‘Rabbi,’ he said, ‘it is wonderful for us to be here;’

Mk 9:5

Mountains can be majestic, frightening and a cause of great wonder and awe. However, Jesus does not stay on the mountain despite the urging of His disciples. Gazing in wonderment towards heaven is not enough. We, like Jesus, must all listen and act.

Take time during this period of Lent to listen in the ‘gentle breeze’ and silence to your heart discerning what it is that God wants of you. How can you act in the best interests of others?

Mountains near Galilee

"Prayer will do more than all the money in the Bank of Ireland."
"We should never forget that of all other gifts, prayer must come from God."

CATHY MCALY

Prayer

We pray in the presence of Jesus, our friend:
Let us see beyond superficial differences and recognise one another as sisters and brothers.

Amen

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, Staff and Friends

CONGRATULATIONS:
Congratulations to James Murfett (past student Year 12 2011) for his artwork being selected as the Sponsor’s Choice Winner for Faceart by Clearasil. Great work James!!

ADVISORY COUNCIL:
I am pleased to welcome Mrs Anne Marie Italiano and Mr Gerard Wright to membership of the Advisory Council. Unfortunately Ged’s name was not included in the membership list last week and Anne Marie has just accepted nomination. The Council will meet again on March 15.

RETREATS:
The Retreat programme is an essential component of our Mission as a Catholic school. The retreats, whether they be for Year 12 students as were held last week or for Years 11 or 10 students, are an important way for us to help students know more about the love God has for them and provides them all with opportunities to reflect upon what it means to be a member of a Catholic school community and their responsibility to live out the Gospel.

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL:
I invite parents/guardians to support the College Swimming Carnival to be held tonight at Croydon Pool. The programme commences at 5p.m. and should be completed by 8p.m.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK AND SPECIAL PERSONS’ DAY:
I do hope that parents/guardians, students and friends of the College are looking forward to Catholic Education Week. Join us in our Celebration in the coming week. Join in Special Persons’ Day on March 13, our Athletics Carnival on March 16 and/or visit the Catholic Education Week Art Exhibition on Sunday March 18 at the Victorian Artists’ Society Gallery located at 430 Albert Street, East Melbourne to view some outstanding work by our students as part of the exhibition.

Bernard G Dobson
Principal
Please be aware that as a College we aim to facilitate the best possible academic outcomes for our students and as such we ask parents to please be aware of the following policy excerpt when planning family vacations:

**Student Extended Absence & Homework Whilst on Family Holidays During Term Time:**

It is appreciated that scheduling family holidays is not always easy and some families cannot arrange their holidays during the school holiday period. However, it should be acknowledged that this may have an impact upon a student’s academic progress. Parents are asked to avoid holidays during the school term and it is very important that students are not taken on holiday when exams are being conducted. Parents are asked to refrain from requesting teachers to set work for students who are going on a family holiday during the term. If there is no alternative to a holiday during term time and parents want their child to continue with some school related work, it is suggested that they participate in activities associated with the holiday itself. This could be calculations of distance travelled, costs involved or the populations of towns etc. A travel journal could be maintained to include the religious and cultural background, the history and the geography of the places visited. The geography could include the major industries of the region/s and some sketches could also be drawn.

Students need to take responsibility for advising their teachers of the extended absence in advance and for submitting any activity/work that they wish to have assessed as soon as they return to school.

Students will be marked absent (ABS) for tasks completed during this time and global grades will be calculated based on the remaining tasks and any assessable activities associated with the holiday itself.

Semester Reports should acknowledge an extended absence if the student has missed a substantial part of the semester (e.g. more than two weeks). Students in VCE and VCAL must attend at least 90% of classes and ALL Assessment Tasks.

Students are expected to attend scheduled examinations. Parents should not to take their child out of school during examinations unless there are exceptional circumstances where they have negotiated alternative arrangements (usually in writing) with the appropriate Learning Coordinator or Director of Campus.

**Online Portal:**

The school has initiated an online portal where members of the MLMC community can access a variety of documents – ranging from eLearning iPad documents to Change of Detail forms and Excursion Reply slips. This list will evolve and expand over time as the need for such resources increases.

The password to enter the portal is: mlmcparent

To access the online portal please follow the instructions in the document attached to this Newsletter

I encourage all year 7 Parents to access the iPad security App information document on the portal which has parental blocking for unsuitable websites and App downloads.

