Key Dates

Sunday 14 April
Mercedes College Fete 10.00am - 4.00pm

Monday 15 April
Year 12 Drama Showcase

Tuesday 16 April
Year 12 Drama Showcase

Wednesday 17 April
11.2 RE Mass
Music Tour departs
Parent Course - Engaging Adolescents (6pm - 9pm)

Friday 19 April
End of Term One

Saturday 20 April
NIDA Tour commences (until 27 April)

Thursday 2 May
Music Tour returns

Tuesday 7 May
Term Two commences
Triangular Meetings 8.30pm - 6.30pm

Wednesday 8 May
All students commence
11.3 RE Mass

Thursday 9 May
Mothers’ Day Breakfast 7.00am - 8.30am

Saturday 11 May
DramaDance Fest Performances
(Octagon Theatre, 5.30pm & 8.00pm)

Monday 13 May
Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN Week commences

Tuesday 14 May
P&F Meeting 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 15 May
11.4 RE Mass
MESA Meeting 6.15pm

Principal’s Report

‘If you are not getting as much from life as you want to, then examine the state of your enthusiasm.’ Norman Vincent Peale

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and as we still celebrate the Easter season may the risen Christ dwell within each one of us and strengthen our faith so we can live our faith by being signs of God’s mercy to others.

Unfortunately this final Sorelle for Term 1 comes to you before the big day of our College Fete. It is going to be an amazing day thanks to the effort of so many people. Of course no Fete would come together without the dedication and hard work over many months of our Parent Liaison Officer, Jackie Stacey. Jackie has been supported by an army of very generous parents who have put in hours of preparation and I would like to acknowledge them:

Laurie Curro, Logistics and Equipment
Debbie Rice, Food Stalls Coordinator (assisted by Cecilia Cappeluti)
Juliana Plummer, Non Food Stalls Coordinator (assisted by Leanne Gunther)
Louise Goodman, Administration
Peggy Phelan, Craft Stall Coordinator
Belinda Ipsaro-Passione, Monica Lavery and Nancy McGregor, Silent Auction
Dorothy Rodrigues, Book stall
Anne Woodin and Theresa Biundo, Toy Stall
Anna and Rob Young, Craft
Jo McCluskey, Carolyn O’Toole and Steve Perrett, Bottles and Cake Boxes
Lorraine Brown, Craft on Tuesdays
Raphael Thexeira, Entertainment
Claire Gamlin, Entertainment Coordination with the Students

Of course so many more people will be playing a part in making the fete the successful and fun event that it always is. All the Stall Coordinators and their many helpers, the College staff, the P&F Executive, the generous organisations, businesses and individuals who have sponsored the event and provided donations, the Mercedes College community and friends who will no doubt flock in on Sunday. Thank you sincerely in anticipation to you all. Fingers crossed and lots of prayers for beautiful weather!

On Monday last we had the annual Choral Night which incorporated the House Choir competition. What an amazing night it was. Whilst congratulations go to

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

Do not be disheartened, if when advocating the claims of the poor whom you personate, you should now and again receive the treatment of beggars – followers of Christ must share the fortunes of disciples.
Mission Leader Musings

Meeting the needs of the people who present themselves: The Mercy Way

Andrew Hamilton, a writer for Eureka Street recently commented on the gospel story of the good Samaritan:

"The story suggests that the question we should begin with should not be about identity but about how we meet the needs of the people who present themselves to us. Identify questions fix our attention on the group to which we belong. The question Jesus asks invites us to look through the eyes of the strangers. Only from that perspective can we safely reflect on our group."

If we take seriously the question of how we meet the needs of people into the future we would find it imperative in very many instances, to engage in qualitatively different relationships with those associated with us, or with those who might wish to engage with us or simply with those we come across in our daily lives. Relevant quotations from Catherine McAuley and the Constitutions within the Sixth Chapter Statement reflect this awareness.

There are three things the poor prize more highly than gold, tho' they cost the donor nothing; among these are the kind word, gentle, compassionate look and the patient hearing of their sorrows.

