Key Dates

Friday 28 September
Mercy Day Mass and Celebrations
End of Term 3

Term 3 Break
Saturday 29 September
WACE Prac Exams begin

Tuesday 2 October
Yr 12 Semester Two exams begin

Saturday 7 October
WACE Prac Exams conclude

Thursday 11 October
Yr 12 Semester Two exams conclude

Term 4 2012
Monday 15 October
Home Study/Service Day

Tuesday 16 October
Term 4 commences for all students

Wednesday 17 October
Commissioning Mass - New Prefects
MESA Meeting 6.30pm

Friday 19 October
Presentation Evening, Perth Concert
Hall 7pm

Tuesday 23 October
Yr 12 Graduation Mass & Dinner

Wednesday 24 October
8.3 RE Mass

Insight from Catherine McAuley:
Our charity should be cordial. Now cordial signifies something that renews, invigorates and warms. Such should be the effects of our love for one another.

Principal’s Report

“What we think, or what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only consequence is what we do.” John Ruskin

This week we celebrated Mercy Day, the great feast that unites the Mercy world. Mercy day dates back to September 24 1827 when the House on Baggot Street in Dublin opened as a school for the education of poor young girls and as a residence for homeless girls and women. Over 166 years ago, Perth welcomed the Sisters of Mercy and we celebrate Mercy Day with all Mercy Sisters, Associates and friends throughout the world. We aspire to the teachings of Catherine and the tenacity and courage of Ursula and take pride in all that has been achieved in their name. September 24 was the feast of Our Lady of Mercy and we ask that Our Lady will bless all Mercy people and fill their hearts with God’s love and peace.

Today we celebrated Mercy Day and began our day with Mass in the Cathedral, celebrated by Monsignor Michael Keating. The day then unfolded with excitement as each homeroom held a stall or an activity to raise funds for Mercy ministries. This was followed by lunch and of course the highlight of the day was the Mercy Day Concert culminating in the announcement of our Prefects for 2013. Thank you to all the parents who assisted with the delicious lunch and to all the staff and students who organized the day and made it such a wonderful Mercy celebration.

Well today marks the end of what must have been the busiest term this year. The Musical Production, the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival, the Music Showcase, Badminton, Netball, Hockey and Volleyball competitions, the second Poverty Immersion program, competitions in languages, accounting, mathematics, subject selection processes for 2013, election of Prefects for the next twelve months, Spring Extravaganza and Art Exhibition, the welcoming of our 2013 Year 7 students and their parents, the Father’s Day Breakfast, our Staff Service Day and Staff Retreat, the MESA barbecue for the Year 12 girls and House Film Festival. I know I have missed many things, however, in the midst of all of this, our young women continued to strive for excellence and we celebrated so many achievements.

Last week saw the Mercedes College athletics squad take out first place honours in the Junior Girls, tie for first place in the Senior Girls and win the overall Girls’ Aggregate at the Interschool Division One Athletics Carnival. There were many outstanding achievements on the day and the athletes, plus
Mission Leader’s Musings in Mercy Week

The introduction to this Friday’s Whole School Eucharistic Liturgy in the Cathedral speaks about the importance of our Year of Grace focus and the unique invitation we have as a Mercy Community to be a Channel of God’s Grace.

Through the grace of God, we have been made members of the body of Jesus Christ, extensions of himself in place and time. So much so that each baptised believer joined to him is actually ‘another Christ’. Each is called and sent by him, and each is empowered by his Spirit, to live and work for that better world that is ‘the Kingdom of God’, a society of justice and love, peace and joy. Jesus Christ, in fact, depends on us to be who and what we are. In words attributed to St Teresa of Avila: ‘Christ has no body now on earth but yours!’ We are his eyes, ears, heart, hands and feet to everyone else. So we keep learning from his teachings and example just how to embody him. So we also look to great companying disciples like Catherine McAuley and Ursula Frayne to show us the way. In short, we are together a sign and instrument of Jesus Christ, God’s grace in person. What a fantastic gift it is, then, to be a Christian and a missionary of God’s love!