Brian Hawthorne
Deputy Principal - Director of Studies

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**AN UPCOMING EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED**

**TWILIGHT CINEMA ON THE COLLEGE OVAL**

**THURSDAY 22ND MARCH**

A fun family evening and massive outdoor screen. An alcohol and smoke free event

**“HUGO” PG**

*Hugo* was nominated for 11 Academy Awards, making it the most nominated film of 2011. *Hugo* also won two BAFTAs and was nominated for three Golden Globe Awards

**Discounted Pre Ticket Sales Available Now Through Your Child’s Homeroom**

- **Adults** $10.00
- **Secondary Students** $7.00
- **Children** $5.00
- **Family Pass (2 Adults & 3 Children)** $25.00

Snack Bar and seating opens at 7.00pm. BYO picnic blanket or deck chair. Movie screening commences at 7.30pm

Senior VCAL Students are hosting this event. They are currently looking for businesses interested in purchasing a pre-screening advertisement. This will be via a $100.00 sponsorship arrangement. If you would like your business exposed on the big screen at this unique community event, please contact either Mr Steve Tarulli or Mr Brian Hawthorne at the College on 9735 4022
From Monday, March 5 the blazer becomes a compulsory part of the uniform for travel to and from school. Should it be considered too warm of an afternoon to wear the blazer an announcement will be made notifying students. Thank you to parents who have supported the focus we are having on ensuring that all students are wearing the full uniform and abiding by the various requirements such as hair tied back, no jewellery etc. As was stated in the letter that all families received in December from Mr Dobson, these are basic issues that should not detract from the day to day experience of school.

Each year the College supports the World’s Greatest Shave and the Leukaemia Foundation. In 2012 we will conduct our fundraising activity on Friday, 23rd March (assuming we do not need to use this day as a back up day for our Athletics Carnival). On this day students will have the opportunity to have hair colour applied or have a Number 2 ‘buzzcut’ by a qualified hairdresser. Both of these options require a permission form to be completed. A copy of this is attached to the newsletter and can also be collected from Student Reception.

Unfortunately we need to remind students of the ‘stranger danger’ message. A number of schools in the local area have reported incidents where a student or students have been approached by undesirable characters whilst on their way to or from school. For our students the area of greatest concern is when walking between the College and Lilydale Station. The most direct route takes them through the park near where Olinda Creek passes beside the local football ground. My advice would be to exercise caution and avoid this area if possible. Local police are aware of the situation and are monitoring the area. Our students have been advised not to walk alone and under no circumstance to engage in conversation with strangers no matter how harmless it may at first appear. Students should report any incident immediately they arrive at school and parents should contact the school if there is any issue on the way home from school.

Special mention to our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders who were involved with our Year 7 camps last week. They displayed wonderful leadership and played a part in making the transition for our new junior students a smooth and enjoyable experience.


There will be a timetable change for students catching the MLS 1 bus in the afternoon as of Wednesday 7 March. Students should collect the updated Bus Timetable from Student Reception.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal – Director of Students

FROM THE REGISTRAR - Mary Ryan

We are now halfway through our busy first term and still the activities continue. Tonight the Swimming Carnival will take place at the Croydon outdoor pool and the Parents and Friends Association will have a BBQ with sausages and vegi-burgers for sale. Continuing the sporty theme, a BBQ and other food and drink will be available for sale on Athletics day (Friday March 16). If you can assist on Athletics day, even for a few hours, we would appreciate your help. Please contact me at the College.

The first Parents and Friends meeting was held last Tuesday night. A small, but enthusiastic group of parents were in attendance. I am sure there are many more families who would like to be involved in various activities run at the College and may not be able to attend the night-time meetings. If you would like to express your interest, please feel free to contact me by email the_reg@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au or by phone. The next P&F meeting will be on Tuesday March 27 at 7.30pm.

Mary Ryan
Registrar

OLD COLLEGIANS’ BUSINESS BREAKFAST

| GUEST SPEAKERS: | Sr Nancy Freedlari rsm  
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hon James Merlino MP – Deputy Leader Victorian Opposition</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>Wednesday 21 March 7.00am – 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>VENUE:</td>
<td>Bird &amp; Barley Restaurant, Lilydale Motor Inn, 476 Maroondah Highway, Lilydale</td>
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<tr>
<td>COST:</td>
<td>$35.00 per head</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROCEEDS:</td>
<td>Towards Old Collegians’ Memorial Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>TICKETS:</td>
<td>Contact Leonie on 9237 1356 or email: <a href="mailto:ziolekms@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au">ziolekms@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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OLD COLLEGIANS’ NEWS

On Saturday 2 June the Old Collegians’ Association are hosting a Dinner Dance in Centennial Hall at the College at which two Old Collegians will be inaugurated as Women and Men of Mercy. Nomination Forms and criteria will be available shortly on the website. This will be an annual event. Further details will be advertised.
Welcome everyone to the 2012 school year. We are both extremely happy with the commencement of the school year and we have sensed a settled approach to the rigours of the senior school and the study programs it offers. We welcome our newest members to the Barak Campus, the Year 10 students. This is a significant transition as it welcomes them into a new campus and a new working and learning environment. At their opening assembly the year 10 students were welcomed and encouraged to take a mature and responsible approach to setting the foundation for their next three years of study.

