



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

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Term 1 - Week 8: Friday 19th March 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week the students participated in many activities to highlight Bullying Awareness Week. all over the world. The students also ended the week celebrating Harmony Day. Students were encouraged to wear a splash of orange in support of this day.



Today the students attended Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph, the Patron Saint of the Christian Family. I would like to wish a very happy St Joseph's Feast Day to all our Father's and all who carry the name of Joseph. I would like to extend a particular word of encouragement to all fathers so that they may take St Joseph as their role model.

Almighty God,

*As you once sent the almighty Joseph
to protect and provide for Mary and Jesus,
so now send the Spirit that guided him
to protect us in all our ways.
Joy to you all on this Happy Feast!*

Each month we will reflect on the many virtues of St Joseph

March – Joseph Most Just

Joseph was first and foremost just unto God, rendering to Him what was His due. Since all things are due to God, Joseph was perfectly religious in prayer, in labour, and in love giving to God, even as an infant, the energy of his whole life.

**Sr Irene Boughosn
PRINCIPAL**

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Working in Partnership

Student success in their education comprises of three important components:

- STUDENT WILLINGNESS
- TEACHER EXCELLENCE
- PARENT SUPPORT

Each member of the components relies on the other in order for a student to create success. It is imperative that the College and parents/guardians continue to work together in collaboration and partnership in all scenarios or aspects of a student's education – during challenges, celebrations etc.



Youth Mental Health Screening in Schools

The College will be participating in a study by Macquarie University to develop a mental health screening tool for students to do in school. It aims to identify students who may be going through a difficult time and need mental health support. Students, Parents and Staff will be invited to participate through various online surveys and interviews. Consent will be required in order to participate in the study. Further information will be provided when the College commences participation in the study.

2022 Kindergarten Enrolments

Initial enrolments for 2022 Kindergarten are now open until Wednesday 21st April 2021. Those wishing to enrol are required to complete an application form which can be downloaded from our College website or a hard copy can be collected from the Main Administration. Application forms must be completed and submitted for the College to prepare for the interview process. For more information, please contact the Enrolment Officer in the Main Administration.

2022 Kindy Enrolments NOW OPEN

Enrolments close Wednesday 21st April 2021

Enrolment Applications can be downloaded from the College website or a hard copy collected from the Main Administration.

For more information, please contact the Enrolment Officer in the Main Administration

MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY



Mr E. Asmar
Assistant Principal

PRIMARY NEWS

Today all students participated in a liturgy which celebrated the life of St Joseph. Sr Irene spoke to our younger students about how God trusted St Joseph to protect his greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary. He was indeed a very special and remarkable man. Thank you to Mrs Kevill and our Year 6 Leaders who prepared the liturgy today.

Bullying Awareness Week

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is Australia's key bullying prevention initiative and was the focus for MCHF this week. Primary students participated in a variety of activities designed to raise an awareness of bullying and violence in our community. They learnt how to recognise the signs of bullying and what action they could take to address the issue. The aim of the week was to empower our students so that they can assist in creating a safer community for everyone. The week ended with Harmony Day. This day recognises and supports inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of anyone's cultural background. The highlight for me was hearing the positive conversations amongst our students about living harmoniously in a world where, *Everyone Belongs*.





Bullying Awareness Performance

Today students from Stage 2 and Stage 3 were treated to a wonderful performance presented by students from the Secondary Drama Department. This experience allowed our Primary students to observe situations where bullying can occur in our community and how the situation can be resolved. Class discussions after the performance enabled individuals the opportunity to share their opinions and apply some of the knowledge that they acquired throughout the week. A big thank you to Mrs Youssef and her drama team for the effort they placed into the preparation and performance of the play.



Quality Conversations

Talking with your child is the best way to find out about their day at school. Asking the right questions is important if you want to hear more than, 'It was okay' or 'Good', which is quite often the response you will receive. The questions you ask should engage your child in conversation that allows them the opportunity to give a detailed response. Positive questions will allow you as a parent, to gain a deeper understanding of the day that your child has experienced. Some examples of questions that may lead to a quality conversation with your child include:

1. What was the best thing that happened at school today?
2. Tell me something that made you laugh today.
3. How did you help somebody today? How did somebody help you?
4. What was the most interesting thing that you learnt today?
5. What did you read and/or write about in class today?

