

SORELLE

Key Dates

Friday 5 April

IE Sports Day - Swimming Carnival

Monday 8 April

House Performing Arts Festival, 6pm

Friday 12 April

END OF TERM 1

Principal's Report

Dear Parents

We continue our journey during Lent to strengthen our relationship with God. I appreciate the effort our students have made saving money for Caritas with Project Compassion. It has been inspiring to see students set up stalls at break time selling homemade goods. The work Caritas does not only provides relief to those in need but teaches them the skills required to become independent and able to provide for their families. Caritas gives people dignity. Project Compassion has also strengthened connections between students as they combine to work for a worthy cause.

Last week we held the first of our Open Days for the year. It was a chance to showcase our wonderful College and for prospective parents to see a normal school day. I believe this gives them the chance to make an informed decision based on the tone of the school during a regular day. Our best advertisements for the College are our students. I was very proud of our tour guides as they showed parents and their daughters around the College grounds and classrooms. I had many positive comments about the exemplary way they conducted themselves and their honest comments about their schooling.

Recently a networking opportunity for Perth Mercy schools and affiliated schools' senior leadership teams and Advisory Council members was held at St Brigid's College. It was an opportunity to hear how two schools are working to assist disadvantaged students and families. The event not only provided insights into two schools but also encouraged connections between all schools in attendance.

The College is a vibrant place that never stops. On Saturday, House Film production occurred, and two members of our IT team gave up the time to work on improvements in their area. Other events that have occurred recently include, Year 10 Parent Forum and Future Pathways Evening, rehearsals for House Performing Arts Festival, ACC Swimming, social events with Trinity and

Insight from Catherine McAuley:

The Poor need help today, not next week.



Some of the Year 9 students during their "Bridges for Better" walk around the river with Trinity College.

Lenten Reflection

Give up harsh words: *use generous ones.*

Give up unhappiness: *take up gratitude.*

Give up anger: *take up gentleness and patience.*

Give up pessimism: *take up hope and optimism.*

Give up worrying: *take up trust in God.*

Give up complaining: *value what you have.*

Give up stress: *take up prayer.*

Give up judging others: *discover Jesus within them.*

Give up sorrow and bitterness: *fill your heart with joy.*

Give up selfishness: *take up compassion for others.*

Give up being unforgiving: *learn reconciliation.*

Give up words: *fill yourself with silence and listen to others.*

-Anonymous, Latin America

**Mrs Susan Macdonald
Deputy Principal, Faith and Mission**

the mother/daughter camp. I appreciate support from the College community as we continue to provide your daughters with a stimulating learning environment and a wide range of co-curricular activities.

Best wishes

K a Fraser

Mrs Kerrie Fraser, Principal

Student Drop Off/Pick Up at Goderich Street

To ensure the safety of our students - parents are not to enter the gates on Goderich Street to drop off their daughter.

It causes disruptions to the flow of traffic as there are staff entering the gates often from as early as 7am. If you are concerned for your daughter's safety, you may walk her to class/waiting area

House Performing Arts Festival

Monday 8 April / 6pm / Perth Concert Hall

Come and watch the Houses battle it out for House Choir Shield and the House Drama/Dance Shield.

All tickets are \$25

Tickets are now available from
www.perthconcerthall.com.au



College Production

**Friday 2 - Sunday 4 August /
Regal Theatre**

Tickets now on sale via www.ticketek.com.au.

Ticket prices :

\$40 or 3 for \$115 with promo code GREENGIRL (all capitals, one word) and \$50 General Admission.



Code of Conduct

All employees and volunteers are expected to:

- Respect the moral values and teachings of the Catholic Church and ensure that their public conduct is consistent with that respect
- Support the aims, philosophy and Mercy ethos of the school by their conduct and interactions with the school
- Respect and comply with all Federal, State and local laws
- Conduct themselves in a manner that will not discredit the school or Mercy Education
- Always act ethically and with integrity

Pastoral Care News

Year 7/8 Community**Year 7 - Mrs Sherrin Adams**

The Year 7 students had an enjoyable afternoon with the Trinity boys last Tuesday at their first high school social. The mini-Olympic events (with a difference) including *tug of war*, *rob the nest*, *tallest tower*, had the students laughing and talking to each other. The girls are now eagerly waiting for the Barn Dance later in the year.