Also at the opening assemblies all students were encouraged to use the College theme ‘Be a light, Animate others and Share the journey’ to help guide them throughout the year. We want to see students achieving the best they can, helping others to achieve also and in doing so sharing a journey together to continue the wonderful sense of community we have here at Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

The VCE / VCAL students have begun their lessons in full swing and have shown a positive approach to their studies thus far. It is imperative that all parents are aware that if any Year 10, 11 or 12 students miss an assessment task or SAC for a medical reason that a certificate is to be presented upon return to school. We expect contact with the Wellbeing Coordinator or Campus Director will be made to explain any absence and fill out the required forms so as to ensure students are able to meet their academic commitments.

Being a senior school student poses many challenges both academically and socially. Choices are made for future studies and careers. Year 10 students will embark on work experience and set the foundation with their entry into VCE or VCAL. The Year 11 students undertake new study and work regimes and the Year 12 students embark on their final year of secondary schooling. Balancing school life with other commitments is vital. Setting up homework and study time in daily routines and organising information are significant aspects for success in all fields of study. Again we will offer study group sessions this year to further enhance learning opportunities. We welcome this year to the Barak team Ms Carolyn Ellul Year 11 & 12 Learning Coordinator along with Mr Schepis the Learning Coordinator for Years 9 & 10, who will be working closely with students on various initiatives to support them in their subjects.

The Barak Campus has set the following goals for 2012 and together we will be undertaking a number of initiatives to meet this commitment throughout 2012.

- Promote the importance of learning both within and outside the classroom.
- Improve student ownership, relationships, responsibilities and spiritual growth within our community in the Mercy tradition.
- Provide equitable and challenging opportunities for personal growth, academic and vocational excellence.

The following were points presented to the Barak Campus students in their opening assemblies

**Things You can Do!**
- Use your planner, Write things down
- Have a Study Timetable at home (3+ hrs each night)
- Work less hours at your part-time job.
  (Research shows that any student who works more than 10 hours a week in a part time job diminishes their overall academic result)
- To be successful, you must set goals. Have a big goal at the end and set smaller goals along the way.
- Study skills and organisational support sessions are available, use them.
- Understand your strengths & potential
- Be actively involved in your learning, get feedback
- Time and resource management
- Maintain respect and a positive learning environment in the classroom.
- Create your own knowledge be independent in your learning
- Value & respect contributions of your peers, work together.

Success breeds success!

**UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS**

Please adhere to the uniform expectations below

- Blazer must be worn to and from school unless notified that students need not wear it home in the afternoon. The jumper cannot be the outer garment when travelling to or from school.
- Dress length for girls needs to be at the top of their knee
- Dresses are not to be tied at the back, they are to use the buttons
- No piercings allowed, only for the exception of one piercing per ear in the lower lobe
- No make up allowed

We have a wonderful team of Wellbeing Coordinators to support the staff and students as well as ourselves. Mrs Barr is the contact person for Year 12, Mr Palmer for Year 11 and Mr Haining for Year 10. Ms Ellul and Mr Schepis as Learning Coordinators will liaise with each year level.

Under this Leadership structure of Campus Directors, the two roles will blend and will be ‘adaptable’ to all matters. However as per past arrangements each Director will have a specific focus. Mr Callanan is the person to contact if there are any specific curriculum, VCE / VCAL or learning issues and Ms Tabacchiera should there be any wellbeing issues or areas of student concern.

We certainly look forward to working with you and your children as the year unfolds.

Ms Lucia Tabacchiera & Mr Michael Callanan
Barak Campus Directors
FROM THE CAREERS RESOURCE CENTRE

Compulsory Work Experience Year 10
Monday 25 June to Friday 29 June 2012

All Year 10 Students will undertake one week’s Work Experience during the last week of Term 2 from Monday 25 June to Friday 29 June 2012.

