“You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the holy one of God.”

Jn 6:69

Some of the people who had been following Jesus, perhaps those who wanted to see miracles and miraculous changes to the society, could not accept that He was the bread of life. They turned away from Him. Peter and the twelve reaffirmed their faith in Him. They did not need miracles for them to believe in Him. They appreciated that they had not only to believe but they had to work to make things happen. They had to care for others to make a change in society. They could see that Jesus loved others so much that He raised the sick to a better life by healing them. It was His love that was important, not the miracle. Perhaps the greatest miracle that Jesus performed was to help His disciples believe that they could make a difference; that they could help create a better world; that they could bring about the Kingdom of God through their work.

During the week, think about how strongly we believe that Jesus does have the message of eternal life. Think about how we can work to improve the wellbeing of others. If we believe that Jesus is the holy one of God what difference does this make to the way we work to help others? Let us put our belief to work by helping someone in need. Take a small gift such as flowers to someone who is lonely or ill. Find some way to offer support to another person.

Prayer

Spirit of God, you came in the form of fire and wind to the apostles. In your coming you changed timidity into boldness and fear into prophetic witness. Come to us, we pray, and transform our hearts. Enkindle in us our fire on the earth. This we ask in the name of Jesus.

Amen

“A STRONG, LIVELY FAITH IS THE FOUNDATION OF ALL VIRTUE”

Catherine McAuley

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, Staff and Friends

Congratulations to the students and staff who contributed to the wellbeing of others whilst at the same time enriching their own lives through the immersion programme they participated in over the past two weeks at the Jigalong remote Aboriginal community. Thank you to: Mr Michael Callanan, Mrs Sally Wingett, Mr Dean Fox, Rebekah Ablitt, Brenton Birtchnell, Harley Dingey, Ben Dousset, Selina Fotia, Rebecca Gill, Alex Gristi, Beth Hanlon, Eliza Johns, Emily Muscat, Paul Noceja, Sarah Shallcross, Ashleigh Weekes, Charlotte Wightman, Alexandra Wintle and Lucy Wright.

FRAYNE SPEECH FESTIVAL

Congratulations to the students and staff who travelled to Mildura to compete in the Frayne Speech Festival last Friday. A more detailed report will be presented in a future Newsletter but I do want to say how proud I am of our students on their performance and the staff who drove the buses and prepared the students so well.

Mr Michael Johnston, Mrs Marilya MacNeill, Miss Emma Whitehouse, Mr Derek Elliott, Maddison Alford, Rhiannon Bennett, Sarah Byrne, Lauren Chitty, Rachel Coy, Robert Di Paolo, Jesse Duffield, Aaron Duivenvoorden, Hannah Edwards, Emmie Guy, Alice Hardinge, Madeline Henchley, Genevieve Holmes, Hannah Kelaart, Lachlan Liesfield, Melina Lucisano, Christina Maka, Ryan O’Keefe, Alex Schafer, Georgina Smith, Jared Smith, Gabrielle Stolzenhain, Georgia Walsh, Rachel Ward and Ashleigh Weekes.

REMINDER: YEAR 12 STUDENT PROGRESS INTERVIEWS will be held on Tuesday August 28 in Centennial Hall from 4.00—8.30pm
**FATHER’S DAY**

Father’s Day gives us the opportunity to show gratitude to those who have nurtured us. When a child is baptised, the mother and the father receive a special blessing.

Let us pray for nurturing fathers. May God, the giver of life, bless the father of this child. With his wife, they will be the first teachers of their child in the ways of faith. May they also be the best teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do, in Christ Jesus Our Lord. Amen.

**STUDENT PROGRESS INTERVIEWS FOR YEAR 12**

Year 12 student progress interviews will be conducted tomorrow evening, Tuesday August 28 in Centennial Hall.

**OPEN DAY**

Friday August 31 will provide you with an excellent opportunity to visit the College and see your children working in class. Parents and carers are always welcome at the College but Friday is a special opportunity for you to visit and show encouragement for your children.

**FUNDING FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

You may have seen recent media reports about possible changes to government funding for Catholic schools.

The media reports have confirmed analysis undertaken by the Catholic Education Commission Victoria Ltd (CECV) of the funding proposals currently being considered by the Australian Government.

