Dear Members of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community

I know that you will receive this newsletter in the last week of semester one and it is the last newsletter before the Term 2 holidays so I want to firstly to thank all within the community for the support offered to the College over the first half of the year, remembering as I said in the last newsletter, that the education of our children is indeed a genuine partnership.

I am also aware that while for many the onset of holidays is something to celebrate, for others the end of semester, exams and results is a traumatic time. This week in particular I am aware that teachers have been very busy writing reports, which will be posted home at the end of the week.

A report for most will be a time of celebration and a culmination of months of work, but for others, it is an anxious time, a time of disappointment and stress. Parents should be aware of their own emotions as well as those of their children.

Reading a report should be an opportunity to reflect and celebrate and set goals for the future, not a time for regret. Remember a report is a measure of work completed and progress to date. It is not a measure of a student’s worth or ability or indeed a measure of an adults parenting skills.

There is a winter in all of our lives, a chill and darkness that makes us yearn for days that have gone or put our hope in days yet to be.

Father God, you created seasons for a purpose.

Spring is full of expectation
buds breaking frosts abating and an awakening of creation before the first days of summer.
Now the sun gives warmth and comfort to our lives reviving aching joints bringing colour, new life and crops to fruiting.

Autumn gives nature space to lean back, relax and enjoy the fruits of its labour mellow colours in sky and landscape as the earth prepares to rest.

Then winter, cold and bare as nature takes stock rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right.
An endless cycle and yet a perfect model.

We need a winter in our lives
a time of rest, a time to stand still a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live.
It is only then that we can draw strength from the one in whom we are rooted take time to grow and rise through the darkness into the warm glow of your springtime to blossom and flourish bring colour and vitality into this world your garden.

Thank you Father for the seasons of our lives
I offer the following as a guide to the report reading process:

- Find the positive aspects of the report and highlight them by praising the student for real achievements;
- Go over the results without over reacting to poor grades. Engage your child in a discussion about the difficulty of the work and what prevented them from achieving better results. Were difficulties discussed with the teacher?
- If results are a cause for concern, examine homework habits:
  - Does the child do homework every night?
  - Is enough time spent on homework?
  - Is the workspace free of interruptions and distractions?
  - Are there too many extra – curricular activities?
  - How many hours a week is spent in part time jobs?
- Don’t look for the quick fix and set reasonable goals for the next report which may include:
  - Improved classroom behaviour;
  - A improved application to homework;
  - An increase in grades;
  - A better attitude in class;
  - Being more prepared and equipped for class;
  - A preparedness to ask for help;
  - Attendance at any help classes that may be available.
- Once agreed goals should be written down and displayed. Include milestones or regular times for discussion and review.

And finally, we must accept that each of us has different abilities and the attainment of all A’s or very high grades might simply be an unrealistic expectation. If your child has a good work ethic and is genuinely trying and working to his/her best, celebrate it and try to help them work smarter rather than harder.

Over the last week (weeks), I have been privileged to attend College functions and share in the many opportunities that we provide to our students to mark transitional times in their development.

To attend the three Debutante Balls and experience the respectful family atmosphere was wonderful. How lucky we are that there is still opportunity to dress up (frock up/ suit up as the case may be) and share a function where students dance with grandparents and younger siblings in an alcohol free environment. A huge vote of thanks to the Parents and Friends Association that organised the event, but especially to Julie White, Antoinette Moroney, Selina Putts, Sandra Lamb and Michelle Moorestead as well as Ms Lucia Tabacchierra, Mr Steve Palmer and Mr Michael Callanan from the College. I would also pay tribute and thank the ladies that accompanied me so that the students could be presented to them as well. Thanks to Mrs Marianne Birtchnell, Chair of our College Advisory Council, Sr Beth Calthorpe, former Principal and great friend to the College, and to my wife Mrs Jennifer Morison who travelled down from Warrnambool to attend.

Thank you also to Mrs Janet Barr and the Year 12 Prefects that organised the Year 12 formal the previous Friday night. It too was a well-attended and respectful function whereby the students seemed to have a great time.

Last week I also attended the Student Well Being Drama festival organised by the Catholic Education Office Melbourne at the Whitehorse Centre in Nunawading. Congratulations to Mrs Natasha Leaumont and Dr Paul Curtis as well as our Year 10 drama class that performed ‘Welcome to our Teenage Years’, which contained original script and songs with music, as well as multimedia written by the students. I was very impressed and proud of the maturity and talent displayed. Thank you to the parents that attended.

