. Please encourage your child to continue to read and write each day during the holidays. For our younger students engaging in literacy-based activities will allow them to enhance the reading and writing skills they have been developing at school. For the older children in Stage 2 and Stage 3, please minimise screen time and encourage daily reading of novels and magazines that interest them. It is also important to continue to find Mathematics in every day places so that your children can continue to develop their mathematical thinking.

**Mr D. Day**

**Head of Primary**



## MESSAGE FROM THE SECONDARY EXECUTIVE



**Last Day of Term 4 for Students: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Last Day of Term 4 for Staff: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Term 1 Commences for Staff: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Term 1 Commences for Year 7 Students: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Term 1 Commences for Year 8-12 Students: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

**It's Not Goodbye.....It's See You Later!**

In the last few days, I have had multiple conversations with staff and students about the 2020 year. The conversations are all mainly around *"its all over! I can't wait to put this year behind me and move forward for next year when we go back to normality."*

To a point, I agreed with these conversations. However, as I reflect on this year, I cannot help but to see the positives out of this year. We have learnt to value the importance of family, we have improved our ways of collaboration and communication. We have even embedded technology to improve our teaching and learning through means such as Microsoft Teams. We successfully implemented online half yearly exams and transitioned our teaching and learning to online platforms which will allow our students to have access to their work and education 24/7.

It is now becoming a habit to sanitise our hands and have a bottle of sanitiser available in our offices, learning spaces, corridors and stairwells. This can only benefit our hygiene in the future. Therefore, yes we cannot wait for this year to be over; however, we thank God for guiding us through these challenges and blessing us with the opportunities we have been given.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the work and dedication of the College Staff who have committed many additional hours to ensure effective education was delivered to the students. I congratulate all students who have endured the challenges of the year and have had to adapt to the changes throughout the year. I thank the parents/guardians of the students for your support throughout the year as I acknowledge that you also have had to adapt to our changes throughout the year – especially during remote learning.

I look forward to continue working with you all and serving our College community in my new role in 2021. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and prosperous new year. Christ has been born, Alleluia!

### **Farewell**

At the end of this year we farewell the following staff who will be departing our College:

- Mr D El-Hage
- Ms M Zaferis
- Ms D Chaaban
- Mr S Naim
- Mr B O'Connell

We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours and thank them for their service to the College in their time with us.

### **Farewell to School Liaison Officer – Dusan Dakic**

Our School Liaison Officer, Dusan Dakic, has been an important member of our College over the last few years. He has mentored our students, led various presentations, attended various events or simply joined our students at recess and lunch. He has also always been a phone call away if we ever needed advice or assistance. Sadly, we farewell Dusan who is moving on to another position at the end of this year. We thank Dusan for the work, service and assistance he provided our College and we wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

### **Rewards Day**

Rewards Day was held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Students participated in 5 activities and events on this day including:

1. Awards Ceremony
2. Virtual Expo
3. Team Building Activities
4. Sporting Challenge
5. GEM Session

Staff and students thoroughly enjoyed the day with the various activities and events. I thank Mr Abood, Mr Gharrach, Ms Delimitros, Ms Abdul Ahad, Ms Dalla and Ms Zaferis for leading and coordinating the day in their



respective activities. A special thank you to Mrs Norma Douaihy (Claudia's Kitchen) for donating items for the sausage sizzle.





## 2020 Student DUX

Congratulations to our 2020 Student DUX

Year	DUX
7	Charlize SLEIMAN
8	Jean Paul AZAR
9	Ella-Maria BASSIL
10	Elie JOUKHADAR
11	Celine MOUSSA



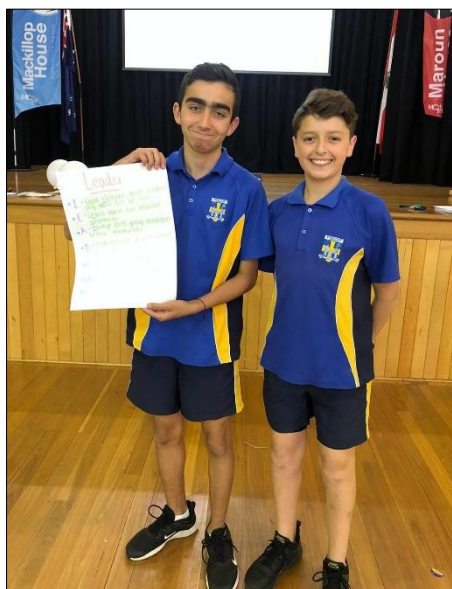
## 2021 Peer Support Leaders

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020, the year 9 students participated in their Peer Support Leadership Training. The students impressed the teachers presenting with their knowledge, enthusiasm and leadership skills. We thank Ms Abdul Ahad, Ms Hadchiti, Mr Gharrach, Ms Sen, Ms Boustani and Ms Chaaban for working with the students on this day.