Familiar Instructions, p.138

The questions we need to ask are: what would have to change for us to attend to the needs of the marginalised in our wider community? How can we expand our networking and enter into an advocacy partnership with people in need? What will enable other forms of engagement with young women to emerge? Does the conversion we espouse entail an ongoing commitment to the poor in our wider community?

Recent experiences I have had with students in the past month have confirmed that our vision in this regard is clearly in place. Young Mercies are flourishing and excited about establishing their Mercy ministry in Kenya, with strong support from the local Kenyan community. The Year 11 students on the recent Poverty Immersion were wonderful representatives of service and compassion to those they ministered to. The students and staff involved in the fortnightly Wellington Square Food Service to the Big Issue Street Soccer players and the small groups of Aboriginal people in the park have been a real presence of Mercy in our local neighbourhood.

Wonderful deeds of Mercy we can all prize more highly than gold...

Ms Rosa Speranza - Mission Leader

Abby O'Rourke, Courtney McManus and all the McDonald House choir members for taking out the winning Shield, the creative and vocal talent of each of the six choirs was outstanding. The Hall was packed to capacity and I thank all parents, Sisters, staff, students and friends of the College for their support of the girls.

During this term I have had the great pleasure of having morning tea with small groups of Year 12 girls. I have loved spending that little time with them, listening to the challenges that they are experiencing and hearing about the stress and anxiety that often accompany those challenges. During a recent conversation with our Prefects, I asked them what challenges are most confronting for young people today and what messages they would like to give to parents in helping young people deal with those. The challenges were mainly to do with peer pressure in regard to parties and alcohol, continual pressure from parents to do well at school and social networking.

Their advice to parents was, unanimously, to provide support for them; to trust them and let them make their own mistakes; to set boundaries so that the expectations are clear; to recognise all achievement and even when a high mark is achieved, not to ask what caused the lost marks; not to ask what the class average was when they come home with a result of a test; to not compare them to their siblings or friends.

The girls said that parents will say “I trust you. I just don’t trust your friends”. Young people feel that parents are really meaning they don’t trust their own child. They want to know that if they get into any trouble they can call their parents who will love them unconditionally and not judge them. The girls certainly understood that there should be consequences for poor behaviour, however, they also believed in the ‘emotional bank account’. For parents to trust their child and let them build up their parents’ trust so that mistakes are seen as part of life and loss of some of that trust, not all of it.

I must admit I sat listening to the girls and thinking about the many mistakes I had made as a parent. As I said to the girls, no one teaches you how to be a good parent. We learn it along the way. Sometimes we get it wrong but behind every decision is love and the strong desire to do what we think is best for our children.

I will be going on long service leave during Term 2 and whilst I’m looking forward to Rob and I having a wonderful, relaxing time together, it is hard to imagine life without Mercedes. Chris Cole will be Principal of the College in my absence and Sabrina Hughes, our Director of Learning Innovation, will join the Executive Leadership Team. Sabrina will be the Executive Support Person for Years 7, 9 and 11 and will oversee many of the aspects of student life. Rosa Speranza will step into the Deputy Principal Mission role, maintaining her Executive Leadership Team. Sabrina will be the Executive Support Person for Years 7, 9 and 11 and will oversee many of the aspects of student life. Rosa Speranza will step into the Deputy Principal Mission role, maintaining her Executive Support role for Years 8 and 10 and of course Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal Academic Services will continue to oversee curriculum matters in the College and provide the Executive Support role for the Year 12 students.

Thank you to all the staff for a very busy term and for your dedication and generosity of spirit. I wish all students the very best for the important term ahead, especially success in their semester one exams. Ms Rosa Speranza and Mr Ian Barter will be travelling to Dublin for the Mercy Pilgrimage during the holidays. We wish them safe travel and may the spirit of Mercy be with them. Safe travel too to our girls who are touring and I hope you all have a great time. With lots of fun included of course!

Peace and best wishes.

