Key Dates

Thursday 5 April
Frog Jog
End of Term One

Saturday 7 April
NIDA tour (7 - 14 April)

Sunday 22 April
Italy tour returns

Thursday 26 April
Start of Term Two
Triangular Meetings (Yrs 7 - 12)

Friday 27 April
All students return to school

Monday 30 April
Parent Evening - Social Networking 7pm

Wednesday 2 May
11.2 RE Mass
Yr 7 SRC Commissioning Mass & Morning Tea
MESA Meeting 7pm

Thursday 3 May
Yr 10 Careers Expo

Principal’s Report

“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” Leo Buscaglia

As you read this, I am in Italy with Ms Speranza, Mrs Velletri and Mrs Trolio accompanying our students on the Italy Language and Cultural Tour. I’ll look forward to sharing our wonderful experiences next term, especially our celebration of last Sunday’s Palm Sunday Liturgy at the Vatican.

As we move through Holy Week this year, we are exposed to the radical nature of God’s forgiveness in the manner in which Jesus accepts his crucifixion and death. Jesus is a victim of great injustice but instead of nursing feelings of hurt, anger, disgust and contempt, he exhibits a strong sense of compassion toward those responsible for his execution when he says, “Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.” The events of Holy Week remind us of our calling to be active Christians in the way we lead our own lives. If we are harbouring hurt within us, Jesus’ actions can encourage us towards forgiveness and away from grudges and bitterness. As we let go of hurt and resentment and don’t allow them to define our life, we open ourselves to find compassion and understanding.

I have been really moved by the way our young women have embraced Project Compassion. There have been so many activities during Lent, whether it has been baking cakes and other foods for selling, or simply giving up the money that we would normally spend in the Canteen or on that cup of coffee on our way to school. The girls have been generous with their time and generous in their giving. Living the value of Compassion is not always easy. We often look to support causes overseas or in other parts of Australia whilst forgetting that we are called to be compassionate people on our own doorsteps.

I’m only sorry that I haven’t been able to join the staff and girls on our annual Frog Jog. I hope that everyone has really worked hard to raise as much money as possible for our Mercy Ministries, supporting the Sisters in their many works of Mercy, in Perth, in other parts of our State or on overseas Missions. As you

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

“We may feel confident that Jesus Christ keeps an exact account of all we do for His poor, that He listens to every word we speak to them.”

Students enjoyed the performances of Prefects in the 6 Voices of Easter - Lenten Liturgy in the form of a pilgrimage with a different experience/reflection at each venue.
Prayer

Loving God, may we enter into the mystery of Jesus' resurrection with awe and amazement. As we follow the angel’s word and seek Jesus in the Galilee of our lives, may our Spirit transform the ordinary events of our lives into signs of Jesus’ life giving love. We ask this in his name, confident that you will hear us. Amen.

Gospel

Easter Sunday Year B
Sunday 8 April 2012

Mk 16: 1 - 8

When the Sabbath had passed, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome, the women who had accompanied Jesus in his ministry and witnessed his death, bought spices and came to the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body. Very early in the morning, just as the sun was rising, they approached the tomb. Amongst themselves they asked, “Who will roll away the stone from the face of the tomb?” but when they looked, the stone, which was huge, had already been rolled away! Entering the tomb they saw a young man, clothed in a white robe, sitting on the right side and they were terrified. But he said to them: “Do not be afraid! You seek Jesus, the one who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. Look at the place where they laid him! Now, go on your way and tell the disciples and Peter he is going before you into Galilee. There you will see him.” They rushed out and fled from the tomb, trembling with amazement. And they told nothing to anyone for they were so afraid.

Source: www.prayasyoucan.com.au

know, this, in addition to Project Compassion, is our major fund raising event for the year, and we ask the girls to again give generously.

As we prepare for our Easter celebrations on Sunday, it’s good to take the time to think how we would have felt as one of Jesus’ followers on that first Easter day. We read in the Gospel how they were simply overwhelmed by the reality, but after their initial hesitation and astonishment they could no longer ignore that reality. Jesus was truly alive! Let’s pray that we can really grapple with the new understanding of Jesus as one living anew and rejoice because Jesus, through his humanity, has given us the opportunity of true resurrection. There are constant hints of resurrection in our daily lives. They are found in our downs and ups, our sorrows and joys, our worries and relief, our disappointments and successes. Easter Sunday offers an opportunity to celebrate all our small, personal “resurrections” and unite them with Jesus’ Resurrection. It offers us renewal to be people of faith, hope and love in our home and in our community.

