Date: 4 February 2013

The Theme Chosen by our Student Leaders for this year is:
“Dream Together; Embrace Change; Strive As One.”

Jesus said “Let the children come to me and don’t try to stop them! People who are like these children belong to God’s kingdom!”

Matthew 19:14

We understand that Jesus loves all children and he loves all those that have a child like need for him and a child like trust in him.

May we all have the simple faith of a child. As Christians we seek to live our lives as Jesus taught us, wise and caring, as Spirit filled people. Today and every day we ask God’s blessing as our students return to our school. May their lives be punctuated by prayer along with a deep desire for social justice, life long learning and peace.

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers and Students and Friends of the Mount Lilydale Mercy Community

Welcome to the 2013 school year and I hope that you all feel refreshed and ready for the challenges and academic rigor of the year ahead. I certainly have appreciated the dedicated work of the College staff in preparing the College for the students return and I have particularly appreciated the welcome that I have personally received. I look forward to meeting the many families that are a part of this community, so please feel free to introduce yourselves and chat with me as you see me about the grounds and at the various meetings that tend to occur throughout the year. I am very new to the Mount Lilydale Mercy College community and I look forward to immersing myself in the ethos, hospitality and history of our great school. Hopefully the interview that was conducted with me late last year that now sits on our College website will provide you with enough of my history so that you will be comfortable meeting and talking to me.

This year we welcome to the College a total of 256 Year 7 students and their families and trust that they too will find Mount Lilydale Mercy College to be a special place for them. We welcome:

7 BLUE

7 BRONZE
Sam Bethune, Tyson Bissels, Aaron Campbell, Lauren Conte, Vittorio Di Battista, Daniel Enever, Mitchell Fantulyn, Grace Garang, Brianna Jones, Max Keithley, Lilly Kelly, Kyle King, Sabrina Leadbeater, Ashley Leary, Ruby Maxworth, Josh Mazurak, Maggie McGuire, Niamh Napier, Emily Osborne, Tailor Pace, Michael Read, Jacob Starnawski, Melanie Verhagen, Kiara Walsh, Casey Wandin-Collins and Callum Young.

7 GOLD
7 GREEN

7 JADE

7 ORANGE

7 PURPLE

7 RED
Ryan Abblitt, Alysha Bolt, Bailey Callen, Talia Colombani, Sean Corzelius, Joshua Crane, Daniel De Vincentis, Isabella de Wit, Grainne Duncan, Erin Farquharson, James Gammell, Erin Jones, Alex Joyce-Wilson, Taylah Latham, Georgia Macpherson, Ebony Martorella, Holly Munro, Ella Randle, Clayton Richards, Jake Rosser, Jordy Schuyt, Gabrielle Shandley, Liam Steele, Dylan Taylor, Rachel Van Der Linden and Ebony Wilson.

7 SILVER

7 WHITE

We also welcome a number of students and families to other year levels:

YEAR 8
Charli Bourke, Ashleigh Bridgman-Coleman, Zoe Buceto, Rhys Deray and Nick Haslam.

YEAR 9
Jordan Burke, Abbey Cachia, Jaide Clark, Emily Di Giandomenico, Caitland Edwards-Brown, Teagan Harty, Alyshia Kandler, Carla Mattucci, Brandon Mubaira and Tayla Murphy.

YEAR 10
Madi Campbell, Vanessa Clarke, Megan Edwards-Brown, Hayley Faulwetter, Emily Pierrehumbert, Siobhan Prasad and Hayley Wilson.

YEAR 11
Angus Bell, Alessandra Curtis, Michael Fitzgerald, Zac Jones, Natalie Leeyes, Ethan Peers, Jane Titterington and Courtney Whitehead.

YEAR 12
Corey Towning, Phillip Windridge and Kate Wolff.

Last week at our first staff Liturgy for 2013 we as a College welcomed back a number of returning staff:

Tania Hawthorne: returning from family leave as a Teacher of Hospitality and VCAL
Amy Bartlett: returning from family leave and working as a Counsellor
Katey Deutscher: returning from family leave and Teacher of VCAL, Japanese, English and Religious Education
Renee McKinnon: returning from family leave and teaching Japanese and Sport
John Kingma: returning from personal leave and teaching Mathematics and Sport

We also at that Liturgy welcomed and commissioned a number of new staff:
Elizabeth Keogh: Deputy Principal – Director of Mission. Elizabeth was the Director of Faith and Formation at Nagle College and previous positions include Student Welfare Coordinator and Faith and Ministry Coordinator – Catholic College Sale; Head of Religion – Woodlands Community and Technology School, Derby, England and she holds a Bachelor of Education – Theology from Birmingham University in the UK.