Prior to the work experience week, all students must have the Work Experience Arrangement Form signed by parents, employers, and the Principal, Mr Dobson.

Work Experience Forms were distributed to all students at the end of 2011. As the deadline for completed forms is fast approaching, students should have selected the industry they wish to work in and have approached suitable employers.

At the end of 2011 all students completed the General OH&S Test online, in preparation for entering the workforce. During Term 1 this year, all Year 10 students will complete the Industry-Specific OH&S online test during their Industry and Enterprise classes.

Students should hand in completed Work Experience Arrangement Forms to the Careers Resource Centre as soon as possible. Those students who are experiencing difficulty finding a suitable position should contact Mrs Elizabeth Dufty.

Parents who would like to discuss the work experience program should not hesitate to contact the Careers Resource Centre by telephone on 9237 1363 or by email on duffye@mlmc.catholic.edu.au.

Mrs Elizabeth Dufty

COMPLIMENTARY FAMILY PASSES TO VCE SUCCESS SEMINAR FOR YEAR 10/11/12 STUDENTS

Proven strategies for VCE success shown at the upcoming 90 minute VCE Success Seminar.

Learn the secrets top performers used to excel in VCE.


NEWS FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT

SALE OF STATIONARY from Mrs Cassidy’s office at the beginning of Lunchtime for 10 minutes
Pens, pencils and rulers 50c each
Batteries 80c each
Binder book ($1.30), graph pad ($1.00) and erasers($1.20)
Glue stick $2.50 each

Engraving of CALCULATORS from Mrs Cassidy’s office at the beginning of lunchtime for 10 minutes.

NEWS FROM MATHS SCIENCE PREFECT: Tom Nolan

Need help with maths?

We all know that maths can be difficult, and if you need help, it’s a bad idea to delay getting it. This year, every week there will be several lunchtime help sessions for each year level:

YEAR 7: Monday lunchtimes in the year 7 building.
YEAR 8 & 9: Wednesday lunchtimes in PWR 2.24 (the room next to the McAuley library).
YEAR 10, 11 & 12: Friday lunchtimes in Barak library.

COMMUNITY NOTICE

COLDSTREAM PRIMARY SCHOOL is holding its first GATEWAY HARVEST & CRAFT MARKET on SUNDAY 25th MARCH 2012 between 9am – 3pm.

To book a stall or further information please call TESS SMITH – Market Committee on 0417 883 767 or email gatewayharvestmarket@gmail.com.
Term 1 continues to be a busy term for sport. The College Swimming Carnival is on the 5th of March, at Croydon Memorial Pool starting at 5:00. All students and parents are invited to attend this event. This will be followed by the EISM Swimming Carnival at MSAC on the 13th of March. March also hosts the College Athletics Carnival on the 16th March. There is plenty of opportunity for all students to get involved in swimming and athletics over the coming weeks.

Congratulations to the following students who have made significant achievements in their chosen fields over the holiday period: Daniel Cole, Adrian Tomada, Daniel Jensen, Jordan Adnam and Zac Wuersching were part of a 14 person basketball team that travelled the east coast of America during the summer holidays. They participated in various tournaments and one-off games, playing in North and South Carolina, Washington, New York and Los Angeles. In the course of three weeks the team played twelve games, finishing with 10 wins. A great effort all round.
Navigating to MLMC Moodle at: http://moodle.mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au/ and click the “Login as guest” button.

At the next screen, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the MLMC Community link.

The next screen will display the Information and Forms for Parents course - which contains the documents and information you are seeking.

Click on the “Information and Forms for Parents” link to gain access.

Type in the ‘enrolment key’ - mimparent - in the space provided and click on the “Enrol me in this course” button. Notice you will have to complete this each time you access this portal.

The list of available forms (and other information) will appear.
I give permission for _________________________________________________________
(name and homeroom) to have

(Please circle your choice)

(A) a Number 2 “buzzcut” (performed by a qualified hairdresser)

OR

(B) “Cinta” coloured hairspray applied

at the College on Friday, March 23rd 2012 as part of the fundraising effort for the World's Greatest Shave.

CONTRIBUTION TO FUNDRAISING IS $5- FOR EACH ACTIVITY.

In completing this permission form I acknowledge the activity and any risk involved and release Mount Lilydale Mercy College and the
Leukaemia Foundation from any liability arising from my child participating in this activity. I understand that the hair colouring to be applied
will wash out under normal circumstances. Please check with a hairdresser if you are uncertain about this.

Please return this form to Student Reception or to Mr Johnston.

Parent Signature: __________________________________________

Date: __________________________________________