MERCY DAY MASS

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

The First Reading from Isaiah speaks about what it means to serve God. We learn that it is the grace of the Holy Spirit that will lead us to work for justice and peace. In Psalm 103, we read of joyous praise rising from a thankful acknowledgement of God’s blessing of graciousness and mercy to each and every one of us. The Psalm is followed by our Gospel reading from Luke, a very meaningful passage that teaches a valuable lesson to followers of Christ. It focuses our efforts as a community on making Christ the foundation of our faith and Mercy school.

The Year of Grace invitation extended to all of us by Archbishop Timothy Costelloe is...to come to know Christ once again by meeting him in the pages of the gospels. Open ourselves to him by finding him in the celebration of the Eucharist. Encounter him by entering into moments of prayer and meditation. Rediscover him by tracing the pattern of his presence and his love in our life. ... If we all do this Christ will shape our minds and hearts so that we can recognize him and meet him in others and serve him in them.

the Year 7 spectators and SRC girls who led the cheering, all are to be commended on representing themselves and the College so well.

It was with great pleasure that we announced the new Prefect Council. We congratulate Charlotte Burrell, Laura Cocks; Grace Cumming, Caitlin Geiles, Lucy Gilbert, Beth Litjens, Shelby Maher, Matilda Martin, Eleanor Mudie, Abby O’Rourke, Amanda Phillips, Siobhan Poupard, Georgia Wilson, Regina Yap, Dimity Baker, Chloe Lagренаде

Over the next weeks our Year 12 students face the biggest challenge of their twelve years of schooling as they sit their final school based exams. I wish them all the very best with their preparation and hope that they know they will be in our prayers. As parents we acknowledge that there is quite a lot of stress associated with these exams and we can only support the girls to stay calm and focused and help them to push through when the going gets tough. Provide healthy, nutritious meals and give them positive feedback whenever possible. More than anything, encourage them to believe in themselves. We hope that we have instilled in the girls the belief that if there is no struggle, there is no progress.

Teen Commandment for the holidays: You shall remember that you were 16 once. Even if the memories of braces make you wince. Or precisely because the memories of your own teen years make you wince. Try to summon up that empathy when they are driving you crazy. It may save you both much anguish! (Lian Dolan)

All Mercedes College students are expected back at school, in full summer uniform, on Tuesday 16 October. Please check the length of uniforms over the holidays and ensure that hats have been cleaned ready for the new term. Remember though that the winter uniform, including blazer, is the formal dress for Presentation Evening on Friday 19 October. Please get in quick to get your tickets for this wonderful event.

I wish all our girls a restful break, unless they are sitting Year 12 exams of course. Go gently girls and be sure to make time for your family. If families are travelling interstate or overseas for the holidays I wish you safe travel. Please keep our Year 12 girls in your prayers. As parents we acknowledge that there is quite a lot of stress associated with these exams and we can only support the girls to stay calm and focused and help them to push through when the going gets tough. Provide healthy, nutritious meals and give them positive feedback whenever possible. More than anything, encourage them to believe in themselves. We hope that we have instilled in the girls the belief that if there is no struggle, there is no progress.

Peace and best wishes.

Sheena Barber, Principal

2012 Presentation Evening
Friday 19 October 2012 / 7pm, Perth Concert Hall

Please refer to the College Website for more information.

Mercedes College Advisory Council Staff Medal

Every year we encourage our families to nominate one of our outstanding teachers for the College Advisory Council Staff Medal. This prestigious award is presented at Presentation Evening by the Chair of the College Advisory Council. Staff, students and the parents of our students are welcome to nominate. The closing date is Wednesday 10 October. For more information click HERE.
Gracious God,
You have blessed this ancient land
with many gifts, especially its people.
We thank you for the Year of Grace,
a time to start afresh from Christ.
You invite us to contemplate the face of Jesus your Son,
that we may experience a new wave of grace,
and that the light of Christ may burn more brightly in our lives.