Rachel Berka: Teaching Psychology, Humanities and Geography
Tara McLernon: Teaching Religious Education, Humanities, and Geography
Megan Parker: Teaching English, Drama and Humanities
Elisa Massarotti: Laboratory Technician
Danielle Jones: Learning Support Staff
Valmai Hicks: Learning Support Staff
Hannah Davidson: Laboratory Technician
Johanna (Jo) Van Der Linden: School Officer – Youth Ministry
Hannah Dowling: School Officer – Youth Ministry
Daniel Dickson: AFL Trainee
David Coy: Permanent staff member in the Maintenance area.

I know that you too, will welcome these new staff members to our community as they go about meeting the challenges of inspiring our children and helping them to aspire.

PRAYERS
At this time of the year as we all prepare for the excitement of a new beginning, sadly we remember and pray for those families that struggle with the loss of a loved one.

Firstly you would be well aware of the tragic loss of Ryan Donald towards the end of last year. Bernard Dobson at that time wrote:

“The Mount Lilydale Mercy College community is mourning the death of a wonderful student Ryan Donald who was to study in Year 12 this year. Ryan was a happy, fit young man keen on personal fitness. He was always smiling and just before he died he achieved a personal best in a training run around Lilydale Lake. He was excited at this and went to bed very happy. He died in his sleep at home on the night of December 19/20. Please pray for the Donald family – parents Meaghan and Graeme his younger brother Mitchell and older brother James. Our community offers them our complete support”.

May angels carry Ryan to his heavenly home lest he dash his foot against a stone.
May the Lord raise him up and bring joy to his heart and bless him with peace all of his days.

‘Wherever you go, I’ll be always loving you.
I will be your God, your comforter.
I will hold you close in my heart.’

Secondly please remember in your thoughts and prayers Mr Robert Haughey the father of Old Collegians who died last week. His daughters Claire, Kathryn and Shelley attended Mount Lilydale Mercy College in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s. Let us pray for the repose of Robert’s soul and pray that his family will find the comfort at this time.

COMMUNITY OPENING MASS
This year the Community Opening Mass will be held later on Monday 4 March at 7.30pm in the Doyle Centre. This Eucharistic celebration is an important event in the life of the College for it is the first time that we as a complete community come together in prayer and recognise the importance of God in our lives. It will be at that time that the Mercy Education Limited Board will commission me as the Principal of Mount Lilydale Mercy College. At this time we will also pray for a successful year of studies for all of our students, but especially the incoming Year 7 group and the Year 12 Class of 2013.

I would therefore hope and expect to see many families at this Mass.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Melina Lucisano – Year 12 2012, on being awarded the La Trobe University Vice-Chancellor’s Excellence and Access Scholarship for her high ATAR school of 93.35. This scholarship will assist Melina with her living expenses and provide her with an allowance to study abroad for 3 years. Melina will begin a Bachelor of Arts at La Trobe Bundoora in March, and hopes to eventually become a high school drama teacher. Congratulations Melina!!
You would no doubt be fully aware that a Federal election has been called for Saturday 14 September and with no new funding arrangements confirmed beyond 2013. Fair funding for Catholic schools will continue to be an important issue for public discussion.

The Prime Minister has said school funding reform will be an important policy issue during the election. Details of the Australian Government’s plans are limited, and so the funding Catholic students might receive under the funding model is still unclear.

In the lead-up to negotiations between the Victorian and Australian Governments, Catholic schools have asked the Victorian and Australian Education Ministers for additional funding for our schools to close the funding gap with government schools. On average, Catholic students currently receive 20 per cent less government funding than if they went to government schools.

Catholic schools try to keep fees low, so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children. When parent fees are included, most Catholic schools operate on around 90 per cent of the cost of government schools.

With this in mind, government funding to Catholic schools will also need to keep pace with the cost of educating a child in a government school. If this funding is frozen, or fails to keep pace with government school funding, Catholic schools will be forced to increase parent fees.