Farewell

Today we wish Ms Pamboukian all the best as she takes leave in preparation for the birth of third child. I would like to thank Ms Pamboukian for the many wonderful contributions she has continued to make to the College and look forward to her return in the future.

Godly Play

Kindergarten classes have been using Godly Play to learn all about stories from the Bible. This visual experience allows students the opportunity to engage in scripture passages on a personal level. They are encouraged to ask questions and share their own experiences.



Year 5 Mathematics

Students from 5 Sapphire have been busy utilising their addition and subtraction skills to plan a class party with a budget of only \$85. They used supermarket catalogues and their prior party experiences to ensure they had enough food and drink to keep their guests satisfied.



Toys at School

A reminder that students are not to bring toys of any kind with them to use at school. This will ensure that the

College maintains a safe environment for both staff and students. Teachers encourage and support students in developing friendships by playing games that are both safe and inclusive. We also provide a variety of interest and social groups during breaks to assist the social development of our students.

2021 Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading in all students by providing them the opportunity to experience quality literature. The Term 1 booklist update is now complete, with over 200 new books added to the PRC lists. Students can search these new lists for books to read, add books to their reading logs and track their progress along the way. The closing date of the Challenge is Friday 20th August. <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>

Homework Club

Homework Club occurs each Monday after school for students in Years 2-6. It is a supervised session run by volunteer teachers who assist students in completing homework and research tasks. Students are asked to have enough homework to complete in the hour session. A detailed note with an attached permission slip is available from the Primary Office. All students wishing to attend must provide a signed permission slip to their class teacher each Monday morning.

Mr D. Day
Head of Primary

SECONDARY NEWS

Buses

COVID Updated Advice - **Masks remain compulsory on public transport for students in Greater Sydney.** All staff and students over the age of 12 in the Greater Sydney area must wear masks when travelling to/from school, or when travelling for school activities using public transport or charter bus services. There have been concerns raised by Transport NSW and NSW Police, as well as complaints raised by the public, about students not wearing masks on public transport. Schools are asked to remind their community that students must have and wear a mask for these activities.

A reminder also that BUS PREFECTS get on the bus first, followed by PRIMARY students then everyone else. RESPECT must always be shown to all drivers, staff and students. We ask students to ensure rules are always followed on buses and while waiting for them to arrive.

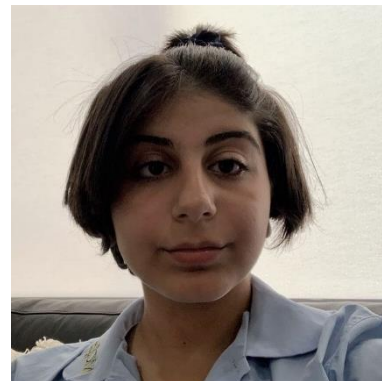
Reminders

Unfortunately, there has been damage to the bubblers by students this week and further damage to the bathrooms. Students are also leaving rubbish in the yards after recess and lunch. We ask that students take our theme of RESPECT this year on board and show that respect to the environment within which they are privileged to attend every day.

Year 7 Cancer Fundraiser



On the 7th of March 2021, Rita Nouh participated in the World's Greatest Shave run by the Leukemia Foundation to shave the world from blood cancer. She has been wanting to do this for over 3 years now and finally got to do it. In January 2021 her young cousin was diagnosed with blood cancer and this inspired her to do it. Rita hopes she can inspire us all to BE BRAVE AND SHAVE! As a College we are very proud of Rita and her efforts and we want to congratulate her for helping to raise over \$2000 for the Leukemia Foundation.



