The simplest and most practical lesson I know…is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow.
Let us take one day only in our hands, at a time, merely making a resolve for tomorrow,
thus we may hope to get on taking short, careful steps, not great strides.
Catherine McAuley

Last week at our Mercy Day Liturgy one of the things we reflected on was “Footprints”. We talked about the fact that there are many times in our lives when we need to be the person who carries another. It may be in very small simple ways such as spending time with someone who is lonely, sitting at lunch with the person who has been left out or offering a kindly word. During the liturgy students brought forward a footprint from every homeroom on which were written promises of how we could live better to enrich the lives of others. I hope in the coming week we may all look for the opportunity to be People of Mercy who reach out to all who need our love.

Footprints
One night I had a dream...

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and Across the sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord. When the last scene of my life flashed before us, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that many times along the path of my life, There was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life This really bothered me, and I questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, You would walk with me all the way; But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, There is only one set of footprints. I don’t understand why in times when I needed you the most, you should leave me.

The Lord replied,

"My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would never, never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. When you saw only one set of footprints, It was then that I carried you.

A reminder that Term 3 concludes for all students on Friday, 20 September at 2.25pm. Term 4 commences on Monday 7 October.
Dear Members of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community

Indeed in the foot prints and indeed in the footsteps. I know of a woman that had a dream.

I must admit that a highlight of our Mercy week for me has been a visit to the local Lilydale cemetery and the service that took place. It was led in the main by two staff members in Mr Mark Johnson and Dr Paul Curtis.

Mark started the service by talking about a tree on the hill in the cemetery.

> It is a Bunya Bunya pine tree which is a native of Queensland. It produces pine cones of up to 10 kilograms and only every second year. Indigenous Australians traded the seeds from these pine cones. They ground them up to make flour and so they are a valuable source of food. This particular tree was planted around the turn of the last century and it has stood here for over one hundred years. They were planted as a fashionable garden plant for people of European descent. As they get older they shed their lower branches till just an umbrella shape remains.

> When this tree was planted our school was well established and educating young Catholic women. As this tree has stood the test of time, so too our school has stood the test of time. Two world wars have come and gone and countless other conflicts.

> As this tree stands tall and proud, our school stands on an adjacent hill, Rourke’s Hill, tall and proud.

> As this tree stands here as a cherished monument to this hallowed place, our school stands as a cherished monument to these wonderful women of faith and vision; many of whose names you will recognise.

> Today, we are here to honour their memory as a part of Mercy Week and to thank them for their legacy.

Before the ceremony moved on, in a quiet moment I thought of the many sisters laying before me with their simple but well maintained grave sites amongst the many around them that had been withered and water damaged with time and I thanked God for this magnificent tree that stood over them and almost seemed to protect them. This tree that cast God’s shadow over his workers as they sleep after a lifetime of work.

After Mark had finished speaking Dr Paul Curtis read the names of each Sister and our Student Prefects placed a simple but beautiful flower on each name plate:

Ignatius Duffy  
Margaret Mary Campbell  
Alacoque O’Shea  
Magdalen Donnellan  
Martha Hanrahan  
Brigid Bradshaw  
Patrick Maguire  
Veronica Green  
Gertrude Power  
Clare Coakley  
Columba Neville  
Berchmans Murphy  
Aloysius Gatliff  
Teresa Maher  
Ursula Slater  
Bernadette Naughton  
Hilda Warburton  
Leo Willis  
de sales Hayes  
Vianney Finn  
Anthony Starkie  
Pauline Kirby  
Aidan Connell  
Julia Fahey  
Julian Calwell  
Bernadette Matthews  
Cyril McKendry  
Monica Taylor  
Gregory Brazel  
Geradus Norden  
Angela Zanelli

SR MARY DE SALES

PRINCIPAL 1958—1965

Painting by Mark Johnson
We also remember the Sisters who faithfully served the Mount Lilydale Mercy Community and are buried elsewhere and caressed by God’s Earth.

After the simple prayers Dr Paul sang the ‘Salve Regina’ so beautifully I could feel the sisters smiling.