As this first term draws to a close, I thank all the staff, parents and students for contributing to a busy yet hopefully fruitful term for everyone. As we continually remind our girls, their success is in their hands. They begin to become successful the minute they decide to be. I wish everyone a restful break and, if travelling, travel safe.

Buona Pasqua!

Happy Easter to you all!

Sheena Barber, Principal

Wednesday morning mass in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated with our new Archbishop Timothy Costelloe for the first time.
Mercedes College Newsletter
Vol. 39 Number 5 / Week 10 Term One / 5 April 2012

Term 2, Week 1 Dates

23 and 24 April 2012
Student Homestudy/Service Days
Staff Professional Development Days (All staff and College Wear Shop staff will be unavailable).

25 April 2012
ANZAC Day Holiday
(College Wear Shop closed)

26 April 2012
Triangular Meetings, 8.30am - 6.30pm

27 April 2012
Term Two classes commence
All students return to school in full winter uniform

Pastoral Care News

Years 7/8 Learning Community

Year 7 - Mrs Michelle Lloyd
How quickly the term has gone! I remember back to the first week of term and the joy and enthusiasm with which the girls began their journey at Mercedes College. Our Year 7 students have maintained this enthusiasm and have done themselves and their families proud over the first term. Our Lenten Liturgy last week was a beautiful experience for the girls. The Year 7 students participated in the Liturgy with reverence and their behaviour was impeccable. The week then ended with our much anticipated Year 7 Mercedes/Trinity Picnic. Many old friendships from Primary school were renewed and new friendships made. A vote of thanks must be extended to Mr Jim Shackleton and the Year 7 Trinity PCP staff for hosting the event.

A reminder that the girls will return to school next term in full Winter Uniform. Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your daughter’s name and homeroom. I have an ever growing collection of items with no names on them.

This week we would like to congratulate our Homerooms Heroes for the past fortnight. Well done to Talia Banks, Brooke Lie and Abbie Taylor (7.1), Sophia Davis-Morgan (7.2) and Emily Zimmerman (7.4)

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday and to thank the Year 7 Pastoral Care Team for their much valued support over the Term.

Year 8 - Mrs Melissa Trolio
Our Year 8 community has had a very busy past few weeks. I would like to thank the many prefects, parents and Trinity staff who assisted with our social picnic last Thursday afternoon. Students enjoyed afternoon tea together and got to know each other better through a variety of team building activities. The feedback I have received has been very positive and we look forward to our second social event at Trinity College during Term Three. I also congratulate our Year 8 students on their
generous contributions to Project Compassion. We have raised over $2000 during this season of Lent for our Catholic agency, Caritas. Again, I ask for each student’s contribution for the annual Frog Jog, which was held today 5 April, be sent in. Funds raised go towards supporting the work of our Sisters of Mercy, feeding the homeless and caring for those less fortunate than ourselves. I wish all families a safe, happy and holy Easter season. As I am currently overseas on the Italian Study & Cultural Tour, if you do have concerns or queries Mr Chris Cole is available ccole@mercedes.wa.edu.au, as are your daughter’s homeroom teachers. I look forward to sharing more good news with you in Term 2.

Year 9/10 Learning Community

Year 9 - Mrs Sherrin Adams
I have recently signed the girls’ Interim Reports; most of them have worked fantastically during this term to receive excellent results - especially concerning the efforts they have made. You can be very proud of yourselves girls. I am especially pleased with many of those who continued to work to the best of their ability academically, whilst embracing the many co-curricular areas offered at the College.

The reverence shown by the Year 9 students during our Easter liturgical celebrations was outstanding; as were their fundraising efforts undertaken for Caritas. The total raised through the cake and cookie stalls, movie at lunchtime, Easter raffle and sale of Old Fashioned Lollies was in excess of $1000. Many thanks go to the Pastoral Care teachers who assisted their students.