Riverside Theatre- I've Been Meaning to Ask You

Gabriella Massoud in Year 7 is currently performing in her first theatre show called I've Been Meaning to Ask

You at Parramatta Riverside Theatre. We wish Gabriella luck in her performances!
If you would like to purchase tickets to the show you can do so via the link below:
<https://riversideparramatta.com.au/show/ivebeenmeaningtoaskyou/>

Year 7 St Joseph Reflection

Sr Irene gave a beautiful reflection on St Joseph for his feast day. Year 7 students used this reflection to display on their wall outside their classroom. As a team, on Monday they committed to giving up social media that night to concentrate on their colouring task and reflect on this St Joseph.



Year 8 and 9 'SMASHED' Performance

Year 8 and 9 students watched a performance by The Smashed Project about underage drinking and how to say NO if peer pressured this morning in their pastoral session.

To see the Parent's Guide and to watch a 1.5-minute video on what it was all about please visit:

<https://www.wearegibber.com/schools/breaking-underage-drinking/smashed-parents-guide-nsw/>



Year 12 Modern History

Renowned historian Ken Webb, presented a lecture to Mrs Cordina's Year 12 Modern History class. In his HSC Masterclass, Ken introduced students to a variety of exam strategies and time management techniques to

succeed in their HSC exam.



Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder that Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews will take place next Tuesday 23rd March from 3:30pm-7:30pm. Students were sent home with a letter outlining how parents can book these meetings and the letter was also placed on the Skoolbag app. A reminder that these interviews are compulsory and students are to attend with their parents in full school uniform. Bookings will close 3:30pm Monday 22nd March.

Year 12 University Talk

Year 12 participating in a university talk today presented by guest speakers from the University Western Sydney and Sydney University. Information on courses, admission pathways, scholarships and programs that will aid them in their tertiary education options.



Year 12 Holiday Classes

The college will be running optional holiday classes in the upcoming break for Year 12 students. These will take place on Monday-Thursday of the second week from 9am-1pm. Students will be sent a timetable of what is on offer in Week 10.

Toyota Dream Car Contest

Congratulations to Elias Abou Karam (Year 7), Faith El-Katrib (Year 8) and Bianca Ishak (Year 8) for taking the initiative to enter the annual Toyota Dream Car Competition that Mrs Botros offered as an additional learning experience. We wish you all the best and thank you for your entry!



Public Speaking

On Tuesday night, our Public Speaking competitors Ella Marie Bassil, Christabella Sleiman, Antoinette Chebat (Year 10) Theresa Boustani, Brealle Hasham (Year 9) and Zoe Fagerstorm (Year 7) represented the College in the Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking competition held at Santa Sabina College. The girls were fantastic, spoke well and confidently presented while delivering great topics as they came up against some strong competition. Despite their skills, unfortunately they bowed out at this stage. As a College, we are immensely proud of the girls and thank their families for their support. A big thank you goes to Mrs Fisher for co-mentoring the girls alongside myself in the lead up to the event and to Mrs Moyer for her support on the night.

- Mr Abboud, Public Speaking Mentor



Enrichment Program 2021

Students have been nominated to partake in the ASX Share market game for 2021. They will represent the school by receiving a virtual amount of \$50,000 which they can invest over a ten-week period, in over 200 companies listed on the ASX. The prices students buy and sell at are the same prices as they would get in the live market so this is as close to real life share trading as you can get. We wish the students the best of luck as they embark on understanding the Investment world of the Australian Stock Exchange!

Students participating are: Johnathan Stavrinakis, Matthew Youssef, Daniel Chahin, Abdo Abou-Chedid, Marcel Deeb, Jesse Ellis, Tony Saba, Joseph Massoud, John El-Barhoun, Anthony Habib, Julian Bayeh, Milad Aouad, Tony Chamchoum, Charline Kayrouz, Charbel Merheb, Jasmin Nakhoul, Ella Marie Bassil and Arthur Maroun.

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge Years 7-10

The Premier's Reading Challenge has officially opened for 2021. All students in Years 7-9 are expected to complete the challenge, and will be given opportunities to borrow books during their fortnightly English lessons in the Learning Centre. Their login details will be issued during this time so that they can enter their books directly into their account.