After the ceremony we wandered amongst the graves to pay our respects and it struck me that next to the Sisters of Mercy sites there were some other nuns that had been buried there and we had not placed flowers on their graves. God was obviously not satisfied with that for the wind came up and blew flowers onto them so that they too were included in our prayer.

Indeed in the footsteps ... of a dream.

I am most grateful to those who have paved the way.

I am also aware that other families at this time suffer the grief and sorrow of the passing of loved ones. Firstly we commend the soul of Margaret Joan Arch, aged 85, grandmother to Luke (Year 9) and Beth (Year 11) Hanlon who went to sleep over the past week. We pray for Ruth and Michael and the entire family at this time.

Secondly I am aware that our community has been touched by the tragic death of a nine year old girl in an horrific accident over the last week as a number of students sought permission to miss Mercy Day to attend the funeral. Although I do not know the family personally, I understand that such an accident touches us all and we also pray for all those feeling this loss.

Enjoy the blessings of family over the up and coming holiday period.

God bless

Philip A Morison
Principal

VCAL RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Intermediate VCAL students are into the last week of the Responsible Community Challenge (RCC) program. The objective of the program is to foster positive community partnerships between the college and community support organisations. Currently, students are providing support and volunteer work to the following organisations:

- Dixon’s Creek Landcare
- Organic Empire Mt Evelyn
- St. Vincent De Paul Society Lilydale
- Lakeview Childcare
- Como Park Childcare and Kindergarten
- Monkami Centre
- SCOPE
- Pallotti College
- Yarra Glen Primary School

The program aims to provide learning experiences for students on how they can help their community through the provision of support for a genuine community need. Students have been divided into groups appropriate to their vocational interests and given a project brief that was negotiated with facilitators from the community organisation. These projects ranged from gardening and landscaping to social awareness and event management. Each team was welcomed by their host organisation with an induction and an overview of their goals and aims within the community.

RCC is a five week program that runs one day a week. During this time students are responsible for maintaining an evidence journal that documents meetings, outlines tasks, and includes digital photos. In order to establish clear goals it is necessary for students to map out their objectives and set measurable goals. This provides an opportunity for students to be self-reflective and self-directed learners. It also provides MLMC staff, who regularly visit project sites, the opportunity to facilitate the process and ensure students are meeting VCAL learning and project outcomes.

Congratulations to all students and organisations who have contributed in making this year’s RCC a rich and authentic learning experience.

Steve Tarulli
Applied Learning Coordinator

Congratulations to Casey Wright, Year 12 2012. Casey is a member of the Victorian Junior and Australian Junior Cross Country Ski Team. She has recently been ranked as the 3rd Australian open woman sprinter and 7th Australian open woman distance skier. This year she has been selected to compete for the Australian Cross Country Ski Team overseas in the Europe and North American winters. Casey is currently seeking sponsorship to realise her dream of competing for Australia in the World Cup, World Junior and U23 Champions, World University Games and the Korean Winter Olympics in 2018. If you are able to assist Casey in her pursuit please contact Mrs Janine Haag via email janine.haag@bigpond.com. We wish Casey every success.
During the first two weeks of August, sixteen Year Ten students (two groups of eight) were lucky enough to be chosen to participate in an immersion trip to Jigalong located in the Pilbara Desert in Northern Western Australia. Jigalong is a remote Indigenous community and is well known for its “Rabbit Proof” fence.

During our time in Jigalong, we camped in swags in the Outback, assisted teaching in the Jigalong school, volunteered our time to do community service and met some incredible young indigenous people. We were immediately greeted by the staff and students of the school with their positive attitudes and welcoming natures. Although their community appeared somewhat underdeveloped to us in comparison to our own, we quickly realised that their bubbly personalities and happy dispositions shone through. Despite these cultural differences, friendships were quickly formed and we were treated as one of the “mob”.

