**Key Dates**

- **Friday 22 June**
  - Trinity Senior School Music Night

- **Friday 29 June**
  - Frog Jog

**END OF TERM 2**

- **Thursday 5 July**
  - Gold Coast Netball Tour until 14 July

- **Thursday 12 July**
  - Camino Walk until 18 July

- **Monday 16 July**
  - Home Study Day
  - Year 12 Retreat until 18 July

- **Tuesday 17 July**

**Principal’s Report**

Dear Parents

Last week a group of Year 12 students helped to recreate the recess gatherings I hold with senior students each year for one of our YouTube videos for the website. During the filming I was in awe of the confidence of our students and the pride they have for the College. The film crew commented on the poise of our students and their ability to articulate ideas. The film crew also said our students were well-spoken and impressed them every time they visited the school. One of the crew was a former student of Mercedes keen to send her own daughter to the College.

Key ideas discussed in the video included the many opportunities provided for students in the classroom as well as co-curricular activities; the strong sense of community at the College and the outstanding level of commitment from staff members who go above and beyond what would be expected in their roles.

I am very proud of our students and believe that the partnership between home and school empowers them to be capable young women able to make a positive difference to their own lives and the lives of others.

**STYMIE Programme**

A reminder that on 27 June the College will launch the STYMIE programme. This programme will enable students and parents to report any uncaring behaviour. This will support our pastoral care of students. A presentation will be made to each year group, staff and parents on 27 June. The parent session will run from 6.30pm until 8.00pm. I strongly encourage parents to attend this session as we work in partnership to support your daughters. To book, please click [HERE](#).

**MercyWorks**

Mrs Macdonald and I attended a gathering of members of schools linked to the Mercy heritage to discuss how we can support MercyWorks. This development organisation is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy in Australia and Papua New Guinea. The members of MercyWorks support the most disadvantaged groups in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste to promote justice and self-reliance concentrating on education, social welfare and health care. We will look for ways the Mercedes College community can support the work conducted by this organisation.

**Insight from Catherine McAuley:**

*The Poor need help today, not next week.*

During the filming of the upcoming YouTube video.
Prayer/Reflection

Christ Speaks
Ye call Me Master and obey Me not.
Ye call Me Light and see Me not.
Ye call Me Way and walk Me not.
Ye call Me Life and choose Me not.
Ye call Me Wise and follow Me not.
Ye call Me Fair and love Me not.
Ye call Me Rich and ask Me not.
Ye call Me Eternal and seek Me not.
Ye call Me Noble and serve Me not.
Ye call Me Gracious and trust Me not.
Ye call Me Mighty and honour Me not.
Ye call Me just and fear Me not.
If I condemn you, blame Me not.

This poem is an inscription inside the door of the cathedral of Lubeck, Germany dated 1173AD and asks us to examine our faith life and to come to a greater understanding of our relationship with Christ. For Christians, Christ lives within us and our actions, thoughts and words reflect Christ to others. This poem asks us to reflect ‘How strong and deep is my intimacy with Christ?’ and ‘Do I give space for Christ in my life?’ For us to be reflections of Christ, we must have a relationship of trust with Christ.

~ Adapted from Fr. Albin Odippati’s reflection in Our Lady’s Assumption Catholic Parish Bulletin, 10th June, 2018.

Mrs Susan Macdonald
Deputy Principal, Faith and Mission

As this is the last newsletter before the term break, I wish your family all the best for the holiday period. For those going away have a happy, safe trip and for those at home enjoy the time together away from the commitments of school.

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Stymie Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 27 June / 6.30pm - 8.00pm / Coady Sports Centre

For more information and to book, click HERE.

View the latest College video:
‘Leadership through the Lens’

To view our latest video, please click HERE.

Code of Conduct

All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy and college advisory council members are responsible for supporting the safety of children by:

- listening and responding to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (for example, by not questioning an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child’s self-identification unless there is a specific need e.g. to clarify conflicting information
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds (for example, by having a zero tolerance of discrimination)
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of children with a disability (for example, during personal care activities)
Pastoral Care News

Year 7/8 Community
Year 7 - Mrs Corinne Kastanis

Congratulations to all girls who competed in the ACC Cross Country particularly Hannah Doyle who placed 40th and Neve McAlister who placed 49th.

Our focus last week was on organisation. If someone’s diary is organised, then there is less chance of forgetting important information including homework tasks, assessments, when assignments are due and if there are classroom changes etc. Please encourage your daughter to write their timetabled subjects of each day in their diary. When homework is set, they write the task in. At the end of the day, they take their diary to their locker to know what to pack. Once they complete the task at home, they cross it off. Homeroom teachers and I will be conducting random checks throughout the year.