The CECV is particularly concerned by the impact on Catholic education if this approach to school funding is adopted. A large number of Victorian Catholic primary schools, including schools working with disadvantaged communities in Victoria, would lose substantial amounts of funding.

At this time it is unclear what this could mean for our own school. The Australian Government is expected to provide further information soon. The CECV is monitoring the situation closely and will provide further information when more is known.

Catholic Education will continue discussions with the Australian Government, to ensure that the funding gap between Catholic schools and Government schools is reduced and government funding keeps pace with the cost of educating a child in a Government school.

Further information will be available over the coming weeks about the future of funding for our school. Please take the time to read it, and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

**PLEASE PRAY**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Florence Deans who is the Great Grandmother of Samantha Falconer of Year 7 Orange.

We pray that Florence who shared her love with others will be welcomed into the fullness of life promised to her through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. May our prayers and support comfort her family and encourage them to look back on Florence’s life with joy.

Bernard G Dobson
Principal

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**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS - MICHAEL JOHNSTON**

Mercy Day will be celebrated on Friday September 14. A lot of planning has already gone into the day and information will be passed on via the newsletter over the next few weeks as well as on Moodle. Attached to this newsletter is the Mercy Day poster for 2012. A poster design competition was conducted in the Year 10 Visual Communication class in Semester 1. The winner was Ashleigh Weekes of 10 Blue. Thanks to all students who were involved and to Ms Routley for organising the competition.

Mercy Day is a day of celebration where we acknowledge our rich mercy heritage. On Wednesday September 12 there will be a simple liturgy conducted at Lilydale Cemetery to acknowledge some of the early Sisters of Mercy who are buried there. On Thursday September 13 we will gather as a full school community for our Mercy Day liturgy. There is always a strong sense of stewardship - acknowledging the debt we owe to those who have come before us and the responsibility this places on the current generation to continue the work. A really important part of Mercy Day is the social justice aspect. This year we will direct our fundraising to the Mukuru Promotion Centre in Nairobi, Kenya (see below) and McAuley Community Services for Women (Melbourne) which provides accommodation, support and advocacy for women and their children who are experiencing homelessness, resulting primarily from family violence or mental illness.

*Mukuru is a project conducted by the Sisters of Mercy in the vast slums of Nairobi. In excess of 400,000 people exist in desperate living conditions. In true Mercy tradition a small group of sisters are operating school and health care facilities in an attempt to improve the prospects of the people who live in the slums. In the last 12 months Mount Lilydale Mercy College has offered financial support to the people of Mukuru and our aim is for this to be ongoing.*

Another initiative this year will be support for the Knit-a-Square Project. The focus will be for students and staff to learn basic knitting skills and work towards knitting 20cm x 20cm squares to send to South Africa. These squares will be sewn into blankets for AIDS orphans. Further details can be found at: Website: http://www.knit-a-square.com/knitting-for-charity-for-children.html

In the lead up to Mercy Day and on the day itself, there will be the opportunity for members of the school community to make a contribution. The group will require knitting needles sized between 4mm – 5.5mm and balls of yarn in any colour, preferably 8 ply. If you are able to help out by providing any suitable knitting needles or balls of yarn please leave them at Student Reception for the attention of Ms Sam Murphy. For safety reasons I would ask that students not be given the knitting needles to bring to school.

Winter uniform is compulsory for all students until the end of Term 3. From the beginning of Term 4 students will have the choice of wearing either summer or winter uniform.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal – Director of Students
LOTE WEEK ACTIVITIES
The annual LOTE week took place during the week beginning Monday August 6. The students were involved in numerous activities such as: played Italian Cards (Scopa & Briscola), watched Rex in Rome (Italian version of Inspector Rex), Year 9 - 12 had gelati, other students watched some Japanese anime and ate some sushi just to name a few. The staff enjoyed a multi-cultural LOTE lunch!

ICAS MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
This was held on Tuesday August 14 in period 3 & 4 in the Lecture Theatre. Students from Years 7 -11 participated in the annual competition and results will be known in Term 4. Congratulations to all students who participated.

YELLOW RIBBON AMBASSADOR STALL
AUGUST 10
The Year 11 students take part each year to be trained as Yellow Ribbon Ambassadors for our school. This year, a group of 30 Year 11 students were trained to help younger students in need. They promote the message “It’s ok to ask for help” and actively raise awareness in this area.