Throughout the trip, each and every student developed new skills and values that will stay with us throughout our lives. We learnt to be more grateful for the things we have and have become more tolerant and patient towards everyone around us. During our stay in Jigalong, we met an extremely inspirational woman named Fonny, who looks after the elderly members of the Community. These people have no one to take care of them. The task of taking care of these people was not assigned to Fonny, she has taken them under her wing as they were living in extremely poor conditions. Fonny has changed the lives of these people and clearly they have also changed hers. Fonny has made an impact on the community and is well respected. Her dedication and love of her work has inspired us, and her ability to adapt and be accepted into the indigenous community is proof that hard work and perseverance can overcome many hurdles.

The experience was not a holiday, nor is Jigalong a tourist destination. It was an immersion into a different culture and a learning experience that is a once in a lifetime opportunity. The experience of visiting Jigalong enabled us to learn so much more about lifestyles and belief systems than we could ever learn from films or textbooks. We encourage other students to experience a change in culture and to gain a better understanding of social justice issues by applying to attend the next Jigalong Immersion Experience.

By Katelyn Hay and Maddi Cubitt
In Year 7, we were given two books at the start of the year, one called ‘A Single Shard’, and one called ‘Grimsdon’. The photos that you see in the newsletter are from our Grimsdon Assignment.

After Grimsdon, we discovered the main plot of the story includes five main characters. They are children, living without adults in a washed out, flooded city. We soon realised that the author, Deborah Abela was trying to link the message of the story to real life situations. These kids were refugees and they were there because of government corruption. The city was flooded because the government had known about it but refused to do anything. If they did act upon it then there wasn't really any financial or personal gain for them. A stranger comes to the kids' residence, the Pink Palace, one night and claims that he can help them. What happens in the end… ? Nope, I'm not telling you, you'll have to read it yourself.

We were given a contract in class with different options of what we could do for our assignment. The contract was designed to give us free choice over our activities and to cater for our different levels, learning styles and higher order thinking skills. There were some easy questions and some hard ones; we had to challenge ourselves and create an assignment suited to our learning preferences.

We actually had to sit down with Mrs Lewis, our English teacher, and negotiate and design the different components of our assignment. This was very challenging because we had lots and lots of options in the assignment. We could choose to work individually, in pairs or in groups. You could choose to work with one person, or any combination for different parts of the assignment. However, it was fantastic because it gave us complete control of our learning. We were given the chance to work with real world problems and used discovery learning. Another thing that we could negotiate was the due date for the assignment. We negotiated this as a class and when we were happy with the date we locked it in.

For some groups, making the physical models meant that we had to meet up outside of school and work together on the models. This meant that we really had to be organised, communicate effectively and manage our time well.

An example of an assignment that we designed completely by ourselves was my group. I was in a group with three other students from my class. Ash Clinton, Josh VanBockel, Tom Rutzou (pictured) and I chose to build a scaled down model of the city, Grimsdon. We had to negotiate this with Mrs Lewis and because we were doing our own assignment, we had to design then negotiate the different parts of the evaluation because it wouldn't be the same as the rest of the class. In other words, we got to design our own assignment and the way that we would be evaluated, as well as our own criteria in negotiation with Mrs Lewis.

Some examples of the options include:

- Building models
- Comparing the text to The Wizard of Oz, which Deborah Abela referred to throughout Grimsdon
- Researching myths and legends
- Researching flight
- Designing clothes for the characters
- Poetry Anthology
- Researching inventions
- Mapping and geo skills; or
- Designing your own assignment.

As you can see, there were a wide range of options that we could pick and choose from, and those are just SOME of the examples. For all the options, we had to show a detailed knowledge of the text.

I think that the class enjoyed having control over our own learning and having chances to negotiate the tasks and assessment outcomes with our teachers.

Some of the models displayed here are the Aerotrope, (flying machine), Palace, (house where the main characters lived), or the city of Grimsdon. The projects were a lot of hard work but as you can see, the results were worthwhile and we all had fun doing it.
What a marvellous week LOTE Week 2013 was, with students taking part in numerous cultural activities throughout the college.