The College last week hosted a meeting chaired by previous Principal Mr Bernard Dobson called the Yarra Valley Educational Precinct. This group has been working to find the best solutions and resolutions to issues associated with the closure of Swinburne University in Lilydale. At this point a public meeting is being organised for July and it will be held at Lilydale High School. As details become available I will keep you informed, but this would be an important meeting to support.

With the end of semester a number of staff leave us to begin some well-deserved long service leave: Michelle Stone, Library Technician will be on leave from 15 July until 9 August and will be replaced by Pamela Barker. Marg Conway, College Nurse will be on leave for the whole of Term 3 and will be replaced by Anne-Louise Stolzenhain.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Best wishes to Year 10 students for your Work Experience. I urge you to make the most of the opportunities provided by this experience and to return to the College in Term 3 determined to work harder with your studies so that you will prepare yourselves for exciting and challenging careers.

YEAR 12 ACADEMIC AWARD CEREMONY

Parents/guardians and family members are invited to attend the Year 12 Academic Awards tomorrow (Tuesday) at 8.50am in Centennial Hall.

END/START OF TERM

A reminder that students finish at 2.20 pm on Friday and the first day for students in Term 3 will be Tuesday 16 July.
CONGRATULATIONS:
Congratulations to Alex Condello who has been selected in the School Sport Victoria Boys 15 Years and under Australian Football Metropolitan State Team competing in the School Sport Australia Australian Football Championship.

It has been a great performance by Alex following a selection process that began in November 2012, to make the final team of 28. The team comprises of players from all over the state of Victoria. Alex competed in a series of trials run by School Sport Victoria to gain selection in the School Sport Victoria State Team. Many past School Sport Victoria Australian Football team members such as Chris Judd, Luke Ball and Jobe Watson have gone on to play AFL Football.

Alex will join with teammates to play in a series of practice matches and training sessions before competing in the School Sport Australia Championship to be held in Darwin, NT. So here’s hoping that Alex and his Victorian teammates can win the Australian title and that Alex may be breaking into Australian ranks over the next few years.

STUDENT PILGRIMAGE
On Friday, July 12 four of our Year 11 students will participate in the Young Mercy Leaders Pilgrimage. Mark Bergin, Chris Huynh, Ryan Rodrigues and Daniel Van Der Linden will join with students from other Mercy schools across Victoria on a two week pilgrimage to Dublin and then on to Florence and Rome. The purpose of the trip is to come to a greater understanding of the works of Catherine McAuley and the early days of the Mercy Order. They will achieve this by spending time at the Mercy International Centre in Baggot Street, Dublin which was the very first House of Mercy. They will also see how the early works of the Mercy Order were directly linked to the history of Ireland at the time - enormous poverty and hardship especially for the Catholic population. Whilst in Florence and Rome they get to experience the history and culture of these two great cities. We wish the boys a safe and enjoyable trip and look forward to hearing of their adventures when they return on July 24.

JIGALONG VISITS MOUNT LILYDALE
This week we welcome 20 students and 4 staff from the Jigalong community to our College. Over the coming week the students will be involved in various activities and visit local attractions. The students will join the College on Thursday for classes with our students. Our College students that have been selected to participate in the Jigalong program this year will spend time with the students during the week. The connection we have with this remote indigenous community stretches back many years and a visit by them to Mount Lilydale Mercy College is a real highlight.

I would like to wish you all a safe and restful holiday and look forward to an exciting Term 3.

God Bless

Philip A Morison
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS - MICHAEL JOHNSTON

The end of term has arrived and it has seen many and varied activities in the lives of our students. I will often refer to the range of opportunities available to students and the importance of them availing themselves of these chances. Last week I accompanied a group of our student leaders to St Patrick’s Parish Primary School where they conducted a leadership workshop for the Grade 6 leaders. It was great to hear them speak about the many different experiences they have had at this school and how this has provided them with a broad experience of education. Their enjoyment of school and level of academic success is directly attributable to this experience. Their sense of self-worth and the positive view of the world they possess will be of great benefit to them in later life.

Speaking of the end of term - another reminder that classes conclude at 2.20pm on Friday, June 28 due to the early arrival of contract buses. MET buses will operate their normal timetable so students travelling on these buses will need to make alternative arrangements or wait at school until normal bus departure time. Staff supervision of the bus bay area will occur until about 4pm. Term 3 commences for all students on Tuesday, July 16.