Funding to Catholic schools is a real issue and it is important that we as voters make all our politicians; local, State and Federal fully aware that it is an important issue and one worthy of their consideration. We must remember that all politics is local. I will keep you fully informed as more information becomes available.

**Parking and Dropping Off Students**

Please remember that there is a drop off and pick up zone inside the main entrance. Parking is restricted in both Allison Crescent and The Eyrie. **Please do not drop off or pick up students in either of these streets.** Such action will cause unnecessary congestion to our neighbours. Be aware of the strict parking restrictions that apply in the streets adjacent to the College. Cars are not allowed to stop in sections of these streets at the usual drop off and pick up times. Council Officers are likely to be present to supervise these parking restrictions and drivers who stop in the NO STANDING areas are likely to be fined. Students who have a medical condition that prevents them walking should be driven into the College via the main gate and dropped off as close as possible to her/his locker.

**Parental Involvement Does Make a Difference to Learning**

Every year we witness students achieving outstanding success. More often than not, the parents/guardians of these students have been very active in the support they provide their children and their children's teachers. Certainly parents are the prime educators of their children and parental expectations and interest in their children's activities and learning has a very strong influence on each student's wellbeing and learning. This impact is even stronger if the parent/guardian and the teachers work together. I urge parents/guardians to continue to show interest in, and support of, College programmes and activities. Make the most of the opportunities presented at the College by attending Information Nights, Student Progress Interviews, and performances of your child: sporting, musical and other activities/events. Keep up to date with what is happening and do not hesitate to make contact with your child's teacher/s.

I invite parents/guardians to join the Parents and Friends’ Association, our Organisational Skills Program, to help out in practical classes and/or to join an Advisory Group relating to Policies and Curriculum, Buildings and Finance.

**Information Nights**

I look forward to the opportunity to welcome parents/guardians to the Parent Information Evenings scheduled in February:

- Years 7, 8 and 9  Wednesday 6 February
- Years 10, 11 and 12  Wednesday 20 February

**A Guide to People to Contact at the College**

With this newsletter please find attached a Communications Guide. Hopefully it will help you when you wish to communicate with staff at the College.
I am looking forward to a wonderful and challenging year. I hope that you are as well. Last night I attended the Information night whereby iPads were distributed to the incoming Year 7 group and found it to be a worthwhile meeting, but I particularly liked the prayer that the staff presented so I include it here for your pleasure:

As we gather together as a College Community for the first time this year – let us be mindful of our aims as a Catholic community and in particular the Mercy ethos – Our Vision.

So for our opening prayer – Let us focus on these values:
As parents and teachers let us pray for:

**Compassion:** to show empathy with and for others.

**For the Promotion of Service to Others:** where we actively participate in outreach and mission duties to include the broader life of the College.

**Be mindful of the continued promotion of Life Long Learning:** by constantly challenging our students, promoting all opportunities and developing engaged learners.

**For the Pursuit of Justice and Excellence:** where we are always teaching a culture of acceptance and articulate and understanding thinkers.

**Where Dignity and Respect:** of each person in our school and community is at the forefront of all we do.

**Where Pride in success:** comes naturally for all - and we celebrate the gifts and successes of those in our community.

**Where we seek the Truth:** in all we do and value the College as a place of Peace and Harmony, Success and Happiness.

To promote and celebrate our Faith, Love of God, Ethos and Loyalty to our Mercy Heritage.

God Bless

Philip A Morison
Principal

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

Welcome back to the start of the school year. Our College theme for 2013 as determined by the Prefect group is “Dream Together, Embrace Change, Strive As One”. In deciding on the theme, the prefect group were very keen to build on the idea that it is only through the presence and contribution of each member of the school community that we develop a sense of purpose. Their discussions also centred on the fact that we are entering an exciting new phase with Mr Philip Morison commencing as Principal.

A timely reminder about the wearing of correct uniform to commence the school year. This extends to the requirements for jewellery and make up. Please refer to the letter that was sent to all families at the end of last year. Support for the uniform requirements of the College is probably the most basic form of support asked for. Students who are not prepared to cooperate in this area will be required to remain at home during the year, most of it without any indication as to the owner. A few minutes at the beginning of the year can avoid unnecessary expense later on replacing lost items.