We congratulate the following Year 9 students who have been appointed Peer Support Leaders for 2021:

Angelina Kassiss	Isabelle Baker	Michel Shalhoub
Angelina Yaacoub	Jerome Francis	Milad Tony Aouad
Ann Tannous	Jessica Elkrrina	Nicholas Laba
Anthony Habib	Joanne Sader	Rafqa Iskandar
Christelle Joukhadar	John El-Barhoun	Savannah Ann Youssef
Eliana Zaidan	Johnathan Stavrinakis	Therese El- Haddad
Elie Menhem	Joya Tawk	Tiana Maalouf
Ella-Maria Bassil	Kayla Fasavalu	Tony Bechara
Georgia Matta	Jesse Ellis	

These students will be leading the first day with Year 7 on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.



## Christmas Mass

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020, we celebrate our final Mass for the year which focused on Christmas. Our Year 9 students attended the Mass with the remainder of our secondary students participating in the Mass online.



## Year 11 Camp

Our Year 11 students attended their overnight camp on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 at Outdoor Education Morisset. The students enjoyed the various activities which tested and developed various skills such as team building, communication, and planning and organisation. The students enjoyed the time away and the experience will become a memory which they will look back on and cherish for a long time to come. Thank you to Mr El-Hage for organising the camp along with Mr Khatar and Ms Zaferis who attended the camp.



## 2020 HSC Results

Our 2020 graduating class are currently waiting for the release of their HSC results on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. We look forward to sharing and celebrating the results of our students.

## Year 7-11 Reports

Reports for Year 7-11 will be released via the Parent Portal on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

## 2021 Book Lists

The 2021 book lists have been released. Copies were provided to students as well as made available through the College website, Parent Portal and the College App.

Mr E Asmar

Head of Secondary



Claudia's Kitchen

**Special thanks to Mrs Norma Douaihy for donating the sausages, bread and water for our Secondary Rewards Day lunch. Because of Mrs Douaihy's great generosity, our Secondary students are all able to enjoy a free sausage sizzle on Monday.**

**Many thanks, also, to Bay Vista for donating vouchers for us to give to our highest merit achievers in each year group.**



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## DATES TO REMEMBER

- ★ Tuesday 8th December – Last Day for Students
- ★ Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Year 7 start school
- ★ Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 – Years 1-6 and 8-12 start school
- ★ Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 – Kindy start school (*Half days from Wednesday until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February*)



## ★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

### All Rounder Awards:

- ★ Patrick Dimassi, McKayla Aoun, Patrick Dimassi, George Eskaff, Gabriel Estephan, Elijah Semaan (Kindy)
- ★ Adriana El Khoury, Alyssia Rose Saad, Sophia Chamoun, Angelia Hobeiche, Ethan Azzi, Elissa Harb, Charbel El haddad, Charlie Maroun, Joseph Dababneh, Tony Saliba, Justin Chiha, Jacinta Sassine, Ava Melhem, Elizabeth Azzi, Lucia Saab (Year 1)
- ★ Elliana Eljer, Julian Basnet, Francis Ishac, Christian ElKhoury, Alexander Mekary, Olivia Tawk, Antonia Wakim, Lily-Rose El Katrib, Eva Nakhoul, Charbel Namnoum, Sally Zayden (Year 2)
- ★ Dyanne Maroun, Jerome Deeb, Anita Taouk Michael Moussa, John-Paul Ishak, Maroun Michael Ters, Nadim El Halabi El Makari, Kayla Maalouf, Georgia Ibrahim (Year 7)
- ★ Joe Raad, Isabella Sabat, Zachariah Dayoub, Ralph Dib, George Zaidan, Tiana Boumelhem, Marya Aloudeesh, Maryus Aloudeesh, Brianna Diab, Anthony Elia, Mathew Bounasr, Veronica Ibrahim, Angelina Wehbe (Year 8)
- ★ Marcel Deeb, Isabelle Baker, Tony Bechara, Arthur Maroun, Georgia Matta (Year 9)
- ★ Ashley Habib, Elie Joukhadar, Josef Boumelhem, Wadih Tannous, Jonathan Chidiac, Charbel Ibrahim, Joseph Nakhoul, John Ayoub, Anthony Aflak, Badwi Makary (Year 10)
- ★ Erica El Bazouni, Raymond Bechara, Tatiana Estephan, Charbel Makary, Kristina Ishak, Theresa Sassine, Ashley O'Brien, Ashton Tannous, Briana Mekary, Charbel Moussa, Marina Akik, Michael Antoun, Chanel Melhem, Simon Zeitar, Zoe Tannous (Year 11)

### Bronze Awards:

- ★ Jacob Tawadrous, Sienna Karam, Joseph Dababneh, Mia Rose Barbar, Jacinta Sassine, Amelia Yaacoub, Michael Saba, Dona Bou Sleiman, Maged Elghazawy, Tony El Asmar (Year 1)