Sheena Barber, Principal
Pastoral Care News

Years 7/8 Learning Community

Year 7 - Ms Danae Murphy

It has been fantastic to see how the Year 7 students have grown and developed over the course of this term. Most of the girls have adapted well and are flourishing. Of course, some girls take longer to adapt than others and will continue to need some support. We have been very impressed to see how enthusiastically the group participates in school activities, such as the Interhouse Swimming Carnival, Interschool swimming Carnival, House Choir, Cross Country and many others. Each homeroom has had the chance to nominate their peers for “House Hero”. This recognises outstanding behaviour which displays our Mercy Values. I am pleased to announce the following House Heroes are Christine Remo (Cooper), Chelsea Harders (Frayne), Mia Duplock (McAuley), Abigail Moroney and Chiara Iacopetta (McDonald). I would also like to congratulate every girl who was nominated by her peers. It has been a busy and challenging term for the girls, so I wish them all a relaxing, safe and enjoyable holiday.

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 those of you who continued to work to the best of their ability academically, whilst embracing the many co-curricular areas offered at the College.

On the Triangular meeting day next term I am available for parents and the girls to discuss any pastoral matters. Please book as usual through the PTO login.

The reverence shown by the Year 9 students during our Easter liturgy was outstanding; as were their fundraising efforts undertaken for Caritas. The activities were both creative and delicious!

Dancing classes begin week one 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 this Friday.

Dancing Season and the final social is always a very exciting time for the Year 9 students. The girls are expected to be in school uniform for all dancing lessons and should adhere to the Code of Conduct.

It would be remiss of me not to thank the Year 9 Pastoral Care team for their care and dedication to the girls over the term. I wish all the girls a restful holiday, which should also allow plenty of opportunities for them to complete many Mercy Service Learning activities.

Year 10 - Mr Liam Smith

As everyone returned back from the extended Easter break, it was great to see the girls refreshed and revitalised, ready to work hard for the final two weeks of term. Whilst it continues to be a busy time around campus, I would like to remind the girls to continue working hard and remain on top of their studies.

I received many worthwhile nominations from the cohort for the RYPEN Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment Camp and whilst the College would have liked to send a number of students, I would like to congratulate Eliza Jackson and Bailey Taylor on their successful selection as the Mercedes College representatives.

Please continue to bring in any last minute items and donations for the College Fete; it would be wonderful for the Year 10 cohort to fill all their cake boxes and jars. I thank you in advance for your generosity and look forward to seeing so many of the girls and their families at the 2013 College Fete.

Year 11/12 Learning Community

Year 11 - Mrs Marianne Morphett

It has been an eventful first term and the girls are to be commended for the enthusiasm with which they have embraced the many co-curricular and leadership opportunities offered by the College. The Interim Reports have been prepared and will be sent home this week. Many girls appear to be coping well with the demands of senior courses. I hope parents will take the opportunity to discuss their daughter’s progress with her teachers at the Triangular Meetings to be held in the first week of next term.

Best wishes are extended to the girls who have been selected to attend the Amanda Young Foundation Young Leaders’ Eco-Health Summit during the holidays. Also, to those students who will be developing their talents while on tour with the music and drama departments.

We wish the girls and their families a restful holiday.
Interim Reports and Triangulation Meetings - Mrs Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal - Academic Services

These reports, which provide an indication of how your daughter is progressing so far in the academic year, will be posted home in the week commencing 15 April. You will have an opportunity to meet with teachers about these reports at the Triangulation Meetings (teachers/students/parents) which will be held on Tuesday 7 May in the School Hall. Details for booking the meetings will be enclosed within the reports and you will be able to do this with the Parent Teacher Online (PTO) facility on the Mercedes College website. If you have any queries about the reports or PTO, please contact my office on 9323 1379 or email lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au during business hours.

Transition to the Winter Uniform, Term 2 - Mr Chris Cole, Deputy Principal - Student Life

The autumn weather continues to be quite warm. As a result there will be a transition period where students will have the choice of wearing the Summer or Winter Uniform.

