



Maronite College of the Holy Family NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 - Week 9: Friday 26th March 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week the scheduled swimming lessons for Years 4-6 concluded on Wednesday. On Thursday Year 6 participated in a Reflection Day. This day was full of spiritual activities and reflections for the students. Due to the heavy rainfall the Year 9 Camp scheduled for this week has been postponed. More details regarding the camp will be provided in Term 2.

As we continue our journey through Lent the students in Years 7,8 & 10 participated in Stations of the Cross while students in Years 1 & 5 celebrated Mass today.

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

Respecting RESPECT!

This week Secondary students were addressed by me on applying our theme for this year (RESEPECT) in practice. A review and evaluation of this term on the theme was presented to students. They were challenged to look for areas of improvement and to rise and lead their peers in respecting the theme of RESPECT.

Checking in with Year 6

This week I had the pleasure of joining Year 6 for two special and important events – their first transition session

and their reflection day. I was overall impressed with the level of enthusiasm they displayed in both events.

I was especially impressed with the attitude and knowledge the students were displaying during their reflection day as they focused on the theme of leadership and respect while referring to the Parable of the Good Samaritan. I thank Ms Kevill and all the teachers involved in this day. Terrific work Year 6!



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.

Mr E. Asmar
Assistant Principal

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

PRIMARY NEWS

The acquisition of leadership skills is an important part of every student's growth and development. From a young age, students are given the opportunity to gradually attain the necessary skills needed to be an effective leader. Yesterday, our Year 6 students continued on their leadership journey by participating in a Reflection Day entitled, **'Kindness Made Visible - The Challenge of Leadership'**. The day focused on the scripture passage of 'The Good Samaritan', with the underlying theme of *Respect; Responsibility; Resilience* forming the basis of the activities completed and reflective discussions held. A big thank you to Mrs Kevill who organised this very special day for our Year 6 students. I would also like to thank Sr Irene, Sr Marlene and Fr Tony for sharing



their wonderful insights and their personal experiences of leadership throughout their lives. Much appreciation also, to the Year 6 teachers, Mr Asmar, and the many other staff who assisted on the day. The collaborative approach ensured the day was a success.



Project Compassion

A big thank you to all the families who donated to the Project Compassion Appeal over the past weeks. Project Compassion promotes faith, love, generosity, justice and peace. Each year, millions of Australians come together to help the poor around the world in a hope to end poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of all people.

Holy Communion

A reminder that the Year 4 Holy Communion will be held on Saturday 22nd May 2021 at 10:30 am. We ask that all payments for this celebration be finalised by Tuesday 30th March.

Sports Equipment Donations

This week, Parramatta City Titans Junior League Football Club generously donated a range of sporting equipment to the College. We thank them for their continued support year after year.

Birthday Celebrations at School

Unfortunately parents and students are not permitted to bring cakes, toys or lolly bags to school to distribute to other students. The main reason for this is due to allergies, safety, hygiene and nutritional concerns. We thank you for your understanding.

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.



School Uniform

Many thanks to all parents for ensuring that their children have returned to school in full winter school uniforms. A reminder that all uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles that comply with College expectations. Boys hair must be kept short without excessive hair product used. For girls, long hair must be tied back. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school. Nail polish is not permitted to be worn. Students are to wear our school hat when outside. Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name and class. This makes for easy return of items if they are misplaced. Wearing the school uniform with pride is an important message to give to the children about their identity and how they belong to the College.

Library Borrowing

Please note that there will be no library borrowing next week as it is the last week of the term. We ask that your child returns any library books they may have at home, as soon as possible. If you have misplaced or lost a library book, please let your child's class teacher know.

2021 Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge for 2021 is well underway. The main aim of the Challenge is to encourage a love of reading in all students by providing them the opportunity to experience quality literature. Students have a wide range of books to choose from, with over 200 new books added to the PRC lists. Once they have read one of their chosen books, they can add the title to their reading log so their progress can be tracked along the way. The closing date of the Challenge is Friday 20th August.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>

Homework Club

Please note that there will be no Homework Club next week. It will resume next term on Monday 26th April.

Mr D. Day

Head of Primary

SECONDARY NEWS

Mock Trial

On the 19th March, the MCHF Mock Trial team defeated Epping Boys High with an extremely convincing score of 253 to 227.

Our strong defendant, Therese El-Haddad was found NOT GUILTY of the crime of break, enter and steal under the Crimes Act. Kayla Fasavalu was a star witness, lying through her teeth and scoring a near perfect score by the acting magistrate. The magistrate even singled out Kayla in how amazing she was in her role.