Dancing classes begin next term. Parents should have received and signed the permission slip. As there is a considerable amount of administration associated with dancing classes – no special requests will be possible after the end of this term. Dancing Season and the final social is always a very exciting time for the Year 9 students. The girls are expected to be in winter uniform for all dancing lessons.

It would be remiss of me not to thank Mr Cole and the Year 9 Pastoral Care team for their care and concern for the girls over the term. Thanks also to Mrs Wallis, Mrs Davis and Mrs Jacobs, all of whom have become temporary members of the team, during Mrs Cullen’s absence.

I wish all the girls a restful holiday, whilst not forgetting the real meaning of the Easter Season.

Year 10 - Mr Liam Smith
The end of Term one is here, and the Year 10 students have had a busy few days. The two-day Year 10 Reflection saw the girls participating in activities based both on and off campus. The term came to a conclusion with the whole school participating in the ‘Frog Jog.’ An afternoon where the girls ran/jogged/walked around the bridges, as the College gathered as a community for one of our fundraising ventures for the Sisters of Mercy.

Overall it has been a pleasing start to the year and I would encourage girls to relax and reenergise for their return to school on Friday 27 April. I wish all girls and their families a relaxing and peaceful Easter holiday.

Year 11/12 Learning Community

Year 11 - Mrs Marianne Morphett
It has been a busy first term and the girls have taken advantage of the many co-curricular activities available at the college, while adjusting to the demands of senior courses. Some students may need to reassess their commitments next term as they prepare for the semester exams and finalise the first unit of their courses. The interim reports have been prepared and sent home and parents are encouraged to discuss their daughter’s progress with her teachers at the Triangular Meetings to be held on Thursday 26 April.

We would like to welcome Ms Callie Steven to the Year 11 Pastoral Care team. Ms Steven will be the Year 11 Co-ordinator next term while I am on long service leave. We wish the girls and their families a Happy Easter and restful term break.
Psychologists

Students with Special Needs
Special examination arrangements exist for students who have temporary or permanent disabilities, medical issues, and/or specific learning disabilities that could disadvantage them in timed assessments. Mercedes College undertakes to ensure that these students are catered for in an appropriate way and in accordance with Curriculum Council guidelines. Special examination arrangements may include (but are not limited to) any of the following:

- Extra time to work
- Extra time to rest
- Use of Lap Tops or PC
- Use of a scribe
- Special supervision

Mrs Loretta Wholley, Deputy Principal (Academic Services), must approve any special examination arrangements prior to their implementation. Any student who may have special needs, who is not presently approved for any special examination arrangements, should discuss their needs with either Mrs Loretta Wholley or Miss Joanna Jenkins (College Psychologist).

Year 12 students are advised that the closing date for applications for the use of special examination arrangements in the 2012 Tertiary Entrance Examinations is 25 May 2012. Please see Mrs Loretta Wholley or Miss Joanna Jenkins if there are any queries regarding this.

Transition to the Winter Uniform

All students will be expected to be in the full Winter Uniform from the beginning of Term 2 ie. Friday April 27. The Information Handbook located under Student Information on the website contains information on the correct Winter Uniform requirements.

Photo Days

The following days in Term 2, Week 3 have been set aside for the official school photos.

- Tuesday May 8: Year 9, 11, 12 Homeroom and individual photos, special group photos
- Wednesday May 9: Year 7, 8, 10 Homeroom and individual photos, music and other special group photos Yr 7 - 12
- Thursday May 10: Sports photos, special group photos Yr 7 - 12

- All Homeroom and individual photos will be in the full Winter Uniform.
- Sports photos will be taken on Thursday May 10. Students who are involved in the sports photos may wear the sports uniform to/from school on that day. This includes the full track suit, white sport shirt and correct sport shoes. Students will be advised by their sport coaches about any specific uniform for the photo. Students who are also involved in Special Group photos on the day must wear the winter uniform to school and change into their Sport uniform.

Mr Chris Cole, Deputy Principal
Annual Choral Night and House Choir Competition

The theme for this year’s event was Disney and covered music as far back as 1937. Music performances from shows such as Snow White elicited some nostalgic memories from some of the older generation, whilst present day songs from Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland” and Pixar’s “Up” were a hit for younger family members.