A reminder that the blazer will not be required to be worn by students during February. On cooler days students are not permitted to wear the jumper as the outer garment to or from school. Under these circumstances the blazer must be the outer garment.

Our Sunsmart Policy requires students to wear hats at recess and lunch during Term 1 and Term 4. The only hat that is permitted is the bucket hat with the house name embroidered on it. Replacement hats can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. We encourage sunscreen to be applied and this is available from various locations around the school. Students without hats will be directed to shade areas by staff members.

I would ask that parents continue to observe the procedure of using the College Reception if there is a need to contact students during the course of a school day. Whilst it may seem more straightforward to contact your child directly via their mobile phone, this can create other issues. The same applies if you need to drop something off to your child during the course of the school day.

At the end of last year I advertised for families to host students from our Japanese sister school, Horyuji International High School. The visit is for a two week period commencing on 10 March. Thank you to the families who have volunteered to host. I still require host families for about four students. If you are able to assist can you please contact me on 9237 1332 or johnstom@mlmclydale.catholic.edu.au

The vast majority of students requiring a contract bus pass have been issued with them. Usually at this stage the number on the waitlist is much greater. The bus route that is most impacted is the Yarra Glen/Healesville route. As an interim measure the school will operate a mini bus service of an afternoon to assist these families. A reminder that students should not travel on a contract bus unless they have a valid contract bus pass. We share the contract bus service with other schools in the area and it is important that we support the process. Hopefully all of our students will shortly be issued with bus passes once the loadings for each route settle at the beginning of the school year.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal - Director of Students
2013 SCHOOL FEES AND LEVIES
The College has a number of different payment options available to parents and guardians to assist with the payment of College school fees. These include Direct Debit, Credit Card and BPAY options.

2012 Parents and Guardians
The Finance Department has assumed that you will continue to pay your school fees via the same payment method as you have been paying in 2012. This means all payment plans will continue as they have been set up in 2012 and will remain in place until your family has finished paying school fees at the College.

Parents and Guardians of students commencing in 2013
Late last year you were given an opportunity to select one of the many payment options available.

All Parents and Guardians:
Payment amounts for each plan were confirmed on your first Fee Statement sent Mid-January 2013. No further action is required from you UNLESS you wish to change to another payment plan. If you wish to change the way you have been paying your school fees, please contact the Finance Office at the College who will assist you with the process. If you have not selected any of the direct debit or credit card available plans it is then assumed that you will be paying 2013 School Fees quarterly and by the due date of February 18, April 15, July 15 and October 15 by either cash, cheque, BPAY or Direct Deposit.

Important Commencement Dates for Payment Plans:

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Please ensure you contact the Finance Office if your Direct Debit or Credit Card details change. If you require any further information regarding the above, please contact our Finance Office: Margaret Kirkwood on 9237 1315 or Cathy Pote on 9739 2209.

I remind parents and guardians that the College is able to make arrangements to meet with any family who experiences genuine difficulty in meeting the deadline for payment of fees and charges, enabling an appropriate repayment system to be established that suits both the family and the College.

SCHOOL KIDS BONUS - $820 A YEAR FOR EACH SECONDARY STUDENT
The Schoolkids Bonus starts in 2013 and replaces the Education Tax Refund. You don’t need to collect receipts.

Are you eligible?
You could be eligible if you have a child in primary or secondary school and receive a family or income support payment (e.g. Family Tax benefit Part A).
See if you’re eligible at australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus or call 132 468.

Yours sincerely

Dean de Munk
Business Manager
Ph. 9237 1314
Email: de_munkd@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au
Application Forms for the Education Maintenance Allowance are available from the Finance Department

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to the parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to the age of 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Prep and Year 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013.

From January 2013, a new payment called the ‘Schoolkids Bonus’ will be introduced by the Commonwealth Government. The Schoolkids Bonus will be paid by Centrelink in January and July each year to help families with school costs. Families receiving Family Tax Benefit A will receive up to $820.00 for each child in secondary school.

For more information about the Bonus visit: www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/information/schoolkids-bonus

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to the schools on behalf of the parents.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

♦ be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and

♦ be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (29 January 2013) which is the first day for teaching staff and Term 3 (15 July 2013).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 28 February 2013 for the first instalment and 2 August 2013 for the second instalment.

