



Maronite College of the Holy Family

# NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice Street, Harris Park, 2150

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**Term 4 - Week 4: Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Finally, we welcomed back all our Staff and Students to the College (Monday, we welcome back the year 10 after finishing their exams). May God bless and protect all who enter and leave the College grounds.

Today, we celebrated World Teacher's Day. The day commenced with Years 3, & 9 attending Mass, while the rest of the students and staff participated online. We congratulate and thank the following staff on their 15 years of dedicated service to our College:

- |             |               |              |             |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| ★ Ms Lal    | ★ Ms Sadek    | ★ Mr Abboud  | ★ Ms Botros |
| ★ Ms Mankoo | ★ Ms Delia    | ★ Ms Younes  | ★ Ms Taouk  |
| ★ Ms Guinan | ★ Ms Ghabache | ★ Ms Sleiman |             |



### Parents are reminded of the following:

- Drop your children off at the front gates
- Do not enter the school grounds
- If you must enter, QR Code, wear a face mask and go directly to the Admin Office
- If your children have any flu like symptoms, please keep them at home

As we near the end of this Blessed month of October, which is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, I ask all parents to please continue to pray the Rosary on a daily basis with your family.



It is the **ROSARY**,  
prayed by families,  
that will keep the lights of faith glowing  
in the days of darkness of faith,  
as it has done in the past.

– Father Patrick Peyton

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

**October – Terror of Demons**

Demons hate humility, suckled as they are on the vice of pride. Joseph's humility is what terrifies the demons. He is entrusted with power and authority not simply because of his internal strength but because of his complete reliance upon and fidelity to God.

**Sr Irene Boughosn**  
**PRINCIPAL**

**MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

**Australia's World Teachers Day – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

World Teachers' Day is held internationally on Tuesday 5 October. As it falls during the school holidays in many parts of Australia, we celebrate it a little later, usually on the last Friday of October.

World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to recognise, acknowledge and thank educators for the important role they play inside our classrooms and in the community. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the incredible contributions teachers have made in our community.

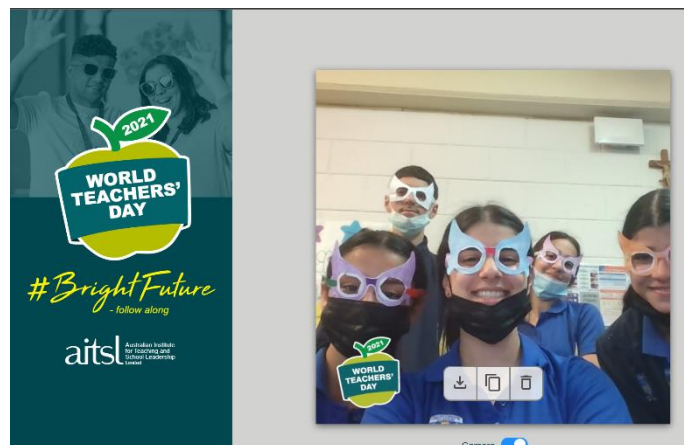
This year, our teachers have continued to show their resilience, leadership and adaptability throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Teachers have adapted their learning environments, supported their students and the College community, and continue to share their knowledge with students.

World Teachers' Day 2021 is an opportunity to celebrate the teachers who are making, or have made, an impact on the lives of students.

Whether you're a current student, have children in school, or have been out of school for many years, World Teachers' Day is a chance to say, 'thank you'.

This year our students have shown a great appreciation of their teachers through developing an appreciation video with messages from students thanking their teachers, wearing sunglasses, presenting appreciation certificates, and simply saying thank you.

Thank you to everyone who have contributed to celebrating this year's World Teachers Day!



### **Student Attendance**

A reminder to parents/guardians that students are required to be back at the College for face-to-face learning. Any parent/guardian deciding to keep their child/ren at home must provide medical documentation in order to approve student absence. Any other reasons may be classified as unjustified/unexplained which will be recorded against the child/ren's record.