**Year 8/9 Community****Year 9 - Mrs Sarika Ottenhof**

On Tuesday, Year 9 students from Trinity and Mercedes combined forces in a walk around the river to raise money for Djooraminda, a service providing residential care and support for Aboriginal children who are not able to live with their own family. The first annual 'Bridges for Better' event involved a fast pace 4km walk/run setting out from Trinity, over the Matagarup Bridge towards Optus Stadium, past the Crown, over the Causeway and back along the river to Trinity College where the boys and girls were rewarded with a sausage sizzle. The event was a great opportunity to raise money for a worthy organisation whilst allowing students from both schools to reacquaint themselves with each other in preparation for Ballroom Dancing in Term Two.

Year 9 is traditionally a challenging time in terms of friendships. New friendships are being forged and existing ones may be falling apart. While this is a natural stage in a teenager's life, it is important that the girls remember that despite sometimes feeling hurt or betrayed, we must always treat others with respect. While we don't have to like everyone, we do have an obligation to ensure our actions reflect our Mercy values. The College's *Caring Behaviour* policy states that all students have the right "to feel safe and secure" and it is the responsibility of *all* girls to ensure that this is upheld. This sentiment aligns closely with the *Rite Journey* programme which encourages the girls to reflect deeply upon their own actions and consider what kind of adult they would like to be in the future. I would appreciate if you could have a conversation with your daughters about this in the hope that we can all work together to ensure that all students at Mercedes feel safe and respected.

**Year 10 - Mr Isaac Cook**

Year 10 students enjoyed their recent visit to Perth Zoo as part of their Reflection Day activities. With the focus on Volunteering, it was lovely to see one of the College's ex-staff members as one of the Docents for the girls' tours.



Year 11/12 Community
Year 11 - Mr Peter Dymnicki

It has been a very busy couple of weeks for the Year 11 students. With the girls all receiving their first assessments back I stress the importance of the balance between spending time studying, external commitments and spending time with your family. The River Cruise which is one of the most highly anticipated events of Year 11 successfully occurred on Friday with all of the girls dancing from Barrack street to Fremantle! I thank all parents for your support of the event along with the homeroom teachers who gave up their Friday night to look after the girls.

Another event that the Year 11 SRC's ran was Harmony Day, a celebration of the many cultures that make up not only our school but our country. The girls took part in face painting of countries flags of origin, along with the painting of a banner to show that although different we can all live in harmony. The day finished with an exciting soccer match held between the staff and the students. It was a hard-fought contest with the final score ending with a 2 – 0 score line in favour of the staff. The SRC's sold scrunchies and ribbons to promote the conversation of Harmony Day and raised just under \$300 which is being added to the schools Project Compassion total.



Faith and Mission

Project Compassion Tally

To view the College's current Project Compassion Tally, please click [HERE](#).

Curriculum News

Changes to Year 12 Courses – Important Information for Year 12 Parents

Below is an excerpt from a letter sent by SCSA regarding changes to courses. Some students have come to see me to change courses. If your daughter wishes to explore the option of changing a course, this **MUST** be done before Thursday 4 April. After this date, changes **CANNOT** be made. We ask your daughter makes an appointment to see me before then to discuss the options. There is no guarantee the changes are possible due to timetable constraints; however, we invite students to come and find out what may be possible. Parent permission is required for changes. Enquiries about changes may be made to Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal Year 12, at lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au or on 9323 1379.

Schools are kindly reminded that **Thursday, 4 April 2019** is the last date to process changes to enrolments in:

- ATAR, General, Foundation, Preliminary and **courses for Year 12 students**

As such, schools are strongly advised to ensure that their Year 12 student enrolments are correct in SIRS.