The EMA for secondary students provides an annual amount of $300.00 for Year 7 students and $250.00 for students in Year 8 – until age 16 and is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

Students turning 16 years in 2013 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

New EMA payment options

♦ From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

♦ Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account

♦ Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school or

♦ Paid to the school to have applied directly as a credit to your School Fee Account. This is our preferred method.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2013 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 29 January 2013 and prior to or on 15 July 2013, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Contact: If you have any questions please contact Mrs Margaret Kirkwood on 9237 1315.

Applications for the 1st Instalment must be submitted to the school with a PHOTOCOPY of your valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card by 28 FEBRUARY 2013.

NO LATE APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

Please refer to the attached application form or it can be downloaded from http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/schadmin/schoolstartbonus/emaformap.pdf
YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 VET COURSES

VET classes will commence at MLMC on Wednesday February 8th. Starting dates for other venues will vary depending on the provider. All students should have had an enrolment/orientation session letting them know their starting date and time. Any Year 10 and VCE students who need to leave the college to attend VET courses should collect a leave pass from Mrs Molino in Careers. Any students who have any queries about their VET courses should see Mrs Hopkins in the VET office (behind Mr Schepis’ office).

Angela Fontana
Senior Careers Counsellor

FROM PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association will be held in the Staff Dining room on Tuesday February 26 at 7.30pm. The meeting will be preceded by a coffee and a chat at 7pm. Meetings are usually held on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Parents and Friends Second-hand uniform shop opening hours for 2013
1st and 4th terms open every Thursday 12.00pm – 1.30pm
2nd and 3rd terms open every second Thursday 12.00pm – 1.30pm
We accept cash, cheque and credit cards. Sorry we don’t have eftpos facilities.

Email address. If you would like to contact me, the Parents and Friends address is pfs@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

Jacqualin Macdonald
President of Parents and Friends

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT - MARIA ESNOUF

IMPORTANT DATES

Term One starts off with the College Swimming Carnival. This event is held at Croydon Outdoor Memorial Pool, from 5.00 – 8.00pm on Tuesday 12 February. All students are invited to attend and parents are more than welcome as well.

Other important dates include:

- 12 February – MLMC Swimming Carnival
- 5 March – EISM Swimming Carnival
- 19 March – MLMC Athletics Carnival
- 24 April – EISM Athletics Carnival

UNIFORM REMINDERS

A full and correct sports uniform includes:

- Shoes that are designed for sport (no slip on shoes, shoes without laces or hightops)
- The MLMC yellow sports polo shirt
- School sport shorts or tracksuit pants (with the school logo)
- Spray jacket is to be worn as the outer garment on the way to and from school (cannot wear rugby top to and from school as the outer garment).
- Hats also need to be worn during sport and PE classes this term. No hat will mean no participation.
- It is very simple to adhere to the uniform requirements for sport. These requirements are designed to meet particular health and safety needs. If a student is unable to meet these requirements they will not be allowed to participate in sport or PE.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout the year many students achieve excellent results in their sports outside of school. The Sport’s department is always looking for information about these achievements, whether it is Grand Final winners, state or national team selection, Best and Fairest awards, or any other aspect of a student’s sport. If you would like to pass on any of these significant achievements please email Mr Leigh Worrell at lworrell@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

EISM COMPETITION

Senior and Year 9 students will participate in EISM sport this term. In the past the College has come home with the trophy in a number of sports and hopefully this year will be no different. Parents are always welcome to attend these matches and support their sons or daughters and the College teams.

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

Maria Esnouf
Director of Sport
BOB STEWART UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop Hours are as follows:

Monday 12.30-4.00pm
Tuesday 12.30-4.00pm
Thursday 12.30-4.00pm
1st Saturday of each Month from 9.30-12.30pm

Telephone School Shop: 9735 4370 | Bob Stewart: 9853 8429

PARENTS AND FRIENDS SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second hand Uniform Shop will be open Every Thursday 12.00—1.30pm throughout Term 1

COMMUNITY NOTICES

2009 Victorian Bushfires
4th Anniversary Remembrance Event

Thursday 7 February
6pm to 8pm

All those who were affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires are invited to come along to gather, remember and reflect at a community bbq events.