### **Students Leaving Early**

From time to time, the College acknowledges that students may be required to leave early from the College on any day. Parents/Guardians are reminded that no student is permitted to leave the College grounds unless the parent/guardian comes to the College to collect and sign out their child/ren. The College does not permit for students to leave the College without a parent/guardian- even if the parent/guardian states they are in the car or in a car park.

### **Mask Wearing**

As per the NSW Public Health orders, masks are compulsory indoors for all students in Year 7-12, while on public transport and at public transport waiting areas unless they have an exemption.

All students are encouraged to carry a spare mask in their bag in case one was to break or is misplaced during the school day.

### **Dismissal Procedures**

Based on the current advice to provide a staggered pick up process, the College can confirm that afternoon dismissal will be staggered as outlined below:

Time	Year/Grade	Location
2:40pm	Kindy & Year 1	<b>Parent/Guardian Pick Up</b> - Infants Playground (Gate 3) <b>Bus</b> - Primary Hall
	Year 3 & Year 4	<b>Parent/Guardian Pick Up</b> - Upper Primary Playground (Gate 2) <b>Bus</b> - Primary Hall
2:50pm	Year 2	<b>Parent/Guardian Pick Up</b> - Infants Playground (Gate 3) <b>Bus</b> - Primary Hall
	Year 5 & Year 6	<b>Parent/Guardian Pick Up</b> - Upper Primary Playground (Gate 2) <b>Bus</b> - Primary Hall
3:10pm	All Secondary	<b>Parent/Guardian Pick Up</b> - Upper Primary Playground (Gate 2) <b>Bus</b> - Grass Area (Gate 1). <i>Upper Primary Playground for wet weather</i>

### **College Shop**

The College Shop will not be opening on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings this term. The shop will be operating through phone orders only. For any orders, please contact the Main Administration and arrangements will be made.

**Mr E. Asmar**  
**Assistant Principal**

## **SECONDARY NEWS**

This week we welcomed back the majority of secondary students to the College, it was so nice to see the buzz around the school and to have all of the noise back! We look forward to welcoming Year 10 back next Monday as our final year group to return post their exams.

We started the week with students being given Monday morning to settle in with their homerooms and homeroom teachers. Students had a virtual meeting with their Year Advisors followed by some ice breaker activities in their homerooms. Students were then given the opportunity to reflect on what they are grateful for and what they can take away from these last few difficult months. Finally, students were given the chance to recognize World Teachers' Day by writing thank you certificates to their teachers and acknowledging all of their hard work throughout the year. Year 10 will be doing a similar program when they return on Monday.



### **Year 9 Exams**

Year 9 Yearly Exams will commence next Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November and go until Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Students will be sitting these exams at school and they cannot be completed from home. If a student cannot attend, they must complete an illness/misadventure form and provide a medical certificate. The exam timetable was issued to students last week along with all the required instructions. We wish Year 9 all the best for the next few weeks, the rest of the secondary school will be thinking of you and will keep you in our prayers.

### **Year 12 2022 Study Leave**

Starting in Week 6, Year 11 students will be given the opportunity to go home at lunchtime on a Thursday to study at home instead of at school, provided their application has been approved by the College. Students who have displayed exemplary behaviour, follow all College uniform and grooming policies, have a strong work ethic and are achieving at their best will have their applications approved by the Senior Leadership Team. Once approved, parental consent must be given and then students will need to leave at the start of lunch by presenting their Leavers Pass and signing out at the office. Students must go straight home and cannot go to any shopping centres, cafes etc. Any student who doesn't adhere to the conditions will have their passes cancelled. We are hoping that this will provide our senior students with an opportunity to take ownership of their learning and to create positive independent study habits.

### **Year 12 2022 BStreetSmart**

Year 12 spent Thursday afternoon engaging in the BStreetSmart Program which was delivered online. This program is designed to educate students on the importance of safe driving and behaviour while in a vehicle.



### Year 12 2022 Jerseys

This week our class of 2022 were very excited to receive their Year 12 personalised jacket. There's nothing like a good jacket that makes you feel like a true senior! Students will be allowed to wear these jackets to school on Thursdays only.