For the first time, Year 10 are also invited to complete the Challenge. Student's wishing to do so can get their login details from Mrs Papanastasiou in the Learning Centre.

Homework Club in the Secondary Learning Centre

Homework Club is continuing every Monday 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. Signed permission notes need to be provided to attend these sessions. Please see Mrs Papanastasiou in the Learning Centre if you need a permission note.

Sport

Well done to Elie Menhem (Year 10) for his efforts at the PDSSSC Swimming Carnival last Friday. Elie finished second in the 50m Breaststroke event.

Congratulations to Charbel Khoury (Year 10) for being selected in the PDSSSC Under 15's Touch Football team. Charbel will be competing in Nelson Bay at the NSWCCC Touch Football Selections Tournament.



Religious Education

On Thursday Religious Education teachers from St Charbel's, St Maroun's and Maronite College of the Holy Family met with Fr Yuhanna Azize for professional development in Maronite spirituality. This valuable meeting marks the first step in what will be an ongoing collaboration for developing Maronite components in Religious Education.



Bullying Awareness Week and Feast of St Joseph

Today is the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, Harmony Day and the feast of St Joseph. This morning we held a liturgy for the feast of St Joseph and in recognition of Bullying Awareness Week. Students were able to wear a 'splash of orange' with their normal school uniform today. This could be an orange ribbon in their hair, wristbands, lanyards, socks etc. The SRC are also put on cake stalls at recess and lunch as a fundraiser to raise awareness.





Ms E. McCluskey
Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ★ 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**
- ★ Monday 19th April – Staff Development Day
- ★ **Tuesday 20th April – Back to School for Students**
- ★ Friday 23rd April – ANZAC Assemblies
- ★ Monday 26th to Friday 30th April – VET Retail, Construction & Hospitality Work Placement

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

All Rounder Awards:

- ★ Jaqueline Haklani, Alyssia Saad, Tatiana Fares, Annabella Daher, Emmanuel Bazouni (Year 2)
- ★ Leila George, Jamie Lee Boutros, Luciana Nini, Nathaniel Malouhi, Antoun Nakhoul, Andrew Ters, Simon Bazouni, Anderson Ghosn, Mathew Abi-Khattar, Evana Maalouf (Year 3)
- ★ Taylor Kobayaty, Hiam Katrib, Jonathan Dib (Year 4)

Bronze Awards:

Silver Awards:

Principal's Awards:

ALSO THIS WEEK...

Year 11 Biology students conducting their enzymes assessment task



A couple of our fantastic Year 10 Visual Arts students, creating 'bouza' sculpture works, incorporating several ceramic techniques. Great job girls!



Mrs Botros' Year 11 Food and Beverage Hospitality class undertook their first safety and hygiene practical assessment using their new uniforms and toolkits



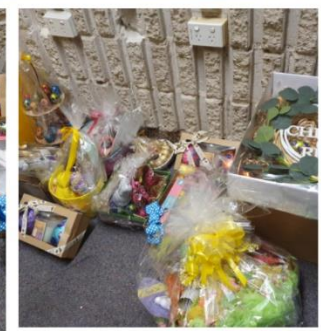
PARENT CORNER

EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE!

Our Easter Hampers are ready to be won, thanks to the generous families who donated, and we have approximately 20 hampers to raffle off.

Raffle ticket books were sent home, yesterday, with the eldest child in each family. You have to be in it to win it, so please finalise your sales and return the money and ticket stubs back to the Main Administration by Friday 26th March.

Additional raffle books/tickets are available in the Main Administration Office for anyone wishing to increase their chance of winning!



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 Baini if you have issues – 9633 6600.

Go to app search on your phone:

- ★ Download the SkoolBag app
- ★ Create an account
- ★ Add your school



2021 BYOD Portal

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

School Code: MCHFBYOD

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mchfparramatta/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/mchf2325/>

LinkedIn: <https://au.linkedin.com/company/maronite-college-of-the-holy-family>