I hope all girls got to participate in at least one event at the Interhouse Athletics Carnival today. Our College prides itself on including a wide range of events especially a whole novelty competition which focuses on participation in a fun and exciting atmosphere.

Semester 1 reports will be released at the end of this term. Hard work and dedication is to be recognised and praised. Whether hard work for one is a ‘C grade’ or an ‘A grade’. Not everyone can achieve ‘A grades’. Look at your attributes. These paint a picture of how well your daughter is working in class.

It has become tradition to celebrate the girls’ ‘100 Days of High School’. This will be celebrated on Thursday 28 with the students reflecting on their transition in to the College. I hope every Year 7 enjoys this special day.

Year 9/10 Community
Year 9 - Mrs Lara Vlahov

What a busy two weeks it has been. After seven weeks of ballroom dancing lessons the main event finally arrived. The 1950’s themed social held on Tuesday evening had it all, dancing, handmade skirts, jukeboxes and of course the Hucklebuck. It was a fantastic night and it would not have been possible without the help of the volunteer parents, Year 9 SRC students, Gilkinson’s Dance Studio, prefects and the Homeroom teachers.

I am very proud of everything the girls have achieved this term. Many of them have been challenged socially and academically requiring many students to prioritise their time between ‘work, rest and play’. There are some students that still need to find this balance, while others upon reflecting on their Semester 1 report, will need to concentrate on developing strong study habits and completing regular revision.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday break and I look forward to seeing the girls return to school refreshed and ready to take on all that Term 3 has to offer.

Year 11/12 Community
Year 12 - Mrs Sherrin Adams

McGrath Foundation Fundraiser - Jess McKay

Continuing on from last year, the McGrath Foundation Mercedes vs. Trinity Prefects’ Netball Game was played on Monday 18 June. It was run by the Sport and Wellbeing Ministry with the assistance of the other Prefects and the House Leaders.

Leading up to the match, Prefects also had a pink bake sale and a pink sock sale. If socks were bought, students were allowed to wear their sport uniform to school on game day and had free entry. Without socks, a gold coin was required to watch the match. Both Trinity and Mercedes students brought their pink flare and game faces, ready to play in front of a large Mercedes audience. After a hard fought game, the Trinity boys prevailed, 9 to 8.

A total of $1372.98 will be donated to McGrath Foundation, a breast cancer support and education charity that raises money for breast health awareness and for Breast Care nurses to work in communities with families affected by breast cancer.

Thank-you to all our supporters, and the Trinity boys, whose presence ensured a large crowd. It is very much appreciated.
Frog Jog - Mr Brent Butcher, Deputy Principal
Friday 29 June (Week 9, Term 2)
Final arrangements for Frog Jog can be found on the SEQTA Parents Splash page. Thank you to those families who have already donated. This year the minimum donation is $15 per student/family, however, we appreciate if the students are able to fundraise more. Can all donations be sent in by the morning of Friday 29 June.

Students will be dismissed by approximately 1pm on Friday 29 June. Please ensure you are aware of these arrangements as it is the last day of Term 2.

Curriculum News

Academic News - Mrs Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal

Semester One Reports
These will be issued through SEQTA on Friday 29 June from 3.30pm. If you need assistance with SEQTA logins or the reset of passwords, please email your query to helpdesk@mercedes.wa.edu.au.

Year 11 Student Re-enrolment for Year 12, 2019
Your daughter will be required to re-enrol for her studies in Year 12. This year, we are using the EDVAL Web Choices process. We are also offering a select range of General courses and Certificates for students who are seeking to change their allocation of ATAR subjects based on performance in course work and exams this semester. Students are aware of the course offerings and a booklet will be produced before the end of term with further information.

2019 Year 12 Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 18 July / 6.00pm – 7.00pm / Coady Sport Centre
A Parent Information session will be held in Week 1, next term to outline the offerings and the rationale for changes should your daughter be considering this. Please indicate your intention to attend by clicking HERE. We look forward to seeing you there.

Information Technology – Mr Des Loh, HOLA

IT Club Poster Competition
In Term 1, students were invited to participate in the IT Club poster competition to create a refreshed poster advertising the IT Club.

The entries received were of a high standard and, hence, it was a difficult decision. However, one entry stood out. Congratulations to Grace Chilcott (10.1) with the winning poster entry. She received a JB Hi-Fi voucher.