More than 150 students participated in this popular event which also featured performances from the Colleges various Choral groups and bands. The House Choir competition was adjudicated by Choral specialists Miss Sofie Cumming from Perth College and Miss Natasha Rich from Trinity College. Serisier, guided by Gabrielle and Mercedes Slack-Smith from Year 12, won the hotly contested competition, with “Part of Your World” from The Little Mermaid. Second place went to McAuley, who were led by Veronica Bravo, Year 12 and Eleanor Mudie, Year 11, with “The Circle of Life” from The Lion King. Abby O’Rourke led McDonald with “Under the Sea”, also from The Little Mermaid, and Danielle Fynn led Frayne with “Zero to Hero” from Hercules.

It was a wonderful evening and the students did the College proud.
Children Family and Community Classes - Ms Gina Frost
'Mercedes Munchkins' Playgroup; School Holiday Fun
Calling all toddlers and pre-schoolers from the Mercedes College Community. The Year 12 Children Family and the Community classes are running a School Holiday Playgroup. The students have come up with activities that they have included in the sessions and would love to have your ‘munchkins’ join them. Sessions will be on the following days from 9am - 11.30am; Friday 13 April, Wednesday 18 April, Thursday 19 April, Friday 20 April, Thursday 26 April (Triangular Meeting Day 9am - 12pm).
Children can be registered to attend a session for one day or all the days. Onsite parking will be available. To register and join the playgroup, please complete a registration form available from the front office, Year 12 CFCC students or Ms Gina Frost, CFCC teacher. If you require more information prior to registration please contact Ms Gina Frost at the College on 9323 1323 extension 280 or via email gfrost@mercedes.wa.edu.au. We hope to see you there!

House Dance - Miss Dhana White
Tickets are on sale for all students. Pink booking slips are available from student services and must be returned with correct money in an envelope to Miss White or the box outside Student Services. Tickets will be distributed closer to the date.

House Film - Miss Nilar Nyunt, Coordinator of Media
After weeks of organisation, planning and excitement, the film shoot for House Film happened last weekend. A hundred students across four houses were involved with filming their stories. It was an exhausting, but very productive weekend for everyone.

The house teams were very ably led, by their House directors and their assistant directors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Assistant Director</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McAuley</td>
<td>Laura Cocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frayne</td>
<td>Bronwyn Hogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald</td>
<td>Lily O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serisier</td>
<td>Christine Roach</td>
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Although most houses finished all their filming over the weekend, additional filming may still need to occur if reshoots need to be done, but Directors will keep their cast and crew informed. Now the editing phase may begin!

Special thanks to all the parents who provided help with meals and security and a massive thank you to the staff helpers who very generously gave up their time to assist over the weekend. The weekend wouldn’t have run so smoothly without you all. The hard work over the weekend and in the months to come will be celebrated with an awards ceremony and screening night at the Cygnet Cinema in Como in Term 3.

Information Technology - Mr Des Loh, HOLA IT
Business & Information Technology Quiz
The inaugural Business and Information Technology Quiz was held during lunchtime on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 of March. Students entered in two categories – Year 7/8/9 and Year 10/11/12. Students made up a group of three to enter and all participants received 3 House points. The winners received 6 House points including a $10 canteen voucher each.
The Quiz was met with much enthusiasm and excitement. The questions ranged from generic to the more specific. The winners were;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7/8/9 Category</th>
<th>Year 10/11/12 Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashlee Culmsee (8.5, McAuley)</td>
<td>Regina Yap (11.2, Serisier),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Cooke (8.5, McAuley)</td>
<td>Patricia Suryawinata (11.5, Serisier)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Brewer (8.5, McAuley)</td>
<td>Evelyn Nguyen (11.6, McDonald)</td>
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I would like to acknowledge the following Business and Information Technology staff members, Alison Armstrong, Senika Gunawardena, Andrew Grigg and Brenton Skufca for their help in making this event successful.

Students enjoying College activities; House Film Weekend (Left) and the recent Poverty Immersion “sleep-out” (Right)
College Wear Shop

The College Wear Shop will now be located on the Hay Street Level of the new Serisier Building, it will provide easy access for families with parking on Hay Street.

