



Maronite College of the Holy Family

NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

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Term 1 - Weeks 3: Friday 12th February 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



This week Kindergarten commenced full days. All students have now settled in well and are beginning to adjust to their new routine. I would like to thank all the parents for following all College directives and for all their assistance. Please be assured that your children are in safe hands.

Today the College celebrated the Feast of St Maroun and Honour Day. Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral. Following the mass, a small gathering took place in the College Hall to acknowledge the fine achievements of the 2020 HSC Results. Congratulations to all our high achievers.

I wish all of you a very blessed feast day. May St Maroun inspire us all to follow in his footsteps of holiness so that we may be able to reflect the true face of God to everyone.

Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL

“Blessed are you, Saint Maroun, for you became a prayer on the lips of the faithful, and a living example for the people who bear your name and will be known as Maronites to the end of the age.”

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

COVID-19 Reminders

A reminder to parents/guardians that the College continues to abide by the COVID-19 guidelines. It is important for our parents/guardians to abide by the guidelines set by the College. Parents/Guardians are only permitted on College grounds for one of the following reasons:

- purchase or pick up uniforms from the uniform shop
- meet with school staff with an appointment
- drop off students for Kindergarten and Years 1, 2 and 7
- attend parent orientation meetings for Preschool, Kindergarten or Year 7 and ‘meet the teacher’ meetings with school staff for all year/stage groups.
- Parents and carers (as well as any guests/visitors) must sign in using the QR Code.
- Parent Association meetings can occur after school hours with restrictions.

Wearing Masks

This week we received an email from our School Liaison Police Officer to remind our students over the age of 12 that they must be wearing masks on public transport (including chartered/private buses) when travelling to and from the College. It is your responsibility to ensure your child has a mask and wears it when travelling on public transport.

Photography/Video Permission and Medical Information Forms

This week we released through our Skoolbag App the photography/video permission form and the medical information forms. The photography/video permission form must be completed for all students. Any student who has a medical condition and requires any medication/dosage must complete the appropriate forms. All these forms are only located through our College Skoolbag App. Included in this newsletter are instructions on how to install the app. The Main Office has set up an iPad to assist parents/guardians who require guidance or a demonstration on using the app.

Mr E. Asmar

Assistant Principal

PRIMARY NEWS

This week, our Kindergarten students completed their first full week of school. Their teachers are so proud of the way they have settled into the routines and structures of school life. For all other students, it has been a seamless transition to their new grades. Everyone is looking forward to the exciting year of learning ahead of them.



Parent Procedures

From Monday, all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are to be dropped off at the main gate. Parents are not permitted to enter and wait with their child until the bell goes. At the end of the school day, parents are requested to stand in the restricted area along the edge of each playground so that we comply with our COVID Safe Plan. It is also asked that you leave the College grounds immediately once your child has been collected and avoid conversing with other parents and students. This will also alleviate the congestion on the Primary Playgrounds and around the main gates. We appreciate your support so that we can maintain the wellbeing and safety of all in our community.

Communication with Teachers

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 health and safety procedures, parents are asked not to communicate with teachers or other staff at the end of the day as students are dismissed.

Parent/Teacher Chats

This year, the Primary Department will be conducting Parent/Teacher Chats on Monday 22nd February and

Tuesday 23rd February. The purpose of these chats is for you to share any important information about your child with their class teacher. This information may include your child's strengths and personal interests, as well as any areas of concern you may have in regard to their learning. The Parent/Teacher chat allows teachers to gain a wonderful insight into all aspects of your child. A note outlining further details will be sent home with your child on Monday 15th February.

Library Borrowing

Our Kindergarten students were able to borrow library books for the first time this week. The smiles spread across their faces could not hide their excitement of being able to choose a book to take home and read. Library borrowing is an important part of a child's wider reading experience. At MCHF, all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are able to borrow from an extensive range of quality literature and there are always new books being added 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.



First Holy Communion Parent Information Evening

The Information Evening for parents of students making their First Holy Communion this year will be held next Tuesday 16th February 2021. The session will begin at 6:30 pm in the **Recreation Room of the OLOL Community Youth and Pastoral Centre**. A reminder that due to COVID restrictions, only one parent is permitted to attend the session. Please ensure that you have returned your Attendance Confirmation Slip to your child's class teacher by Monday 15th February.



Crunch and Sip

Crunch and Sip is an important part of your child's day at school, as it allows them the opportunity to 'refuel' on vegetables, salad and fruit as well as 'rehydrate' with water. Students who are not hungry and are well hydrated perform better in the classroom as they display an increased focus in learning and are less likely to be irritable and disruptive in class. When packing your child's Crunch and Sip, ensure that the raw fruit and vegetables chosen can be easily eaten.