### Year 12 VET Construction

Our Year 12 VET Construction class concluded their course requirements yesterday as they completed their concrete slab project. Students transported, poured, screeded and finished concrete. We definitely have some fine builders and concreters going into the industry.



### HSC Lectures and Workshops

This week we held our HSC lectures and workshops. Year 12 students have been attending 2.5 hour sessions with their teachers each day in the old C Block across the road. We wanted to be able to give our students one last chance to see their teachers face to face and to prepare for their upcoming HSC Exams. I would like to thank those Year 12 students who took up this opportunity and thank all of the staff involved for their dedication and time spent preparing. I would also like to thank our maintenance staff, Scott and Sushil, and our Director of Curriculum, Ms Dalla, for turning the old C Block



which hasn't been used in quite a few years into a workable space for our students where they will also sit their HSC.



### **Masks**

Just a reminder that all staff and secondary students are required to wear a mask whilst indoors. As we transitioned back to the school this week, the College has been providing students who don't bring a mask with a disposable one. However, starting from Monday, any student who doesn't bring a mask will need to pay \$1 to be given one. We ask that all students be vigilant with this request and remember to bring one with them every day.

### **Thursday Sport**

This week, the Government announced that school sport could resume from the 1<sup>st</sup> November. This means that our Thursday sport time can resume in a modified format. Students will now be given the chance to have a mix of sport, study and pastoral activities each week. We are very excited to have everyone getting active again from next Thursday!

### **World Teachers' Day**

Today we celebrate World Teachers' Day. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the secondary staff for their hard work, dedication and for the genuine care they have for our students. We were able to celebrate this special day with a mass this morning. It was so nice to see students back in Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral and to be able to celebrate together. Year 9 attended the mass whilst the rest of the secondary students were able to live stream the mass from their homerooms. During the mass, the College recognized staff who have given 15 years of service. I would like to congratulate secondary staff members Jackie Botros, Pritika Mankoo and Michael Abood for reaching this impressive milestone. The College is lucky to have you!





**Ms E. McCluskey**  
**Head of Secondary**

## PRIMARY NEWS

World Teachers' Day is an annual event which first began in 1994. It is a day that recognises the wonderful job that teachers do and the important role they play in shaping the next generation. We celebrated this special day with a beautiful mass in honour of all teachers, especially those who are celebrating 15 years of service at MCHF. In Primary, those teachers are Patricia Sleiman, Tracey Ghabache, Suzy Lal, Louiza Sadek, Rita Delia, Vivian Mallia, Diana Taouk and Colette Guinan. Unfortunately, not all staff and students were able to be present in the church but were able to participate via the livestream. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our teachers a very happy World Teacher's Day. I thank them for their continued support and the dedication they display towards our students' learning.



The College officially resumed for all our Primary students on Monday. It was wonderful to see the smiling faces of the students as they entered the College gates. The excitement of seeing their friends and teachers was evident as the playground filled with delightful conversation and laughter. The staff were also thrilled to see the College come to life once more.



### Weekly Awards

Our weekly assemblies are currently being held via Microsoft Teams. This provides a wonderful opportunity for our Year 6 Leaders to showcase their presentation skills as they announce the Weekly Awards. One of the recipients from 4 Amber said she felt 'extra special' when her name was read out.





## Kindy Fun

Our Kindergarten students are enjoying being back at school. This week Kindy Rose students have been excited to share their reading skills with each other, while in Kindy Red, News Time was on top of their Favourite Things To Do List.



## Outdoor Learning

In Mathematics this week, 4 Amber enjoyed learning all about angles. To ensure that the students really enjoyed the lesson, Ms Dib took them outside where they were able to apply their knowledge to the real world.

## Writing Stimulus

Each term, students complete a writing task using a given stimulus. This week they were asked to construct a written text based on their thoughts about this picture. This form of writing experience allows students to not only express their creativity, but more importantly demonstrate their acquired writing skills. From each student's written text, teachers then assess the



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aspects of their writing development and identify individual writing goals. Students thoroughly enjoy the element of surprise that this writing experience brings. This type of activity can also be used at home for students who wish to practise their writing skills.