Attune our hearts and minds
to the presence of your Holy Spirit,
that our Church may be transformed,
our relationships be healed,
and our nation grow in compassion and justice.

With the intercession of St Mary MacKillop,
who showed us new ways of living the Gospel,
we make our prayer
through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us.

Pastoral Care News

Year 7/8 Learning Community

Year 7 - Mrs Michelle Lloyd
The last few weeks have been very busy for our Year 7 girls with many of them participating in and trying out for a number of House activities. It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm with which they involve themselves in these school-based activities. The Year 7 students also represented the College at the ACC Athletics Carnival last week where they attended as spectators. Many positive comments were made about the girls in particular the enthusiasm with which they cheered on our team even in the wet and cold conditions. Well done girls!

The Information Session for new Year 7 Parents and Students for 2013 took place last Saturday and I would like to thank the following girls for giving up their time to help during the Parent Session: Madeline Grech 7.1 and Claudia Todaro 7.2 for their amazing speeches, our Year 7 models for their super talents in modelling our various uniform requirements and the Year 7 SRC who guided new parents and students around the school. Your willingness to help was very much appreciated!

Wishing you all a safe and peace filled holiday from the Year 7 Pastoral Care Staff.

Year 8 - Mrs Melissa Trolio
The Year 8 Community has had an extremely busy Term 3! The Year 8 social was very successful and both staff and students really enjoyed themselves. Year 8 students were extremely well behaved and their costumes and outfits were beautifully matched to our theme “Countries of the Olympics”. I would like to thank the Trinity College Year 8 PC staff for their organisation of the evening as well as our Year 8 Homeroom teachers who assisted in supervision and some who even dressed up too! On behalf of the PC team we would like to thank some of our prefects who gave up their evening to support the students. I would also like to remind parents about our annual Presentation Evening at the Perth Concert Hall on Friday 19 October 2012. The evening will commence at 7.00pm sharp and will conclude at 9.15pm. Students will be involved in rehearsal throughout the day and will be dismissed at 2.20pm. Students from Year 8 are expected to attend and are required to wear their full winter uniform with blazer. Tickets for students are free of charge but need to be ordered through Ticketek. Please see our College website for more information. I look forward to celebrating the many successful achievements of our Year 8 students on this evening.
Year 9/10 Learning Community

Year 9 - Mrs Sherrin Adams
The girls are reminded that applications for the Peer Mentor Programme close on Friday 19 October at 3.20pm. As there are many girls who will be exceptional mentors to the incoming Year 7 students, late applications or applications that do not address the selection criteria cannot be considered. All interested students have a package of information explaining the process to them.

The Year 9 students continue to amaze me with their care for each other, enthusiasm and positive contribution in all facets of school life. Congratulations to our Year 9 athletes for their success at the recent carnival and to all of the girls who were involved in the Extravaganza and Art Exhibition last week.

On behalf of the Pastoral Care team and the girls I wish Dr Jodee Dawson every happiness as she awaits the birth of her baby. I appreciate all you have done for the girls this year - especially for 9.2 Homeroom.

I hope that the girls have a restful holiday, ready for their last term as Year 9 and their first high school exams.

Year 10 - Mr Liam Smith
As another term comes to completion, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage the Year 10 students to take some time to revitalise over the holidays. Term 4 can be a busy and stressful term as we lead into our end of year exams, so it is important the girls take a chance to relax over the break. This does not mean forget your studies completely, it is important to keep on top of your studies, read over notes and make sure you have a comprehensive understanding of topics just completed; after all they will appear in the final exams.

I would also like to congratulate a group of Year 10 students who took it upon themselves to hold a cake stall with the aim of raising money for a worthwhile charity. Jasmine Pavan led the group in their cooking and fundraising efforts with an amazing total of over $500.00 being collected.

I wish all the girls and their families a safe and enjoyable holidays, in the hope they return prepared, and energised, ready to finish the year off strong.