From the start of next term we would like students to use their student ID card when they come to Student Reception having arrived late at school or when requesting an early leaver’s pass. This will be publicised to students but it would help if parents could also remind them of this process.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal – Director of Students

CALENDAR DATES 24—28 JUNE - WEEK A

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 – 28 June</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Years 8 &amp; 11 Assemblies 8.50-9.30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Awards Ceremony 8.50-9.55am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VCAL Personal Best Presentation Evening 7.00-8.30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Toastmasters “Taming the Butterflies” 7.00-9.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>McAuley Campus Assembly 8.50-9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Year 7 Step Forward Presentation Evening 7.00-9.00pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jigalong Visit to the College</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Term 2 concludes at 2.20pm</td>
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PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE WILL BE OPEN DURING THE FIRST WEEK ONLY OF THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FROM 9.00AM TO 4.00PM
On June 13, Senior VCAL played an integral role by facilitating workshops in the Global Gathering, an annual event designed to provide inter-cultural contact between students within the eastern region. The attendees were a mix of primary and secondary school students from a range of different cultural backgrounds, from both government and non-government schools.

The day started with an interactive African drumming session that filled Lilydale Baptist Church with rhythm as hundreds of hands struck the cowhide drums in unison. Senior VCAL students joined in before preparing to facilitate the first of four workshops. The workshops were designed around the theme ‘Healthy Relationships’, and with the simple aim for participants to have fun. There was much smiling and laughter as VCAL students and attendees participated together in a range of interactive games. Throughout the activities many VCAL students demonstrated leadership by problem solving and taking the initiative to guide attendees, some of whom were recent arrivals to Australia.

Communicating with an audience that included refugees was a focus in planning the workshop. Some students brought a projector to the event and used PowerPoint to communicate visually with photographs, while others printed pictures and used diagrams were necessary. During each workshop VCAL demonstrated a welcoming spirit that became contagious. By the end of each workshop attendees grew in confidence and were soon laughing and high-fiving our VCAL facilitators.

At the conclusion of each workshop, VCAL students distributed a peace bracelet and homemade lollies to attendees. The lollies were made in an earlier project by VCAL students. The lollies were produced under Occupational Health and Safety standards and labelled to show ingredients. The peace bracelets were purchased with money they raised from the Sumo-Slam, a Senior VCAL event that invited the MLMC students to donate money and observe the spectacle of teachers fighting it out in a sumo ring wearing large padded sumo suits.

At the conclusion of the workshops each participating school was presented with a gift and Senior VCAL students were given a special thank you and a round of applause for their efforts in fundraising, planning, and assisting on the day. Overall the day succeeded in developing an understanding and respect for people from different cultures while creating and strengthening links between local schools and services. Thank you to all VCAL students who participated on the day and in the planning of an event that celebrated the rich cultural diversity of schools within the eastern region.

Steve Tarulli
Applied Learning Coordinator

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS FOR TERM 3

Term 3 we are only open on Tuesdays from 12.30—4.00pm and 1st Saturday of the month from 9.30-12.30pm.

Term 4 we resume normal trading hours - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 12.30-4.00pm and 1st Saturday of the month from 9.30-12.30pm. Please Note that the shop will be closed during the holidays on Saturday July 6.

Shop Telephone: 9735 4370 or Bob Stewarts 9853 8429.
We take great pleasure in announcing the following winners.

Writers of the Month for June:

- Ethan Wake - Year 7
- Russell Phillips - Year 10
- Jessica Findley - Year 11
- Simone Geurts - Year 12

Commended:

- Natalie Boxell - Year 7
- Lachlan Liesfield - Year 11

Congratulations to all our writers for sharing their creative work. We look forward to reading more of your poems and short stories.

Mrs Andrea Coney
Head of Library and Information Services

An Unexpected Apprentice
by Ethan Wake - 7 White

Chapter one

The morning sun had only just risen when Fen awoke from a deep, relaxing sleep. Fen's first thought was to sleep for a few more hours, but then she remembered what day it was. Today was the day she would meet an Alchemist.

Ever since she was taught about them, Fen had always aspired to be an alchemist of the King’s court. To be in the presence of the king would be amazing, but to be an alchemist would be an even greater honour to her. Every year, an alchemist visited the sea-side town of Blacklen, and every year, Fen was part of the crowd that witnessed the Alchemist who specialised in his or her trade, perform amazing feats, only describable by Fen as magic. She knew quite well however it was not magic, but science. The ultimate form of science. Alchemy was split into four sections, each with its own set of rules, weaknesses, and advantages.

Sorcery, the first discovered alchemical form, was the easiest to learn, but one of the hardest to master. Sorcery was simply the manipulation of particles in the atmosphere of anything, really. The down side of sorcery was that you have to work with what you have, and not create out of thin air.