The students were exposed to Italian Cinema, Japanese Anime, gelato and sushi. They also played the traditional Italian card games of Scopa and Briscola as well as making Japanese fans and origami. Some classes played bocce and some even played Guess Who? in Italian. Every day for LOTE Week prior to lunch time the college had a prayer in a different language – Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Dutch and French. We would like to thank the following students for reciting these prayers for us: Daniella Gentile, Maddy Alford, Gabriel Mello, Simone Geurts and Rhiannon Rak. The students were entertained by international music at recess and lunch time and there was also a prize for the homeroom at each year level that completed the LOTE Week Quiz promptly and correctly. Congratulations to the following homerooms for winning the LOTE Week Quiz prizes – 7 Green, 8 White, 9 Purple, 10 Bronze, 11 Gold and 12 White.

The staff also participated in LOTE Week with a cultural lunch on Friday which was enjoyed by all involved. A big thank you to the LOTE Faculty for the marvellous work they have done with their classes and for making LOTE Week a big success once again.

Sal La Faucci
LOTE Faculty Leader

The Mount Lilydale Mercy College Old Collegians’ Association is once again offering a scholarship to a current Year 11 student entering Year 12 in 2014. Application forms have been distributed and students must submit a detailed response to each of the criteria by Friday 9 October.

Applicants will be short listed and required to attend an interview.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Sunday 17 November in Our Lady of Mercy Old Collegians’ Memorial Chapel at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea. A blessing of plaques in the Rose Garden will also take place. A Memorial Book has been placed in the Chapel and all members of our community both past and present, are invited to submit names of Old Collegians for inclusion. For any enquiries please contact Leonie Ziolkowski or Patricia Olson at the College or email ziolkowi@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au or olsont@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au.

Please advise either Patricia or Leonie if you would like to attend the Mass or would like to have a loved on remembered.

During Term 4 the Bob Stewart Uniform Shop hours will be:

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1st Saturday of each Month from 9.30am to 12.30pm

During the school holiday break the shop will only be open on Saturday 5 October from 9.30am to 12.30pm
**SPORTS REPORT**

**STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS**

More skiing success for our talented Abe Wright. He recently placed 1st in the Open Boys National Interschool Ski Championships. An excellent effort by him.

In the previous few weeks the Eastern Football League held their League Best and Fairest competition. Here is a list of our students and their placing in the various age groups:

17A: Alex Edmonds 14th, Ryan Harvey 15th, Liam Koger 20th
17C: Jayden Schille (Croy) 3rd
17D: 22nd Nick Del Biondo
15A: 15th Anthony Gentile (Croy), 23rd Adrian Ficorilli (Croy)
15D: 7th Cody McKelear (Sth)
15B: 2nd Alex Condello (Mont), Jackson Lowe =12th (Mont), Tyson Noyes (Mont) =12th, =16th Matthew Di Pietrantonio/Nathan Thompson, 21st Joel Koger
13B: Lachlan Cox 9th, Jesse Ebert 11th

All players are from Lilydale unless stated otherwise.

This is an excellent effort by all these players to place so highly in a League based vote. The EFL prides itself as being the largest AFL competition in Victoria, with the highest number of players competing each weekend. For our students to do so well is a testament to their skills and demeanour on-field. Well done lads.

If you would like to pass on any significant achievements please email Mr Leigh Worrell at lworrell@milmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

**YEAR 9 EISM**

Year 9 students were hard at work again last week, each vying for a spot in the Summer EISM teams. Some excellent performances were noted by the head coaches and all students are encouraged to maintain this high level in the remaining weeks.

**YEAR 8 EISM**

Year 8 students were also busy with tryouts last week. Having completed their first season of EISM sport, most students were keen to get back into the mix and prepare for Term 4’s competition.

A big congratulations to the Year 8 Boys Football and Girls Table Tennis ‘B’ teams. These teams finished at the top of their ladder for their groups. Year 8 EISM does not have Grand Finals but if this was the case then these teams would have come home easy winners.

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

**SAC DATES**
TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER - Student Progress Interviews—Student Free Day
WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER - VCE Dance Evening—Centennial Hall 7.30-9.00pm
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER - College Advisory Council Meeting 6.30-9.30pm
FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER - Central Australia/Top End Tour Departs
FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER - Term 3 concludes at 2.25pm
MONDAY 7 OCTOBER - Term 4 Commences