Fantastic effort goes to our barristers, Christelle Joukhader and Jerome Francis, with John El Barhoun being a very supportive solicitor, Nicholas Laba an awesome Court officer, and Therese El-Haddad being a very confident and convincing defendant.

Also, thank you to the extra help the team received by fellow Year 10s.

Thank you to Mrs Tleige for helping get the students to the event and to Mrs Esber for all your hard work with the team over the term and for all the long hours spent practicing and preparing.

We wish the team the best of luck in their next trial!



Year 6 Transition 1

On Monday, we held our first Year 6 Transition to high school session. Year 6 were spoken to by a group of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders and Year 12 Leaders- Johnathan Stavrinakis, Isabelle Baker, Kayla Fasavalu, Charlene Kayrouz, Nina Bousaid, Jason Chakti, Tatiana Estephen and Christian Nouh. The secondary students talked to Year 6 about their high school experiences and the differences between primary and secondary school. Year 6 were given the opportunity to ask questions and were shown around the secondary school. Thank you to the leaders for giving up their time to help Year 6 begin their transition to high school, a lot of fun was had by all!



Bullying Awareness Week Competitions

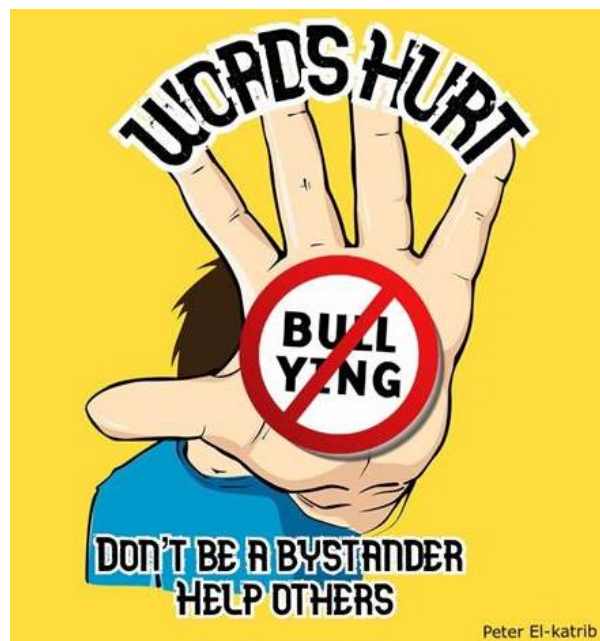
Last week during Bullying Awareness Week we ran a poetry competition and a poster design competition. Joy Sleiman in Year 11 was the winner of the poetry competition and Peter El-Katrib in Year 10 won the poster design competition. Both these students are to be congratulated on their efforts. Below is the winning poem and poster.

Hold on: Bullying Poem – Joy Sleiman 11B

Hold on and stay strong
Even if someone tells you you're meaningless
Hold on and don't be afraid to speak up
Even if you feel lonely and worthless
Hold on and don't be scared
Even if you think no one knows what you are going through
Hold on and don't let hurtful words bring you down
Even if it seems like it will never stop
Hold on and be confident
Even when everyone is bringing you down
Hold on all that is good
Even when you feel like giving up



Peter El-Katrib Year 10 - Bullying Poster Winner



Sport

Congratulations to Bakhos Hadchiti, Charbel Khoury (Year 10) and Charbel Chehade (Year 11) for being selected in the PDSSSC Rugby League team. The boys will be competing at the Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges tournament for a spot in NSWCCC Rugby League team.

Stations of the Cross

During the Lenten season, the Maronite Catholic Church prays the stations of the Cross every Friday. This is an old tradition in the Catholic church in general and specially in the Maronite Church and always ends with Adoration and the Benediction of the Cross.

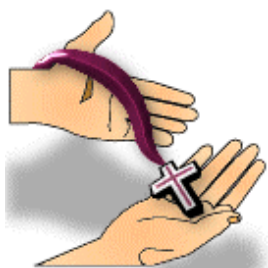
As we continue our journey through Lent the students in Years 7,8, 9 and 10 were fortunate enough to participate in the Stations of the Cross today at the OLOL Cathedral. Students were given the opportunity to reflect on the life of Jesus through this spiritual pilgrimage.



Year 9 Camp

Unfortunately, due to the flooding we had to postpone our Year 9 Camp this week. We are hoping to be able to reschedule this for later in the year and will notify all students and parents once we are able to confirm this.

We pray at this time for all those affected by the floods and for the people working tirelessly to help them.



*Compassionate God, source of all comfort,
We pray for the people whose lives have been devastated by rain and flood.
Bring them comfort, we pray.*

Protect the vulnerable.