Attendance

A reminder that any student absent 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. This term, we continue to insist that students who present with flu-like symptoms remain at home. We thank you for your continued support.

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. If you have good reason why your child is not in correct uniform, we kindly ask that a note be written and sent to the class teacher.

Lost Property

Each week the Lost Property containers are filled with a range of clothing and other items left on the playground by students. Please ensure that your child's clothing and personal belongings are clearly labelled with their name so that they can be easily returned if lost.

Primary Swimming Lessons

This year all Primary grades will again be participating in the College Swimming Program. Swimming is a component of the NSW Personal Development, Health and Physical Education curriculum and provides essential safety skills. Years 4-6 will begin their swimming lessons next week. Lessons will be held each Tuesday and Wednesday during weeks 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

Rugby League Skills Program

Over the past two weeks, students from Years 3-6 participated in a Rugby League Skills program run by Parramatta Eels. These sessions were introductory Rugby League Clinics that covered the basic skills of the game. The sessions promoted physical activity and fundamental movement skills.



Homework Club

Homework Club will be held each Monday after school for students in Years 2-6. It is supervised by MCHF staff who assist students in completing homework tasks. Students must ensure that they have enough work to complete in the hour session. Homework Club will begin next week and continue until Week 10 this term. A detailed note with an attached permission slip is available from the Primary Administration Office.

Music Lessons

The College is again providing the opportunity for Primary students to partake in private music lessons this year. Lessons will be taught by Mr Wood each Wednesday or Thursday this term. To enrol your child, please see the Administration Staff in the Main Office. The cost of each 30-minute lesson is \$20.



Mr D. Day
Head of Primary

SECONDARY NEWS



Honour Day Mass

Today we celebrated our Honour Day Mass at the OLOL Co-Cathedral. It was nice to be able to have Years 10-12 join us in the Cathedral for the first time since COVID-19. All students in Years 7-9 were able to watch the mass live streamed from their homerooms. In the Mass we were able to celebrate and recognise the 2020 HSC Top Achievers and present them with their certificates. Congratulations to our two DUX, 2020 College captains Nicole Farah and Robbie El Bazouni with an ATAR of 92.85. We had 13 of our students received an ATAR of over 80 and we congratulate all of these students on their achievements.

2020	Name	ATAR
DUX	Nicole Farah	92.85
DUX	Robbie El Bazouni	92.85
	Mabelle Chamchoum	92.05
	Rafka Kayrouz	90.45
	Raquel El Katrib	90.40
	Clarita Fajloun	88.95
	Christina Ibrahim	86.40
	Samijo Laoulach	86.35
	Georgio Daher	86.1
	Charbel Doumit	85.55
	Olivia Saroufin	84.50
	Angela Nemer	81.00
	Dominique Lahood	80.75



Year 8 Learn To Swim Program

This week, Year 8 students participated in the Learn to Swim Program. The intensive program saw the students develop their swimming techniques, endurance and water safety. Ex-students of our College, Antonio and Brandon Chalita (pictured), delivered the program to some of our students.



Year 9 Science

Year 9 students are currently learning about Homeostasis and part of it is how the body works in achieving salt and water balance. This week they identified the parts of a kidney through dissection and learnt how it plays an important role in achieving internal balance.



Year 12 Hospitality

On Wednesday, Year 12 Hospitality, together with Mrs Pather, practised their skills in food service and hosted a morning tea for the new staff joining the MCHF community.



Homework Club in the Secondary Learning Centre

Homework Club will be returning on Monday 15th February, from 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Run by teachers from a variety of departments, it aims to assist students in completing homework and research tasks.

Students are asked to bring enough homework to complete in the hour session. A detailed note with an attached permission slip was sent home this week.

Parent Info Evening

The Parent Information Evening scheduled for Wednesday 17th February will not be held face-to-face due to current COVID-19 restrictions. It will be pre-recorded and delivered online via the College YouTube channel. It will be released by 5pm Wednesday 17th February for viewing.

MCHF YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=mchf+parramatta

Excursion Permission Forms

As we did in 2020, the College is making the effort to streamline our excursion and carnival procedures and to ensure you are aware of what commitments are undertaken by your children. Therefore, we have provided a general permission slip (this will come home with students on Monday) to be signed via the Skoolbag app. This means that you are not required to sign individual permission slips for each activity or excursion. A detailed notification letter will be distributed to students prior to each excursion/carnival (including payment information if required).

You will be required to login to the Skoolbag app after 9am on Monday 15th February and sign the permission form to ensure that your child/children will be able to participate in all these excursions and carnivals.