Term 2 Weeks 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Uniform requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 6 May</td>
<td>Home Study/Service Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 May Triangular Meetings</td>
<td>Summer Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8 May to Friday 17 May</td>
<td>Choice of Summer or Winter Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20 May</td>
<td>All students will be expected to be in the full winter uniform</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Student Diary contains information on the correct winter uniform requirements.

The Arts

DramaDance Fest 2013 - Mrs Kathleen Cocks & Miss Dhana White, DramaDance Fest Coordinators

One of the most anticipated House Events in the College calendar is almost here! Actors and dancers from each House will contest their storytelling skills at the Octagon Theatre, UWA, on Saturday 11 May during two performances 5.30pm and 8.00pm

This year we have combined houses competing against one another:
- **McDonald/Wright**, performing *Anastasia*
- **McAuley/Serisier**, performing *Pinocchio*
- **Frayne/Cooper**, performing *Peter Pan*

The winning houses will be announced at the 8pm show. (SOLD OUT). Tickets to the 5.30pm performance are still available (order forms can be collected from the PAC and should be returned) to the PAC. Be quick as seats are selling fast. Tickets are $15 for the 5.30pm show. Tickets will be distributed to students early next week.

Special thanks to our fantastic Year 12 Choreographers, Directors and Production Managers – you have worked tirelessly with your casts to create very magical and special performances. Thank you, too, to our fabulous Mentor Teachers who have worked with the leaders in supervising rehearsals. The competition looks to be very strong and we think it will be a very difficult decision for our adjudicators to choose a winning House!

See you at the Octagon Theatre on 11 May where all will be revealed!

House Film Weekend - Miss Nilar Nyunt, Media Coordinator

The weekend of April 5 - 7 saw 90 students participate in the annual House Film Festival camp. A new House Film year with six houses, called for a new House Film Festival logo design. I would like to thank Sarah Nutton (Year 12) for her creativity and artistic talent in designing our new House Film logo. This year, house teams combined with cast and crew to work on filming three films. The combined houses are Frayne and Wright (Fright), Serisier and McAuley (Serauley) and McDonald and Cooper (Mooper).

The house teams were very ably led, by their House directors and their assistant directors.
- **Fright**: Shaye Guillory (Director) and Isabella Italiano (Assistant Director)
- **Serauley**: Samantha PhoneMyint (Director) and Georgia Then (Assistant Director)
- **Mooper**: Daisy Humphries (Co-Director) and Jessica Kelly (Co-Director)

House spirit was well and truly alive throughout the weekend and all girls are to be commended for their team work. The weekend was the most successful weekend we’ve had and this is attributed not only to the girls but also to the generosity of
the parent volunteers who assisted with meals and in so many other ways. Of course a weekend like this cannot run without staff supervision. Thank you to Mrs Kristyn Bowtell, Ms Hannah Eaton, Mrs Alicia Sharpe, Mr Des Loh, Mrs Michelle Lloyd, Ms Sarika De Lima, Ms Amanda Russo, Mr Stephen Grant, Mrs Kathleen Cocks and Mrs Gina Frost for giving up time on their weekend to ensure the house teams were on track. I sincerely thank you all. It really was a team effort.

It was a very productive weekend and now the Directors go through the next stage of reviewing all their footage to see if any reshoots are required. Cast and crew will be kept informed throughout next term. The hard work over the weekend and in the months to come will once again be celebrated with an awards ceremony and screening night at a local cinema in Term 3.

Music - Mrs Claire Gamlin, Music Coordinator

Congratulations

The National Band Championships were held in Perth over the Easter weekend and the Mercedes/Trinity Wind Orchestra were awarded second place for the Junior B Division section of the festival. The students have been working extremely hard since the December school holidays last year and were well rewarded for their efforts.

Choral Night and House Choir Competition

Thank you to everyone involved in the Choral Night on Monday. The night was a huge success and despite being the hottest day in April in over 50 years, I think everyone had a very enjoyable night!