YEAR 8 OLYMPIC GAMES ACTIVITIES
JULY 31 – AUGUST 10
Many of the year 8 students got into the spirit of the Games by participating in a range of “Olympic” type games on Friday August 10. A big thank you to Paul Molluso, Alex Moore and Christie Lagos for constructing the “McAuley Olympic Torch”.

SCIENCE SHOW IN MCAULEY HALL ON AUGUST 6
Wipeout celebrates the 2012 schools theme Energy Evolution and took the Year 8 students on a hilarious, interactive journey full of scientific facts, emphasizing the importance of access to clean energy technology while exploring the diverse range of Australian ecosystems under threat.
PRUE MASON - GUEST AUTHOR
Prue spent the day at the College on Thursday August 16 and worked with all the Year 8 students in the Lecture Theatre for periods 1 and 2. She then met and worked with the winners of the Poetry competition. The students were really excited to meet the author of their Year 8 novel “Camel Rider”.

JAMES PHELAN - ARTIST IN RESIDENCE AUGUST 6-8
Several of our Year 9 and 10 English classes spent a lesson hearing about James’ books and how he wrote them. The Year 9 Creative Writing class and members of the Writers and Illustrators Circle also spent time discussing writing and publishing with James.

8 JADE LOLLY BAG FUNDRAISER
On Wednesday August 15, 8 Jade held a fundraiser to raise money for our foster child. When the bell went we were all ready and in only 15 minutes the lollies were all gone and then we had to count all the money we raised. We totalled up to $173.65. It was a lot of fun and a good bonding experience.
By Chelsea Lee Rose

PANCAKE EXPERIMENT
August 15, our class used pancakes to teach us about metamorphic rocks. The whole point in the practical was to figure out how the different ingredients had an effect on the pancake mixture. We used different types of ingredients on the top of our pancakes. It helped us to see how the metamorphic rocks are formed by seeing what happened to the ingredients that formed our pancakes.
Sarah, Cooper and TJ - 8 White

SUBJECT SELECTION ASSEMBLY 2013
Over the past fortnight all Year 8 and 9 students attended a Level Assembly to hear information regarding subjects for next year and the process to be followed in selecting Electives for 2013. At the conclusion students received an Instruction Sheet and password to enable them to complete their selections later this month.
EATING WITH FRIENDS

Last week Intermediate VCAL students hosted an afternoon tea with residents from the Montrose Senior Citizens Club. In the lead up to the event students produced scones, cupcakes, and biscuits, while developing an understanding of social etiquette, hospitality, and service. Students worked in groups to prepare various food items and were given a variety of different roles and responsibilities for the functions they hosted. In preparation for the final function students honed their hospitality skills by hosting events for teachers, administration staff, and their family members.

To keep the guests entertained while they waited for service, VCAL magazines were provided for guests to peruse. The magazine was written by students as part of the Literacy component of VCAL and included articles about what students had achieved so far in the year and suggestions for weekend activities. Students also met numeracy outcomes by demonstrating an understanding of ratios and measurement when preparing food ingredients.

At the conclusion of the event, Montrose Senior Citizens expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the students for their diligence, their hospitality, and for the exemplary way in which they conducted themselves throughout the function. From the beginning of the unit students aimed for their guests to feel welcome and appreciated members of the community. Congratulations on your efforts Intermediate VCAL.

Steve Tarulli
Applied Learning Coordinator

ASRC FOOD DRIVE

This week is Refugee Week. As part of this week baskets have been placed in every Year Level Coordinator’s Office and we are asking for any food donations which will go directly to the ASRC (Asylum Seeker Resource Centre). The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre is Australia’s biggest centre that helps some of the most disadvantaged people in our community, asylum seekers. Please make sure all food donations are packaged or tinned. We encourage you to think of others in need and donate.
Last Thursday the College Libraries had a visit from Prue Mason. Did you know?