MCHF Pilgrimage

In August this year, the College will be offering students the chance to travel to outback New South Wales on our first ever pilgrimage. Any student from years 10, 11 and 12 can apply to be a part of this exciting experience. Important information is listed below, for further information please see the attached flyer.

Dates: 17th – 19th August 2021

Length: 3 days, 2 nights

Staying at Bolo Farm NSW - <https://www.bacaustralia.com.au/home/farm-chapel-christ-the-king/>

Who can come?

Any student can apply from years 10, 11 and 12.

Cost: \$120 pp

While the majority of the costs will be covered by College fundraising during the year, students will be asked to contribute \$120 to assist in transport, food and accommodation.

How do I apply?

Students will be required to submit an application involving an expression of interest. Students will be chosen based on their application and suitability for representing the College.

Ms E. McCluskey

Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday 15th February – Ash Monday
- Monday 15th February to Friday 5th March – Years K-3 First Aid
- ~~Tuesday 16th February~~ – Parent Volunteer Induction – *Parents/guardians will be notified when a new date is decided on.*
- Tuesday 16th February and Friday 19th February – Year 7A and 7B Learn to Swim Program
- Tuesday 16th February to Wednesday 17th February – Years 4-6 Swimming Lessons
- Tuesday 16th February – Holy Communion meeting for parents at 6:30pm (OLOL CYPC)
- Wednesday 17th February – Secondary Parent Information Evening at 6:30pm
- Friday 19th February – PDSSSC Opens Basketball Gala Day (Select students)
- Friday 19th February – Mass at 9am for Years 8 and 11
- Monday 22nd February and Wednesday 24th February – 7C and 7D Learn to Swim Program
- Wednesday 24th February – Wellbeing Wednesday
- Wednesday 24th February – Year 3 Athletics Australia
- Friday 26th February – All Secondary Swimming Carnival
- Friday 26th February – Mass at 9am for Years 3 and 5
- **Monday 1st March – STUDENT FREE DAY – Staff Development Day**
- Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd March – Photo Days (Primary on 2nd & Secondary on 3rd. Family photos both days)
- Friday 5th March – Mass at 9am for Years 9 and 12
- Wednesday 10th March – PDSSSC Touch Football Gala Day (Select students)

- Wednesday 10th March – Year 3 Athletics Australia
- Friday 12th March – Social Justice Mass at 9am (Years 7 and 10)
- Monday 15th to Friday 19th March – Bullying Awareness Week
- Wednesday 17th March – Year 3 Athletics Australia
- Friday 19th March – St Joseph Mass at 9am (Years 2 and 6)
- Wednesday 24th to Friday 26th March – Year 9 Camp
- Friday 26th March – Mass at 9am for Years 1 and 5
- Friday 26th March – Stations of the Cross at 11:30am (Years 7-10)
- Wednesday 31st March – Holy Week Mass at 9am (Years 4 and 7)
- **Holy Thursday 1st April – Term 1 Ends**

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards:

We are expecting some great works from our students!

Bronze Awards:

Silver Awards:

Principal's Awards:

ALSO THIS WEEK...

Participating in the Mass to celebrate the feast of St Maroun and Honour Day, without leaving the classroom



5 Rainbow are learning about Whole Numbers in Mathematics. In our lesson this week, students were learning to order numbers in ascending and descending order. Students each measured their heights and recorded all the heights of each student in the class. Students then ordered the classes heights in ascending order. For students to visually see the ascending order in heights they stood in the order they arranged in their workbooks. Students had lots of fun discovering their heights and the order they fell in accordance to the heights of their class mates.



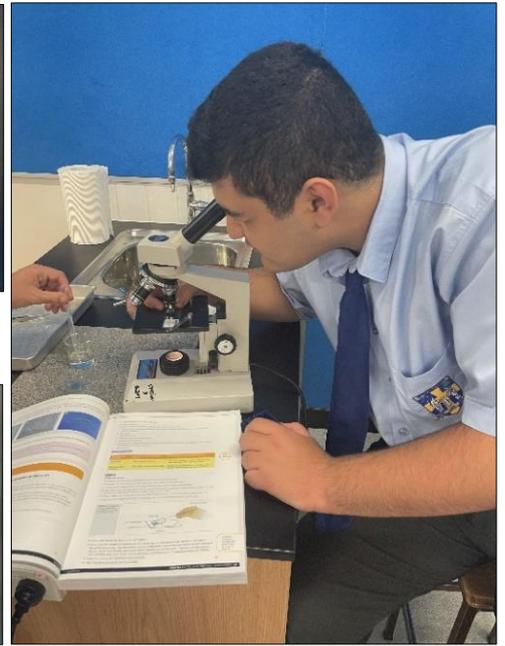
Lunchtime Library activity - Making hearts for our book display for Love your Library Week