After Thursday, 4 April, SIRS will be locked and no further changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted. **Please note that the Authority will not be permitting any changes after this date.**

Year 12 students will still be able to **withdraw** from the following:

- ATAR courses with practical examination components up until Friday, 26 July 2019
- ATAR courses which do not have practical examination components up until Thursday, 15 August 2019
- General, Foundation, Preliminary and VET industry specific courses up until Thursday, 15 August 2019.

Students who have not been withdrawn from Year 12 ATAR courses with the Authority are required to sit the ATAR course examinations. Students who do not sit an ATAR course examination, and do not have an approved sickness/misadventure application, will not have the grades for the pair of units completed in that year contribute to the calculation of the WACE. As such, these students may be at risk of not meeting the requirements for a WACE.

The Year 12 Handbook from SCSA is available [HERE](#) and features information about WACE graduation and examination requirements. We ask you familiarise yourself with this document to assist your daughter through Year 12.

Year 7 and 9 Parents – NAPLAN Practice Test – Friday 5 April, 2019

As you would be aware, the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held in Term 2 from Monday 13 May to Friday 17 May inclusive. The testing will be done online, and we are preparing our students and network system to ensure all students will be able to complete the testing as required.

On Friday 5 April, students will be undertaking a practice test to ensure the suitability of devices used and assess any issues which may arise.

- Year 7 students will undertake the practice test in Period 1 and 2.
- Year 9 students will undertake the practice test in Period 5 and 6.

While we will provide desktop computers in our computing labs for select students, Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA) advice is for students to use the device with which they are most proficient, adept and comfortable. Students may opt to use their own iPad for the testing. With this advice in mind, we ask in preparation for this practice test, and the NAPLAN in May, your daughter's iPad device is:

- Fully charged
- In good working order with screens intact and Bluetooth keyboards and pencils fully functioning
- Equipped with compatible headphones (for audio instructions)
- Set up with the latest Apple iOS software update
- Equipped with the NAP Locked down browser installed using the link below:
<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/nap-locked-down-browser/id1086807255?mt=8>

Further instructions will be issued during Homeroom and SEQTA notices about locations for the practice test closer to the date. Every assistance will be offered by Catalytic IT, Paul Reid, Director of Learning Technologies and Andrew McClintock, Director of Teaching and Learning.

We thank you for your assistance with this testing and look forward to assisting your daughter through this process.

Interim Reports available Friday 12 April, 2019

Interim Reports will be available through SEQTA after 3.30pm on Friday 12 April, 2019. These will inform the Triangular Meetings to be held on a Pupil Free Day on Monday 29 April (Week One, Term 2). Booking details will be supplied by email before the end of term. Please save the date for this event as it will be a great opportunity to meet teachers and discuss your daughter's academic progress.

Any queries about Interim Reports and Triangular Meetings may be made to Liana Strutt, Deputy Principal, at lstrutt@mercedes.wa.edu.au or on 9323 1379.

Mathematics - Mr Peter Mee, HOLA

Curtin University run mathematics enrichment classes for capable students (this is separate to what is offered through the College). Interested parents and students can get further details at the following website: [Mathematics Enrichment Classes](#).

Science - Mrs Kirsty Murphy , HOLA

Mission Discovery is a five day STEM school holiday experience that will be held at Curtin University during the first week of the July school holidays (8 - 12 July). The aim of the program is to develop STEM and 21st century skills in Year 7 - 10 students. Over five days students will work with a NASA astronaut and experts in space science to design an experiment. The winning team's experiment will actually be conducted in space at the International Space Station. This is only the second time this exciting program has been offered in the southern hemisphere and so it is a wonderful opportunity. The cost associated with participating is \$669 + GST per student for school groups with 20+ participants.

During Week 8 there will be information sent home to students that have expressed interest in participating.

Further information about the program can be found at: <https://latitudegrouptravel.com.au/special-programs/mission-discovery/perth2019/>

General News**Year 7, 2021 Enrolment Interviews - Mrs Julie Lamb, Enrolments Officer**

Interviews for Enrolment for Year 7, 2021 are being conducted this term for sisters of current and past students. If you have forgotten to enrol your younger daughter, please contact Mrs Julie Lamb on 9323 1340. An application form can be downloaded from the College Website.