Year 11/12 Learning Community

Year 11 - Mrs Marianne Morphett
Over the last few weeks, the girls have again enjoyed success through their participation in the ACC Interschool Athletics Carnival, Spring Extravaganza and committee work to plan the Mercy Day celebrations. They are to be commended on their efforts to support the College community through these events.

Congratulations are extended to Georgia Wilson (11.1) who has been selected to join the ‘train on’ squad for the West Australian Diamonds Hockey team. Georgia will be one of two players on standby to play, should a place in the team become available due to injury.

The Prefect Council for 2013 was announced at the conclusion of the activities on Mercy Day. I would like to thank the girls who nominated to serve the College in this capacity and to encourage those not successful on this occasion, to continue to pursue leadership opportunities in other areas of College life. A leadership afternoon for the Prefect Council 2013 will be held at the College on Tuesday 2 October from 12pm - 3pm.

We wish the girls and their families a restful holiday and hope they return refreshed to complete their courses next term.

Year 12 - Mrs Bernadette Delli
As we approach the end of term and the major exams for many of the girls, it is important to keep a sense of proportion and balance. Some students are stressing about one or two subjects, to the detriment of the others, and some girls are very excited about the end of school rather than looking at the work that needs to be completed before they are finished with this year’s challenges. Steady revision of all subjects, and the regular practise of skills, will be of greater benefit than trying to ‘blitz’ one subject. Each student needs to remember that their subject teachers are their best guide to what is needed in the exams so following advice from these teachers is their wisest course of action.

I will be on Long Service Leave next term, returning of course for the Graduation which I would not miss! If you need to discuss any difficulties your daughter is experiencing in the first couple of weeks back next term, please contact either her Homeroom teacher or Mrs Wholley. I look forward to hearing about the girls’ great results in the Semester 2 exams and to seeing everyone at Graduation.

Mercy Service Learning - Mrs Christine Aldous, Mercy Service Learning Coordinator (Year 9 - 12)
Congratulations to the students who have completed their 2012 Mercy Service-Learning. The Year 10 students move straight into their Year 11 program so that commitment to their organisation of choice can be on-going. The requirement for the Year 11 program is 20 hours of service in an area that addresses a social justice issue. Students must complete a new Application to Participate in Parent Organised Service form, even if they are returning to the same organisation. The program closes on Friday 24 May, 2013.

Year 9 Journals and service reports have recently been returned to students. Congratulations to the following girls who have displayed an excellent understanding of stewardship and Mercy Values: Carrie English 9.1, Taylor Lloyd 9.3, Rebecca Moore 9.3, Ellie Narducci 9.3, Ruby Martin 9.5 and Ruby Wheeler 9.5. The Year 10 program is endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority. It is not possible for the girls to commence this program until they have completed the orientation program, to be held in week 4 of Term 1. Students are encouraged, however, to begin thinking about where their service interests lie and the time commitments they will need to work around next year.
There is no compulsory program for Year 12 students, however, students are strongly advised to continue giving time to service. There are a number of organisations currently looking for assistance: Loftus Holiday Program, the Centre for Cerebral Palsy Ballajura, John Hughes Big Walk, Sacred Heart Highgate Fete and Freo Fun Run. More details are available from the Mercy Service-Learning office.

**Curriculum News**

Throughout this term our focus on Justice has called our students to honour this Mercy value, and consider how each person has a role in treating others with fairness and respect. Students have tried hard to challenge ideas and actions that are hurtful to others and have been encouraged to have the courage to stand up for what is right. I have been proud of the way students have risen to the task of supporting those in need and speaking out, even when this has put them in a difficult situation as well.

Year 7 and 9 students will receive their NAPLAN results this week. The results this year have been consistent with our recent years. We are performing just above to well above the National average. What is in important is that the girls see growth and progress in their own achievement. The College has made a copy for your daughter’s file so this original needs to be kept in a safe place.