Yarra Glen - McKenzie Reserve

BBQ and light refreshments provided.
BYO chairs

For further information or to advise of any dietary restrictions please contact:
Jodie Bowker on 0447 516 012 or jbowker@each.com.au

Unfortunately this event cannot go ahead if a “Code Red” day is declared.

Wandin Junior Football Club
2013 Registration Day!!!

Sunday 17th February 2013
Wandin Junior Footy Club Oval
Clegg Road, Wandin North
10.00 - 12.30

ALL AGE GROUPS WELCOME!!!!!

Mouthguard Fittings will be available

Second Hand Boots For Sale

Please come along to renew your membership or to become a new member of our fantastic club
If you would like to join but can’t make it to the Registration day
Please phone/email our registration officer
Joanne Hartman on 0438 082 442
Cha59954@bigpond.net.au
Circular to Parents

Re: Communication Guideline for Mount Lilydale Mercy College

Welcome to the new school year. We look forward to an excellent year ahead in which we attempt to explore our College theme as developed by the Prefect Group ‘Dream Together, Embrace Change, Strive as One.’ in every dimension of the life of our community. Term One has many exciting events including our College Mass, Year 7 Camps, Year 12 Retreats, Swimming and Athletics Carnivals and Catholic Education Week.

We remain genuinely committed to working with parents and guardians to ensure we are a community “that provides spiritual, emotional and intellectual assistance to each of its members” (College Mission Statement). It is essential that parents and teachers work together to ensure we do all we can for the young people in our care so that they may ‘have life and have it abundantly’ (Jn 10:10). A Win/Win approach to any issue is always our desired option.

The following guidelines might be useful for parents/guardians when contacting the College:

1. The best person to approach is the person directly involved in the issue;
2. If you would like to speak to a member of staff by phone, they can be contacted through the main switchboard on 9735 4022. If the staff member is not available when you telephone, you will receive a return call;
3. If you would like to speak to a member of staff in person, it is best to pre-arrange a meeting time with that person. This ensures you won’t be kept waiting, as well as allowing the member of staff to be prepared with any information that would be helpful in your discussions;
4. Staff can also be contacted via email should you prefer this option;
5. In any discussion or negotiation, it is expected that all parties will approach the situation with a positive frame of mind with respect to a good outcome being achieved. It is natural for conflict to occur in any community, but in a mature community this can be dealt with openly and justly to ensure positive outcomes for all.

1. Guidelines regarding Academic Progress:
   - Your first point of contact should be your son’s/daughter’s subject teachers.
   - Their Home Room Teacher is also a useful person to speak to regarding academic matters.
   - If your discussions with the subject teacher have not reached a satisfactory outcome, you may wish to speak to the Faculty Leader.
   - The Learning Coordinator is able to provide assistance to you and your child, especially in regard to matters extending beyond concerns in one subject.
   - If you need further assistance after pursuing these options, you may wish to contact the Director of Learning or the appropriate Campus Director of Learning. These people may call on the assistance of the Deputy Principal – Director of Studies in situations which are complicated in nature. You may also make contact with the Director of Studies.
   - Further assistance in the last instance is available from the Principal.

2. Guidelines regarding Pastoral Concerns:
   - Your first port of call should be your son’s/daughter’s Home Room Teacher.
   - If the matter is of a private nature or is very serious, you may wish to contact our School Counsellors or the appropriate Wellbeing Coordinator.
   - If you need further assistance after pursuing these options, you may wish to contact the appropriate Campus Director of Wellbeing. These people may call on the assistance of the Deputy Principal – Director of Students in situations which are complicated in nature.
   - You may also make contact with the Director of Students.
   - Further assistance in the last instance is available from the Principal.
3. Medical and Health Concerns:
   - The College is fortunate to have qualified Nurses available every day. Any health concerns can be discussed with them.

4. Guidelines regarding Financial Concerns:
   - Please contact the Business Manager or Principal for confidential discussion of financial concerns.

5. Guidelines regarding Absence from School:
   - If your son/daughter will be absent from school, please ring 9237 1365 as soon as possible so that this information can be passed on to the Home Room Teachers, Subject Teachers and Wellbeing Coordinators.
   - Any absence from school should be covered by a note from parents/guardians which your son/daughter should give to their Home Room Teacher on their return to school.
   - If your son/daughter will be away from school for more than two days due to illness, please contact their Home Room Teacher. If you son/daughter can undertake some study during this absence, the Learning Coordinator will provide you with the appropriate work to help minimise the impact of your son’s/daughter’s absence on their academic progress.