**Student Services - Mrs Helen Seddon
Student Bus Services with Transperth**

Please note there have been minor changes made to the School Special 789 buses to and from the College. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

College Wear Shop - Mrs Shirley Bucolo

The last trading day for Term 1 is Wednesday 10 April. The College Wear Shop is **not open** over the school holidays.

Opening hours for Term 2 & 3 are as follows; Mondays (10.30am – 1.30pm) and Wednesdays (8.00am – 2.00pm)

The Arts - Mrs Kathleen Cocks, HOLA**ANZAC Art Project - Ms Andrea Hosking, Art Coordinator**

If you have an ancestor or relative who has served in the Australian Armed Forces (past or present), we would like to honour them in an art installation displayed at the Anzac Day assembly at the end of the term.

Please email a digital image, or give a printed photocopy of your relative or ancestor, to Ms Andrea Hosking (andrea.hosking@cewa.edu.au) No original photographs please. Please include your Anzac's name, service (with dates) and your name. We would greatly appreciate images by Wednesday 3 April.

House Film Weekend - Mrs Bridgette Stoney, Media Coordinator

On Saturday 23 March, the filming day for our annual House Film Competition took place. Our six Year 11 Directors are Gabby Miocevich (Cooper), Harper Lee (Frayne), Mikaela Zuiderduyn (McAuley), Holly Van (McDonald), Emma Stewart (Serisier) and Lily Graves (Wright). These girls have been working on their ideas for months, planning, scripting, storyboarding and organising a cast and crew to come together for this day. All House teams, and especially the Directors, are to be commended for their hard work and dedication – the day went off without a hitch. A huge thank you to all the staff who assisted with supervision, as well as Jackie Stacey and her parent helpers who kept the girls well fed. The Directors will now start the editing process before the big screening night in Term 3 – more information will be available later in the year.



Careers - Ms Rebecca Bryant

Education Open Night – Find out why an Education degree from Murdoch will make you stand out from the crowd at the Education Open Night on Wednesday 27 March. See our SimLab demonstration and understand how Australia's first virtual reality classroom can prepare you for a career in teaching. Attendees will hear first-hand from our students and academics about what to expect whilst studying Education.

Parent Power Hour Series – Preparing and applying for university can be a huge step for most students, and parents play a key role by providing their guidance and advice. Our Parent Power Hours aim to provide you with the right tools and information to confidently support your child's journey into tertiary education, tackling topics such as employability and managing exam stress.

A Day in the Life of a Murdoch University Student - is back again this year! The hugely popular A Day in the Life of a Murdoch University Student is open to students in Years 9-12 on various dates in the April and October school holidays. Detailed schedules for the Year 11 and 12 programs will be out early next month. In the meantime, email engage@murdoch.edu.au to express your interest.

Dates are filling quickly for presentations, careers expos, parent evenings and on-campus experience days. To secure the date of your event with us, email engage@murdoch.edu.au.

Mock Law Trials - Mr Tim Poga

Mercedes College (Contra Legem) 124.5 defeated Melville SHS (Gold) 117. A great team effort led by Co-Captains Cara Mezzatesta and Steph Eginton and backed up by the experienced Holly Brown, Lauren Fosberry and Emily Short. A special commendation goes to Jessica O'Brien (Year 10) who carried out the role of Witness in her first ever trial.

Mercedes College (Eleven Elevens) 151 defeated Melville SHS (Green) 141. Georgia Gillibrand, who started as reserve witness but ended up starting as Witness 2, was a standout. Team Leader Rosie Battalis and Sophia Wood were cool and calm as defending Barristers. Medbh Flanagan, Hannah Nguyen and Desiree Scott rounded out the string team performance.

Health and Physical Education**ACC 'A' Division Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to the Mercedes Swim Team for coming 3rd in the girls overall at the ACC 'A' Division Carnival. All of the girls swam very well. Well done also to Teegan Watson (U17) and Aimee Bullier (U14) who were champions in their age division.