As we approach the Semester 2 exams our Year 12 students are on the countdown to achieving and receiving their WACE (Western Australian Certificate of Education). While Year 7-11 students are relaxing and revising this holidays, the Year 12 students will be sitting their Semester 2/End of Course (formerly known as Mock) Exams. These exam results DO count, which is why I do not refer to them as Mock exams. I wish these girls all the very best and pray that God will help them remember all that they have learnt. Please keep them in your prayers, also.

Term 4 is always an exciting time. I remind parents not to take their daughters away from school earlier than the scheduled holiday times in the diary. We do not make any allowances for tests and exams for students who are not at school due to holidays or appointments or rehearsals. Anyone missing these final assessments will be given NO credit for the assessment (please see our Assessment Policy for more details).

Enjoy your break.

Mrs Loretta Wholley, Deputy Principal Academic Services

**General College News**

**Uniform requirements for Term 4**

- The correct dress for Term 4 is the Summer Uniform. This applies from Day 1.
- The uniform includes the wearing of the hat to and from school for ALL students.
- If the weather remains cool the School jumper can be worn as street dress.
- Correct Uniform Length: The hem should be sitting on the knee.

Mr Cole, Deputy Principal, Student Life

**Art Exhibition**

Congratulations to all our Art students for an excellent show in the annual Art Exhibition and on the catwalk in the Tri-annual Spring Extravaganza. You should all be very proud of your efforts.

(L to R) People’s Choice Award, Maddison Halloran (Year 12); 3AB Visual Art Award & Most Outstanding Artwork Award, Grace Lee (Year 12); Year 10 Design & Visual Art Award, Gemma Ayres; Year 8 2D Award Eva Mallet.
House Film - Miss Nilar Nyunt, House Film Coordinator

On Wednesday September 12, the Media department held their annual HOFFS screening and awards night combined with a special screening night of some of best media production work from Year 9 – 12. After months of filming, reshoots, editing and all the behind the scenes organization and preparation, the House Film Festival finally came to a close. The red carpet was rolled out at the beautiful Cygnet Cinema in Como to celebrate for the last time, only four houses competing for the title of Best Film. Next year, Cooper and Wright houses will join the festival.

Judging of the house films was the closest in house film history, with the winning house taking out the coveted title by only six points. Congratulations to McDonald’s Lily O’Sullivan for leading her cast and crew to win the honour of Best Film 2012.

The night was a great success. Other notable Felix (aka Oscar) winners were:
- Best Supporting Actress: Jessica Kelly (Frayne) & Alice Lynch (McDonald)
- Best Actress: Gabby Loo (McDonald)
- Best Costume: Beth Litjens (McAuley)
- Best Continuity: Olivia Cipriano (McAuley)
- Best Hair/Makeup: Beth Litjens (McAuley)
- Best Publicist: Grace Durak (Frayne)
- Best Music: Christine Roach (Serisier)
- Best Assistant Director: Chelsea Davies (Frayne)
- Best Cinematography: Carmel Mohan (McDonald)
- Best on Location Sound: Laura Tassone (Serisier)
- Best Lighting: Laura Cocks (McAuley)
- Best Editing: Lily O’Sullivan (McDonald)
- Best Script: Laura Cocks (McAuley) “Past Mistakes”
- Best Director: Lily O’Sullivan (McDonald) “April Signing Off”

Congratulations to all the houses. Well done and thank you to the directors for all their hard work over the last 10 months.
Languages
Chinese Speaking Competition - Miss Junxia Qin
On Saturday 15 September, two of our Year 7 students and one Year 8 student participated in the Chinese Speaking Competition organised by the CLTAWA (Chinese Language Teachers’ Association of Western Australia). This competition is only for students who have no Chinese language background. All of the girls performed well but special mention must go to Ella Parker from Year 7 who won the 5th Prize against 14 contestants in Year 7 from 7 other schools. The Chinese speaking standard of the students was amazing considering they have only been studying the language for two and a half terms. Congratulations to all of these students.