Term 2 Opening Hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday 31 April</th>
<th>8am - 2pm</th>
<th>Wednesday 2 May</th>
<th>8am - 2pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Monday 7 May</td>
<td>8am - 2pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 9 May</td>
<td>8am - 2pm</td>
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**Weeks 4 - 11 To Be Announced**

Please note the College Wear Shop will not open during the holidays.

Student News

**Outstanding Achievement**

Congratulations to Zoe Davidson (9.1), Eliza Jackson (9.5), Aleisha Sleight (9.2) and Kate Martin (8.4) on winning a gold medal at the March State Junior Surf Championships. All girls are members of Cottesloe Surf Club and just four of many Mercedes young women who participate in community organisations outside of school. Well done girls!

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Shoshanna Beins, 2011 Graduate who was awarded with the Sacred Heart Scholarship at the University of Notre Dame’s annual Awards Evening held in March. The Scholarship was awarded to Shoshanna in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement in Year 12 at Mercedes College and her exceptional personal qualities and community involvement.

Shoshanna is now studying a Bachelor of Education (Primary).

**Mercedes Netball Club**

We invite all to our AGM, **Sunday 22 April 2012, 2:00pm to 3:00pm in Catherine’s Gardens, Mercedes College.** We always need people to provide the service of running the club. If you are willing to be involved please come along. Committee roles are for a two year period and the following positions are vacant: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Equipment co-ordinator, Coach co-ordinator, Uniform co-ordinator and Committee member.

The Club is run by a great group of people and the busiest times are at the beginning of the season; organising registration, grading etc. and at the end of the season with finals and trophy presentation etc.

Team and Coach announcements will be made after the AGM between, 4.00pm - 5.00pm in Catherine’s Gardens, Mercedes College. Training will begin on Monday 23 April at Matthews Netball Centre, Subiaco.

**MESA (Mercedes Ex-Students Association)**

**Where are they now?**

Lauren Sells (Class of 2002) followed her passion of textiles and design and is now in the fashion industry. After completing three years at the WA Institute of Fashion and being awarded the ‘Merge’ award for most ‘Sell-able Clothing Line’ from the graduation parade, Lauren started her own company. Her designs are now stocked in retail stores from Perth to Melbourne.

After a few years of her business venture Lauren wanted to stretch her wings and travelled to London where she worked and gained more valuable experience from many designers and fashion houses.

Two years later she is back in Perth working part time for a bridal couture company and freelancing within the local industry. Lauren specialising in bridesmaids, wedding dress, school ball dresses and formal wear. She can be contacted at loz@trystlove.com if anyone would like a special design.
Academic Task Force - April Holiday Program: WACE Revision Courses for Years 11 and 12. Skills Development Program for Years 6 to 10. Venues North and South of the river. For more information contact 9314 9500 or www.academictaskforce.com.au

TARGET Education April Revision Program - Christ Church Grammar School, 16 April - 20 April 2012. The program aims to revise the important components of the syllabus and includes a Study Skills Course. For more information contact Dr Robert Hallam (08) 9486 1377 or visit www.target.com.au

Catholic Youth Ministry - Holy Hour every Wednesday followed by $5 supper and fellowship. Mass at 5.30pm and Holy Hour (Adoration) at 6.30pm at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 40A Mary St, Highgate. More details on www.cym.com.au or call 9422 7912

DSF Literacy Services - is offering a limited number of places of Literacy Tutoring for students in Year 1 - 7, from low income families. For further information contact Kelly Flemming on 9217 2500 or email support@dsf.net.au

Purple Cake Day - Fundraiser Movie Night, 11 April 2012, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Windsor Cinema, 98 Stirling Highway Nedlands. Tickets - $20. To book email veronica@purplecakeday.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter - A weekend for married couples. If you'd like a deeper and closer relationship with your spouse, time to focus just on each other and your marriage, away from everyday distractions, you'll love the difference a Marriage Encounter Weekend will make. Weekend Dates: 4th - 6th May 2012 and 2nd - 4th November 2012. For Bookings/details contact Joe & Margaret on 0424 220 625 or email WAbookings@wwme.org.au or visit www.wwme.org.au