Thank you to Mrs Sherrin Adams and the supervising staff who helped with the Year 7 cheer squad today; the team loved all of the cheering!

**Senior School Year 11 and 12 Badminton - Mr Greg Smith**

On Friday 15 March the following girls represented the College in the Badminton WA Schools Tournament at Kingsway International Sports Stadium: Allison Lo, Madison Carbery, Piper Collins, Tamara Schofield, Gabbi Bose, Sophie Farrar, Sarah Hillyer, Kate Leishman, Megan Ong and Lucie Wilcox.

The tournament was played in five separate groupings and involved a round-robin doubles competition, with each game played to 21 points. Each group had 5 pairs with the objective to finish in the top two of their group. The top two of each group then progressed to a play-off against top two players from the other groups.

The girls played extremely well against a number of very talented players, some of whom are state and national representatives. Two pairs, Madison Carbery and Piper Collins, and Sarah Hillyer and Kate Leishman, won their respective group and played in the elimination tournament. Both pairs played extremely well and progressed to the quarter finals but, unfortunately, they did not progress to the semi-final stage. Congratulations to all the team members on your performances in the tournament.

Student News

Volleyball

Congratulations to the Mercedes students who participated in the *Think Again Highschool Volleyball Beach Cup*, at City Beach on Sunday 17 March. The girls played against a number of school and had the opportunity to improve on their volleyball skills.



Parents and Friends

Mother & Daughter Camp

Approximately 49 total mums and daughters headed down to Margaret River on 15 - 17 March for a weekend of fun. The weather was perfect, the food delicious, accommodation was great and the activities were fun and challenging at times. Evening games were also full of laughs. All in all it was a great weekend with a number of mums and daughters wanting to return again in 2020!

**Dads Only Dinner and Wine Tasting**

Friday 5 April / Grosvenor Hotel (Wine Room) / 6.30/7.00pm start

All dads are invited to attend the next Dads only Dinner. Join other dads for dinner and watch the Melbourne vs Essendon at the MCG on the big screen. Book your seat via Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/BBQJM> Places are limited. No initial cost to book. Pay on the night at the Grosvenor.

Father/Daughter Camp

Friday 21 - Sunday 23 June

Girls here is your opportunity to spend an absolutely unforgettable weekend away with your dad! You can look forward to bit of adventure, quality time with your dad and socialising with other families. Get mum or dad to book via Trybooking link <https://www.trybooking.com/485011> for this very popular annual event! Cost \$300 for each Father and \$300 for each Daughter, to be paid at the time of booking.

The camp can accommodate 100 people. Places fill very fast and are on a first come, first served basis. Please note: No Refunds will apply for cancellations, if your vacancy cannot be filled.

Entertainment Books 2019/2020

Pre-order your new 2019/20 Entertainment Book in order to enjoy the special bonus Early Bird Offers. Cost per book is \$70. To order visit: www.entbook.com.au/831119.

Thank Yous

Thank you to Kim Mills, Mick McKay, Karen Manson and Grazia Redolatti who assisted with the Morning Tea and Lunch for the Year 10 Reflection Days.

Thanks to Natasha Mailey, Jo Asquith, Bernadette and Martin Fedec, Barbara Matraszek and Richard Banks for assisting with the Year 8 Social Afternoon.

Thank you to Zoe Holdaway, Anita Miocevich, Kathryn Godwin & Lisa Armstrong for the help at the House Film Production weekend.

Thank you to Chung Choi, Ania Crisafio, Rachel Hackwell, Kristy Parker, Wendy Wells and Victoria Partridge for helping with the Year 7 Social Afternoon.

Notices

Behaviour Tonics - Parenting Course. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

Loreto Nedlands - 'Loreto Autumn Fair' on Saturday 30th March 2019, 10am - 3pm. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

Junior Girls League Soccer - Balcatta FC invites female footballers aged 6 - 18 years to join the Junior Girls League 2019. Through quality coaching and a supportive team environment Balcatta FC encourages young girls to have fun whilst providing a proven pathway into Premier Women's Football. For enquiries please email Lisa at girls@balcatta.fc.com.au or lisa@nee.com.au