- ★ Charbel Mawad, John Tawk, Raphael Cortese, Joe Sassine, Gaia El-Khoury, Charbel Taouk, Charbel Sleiman, Layla Bou Francis, Christean Boumina, Stephanie Tatian, Joe Obeid, Clarita Deeb (Year 2)
- ★ Hannah Youssef (Year 7)
- ★ Youssef Taouk, Raymond Constanton, Theresa Boustani, Anthony Germanos, Norma Samaha, Matthew El Bazouni, Anthony Samson, Joyce Yaacoub, Rebecca Hanania, Charbel Habib (Year 8)
- ★ Savannah Youssef, Jessica Elkrina, Kristy El Katrib, Kayla Fasavalu (Year 9)
- ★ Vanessa El Katrib, Cindy Massoud, Mark Nemer, Samantha Georges (Year 10)
- ★ Christina Kazzi, Adrian Harb, Chanelle Coorey, Maria Doumit, Celine Harb, Raymond Hadchiti (Year 11)

#### Silver Awards:

- ★ Raphael Merheb, Jerome Akoury, Alyssa Chehade, Antonio Dib, Sienna Karam, Jacob Tawadrous, Andrea Haddad (Year 1)
- ★ Charbel Hanna, George Semaan, Mema Yaccoub, Helen Maroon (Year 3)
- ★ Isabella Boumelhem, Monique Abou-Touma, Natasha Ishak (Year 7)
- ★ Simon Bazouni, Rita Raffoul, Jean Paul Azar, Tatijana Tannous (Year 8)
- ★ Johnathan Stavrinakis (Year 9)
- ★ Raymond Hadchiti, Celine Harb (Year 11)

#### Principal's Awards:

- ★ Izabela Abdou, John Paul BouMelhem, Mariah Elia, Zachariah Cortese (Year 1)
- ★ Alyssa Dababneh, Anthony Mallouhi, Lilyrose Ghabache (Year 3)
- ★ Mikayla Stavrinakis, Cindy Massoud (Year 10)
- ★ Raymond Hadchiti (Year 11)



## THIS AND THAT

Merry Christmas from Kindy Blue!



Last week, Kindy White wrote a letter to Santa telling him what we wanted for Christmas. More importantly, we gave reasons to persuade Santa why we should be on the nice list. Shortly after, we each received a letter from the North Pole! Kindy White students were excited and relieved to discover we have all made it onto Santa's nice list!



Kindy get into the groove as part of their sports dance studies.



Year 7D students, enjoying the spirit of Christmas and exchanging KK gifts.



Year 8 Celebrate the Spirit of Christmas by giving to each other.



Year 9 - 'Be the Light of the World'



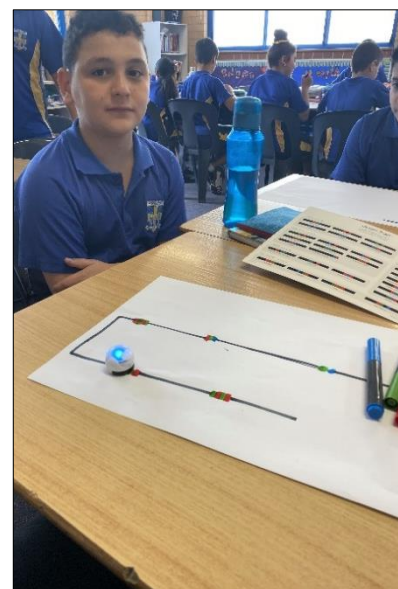
Mrs J Botros' Year 9 food technology students extended their skills in baking - Constructing their very own ginger bread houses and decorating personalised Christmas couture cookies, which supported the skills and knowledge gained in their final unit for the year, Food for Special Occasions. All of the students should be proud of their achievements as it was a real challenge to complete.



Year 10 students, taking part in a debate on "Indigenous Australians do not experience the same rights as non-Indigenous Australians".



5 Rainbow have been learning about coding and algorithms in Digital Technologies. ACU was extremely kind in lending the college Ozobots for students to code and create algorithms. The students had lots of fun.



5 Rainbow made sushi for their Science lesson, last week. They have been learning about the living world and how food and fibre are responsibly sourced. Students have been exploring plants, animals, tools and techniques that enable people to grow and be healthy. With this information, students planned, designed and produced a healthy meal of sushi. They had lots of fun making and eating their sushi.



## PARENT CORNER



### **Important Message for Year 6 Parents/Guardians**

Year 7, 2021 students commence Term 1 on

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

(Peer Support and Orientation Day)

**9am – 1pm**

Students are to wear **Summer School Uniform** and are required to bring their **recess and lunch** with them.  
(Canteen will be open with limited items for sale).

Dear parents/guardians,

If you have not already done so, please notify the College if your child **will not** be returning next year.



The 2021 BYOD portal is up and running...

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

School Code: MCHFBYOD

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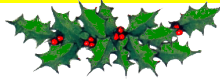
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