Congratulations to McDonald House Choir and their leaders Abby O’Rourke and Courtney McManus (12) for taking out first place in the House Choir Competition. It was very close between the top three houses, with Frayne placing second (Allie Elliott and Caitlin Geiles) and Serisier in third (Emma Oorschot and Emily Theseira). Thank you to all girls involved and of course it would not have been possible without the help from Mrs Sharon Beros, the Friends of Music, parents and staff.

Diary Dates

Saturday 13 April
USA Tour Farewell Concert – an informal performance given by the groups going to the USA in April. The concert will be held at Trinity College in Gibney Hall. Students required at 5.30 wearing neat casual clothes, concert commences at 6pm.

Sunday 14 April
Mercedes Fete (Select Choir, Choir, Madrigals, Rock Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Quartet, Flute Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble and String Ensemble)

Sunday 19 May
Open Day – rehearsals for Choir, Flute Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, String Ensemble, time to be advised in Week 1 of term 2. Approximately 10 – 2pm.

Rehearsal Changes for next week

Week 11
Trinity Strings Rehearsal MONDAY 15 April
No rehearsals for all other music groups
Careers - Mrs Cheryl Alach, Careers Coordinator
Over the next few months Universities, Institutes of Technology and other private providers will be organising events to help students in planning their future pathways. It is important that students are aware and make the effort to attend the events. Please click HERE for the Year 12 Careers Newsletter.

NIDA Tour News - Mrs Kathleen Cocks, HOLA The Arts
On Saturday 20 April, a group of Year 11 & 12 Drama students will head off to Sydney for a week to participate in Drama Workshops at NIDA. The girls will also be attending several fantastic theatre performances including War Horse, The Addams Family, Frankenstein and the Sydney Comedy Festival. Watch this space for news from the tour next term!
College Wear Shop - Mrs Shirley Bucolo
- Blazers are now in stock.
- All Year 7 winter uniform orders are ready for payment/and or collection by Wednesday 17 April.

House Debating - Ms Amanda Russo, Debating Coordinator
This year the Debating season has swapped Interschool for a House competition. With 6 Houses, House Debating has become longer and more involved. On Tuesday, 9 April, the Senior teams battled it out and all did very well. Here are the results:
Wright def. Cooper, Frayne def. McAuley.
The Junior girls will have their first debate on Tuesday in Week 11. Good luck to those girls and congratulations to the Seniors for their first efforts.

Library - Mrs Marg Ryan
Wanted - Missing College Annuals
At a recent stocktake, we realise that we are missing some Annuals from our collection: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1977, 1978, 1981, 1993. If any ex-student is willing to donate an annual from these years we would be very appreciative. Please contact Mrs Marg Ryan in the Library on 9323 1359

Mathematics - Mr Peter Mee, HOLA
Maths Week
Maths week is being celebrated during Week 11 of Term 1 – that’s next week! Fun lunchtime activities are being planned for the focus room (18), including:
- Monday 15 April = Pi recital competition (ask your teacher for a sheet containing the first 1000 decimal places, and start memorising) – there will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- Tuesday 16 April = Numeracy “Spelling Bee” – if you fancy yourself as a good speller of tricky words, come along to this fun competition and put your skills to the test.
- Wednesday 17 April = Speed Sudoku (get practicing – the fastest wins the prize)
- Thursday 18 April = the Grand Final for the Year 7 House Times Tables Competition, where students are given 100 times tables questions to complete in 2 minutes (the semi-finals will occur earlier in the week during class time - the top 3 students from each house will be entered into the grand final).
Also look out for the ‘ever-popular’ joke of the day in the daily bulletin, and exciting homeroom quizzes. Get involved – all participants in competitions will receive a prize.

Bridge Building – Year 8 & 9
A bridge building competition is open to students in Years 8 and 9. Students interested in entering need to see Mr Mee urgently.