From left to right: Miss Junxia Qin, Ella Parker (Year 7), Kimberley Martin (Year 7) and Emma Reid (Year 8)

Making Mercedes Greener - Mrs Marg Ryan, Coordinator of Making Mercedes Greener
The new Battery Recycling program has commenced at the College. The bin is located in the library in the space next to the recycling mobile devices bin. Students are encouraged to bring in dry cell batteries AA, AAA, (single use or rechargeable), C, D, button batteries, 9 Volt and 6 Volt batteries which can all be recycled. A tally sheet will record the number of batteries from each Home Room in order to select the winner at the end of each term. Unless the bin is filled earlier, the bin will be emptied at the end of each term. Please note: Lead acid batteries (car batteries and mobile phone batteries) cannot be collected.

Music - Mrs Claire Gamlin, Music Coordinator
Catholic Performing Arts Festival Final Showcase
Last Monday, Emma Oorschot (Year 11), Matthew Dixon (Trinity) the Select Choir, Mercedes/Trinity Wind Orchestra, Mercedes/Trinity Chorale performed on the Concert Hall stage as part of the Catholic Performing Arts Final Showcase. The evening was a great success, and a wonderful conclusion to a very busy Catholic Performing Arts Festival.

Thank You
Thank you to Mr Paul Waterhouse and Miss Grace Gardner for preparing the items for the Extravaganza held last Friday night. The evening included performances from the Jazz Band, Jazz Quartet, Percussion Ensemble, String Ensemble and also a flute duet by Caitlin Richards and Rebecca Hyder in Year 11. These girls were accompanied on acoustic guitar by Caitlin’s brother, Aiden, from Trinity College. It was a wonderful opportunity for Music to be involved in a night run by other Learning Areas in the school. The Rock Band performed the following morning for the parents and Year 7 students of 2013 who came in to complete testing for next year. They gave a wonderful performance.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Carissa Soares (Year 8) who performed at Parmelia house last week. She was selected to perform a 30 minute recital on a Stuart and Sons grand piano in the foyer on St Georges Terrace. She presented a wonderful program of music from her Grade 7 AMEB repertoire, spanning all eras from the Baroque to the 20th Century.

Diary Dates
Friday 19 October Presentation Night: Jazz Quartet, Orchestra, Year 7 Massed Choir, Select Choir – Perth Concert Hall
Tuesday 23 October Trinity Presentation Night: Wind Orchestra – Perth Concert Hall
Tuesday 23 October Mercedes Year 12 Graduation: Select Choir – St Mary’s Cathedral
Sport - Miss Corinne Kirry, Sports Coordinator

Athletics
On Wednesday 19 September, Mercedes College competed in the A Division ACC Athletics competition. The weather was perfect for the top ACC schools competing. With a team of 65 girls, all whom have trained extremely hard throughout Term 3, pushed hard for some personal records. Every girl had the desire to do their best! There were big smiles on students’ and staff faces when it was announced the College had won, not only the Junior Girls Shield (Years 7-9) and shared the win for the Senior Girls Shield (Years 10-12), but also when it was announced the College had won as the Overall Girls Champions. The team jumped to their feet with excitement. Jocelyn MacRae (captain) and Allanah Leishman (vice-captain) thanked everyone involved on behalf of the College. Abbey Raven was runner up champion girl for the Open division and Olivia Ridley was third for U13. Well done! All results can be viewed on: http://www.accsport.asn.au/carnivals/athletics/athletics-results. A big thank you to all parents for their support.

Netball
The High School Cup Netball Competition began in Term 2 with Mercedes College entering two Junior teams (Year 7 and 8), two Intermediate teams (Year 9 and 10) and one Senior team (Year 11 and 12). All teams finished in the top two of their pools in the first round. Each team was required to play another school in an elimination round, with only one Junior team winning. This team then played on Friday 1 May. The girls played extremely well and made the quarter final. Unfortunately they lost a close game to Darling Range. Well done to all girls for their commitment to training and thank you to Mrs Barrett and Felice Crisp for coaching.