Two runner-ups – Charlee Thornett (7.1) and Savannah Regan (11.2) – both received a special edition cartoon character USB drive. All other entries received a participation prize. Well done to everyone who entered the competition.

Social Sciences - Mr Tim Poga, HOLA

Year 9 Court Excursions
Half the Year 9 classes completed excursions to the Old Courthouse Museum and District Court recently. Unfortunately the second half of the classes had to be postponed till August 6 due to severe weather. Students had the chance to engage in a scripted trial, an empty court activity and then observe a real life court case which turned out to be a sentencing hearing. One lucky class also managed to have a quick discussion with a Defense Barrister, Simon Walters, who was involved in the case.

Year 9 ALP Students Engage with Virtual Reality Trench Life
As part of the WW1 history topic, the ALP class were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in a virtual reality British trench, complete with trench periscopes, dugouts, mud and coughing soldiers. We hope to make more use of this technology as it matures and as more Social Sciences educational experiences become available.
Mock Law
Next week will see the three Mercedes Mock Law teams defend an assault case in a fictitious mock law trial against Mandurah Baptist, Lesmurdie SHS and Mandurah Catholic College. The girls have had a busy preparation period and have had to juggle exam preparation alongside trial meetings. We wish them good luck.

Year 10 Subject Selection Information
Next week Year 10 students will have Social Sciences subject selection talks where they will hear what Economics, Geography, History and Politics and Law can offer them in upper school. This will happen during class time. Students will receive information sheets this week, through their class teachers, regarding their progress and whether they have met the pre-requisites to study these subjects in Year 11. We recommend that parents check these information sheets and chat with their daughters about the offerings this learning area provides.

Street Soccer - Mrs Susan Macdonald, Deputy Principal
The Big Issue is an organisation that empowers the disadvantaged to work for themselves selling the magazine ‘The Big Issue’. As part of their assistance to their vendors they run Street Soccer every Tuesday on the Wellington Square ovals. Mercedes College has had a close association with Street Soccer for many years, providing meals to the participants and assistance to the various tournaments they run. This year The Big Issue was approached by another organisation offering to provide meals on a fortnightly basis to Street Soccer, a commitment that we could not meet, and thus the monthly commitment that Mercedes College has been providing has ceased. However, please be assured the College will still be involved with Street Soccer by way of being the major provider of support for their tournaments that will occur in Term 3 and 4 as well as catering and running their Christmas Party on Tuesday 18 December.

The Addams Family Musical / The Regal Theatre / Friday 27 July to Sunday 29 July.
tickets available from [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au). Tickets are $35 each or 3 for $100. Access code for Mercedes College families booking tickets is "onenormalnight".

Debating - Ms Sadie Blessas
Great news – this week all four teams won their debates. Congratulations to all the girls and a big thanks to their coaches for such outstanding results. As this is the end of the preliminary round, we await news of which teams will progress to the semi-finals. Mr Doria’s team of novices continued its winning streak and won all five debates in this round. This is quite a feat!

Inclusive Education - Mrs Vicki Hinks, HOLANational Chinese Competition
Sophie Taylor (Year 11) participated in the 2018 China Bridge speech competition, which is the biggest Chinese speech competition for secondary school students from around the world. On Friday 15 June, she won third place in the Australia Final, when she competed against 10 other contestants from WA, SA, NT and ACT, who were state finalists from the previous round. She was only one spot away from representing Australia at the International finals in China later this year in Kunming, China. The competition included four components. A speech along the theme of “Learn Chinese, double your world”, a Q & A, a cultural performance and a written test. Sophie has worked extremely hard for this competition. We are very proud of her for making such an impressive achievement. Well Done, Sophie! A big thank you to Dr Zhen for all her hard work and dedication in assisting Sophie!
Mercedes College Newsletter
Vol. 45 Number 9 / Week 8 Term Two / 21 June 2018

Parents and Friends

Father/Daughter Camp

42 girls and their dads enjoyed some quality time together at the recent Father/Daughter Camp in Forest Edge Recreation Camp.

DOMs Dads Only Dinner
Thursday 28 June / 6.30 for 7.00pm / Grosvenor Hotel (Wine Room)
All dads and grandads are invited to attend the next Dads only Dinner. To book your seat at the table click HERE. Places are limited. No initial cost to book as you pay on the night at the Grosvenor.

Thank Yous
Thank you to all the parents who helped with decorating the set-up, decorations and assistance on the night at the Year 9 Social earlier this week.

Notices

St Catherine’s House of Hospitality - Mindfulness programs. For more information please click HERE.