6. Careers Advice:
   - The College has an expert Careers team who are available to students and parents with regard to advice in the all important careers area.

7. Subject Selection Advice:
   - Information Evenings and Course Description Booklets will be available to assist with the selection of subjects.
     Students in Years 7 - 8 have the support of a Learning Coordinator, Mrs Gail Preston, to assist with their subject selection. Students in Years 9 - 10 receive support from a Learning Coordinator, Mr Anthony Schepis and those in Years 11 – 12 receive support from Ms Carolyn Ellul. Parents/Guardians can contact these staff members, the Faculty Leaders, the Directors of Learning, the Campus Director of Learning or the Deputy Principal – Director of Studies if they have a query about subject selection. Jo-Anne Hopkins can be contacted with any queries about VET courses/subjects.

8. Enrolment Issues / Open Day / Information Nights:
   - The College has a Registrar who is available to answer any questions parents/guardians may have with respect to enrolments, Open Days and Information Nights.

9. Buses:
   - Enquiries about bus operations and bus passes should be directed to the Office Manager, Ms Debra Woods who can assist in this area.

The College Newsletter remains a vital part of our communication link with families. It contains information about events at the College and is emailed to families at the beginning of each week. It can also be accessed via the College website.

We hope this guideline will be of assistance to you when contacting the College. Please refer to the table below for the names of people in key positions at the College who may be of assistance to you. We look forward to working with all members of the College community to ensure Mount Lilydale Mercy College continues to offer a vibrant educational experience for all of our students.

Yours sincerely

Philip A Morison
Principal
CONTACT DETAILS

Principal: Mr Philip Morison
Deputy Principal – Director of Studies: Mr Brian Hawthorne
Deputy Principal – Director of Staff: Mr Victor Miles
Deputy Principal – Director of Students: Mr Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal – Director of Mission: Ms Liz Keogh

Campus Directors: Director of Learning: Mrs Janine Biggin
McAuley (7-9) Mr John Rodgers (Wellbeing)
Mr Peter Molinari (Learning)
Barak (10-12) Ms Lucia Tabacchiera (Wellbeing)
Mr Michael Callanan (Learning)

Wellbeing Coordinators:
Year 7 – Mrs Magda Pisotek/ Ms Karen Myers (Thurs)
Year 8 – Miss Emily Tino
Year 9 – Mr Terry Hill
Year 10 – Mr Neal Haining
Year 11 – Mr Steve Palmer
Year 12 – Mrs Janet Barr

Director of Sport: Mrs Maria Esnouf

Faculty Leaders:
Religious Education – Ms Liz Keogh
English – Mrs Alison Schluerer
Mathematics – Ms Sue Gunn
E Learning – Mr John Parlas
LOTE – Mr Salvatore La Fauci
Performing Arts – Dr Paul Curtis
Health, Physical Education & Outdoor Education - Mr Andrew Leaumont
Science – Mr Danny Katzen
Humanities – Mrs Kerrie West
Design & Technology – Mr Mark Johnson
Visual Arts – Mr Ben Brice
Applied Learning Coordinator (VCAL) - Mr Steve Tarulli

Learning Coordinators:
Years 7 – 8: Mrs Gail Preston
Years 9 – 10: Mr Anthony Schepis
Years 11 – 12: Ms Carolyn Ellul

Education Support Manager: Mrs Ann Rayner

Library and Information Services: Mrs Andrea Coney

Careers Teachers: Ms Angela Fontana, Mrs JoAnne Hopkins and Mrs Elizabeth Dufty

College Nurses: Mrs Margaret Conway and Ms Kristen Haggar

Counsellors:
Mr Tony Trevitt, Ms Amy Bartlett
and Ms Louise Brealey

School Wellbeing Coordinator:
Mrs Tina Tasiopoulos

Registrar: Ms Mary Ryan

Business Manager: Mr Dean de Munk
Assistant Business Manager: Mrs Cathy Pote

Principal’s Personal Assistant: Ms Kathy Broadbent
Office Manager: Ms Debra Woods

Deputy Principal’s Personal Assistant: Mrs Libby Bromiley
CLASSES, ROOMS AND HOME ROOM TEACHERS – 2013