- Prue is a Queensland-based author.
- She has written three books: Camel Rider, Destination Abudai and Birdie in the Sky.
- Her dog, Tara, played a very important part in Camel Rider.
- She judged the Poetry section of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Writing Competition.
- Even though she and her sister decided to write books when Prue was four, it was many years and life experiences later that Prue finally put pen to paper!
- In between times Prue worked as a shearers’ cook, barmaid, encyclopaedia salesperson, flight attendant and even got her pilot’s licence! All of these things meant that when she started writing she had plenty to write about!
- Prue lived in the Middle East for twelve years, teaching English in a girls’ school and writing for a children’s magazine.
- Prue’s time in the Middle East taught her much more than how to write. She learnt that when people from different cultures meet they often don’t trust or respect each other, and there can be many misunderstandings that can even lead to war. But having lived and made friends with people from other nationalities, she understands that different cultures often do things differently.

Prue spoke with our Year 8 students in the morning, even providing them with clothes to dress up in like the characters in Camel Rider. After recess Prue met with the winners of the Poetry section of the MLMC Writing Competition, reading their poems and giving each student some feedback and encouragement.

Champions Read and Write was the theme of the College Writing Competition this year. Stimulus material was provided that drew the focus to ‘writing out of adversity’. Over the next few weeks we will be sharing the work of the winners in the Poetry section of the competition.

Mount Lilydale Mercy College Libraries take great pleasure in announcing the winners of the Champions Read and Write - Poetry Competition:

- Year 12: Jaymie Buis: Just because I wear a headscarf
- Year 11: Mikaela Baker – Passioni: Speaking the Truth Without Mind
- Year 10: Winner - Erica Fawdry : Darkness
  - Winner - Thomas Janssen: My Black Light!!!
- Year 9: Jordan Hall: Champions Read
- Year 8: Winner - Tim Cook : The Reapers
  - Second Place - Jack Blakey: There Never Really Was
  - Third Place - Kate Russo: My Castle
- Year 7: Winner - Maddie Cottier: Too much for someone like me
  - Second Place - Karah Hannin: Reading and Writing is the Key
  - Third Place - Jacqui Ricci: This is Who you are

We were fortunate to have Prue Mason, previous Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition Judge, assisting with selecting our winners. All of the above students were given the opportunity to meet with Prue to discuss their winning entries and will be awarded their prizes at College Assemblies.

The standard of the winning poems was exceptional and we will publish the remainder of these in the College Newsletters over the following weeks. The winning entries will also be submitted to the Australian Literary Board for publication in their journal. Students who are published will be notified and presented with a copy of the journal.

Andrea Coney – Head of Library and Information Services
Katie Stanley – Teacher Librarian

(The winners of the Prose Competition will be announced early September.)

Here is the winning entry for Year 12, from Jaimie Buis (12 Purple)

Just because I wear a headscarf
They think I have no choice
Because I pray five times a day
They think I have no voice

The fact that I speak Dari
Means I can never fit right in
In this country being different
In some ways is a sin

When my father walks beside me
They glance at me in shame
Remembering 9/11
Thinking he’s the one to blame

They see my dark complexion
Amongst a crowd of white
Despite the fact I’m born here
To them, I don’t seem right

I don’t wear my headscarf with anger
It’s not a burden on my head
To give it up for just a day
I’d rather be shot dead
A Parent Information Seminar was held on August 15 for those interested in hearing from a Sleep Scientist regarding the importance of sleep and how to have a regular good night’s sleep. The presenter, Sue Cranage, gave an informative and engaging presentation and offered strategies to establish, maintain and enhance sleep quality.

She promoted a consistent pattern, consistent bedtime and wake up time 7 days a week not just on school days. She also encourages where possible, no televisions, computers, electronic games and mobile phones in the bedroom, maintaining a comfortable room temperature and low light and no noise level at bedtimes.

The slides are outlined below.

Thank you to the parents and students who attended her session.

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**1. Establishing a bedtime routine:**
- Consistent pattern prior to & for bedtime
- An hour quiet time: ↓ physical & brain activity
- Avoid stimulating activities & substances
- Avoid sleep disturbing activities & substances
- Avoid using sleeping tablets
- Reading assists sleep onset
- Use relaxation / release techniques
- In bed at appropriate time

**Settling easily into an adequate night’s sleep**

**2. Maintain a healthy sleep/wake schedule:**
- Morning sunlight
- Exercise every day - morning, early afternoon
- Regular healthy meals
- Consistent bedtime each night
- Consistent wake up time each morning
- Adequate sleep 7 days per week
- Commitment to healthy sleep habits