The second discovered alchemical form was that of enchanting. Enchanting consisted of imbuing something with an ability that it didn't previously have. For example, imbuing a pistol with the ability to have explosive bullets. The down side of this was that you have to prepare before you can do anything, and not just make grass grow quickly with the click of your fingers.

The third discovery in alchemy, and also the most controversial, was equivalent exchange. The art of giving and taking. For example, if one wanted a diamond, one would have to collect as much material as the diamond was worth, and use alchemy to turn the material into one diamond.

The fourth, and final discovery in alchemy, was the forbidden necromancy. The alchemical art of necromancy was an extremely dangerous practice, most dying on their first attempt at it. Necromancy, or the demonic practice, was the art of bringing the dead back to life, or the un-living to death, and to life again. For example, if one was to necromance a chair so that it died, and then made it living, one would have a chair that would obey one’s every will. Not that that would be useful, unless - it was a chair with teeth.

To be continued......
For part of Year 7 PE, the Year 7’s went to Kilsyth Swimming Pool. Each of the classes went during their PE lessons. The classes were divided into three groups which depended on the skill level of each student. This allowed students to learn different types of swimming skills and survival skills. Some of those different skills were freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, survival breaststroke and survival backstroke. There were some floating development skills like floating while holding on to the lane ropes and another one was calmly floating on your back without holding on to anything.

In the deep end of the pool the groups would practice diving/ jumping into the pool which helps with survival training because if you were somewhere where you needed to get into water, it teaches you that you have to know how deep the water is because it may be shallow, you dive and whoops you have cracked you head open, yay. No one wants a cracked head so always find out the depth of the water area you are about to jump in to.

The classes did survival training like pulling people in with a noodle, treading water - having three minutes to take extra clothes off keeping your bathers on obviously and the survival backstroke and breaststroke. The survival training was very important because if a person was to get stuck in the middle of a sea or ocean, they would know what to do to survive.

One of the groups did mainly swimming skills like the normal backstroke and breaststroke. They kept on practicing the types of swimming making them very well at all of the swimming so they would eventually master all of the swimming types.

Swimming was a fun experience because we learnt some exciting swimming that could help us in the future at a pool, beach and many more various places where you could swim.

By Shani Colombani
This is the fifth and final instalment in a series of articles describing some of the terrific initiatives undertaken since the college commenced its involvement with the School Improvement Framework. The focus of today’s article is the area of ‘Leadership and Management’.

Activity in the Leadership and Management sphere dealt with matters of communication, staff and leadership.

Some specific outcomes included:
- **Vision**: Engaging the staff in the process of a shared vision for the future.
- **Appraisal**: Year 11 VCAL students trialled a program for giving student feedback to teachers.
- **Consultation**: Staff meetings have become places for open forum discussion and consultation.
- **Role Clarity**: Holders of leadership roles have clarified their roles both for themselves and for the people who work closely with them.
- **Leadership Model**: Consideration is being given to an upside down model of leadership.
- **Leadership Mentors**: Mentors are to be allocated to new leaders.

So, that concludes a five week ‘brief’ overview of School Improvement activity at the college. As mentioned at the start of this article, it is the final … for the moment … which deals with this theme. There will be more from me next term however! Next term I will endeavour to convince you of the value of responding to the annual survey if you happen to be one of the randomly selected parents.

Susan Gunn

School Improvement Coordinator

**SPORTS REPORT**

**SENIOR EISM RESULTS VS BYE**
Senior EISM teams are still on their study break, due to the all-important exam season being upon schools. They will be back into the excitement of competition this week.

**YEAR 9 EISM RESULTS VS MT SCOPUS**
Year 9 Boys teams had a bye last week, with the obvious exception of Boys Footy.

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<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>MLMC</th>
<th>Scopus</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badminton</td>
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<td>BYE</td>
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<td>Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Table Tennis A</td>
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<td>BYE</td>
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<td>Table Tennis B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawn Bowls</td>
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<td>BYE</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>MLMC</th>
<th>Scopus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>37</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Netball A</td>
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<td>No Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netball B</td>
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<td>No Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MLMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawn Bowls</td>
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<td>Rained out</td>
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Details of each week’s fixture, venues and results can be found at [http://www.eism.org/](http://www.eism.org/)
Welcome to a very exciting edition of Captain’s Corner.