### **Communication with Teachers**

Now that all students have returned to full time face-face teaching, we ask that all communication is conducted via phone or email to 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 new health and safety procedures, we also remind you not to communicate with teachers or other staff members at the end of the day as students are dismissed.

### **Attendance**

A reminder that College attendance procedures have now returned to normal. All students absent from school are asked to bring in a letter of explanation upon their return. Detailed documentation will be required for prolonged absence. We also ask that students who present with flu-like symptoms remain at home. Any students showing signs of sickness or become ill during the day, will be sent home.

### **Partial Absences**

Regular absences, whether for the whole day or part of the day have a detrimental effect on your child's academic progress. We understand that at times appointments for a specialist and the like are unavoidable, but these need to be planned and if possible, should occur outside of school hours. Collecting students early from school for reasons such as avoiding traffic, is not permissible. Prior approval will be needed for any parent wanting to collect their child after 2 pm.

### **Library Borrowing**

There will be no student borrowing from the Primary Learning Centre for the remainder of the year. If your child has any College library books at home, could they please be returned as soon as possible.

### **Traffic**

There has been an increased volume of traffic during the morning and afternoon peak periods. We ask all parents to remain patient during these times. Extra staff are on hand at the end of the day to assist with the flow of cars around the pick-up zone.

### **Safety and Wellbeing**

The safety and wellbeing of all members in our community is of great importance. When driving I urge everyone to comply with the road rules, especially within the school zone. As all students have now returned to school, it is imperative that we are all more observant of the rules and their surroundings whilst driving. This will assist in maintaining a high level of safety for all in our community, especially our students.

### **School Uniform**

A reminder to all families that full summer uniform is to be worn when students return to school. All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. This includes the wearing of the correct shoes, socks, and jackets on the correct day. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles that comply with school expectations. Boys' hair must be kept short without excessive hair product used. For girls, long hair must be tied back using appropriate hair accessories. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Students are to wear our school hat when outside. Please ensure that all items of clothing be labelled with your child's name and class. This makes for the easy return of items if they are misplaced. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**Mr D. Day**

**Head of Primary**

★★★ CONGRATULATIONS ★★★

### **All-Rounder Awards**

- ★ Isabelle Baker, Tony Bechara, Antoinette Chebat, Rebecca Elias, Alex Gereij (Year 10)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 - Year 10 return to College, face to face learning

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November- Years 3-6 ICAS English Exam

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November - Years 3-6 ICAS Mathematics Exam

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November - Years 3-6 ICAS Science Exam

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Year 6 Rewards Day

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Year 6 Graduate from Primary

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Year 9 Science Incursion

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – School Concludes for Students

## REMINDERS AND NEWS FROM FEES AND ENROLMENT

The following excursions have been cancelled for this year and credits will be applied off school fees:

- MCHF Pilgrimage
- All Brainstorm Productions for 2021
- Year 9 Food Technology Incursion
- Years K-6 Carnivals
- Years K-3 Swimming Programs
- All remaining Primary excursions (excluding the Year 6 Rewards Day)
- Years 6, 9 and 11 Camps
- Years 8 and 10 Living History Incursion
- Year 9 Geography Excursion
- Year 11 First Aid Training
- Drama Excursion
- Music Excursion

## HAPPY AUSTRALIA WORLD TEACHERS DAY TO ALL OUR TEACHERS!





## PARENT CORNER

### Fundraising for those in need in Lebanon

As we know, Lebanon is in very dire circumstances with corruption at the highest levels, forceful takeover of the country by other Nations, an economy that has spiralling debts, lack of employment, no basic amenities, electricity outage, and increasing poverty. Both the Maronite College of the Holy family and our sister school, St Maroun's College, will be raising funds to provide basic necessities and food for students in schools, operated by the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family. The money will go directly to purchasing items for these families, so that they can experience some joy during this Christmas season.

If anyone would like to donate, please contact Admin (96336600 – Ext: 1). Envelopes will be sent around during homeroom classes for smaller collections.

#### 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>