**Keeping the body clock happy**

**3. Bedroom environment for healthy sleep:**
- No televisions, computers, electronic games
- Not used for play/study/punishment
- Switch off mobile phone
- Low light & noise levels for sleep times
- Comfortable room temperature (about 18°C)
- Comfortable mattress, bedding & clothing
- Soothing & secure

**Promotes relaxed attitude for sleep**

**Three factors for healthy sleep:**

1. Bedtime routine
   - prepares body & mind for rest
   - establish habit for & of sleep
2. Sleep/wake schedule
   - times of sleepiness
   - morning sunlight
   - regular bedtime & wakeup time
3. Sleep environment
   - enhances sleep quality, quantity & continuity
On Wednesday August 15 I was fortunate enough to take ten Year 8 students to the Peanut Farm Reserve in St Kilda to be a part of the RecLink Football Grand Final. RecLink is the organization that provides recreation opportunities for the homeless, people facing mental illness disability, addiction and/or social and economic hardship. This day is the culmination of their football season and receives widespread media coverage. Mount Lilydale Mercy College has now been assisting RecLink for 7 years.

The Year 8 students had to apply explaining why they wanted to be involved. On the day students were involved in a range of tasks including boundary umpiring, assisting with set up at the start of the day and running water to the participating players. Our College was recognized by the RecLink organization, on the live calling of the games on the radio and most importantly by the appreciative players who valued our support.

The day could not have taken place without the support of Emily Tineo, Michael Johnston, the friendly office staff, AFL trainee Nick Sargent, and two wonderful parent helpers who gave up their day to assist on the day, Sue Dickson and Rick Roberts. I thank them for their assistance in allowing our students to be involved. The Year 8 participants were Mitch Arthur, Brooke Clare, Annie Dickson, Mitchell Donald, Anthony Gentile, Maddi McConachy, Ebony Rait, Nicole Roberts, Daniel Severino and Sienna Spencer.

Student Reflections about the day:

**Anthony Gentile**
RecLink was an amazing experience not only for us as students but also the players. It was a great feeling to help the disadvantaged. The tasks we did included filling up water bottles, putting up banners and setting up the BBQ at the start of the day. Throughout the day the activities were running water to the players, boundary umpiring and handing out food to the players. Everyone had a great time.

**Maddi McConachy**
I had an amazing experience on the day. To see them get a goal and then run around screaming with excitement it was a great sight. I felt really lucky to have such supportive friends and family and a home to go home to that night. I felt privileged for the opportunity to be a part of the experience.

**Sienna Spencer**
RecLink Grand Final Day was the greatest day. I had so much fun helping and watching the guys and girls playing football and smiling. You could tell they were happy to have us there because they smiled every time we spoke to them or gave them a drink bottle. It was an awesome experience.

Dan Beard

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**STALL HOLDERS WANTED**

**The Yarra Valley Strawberry Festival**

Hosted By: St Patrick’s Primary School  
40 Jones Street, Lilydale  
When: Sunday 11th November  
Time: 10am - 4pm  
Cost: $40.00

Visit our website to complete the registration form...

[www.yvstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.yvstrawberryfestival.com)
SPORTS REPORT

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS
Our Sports Captain Casey Wright has been officially selected to represent Australia as a member of the Junior Cross Country Ski Team. She recently competed at the National Races at Falls Creek and had a successful race in a technical and hilly freestyle track. Casey heads off to the Czech Republic to represent Australia at the Junior World Championships in December. An excellent effort.

If you know of a student achieving in their chosen field of sport, please send us the details at lworrell@exchange.mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au or mflood@exchange.mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

SENIOR EISM RESULTS - MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE VS BILLANOOK

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<th>BILLANOOK SCORE</th>
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<td>Hockey</td>
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<td>Billanook</td>
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This week was a catch up round for Year 9 sport. The Boys Footy team competed in their semi-final and are through to the Grand Final against St Joseph.

Details of each week’s fixture, venues and results can be found at http://www.eism.org/

MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE
OPEN DAY
FRIDAY 31 AUGUST - 11AM - 5PM

Please take the time to join a guided tour of the College and view classes in action. You are invited to join staff at the end of your tour for light refreshments. Staff will be available to answer any further questions you may have.