Volleyball
Mercedes College entered six teams into the WA Volleyball Schools Cup held from Thursday 6 – Sunday 9 September. All teams competed at a very high standard, with four teams progressing through to the Grand Finals which were played on the
Sunday. Congratulations to the Open team who won silver in the Honours division (most elite division), to the U15 Div, 2 team who won the gold, and to the two College teams in Div. 3 who both made the Grand Final winning gold and silver. Congratulations to Bailey Taylor who was selected as an “All Star” (voted by the umpires) for U15, and also to Shelby Maher and Dakoda Hallam, who were selected for the Open division. Thank you to Mr L Smith, Miss Kirry, Tori Sumner, Sarah Brown and Laura Pensini for coaching.

Tours
Mercedes College are extremely excited to announce two sports tours for 2013. Girls are able to trial for both and compete in both tours; however they should be aware of the time commitment necessary to participate in these tours. More information will be available in Term 4 for students interested in sport tours.

Southern Skies Tournament
Southern Skies is an international youth multi-sport event hosted by Brisbane Boys’ College. This multisport international event will provide our students with the opportunity to aim for excellence in the sporting arena and encourage them to achieve their personal best.
Where: Brisbane / When: 6 - 14 July / Sports: Netball, soccer and hockey (girls can only compete in ONE of these three as games are on at the same times) / Cost: Approximately $2500 / Commitment: 1-2 trainings per week for Semester One.

Australian Schools Cup
The Australian Volleyball Schools Cup is the largest sporting event for schools in Australia. In 2011, it was a fantastic, record-breaking event, the largest since it began in 1984. There were 466 teams and 136 schools involved from across Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Mercedes College has competed in this tournament in 2010, 2011 and 2012 with great results and improvement.

Thank you
Thank you to the staff and students of Mercedes College, for making us feel so welcome while completing our 4th Year Health and PE Internship. A special thank you to our mentors Liam Smith and Greg Smith and the PE Department, also to Michelle Lloyd, Greg Shine and Mel Trolio for taking us on in our specialisation areas. We have learnt so much from you all and thank you for sharing your knowledge. We look forward to implementing this into our own classes. To the students, it has been a pleasure to teach and get to know you all. Thank you for welcoming us into your class and being so accepting of a new teacher this term. We wish you the best of luck in your future studies. Lastly, thank you to Mrs Sheena Barber, for letting us experience our final practicum at Mercedes College. Wishing everyone good luck for the future and we hope to see you around.
Miss Camille Wilson and Mr Brenton Mizen

Swag Fundraising
Early this term the Young Mercies, the Poverty Immersion Students and the YMJT Students were fortunate in meeting Sarah English from the Perth Swags Team and hearing about the plight of the poor in Perth. Sarah shared many stories about her personal relationship with friends who have been living in squats near the College for over 10 years of their life. She provided our students with many statistics about the difficulty encountered by men, women and children who finds themselves looking for a warm and safe place to sleep in the CBD each night. 13,391 people are homeless in WA. 767 sleep on Perth’s streets, and nearly half of those are women. 48% of WA homeless are under 25 years, 1040 are children under 12 years. Sarah and a few of her friends accompanied students on Night Tours of the city and introduced them to people who were willing to share their stories and describe their circumstances. Truly inspirational encounters! Following these experiences a wonderful collaboration began that now has students regularly fundraising to assist the Swags Group in reaching their goal of providing a backpack Bed/Swag to every homeless person in Perth. The Young Mercies have also begun a Food Run Ministry, supported by the cooking talents of Staff, with the Homeless men and women who play Street Soccer every Tuesday afternoon at Wellington Square. A life giving experience for all involved! Donations have been regularly made to the following website from the College, Mercedes families, Staff and the Apex chapter based at Mercedes College. To date our donations have come to over $3000. We thank all those who have supported this ministry. For more information, visit www.swagsteamperth.com
Student News

Student Achievements

Swimming
Congratulations to Melanie Kennedy (9.2) who recently competed in the 100m and 200m backstroke at the National Short Course Swimming Championships held in Perth. Melanie was one of the youngest swimmers at the Open Championship event and it was a tremendous effort to qualify. She also attended the Long Course Age Nationals in Brisbane in April, then went on to win gold, silver and two bronze medals at the WA Short Course State Championships.