Science - Mr Peter Mountford, HOLA
National Youth Science Forum 2014
Year 11 students who have a strong interest in science and who wish to pursue further studies in science and/or engineering are invited to apply for NYSF 2014. Applications are made online (www.nysf.edu.au/applying) or through your local Rotary Club. The closing date for applications is Friday 31 May. Students can collect an enrolment brochure from Mr Mountford in the Science Learning Area or you can download it from the above website.

Sport
Lightning Carnivals - Miss Corinne Kirry
Upcoming Interschool event for ALL Year 7, 8 & 9 students - students have received a letter explaining the information regarding ACC Lightning Carnivals that are being held during Week 3 of Term 2. Information is also available on Moodle (online College tool accessible from home: https://moodle.mercedes.wa.edu.au/login/index.php).
Dates: Year 9: Monday 20 May   Year 7: Tuesday 21May   Year 8: Wednesday 22 May
Every student has had the opportunity to select either netball or soccer on their respective day.
Location: Soccer - Britannia Reserve in Leederville; Netball - Mathews Netball Centre in Jolimont.
Please note that this is a day of team involvement, participation and physical activity in an enjoyable environment. All teams will be mixed abilities and no experience is necessary. If there are any concerns or queries, please contact Corinne Kirry on ckirry@mercedes.wa.edu.au.
Hockey - Ms Lorraine Brown
The season is finally here! Training sessions have been organised for each team and members need to check the notice board outside the Textiles Room or check with their coaches. Yr 11/12 Miss Freeson, Yr 9/10 Mr Volk, Yr 7/8 Ms Brown. The first games are the last weekend of the school holidays, so please be prepared. Fixtures are not yet known so times and venues will be released as soon as possible. Keep up your fitness over the holidays and we will see you all at the first game.

ACC Para Swim Carnival - Shakira Jamieson (9.4)
On Friday 5 April a team of students represented Mercedes College at the ACC Para Swim Carnival. We placed first in the following events;
- Open 100m freestyle – Jasmine Carter
- Senior girls 4 x 100m Freestyle relay – Mikaela Powell, Mikala D’Andrilli, Jasmine Carter and Emma-Louise Doesburg
- U/15 25m Any stroke – Shakira Jamieson

We had fantastic weather and enjoyed participating with all the other schools. A big thankyou to the Notre Dame students, Miss Kirry and the Year 10 Physical Education students who organised and ran the day so perfectly. We look forward to the ACC Para Fun Run next term.

Student News

Mercedes Netball Club - Michelle Smith, President
All teams have been confirmed - we have 24 teams of 220 girls and for the first time we have an Open Team made up of 2012 leavers. Thank you to everybody who assisted in the smooth running of Grading and to parents and students who have come on-board to coach. Training has started on Monday nights at Matthew’s Centre and coaches will be in-touch. Good Luck for 2013 Season!

Kayaking
Congratulations to the following girls for their exceptional achievements at recent National Kayaking events
- Tyler and River Armenti competed in the National Marathon held on the Swan River in Ascot over the Easter weekend. Tyler won bronze in the Women’s Under 14 division in a K1 Kayak (single) and River won 2 gold in the Under 12 division in a K1 Kayak and K2 Kayak (double). The girls then competed in the National Sprints, held at Champion Lakes in Kelmscott from 3 to 7 April. Tyler competed in 12 events winning 3 bronze medals, River also competed in 12 events winning 8 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal. Tyler and River have been competing for 4 years on a State level. This was the first time they competed on a National level.
- Monique Carbone who also competed in the National Sprints in the Under 14 age group. She received 3 gold, 2 Silver and 2 bronze medals for her events.
On Thursday 11 April a group of 29 ex-students from St Joseph’s Victoria Square and Our Lady’s College came back to the College to attend a special morning tea with Principal, Sheena Barber. They enjoyed a sample of the College’s beautiful choral ensembles and were all amazed at the physical changes to the College.

---

**Victoria Square Alumni**

---

**Noticeboard**

**Bayswater Lacrosse Club** - hosting the under 18’s National Lacrosse Championships / April 21 - 27 at Halliday Park, Bayswater.