Strengthen the weak.

Keep at bay the spread of disease.

*Have mercy on all those working to rescue the stranded and to feed the hungry.
And may our response to their suffering be generous and bring you praise.*

For we ask it in Jesus name, Amen.

Year 12 Parent Teaching Evening

On Tuesday night we held our Year 12 Parent Teacher Evening. Thank you to the staff, students and parents for helping to make this night a success. Feedback and communication are vital in working together to ensure our students have every opportunity to achieve their best results.

Year 12 Society and Culture

On Tuesday 23rd March, the Year 12 Society and Culture class took part in THE AMAZING RACE- India. Despite the rain, the students were able to complete all 10 checkpoints enabling them to discover a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Indian culture.

Congrats to Adrian Harb, John Nakhoul and Bassam Khattar won the race!

Thank you to Mrs Esber for all your efforts in preparing this cultural experience for students.





Ms E. McCluskey
Head of Secondary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ★ 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:

- ★ Billy Saade, George Mouawad, Alexia El Boustani, Savannah Bazouni, Mary Elias, John Elias, Victor El Khoury (Year 1)
- ★ Angela Hobeiche, Ciena Abdou, Sienna Karam, Raphael Merheb, Anthony Naim (Year 2)
- ★ Marie Antoinette Youssef, Oliva Khouri, Angelina Moussa, Sarkis Semaan, Luciana Nini, Anabel Bouchaaya, Savannah Anjoul, Charbel Fakhri, Antonia Wakim, Sienna Ghabache (Year 3)
- ★ Isabella Abou Haydar, George Merheb, Olivia Halabi, Fadia Taouk, Cynthia Makari, Mary Risk (Year 4)
- ★ Alex Abi-Khattar, Dyanne Maroun, Isabella Boumelhem, Angelina Ishak (Year 8)

ALSO THIS WEEK...

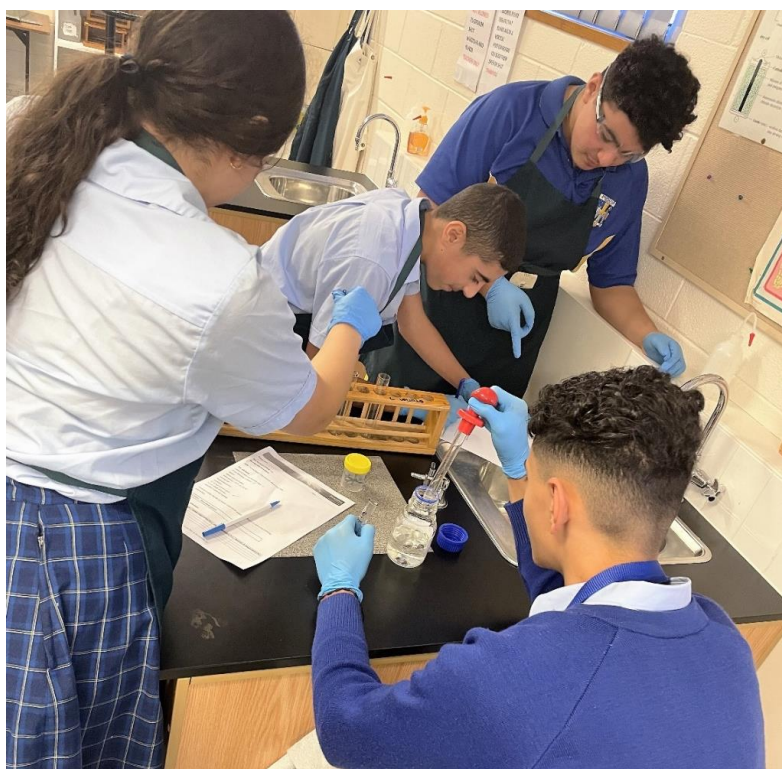
Reading the Bible, first thing Friday morning, while patiently waiting for the bell to start school.



The best about Year 5 swimming? Free time at the end!



Year 10 performing 'exothermic reactions' experiment



PARENT CORNER

Message from the Canteen

Next week, all meals served in the canteen will be vegetarian. The Lent menu is available online for ordering.

Lowes – School Uniforms

Dear Parent/Guardians,

This is to advise that, unfortunately, Lowes has experienced a flood event in our warehouse and this has resulted in damage or destruction of some uniform items.

At this stage, we are yet to determine the specific items affected, or the impact on supply of those items in the coming months. We will contact you as soon as we have more information.

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.

Go to app search on your phone:

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

Please contact Georgette Bains if you have issues – 9633 6600.

2021 BYOD Portal

<https://www.jbeducation.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>