3 Lavender engaged in working on mathematics/place value



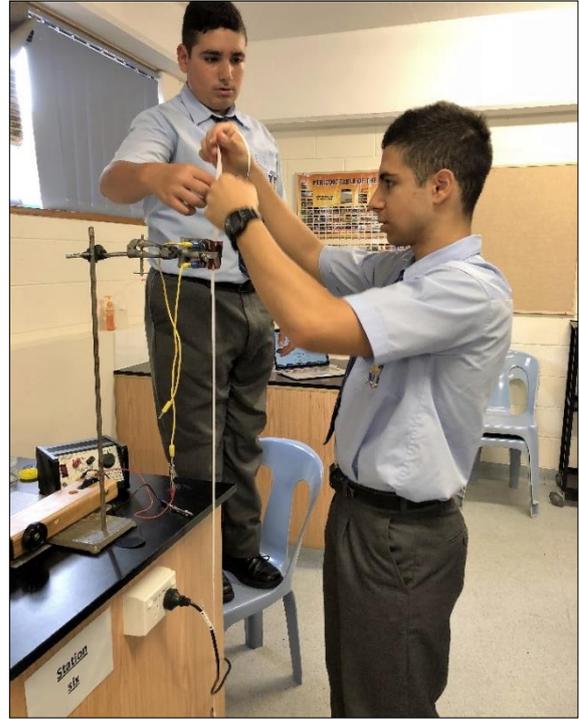
Year 11 biology performing the 'observing prokaryote and eukaryote cells' experiment



Year 11 CAFS students working as a team to figure out needs and wants of different groups in society



Year 11 Prelim Physics, performing an experiment using a ticker timer to analyse how friction and gravity affects the speed, velocity and acceleration of an object.



Last Friday, Mr Asmar presented a session on Goal Setting to Year 11 during Pastoral



PARENT CORNER

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE SKOOLBAG APP!

Dear Parents/Guardians

It is necessary for parents/guardians to download the SkoolBag App. This ensures you receive urgent messages seconds after they are posted. Please contact Georgette Bains if you have issues – 9633 6600.



SkoolBag

Go to app search on your phone:

1. Download the SkoolBag app
2. Create an account
3. Add your school

Parents; Please check your details on the school portal and make any necessary changes. In particular, please ensure address, contact numbers and email addresses are correct.



Traffic Controller Wanted!

The College is seeking a qualified traffic controller to assist with morning drop offs and afternoon pickups.

For more information or to express interest in the position, please contact the Main Administration.



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP

**Positive Partnerships has another Parent/Carer Online Workshop coming up on 9 March.
See attached flyer for details.**

Dear Parents,

We're excited to announce that parents of Maronite College of the Holy Family have exclusive access to Elevate Education's Parent Webinar Series for Term 1, 2021. Elevate works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how to better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school.

PARENT WEBINAR SERIES

TERM 1, 2021

#1 | MOTIVATION

"My child only studies when I nag them to". The best study methods are useless unless your child has the motivation to begin. Learn how to create & sustain motivation across the year.

#2 | TIME MANAGEMENT

Does your child cram for tests last-minute? Then this is the webinar to tune into. Students lead busy lives, and you can help them to work smart, kick procrastination and achieve balance.

#3 | TECHNOLOGY

Tech and devices are integral to a child's life and learning – so you can't simply switch them off. The question is how we learn to responsibly use technology and help our child navigate and self-regulate this challenging area.

#4 | NOTE TAKING

Does your child study for an exam by re-reading their entire textbook or copying it word-for-word? We help your child create an efficient, succinct, and useful set of notes to deepen their revision.

✓ Live Q&A ✓ Resources & Planners ✓ Community Support

TERM 1 Webinar Dates

February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28							28	29	30	31			

>>> CLICK TO REGISTER<<<

elevate
education

1300 667 945
auscoaching@elevateeducation.com

The webinars take place across term 1, beginning on **Wednesday 10th February** at 6pm. Registration is essential and is free for parents of Maronite College of the Holy Family.

[You can register by clicking here.](#)

The webinar is run **live online from 6pm – 7pm** where the presenter will share Elevate's key research and skills, and will conduct a live Q&A so you can ask them questions directly.

Should you have questions or would like to contact Elevate directly, their details are listed below.

☎ [1300 667 945](tel:1300667945)

✉ auscoaching@elevateeducation.com

🌐 <https://au.elevateeducation.com>

👉 <https://www.facebook.com/ElevateEd/>

2021 BYOD Portal

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

School Code: MCHFBYOD

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