YEAR SEVEN
7 BLUE  MAN 2.1  Mrs Kathy Harris
7 BRONZE MAN 1.3  Mrs Nerrida Burnham
7 GOLD  MAN 1.2  Ms Rachel Berka
7 GREEN MAN 1.1  Ms Ann Collins
7 JADE  MAN 2.2  Ms Maybelle Pangilinan
7 ORANGE MAN 1.5  Mr Stuart Thornhill
7 PURPLE MAN 1.4  Mrs Hilda Cassidy
7 RED  MAN 2.3  Mrs Karen Myers
7 SILVER MAN 1.6  Mr Matthew Reilly
7 WHITE MAN 2.4  Mr Michael Slagtman

COORDINATOR:
Mrs Magda Pisotek /Ms Karen Myers

YEAR TEN
10 BLUE  HTH1.2  Ms Margaret Quinn
10 BRONZE PORT 13  Mr Dan Beard
10 GOLD  HTH1.1  Mr Tom Leydon
10 GREEN CAM 1.4  Mr Ashley Gray
10 JADE  HTH1.5  Mr Mark Johnson
10 ORANGE FOR1.2  Mrs Gaby Hansen/
Mrs Nadia Holmes
10 PURPLE HTH 1.3  Mr Dean Fox
10 RED  HTH1.4  Mrs Joanna Egan
10 SILVER HTH1.6  Ms Sam Murphy
10 WHITE FOR1.4  Mr Rod Kearney

COORDINATOR:
Mr Neal Haining

YEAR EIGHT
8 BLUE  PWR2.9  Mr Dominic Hardiman
8 BRONZE PWR2.4  Mr John Kingma
8 GOLD  PWR2.10  Ms Madeline Fitzpatrick
8 GREEN PWR2.5  Ms Urszula Faulkner/
Mr Victor Miles
8 JADE  PWR2.2  Ms Alison Frost
8 ORANGE PWR2.7  Ms Emily Attard
8 PURPLE PWR2.3  Ms Belinda Routley
8 RED  PWR2.8  Mrs Bhawan Autar
8 SILVER PWR2.6  Mr Dan Kelly
8 WHITE PWR2.1  Ms Natasha McKenzie

COORDINATOR:
Ms Emily Tineo

YEAR ELEVEN
11 BLUE  FOR1.3  Mr Michael Haywood
11 GOLD  CAM1.6  Ms Tara McLernon
11 GREEN SNT 1.1  Mr Adrian Reilly
11 JADE  FOR1.1  Ms Sue Gunn
11 ORANGE HTH 0.2  Mrs Pauline Hornidge
11 SILVER CAM1.2  Mr Ben Brice
11 RED  CAM1.5  Ms Kerrie Dohrmann
11 SILVER CAM1.1  Mr Leigh Worrell
11 WHITE HTH0.3  Mr Michael Kerr

COORDINATOR:
Mr Steve Palmer

YEAR NINE
9 BLUE  PWR2.18  Ms Megan Parker
9 BRONZE PWR2.21  Mr Gayed Gayed
9 GOLD  PWR2.19  Mrs Melanie Baird
9 GREEN PWR2.13  Mr John Dimitracopoulos
9 JADE  PWR2.15  Ms Danni Webb
9 ORANGE PWR2.17  Mr Denver Carron
9 PURPLE PWR2.14  Mr Robert Risteski
9 RED  PWR2.11  Ms Sarah Sheldon
9 SILVER PWR2.16  Mr Michael Dale
9 WHITE PWR2.23  Mr Richard Wicks

COORDINATOR:
Mr Terry Hill

YEAR TWELVE
12 BLUE  CAL1.9  Mr Steve Prosenak
12 GOLD  CAL1.1  Mrs Eliza Eileenberg/
Ms Elizabeth Keogh
12 GREEN CAL1.4  Ms Emma Whitehouse
12 JADE  CAL1.5  Mr Andrew Leaumont
12 ORANGE CAL1.3  Ms Simone Esmonde
12 PURPLE CAL1.6  Mr Valdy Gravis
12 RED  CAL1.2  Mr Nick Woodward
12 SILVER CAL1.7  Mr Danny Katzen
12 WHITE CAL 0.1  Mrs Janine Biggin

COORDINATOR:
Mrs Janet Barr

As at  290113