Rhythmic Gymnastics
Congratulations to the Mercedes Rhythmic Gymnastics Team who competed at the WA State Spring Championships 2012 on the 14 - 16 September. All members of the team achieved fantastic results within their respective Levels.

Mercedes Netball - Michelle Smith, President
Congratulations to Mercedes Netball Club for one of its best seasons - 16 of our 19 teams made the Semi Finals and 9 went on to the Grand Finals, Yr 7 - Rose and Tangelo, Yr 8 - Violet and Pink, Yr 9 - Mauve and Pearl, Yr 10 - Orange, Year 11 - Green and Year 12 - Cyan. Six teams won their grand final; Rose, Tangelo, Violet, Mauve, Orange and Cyan. Thank you to everybody for such an enjoyable season and doing your club proud both in your playing and sportsmanship throughout the season and look forward to 2013. A special thank you to all those who helped with the wind up.

Edmund Rice Camps
Year 12 students are invited to participate in the 2013 summer camps, working with kids aged 7-16, who come less fortunate backgrounds. For more information contact the Volunteer Coordinator on awalker@edmundrice.org or call 9365 2826.

Adolescent Girls and Physical Activity Study
Thank you to the girls in Years 8, 9 & 10 and parents who participated in our online survey. Please consider participating in the study for your chance to win one of ten $50 iTunes vouchers. This is an important project and your participation is vital to its success. If you would like to participate, please contact Julie on julie.saunders@uwa.edu.au or 6488 1305.

Thank You to Parents

Thank you to all the parents who have helped with the variety of events this Term. It is always wonderful to see parents come forward and volunteer when the call for help is made. This is very encouraging for me in my role as Parent Liaison as without the support and generosity of, I will not be able to do my job effectively. Have a restful and safe holiday and I look forward to seeing and working with you again in Term 4. Jackie Stacey, Parent Liaison

Interschool Athletics
Julia Moore, Judith Hille and Rosemary Martin

Mercy Day
Miranda Baker, Rosemary Barker, Mark Baxter, Debbie Carrivick, Freda Crucitti, Dean Davidson, Jenny Davidson, Anne Gartrell, Rosie Geracitano, Nuccia Granato, Mary Greenshields, Sharon Gregson, Tracy Harris, Deanna Hehir, Debbie Hogg, Maureen Hunt, Mary McLure, Jim McDermott, Rev Paul Monash, Valentina Morton, Jae Nicholls, Marie Nicholls, Julie O'Donoghue, Nicole O'Rourke, Jessie Poupard, Christina Richards, Basilia Sabatino, Robyn Salvia, Kelly Volk, Bernie Flynn.

Victoria Square Alumni

Mercedes Ex-Students' Association (MESA)
Reunions for the classes of 1962, 1972, 1982, 1992 will be taking place shortly. If you are an ex-student from any of those year groups and would like to attend the reunion, please visit the MESA section on the College website for more information.

Noticeboard

St Jude’s Multicultural Family Night - Friday 30 November (5pm - 8pm), St Jude’s Catholic School, 17 Barnston Way in Langford. All money raised from the event will go to much needed learning resources and materials for St Jude’s Catholic School.

St Joachim’s High School - 25 Year Reunion, Friday 2 November 2012 / 7pm / Oxford Hotel, Leederville. For more information or to RSVP email stjoachims87@gmail.com.

The Shopfront - Fundraising Premiere of the movie ‘Mental’ / Cygnet Theatre, South Perth / 6 October, 3.30pm / Tickets $20. For more information or bookings call 9371 9109

Rotary Ramble - Fundraising Adventure, Sunday 21 October. For more information visit www.rotaryramble.com.