Today we take you on a journey through our Year 12 Formal as well as other recent news of Year 12 jackets and a very eye opening seminar on road safety. We are also beginning to introduce our great Year 12 homeroom teachers, so families at home can learn more about the teachers of Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

The Year 12 Formal took place at a lovely venue of Linley Estate. It was an image that our year level knows all too well. Girls frantically stressing about getting dresses, hair, makeup and nails done before the big event. To add to the dramas, girls were only given 3 hours between the end of school at 3:15 and the 7pm sharp start (clearly not enough time for some, boys included!). As a result, many girls were seen to be faked tanned and nails already done before Friday. On the other hand, the boys got a chance to show off different styles of suits as opposed to the Debutante Ball where we all looked the same. The night was a fantastic success! We must say everyone looked absolutely stunning, and quite possibly we may have the best looking year level, not being biased at all. Special thanks to all the teachers who attended. We appreciate the support.

Year 12 jackets were also distributed last week and the excitement within the Year 12 area was at an all time high. There were some highly creative names, and it’s amazing how nicknames can be stretched to be so clever. If you haven’t yet seen the jackets, they are a navy zip up fleece with a collar and the College emblem on the front. On the back lies the creative nickname and "Class of 2013".

On Monday the June 17, a very inspirational John Maher spoke to Year 12’s about his story and very personal experiences on car accidents. Without retelling his story, John clearly touched all of us and exposed us to the realities of driving a car. Many Year 12’s have or are in the process of obtaining their licence, John spoke at a good time to inform us all. If you wish to inquire more about John Maher and his story we urge you to search for John Maher's page on Google. Once again, we must thank him for sharing his story, and ultimately saving many young lives on the roads.

On a lighter note, we will introduce the three of our Year 12 homeroom teachers. Today’s line up includes: Mr Woodward 12 Red, Miss Esmonde 12 Orange and Miss Whitehouse of the mighty 12 Green.

**MR NICK WOODWARD**
*What is the name of your homeroom?* - 12 Red Firefighters  
*What subjects do you teach?* - VCE Biology, Science and VET Outdoor Education  
*Where would be your get away destination?* - NSW South Coast  
*Hobbies?* - Surfing, fishing  
Something that most students wouldn’t know about you? - I used to have a big bushy beard

**MISS SIMONE ESMONDE**
*What is the name of your homeroom?* - 12 Orange Outlaws  
*What subjects do you teach?* - Physical Education (Year 8), Health (Year 12,11 & 9). I'm also trained to teach English  
*Where would be your get away destination?* - Probably Italy because it is a beautiful country, I haven't been to the coast area (Amalfi Coast) or Tuscany, and I love pasta  
*Hobbies* - I play netball for Mt Evelyn on Saturdays, I watch too much TV (favourite shows are 'Offspring', 'House Rules', 'Escape to the Country' and 'Fantasy Homes'. I also love to travel and am planning my next holiday, at the moment, to India  
Something that most students wouldn’t know about you? - Despite hating heights (as an adult) I have skydived and bungy jumped. I have also completed the 100km Oxfam trail walk

**MISS EMMA WHITEHOUSE**
*What is the name of your homeroom?* - 12 Green Gypsies  
*What subjects do you teach?* - Year 7 English, Year 7 Humanities, Year 8 Humanities, Year 10 History, VCE Industry and Enterprise and Year 12 Business Management  
*Where would be your get away destination?* - Bali. I have already been once before and I am going again in September. I find it very relaxing and great for shopping (see hobbies below)  
*Hobbies* - Shopping, travelling and running  
Something that most students wouldn’t know about you? - That I am a big Bon Jovi fan. I have already seen them twice before and I am seeing them again in December.

Thanks for reading Captain’s Corner, we hope you have a fantastic week ahead and remember to read the next edition!

Alex and Taylah
AUGUST IS LITERACY MONTH @ MLMC 2013

POETRY AND PROSE COMPETITION

DREAM TOGETHER

WRITE A POEM OR SHORT STORY ON THE THEME FOR 2013

THE JUDGING CRITERIA

POETRY judged on……
1. Technical correctness.
2. Use of appropriate imagery.
3. Clarity of expression.
4. Significance, depth of thought.
5. Originality of idea and presentation.

Short Stories judged on……...
1. Clarity and originality of expression.
2. Significance and originality of thought.
3. Characters: presentation and development.
4. Structure: consistent with genre.
5. Technical correctness.

Prizes for all Year Levels & Categories

WIN GIFT VOUCHERS

Entries to be submitted by the 26th of July to your English Teacher or at the College Libraries

Your chance to have your writing published

JUDGING CRITERIA

26 JULY DUE DATE
St Paul’s Primary School
Nurture . Inspire . Achieve

Now Taking Enrolments for 2014

School Tours are available on:
Thursday 27 June at 9.15am
Tuesday 23 July at 9.15am
Friday 2 August at 9.15am
or at any other time by appointment

9756 7201

59 Moores Rd Monbulk, 3793
www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au