A man was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might.

So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down; his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all of his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the weary mind: "you have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't moved." Thus, giving the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

Satan said, "Why kill yourself over this?" "Just put in your time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough." That's what he planned to do, but decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the Lord.

"Lord," he said, "I have laboured long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimetre. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push.

And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinewy and brown, your hands are calloused from constant pressure, and your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. This you have done. Now I, my friend, will move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just a simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God who moves mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong ... just P.U.S.H. When the job gets you down ... just P.U.S.H.

When people don't react the way you think they should... just P.U.S.H. When your money is "gone" and the bills are due... just P.U.S.H. When people just don't understand you ... just P.U.S.H.

P=Pray
U=Until
S=Something
H=Happens

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A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd
ABN 69 154 531 870

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Mount Lilydale Mercy College

NEWSLETTER

Date: 6 November 2013
Issue: Thirty Four

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE WHO ARE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND
WE PAY RESPECT TO THE ELDERS BOTH PAST AND PRESENT OF THE KULIN NATION AND EXTEND THAT RESPECT TO OTHER INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS.
Dear Members of our Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community

Welcome to this short working week after the pleasures of a long weekend and the delights of the race that stops a nation. I hope that the race and the day brought you great delight no matter how you decided to spend it. I drove into the city last week and observed a number of banners hanging off bridges declaring things like “love horses hate the racing” so obviously some do not find pleasure in it. Having lived in Warrnambool for the last 10 years it certainly gave me a different perspective on the whole industry. Hopefully it brought you some joy.

I have also been privileged over the last week to spend many quiet moments wandering, observing appreciating and contemplating the many artistic works that are on display in the exhibition called “Elevation 13”. This is an annual exhibition of student works from Years 7 – 12 and features displays from Art, Visual Communication and Design, Wood, Textiles, Media and Interactive Digital Media. I know that many classes will visit it over the coming weeks and that there is an Official Viewing and Awards Night on 7 November at 7.30pm, so please consider attending and appreciating the talents that are so varied and wonderful. Each time I visit the exhibition I see something a little bit different and ask myself what was the creator thinking when they started this work. I discover more by discussing them with other people standing there but especially the teachers who know about such things. For me any form of the creative process is wasted unless it is viewed, as it is in the viewing that it comes to life. It is in the viewing that it is appreciated. It is in the viewing that the artist grows and creation blooms. Like music that needs to be heard to be appreciated, a play that needs an audience to be complete, these fantastic works of creation need to viewed over and over so that each is given its own life. I am reminded of a stanza written by Thomas Gray in his “Elegy written in a country churchyard”

Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
The dark unfathom’d caves of ocean bear:  
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

Please do not let these created works sit in a darkened room and collect dust. Enjoy them. All Art, Textiles, Food Portfolios, Wood. All different. All creations from the imagination.

I must congratulate the teachers and support staff that have taught our students so well. I always marvel and asked myself “How did they know where to start?”, but then again that is the same question that I have heard many students of mathematics ask. All different. All talented.

MARK PREST AWARD NOMINATIONS
I encourage parents, students and staff to submit nominations for the Mark Prest Award. A nomination process is attached and you can also obtain a copy from the College Website or from Reception. Please include some additional comments or a letter of commendation to provide background to your nomination. Nominations close on 8 November.

EXAMS
The VCAA Examinations commenced last Wednesday and will continue until 20 November. Please continue to pray for those studying and taking these exams and also for the Year 11 and 10 students whose exams commence on 8 and 22 November respectively.

A NOTICE ABOUT SCABIES
A student within our school has recently been diagnosed with scabies. Scabies is a skin infestation caused by very small mites and it is spread by prolonged direct contact. It is thought that about 20 minutes of touching is required so transmission through the normal course of a day should not be an issue. The main symptoms of scabies are:

- Intense itching, typically worse at night and after a hot bath or shower
- Visible burrows on the skin between the fingers and in skin creases such as armpits and genitals
- A bump or pimple-like rash, which is often difficult to see.
- Small, clear, fluid-filled spots or lesions.

I do not think that there will be any issues with transmission from one student to the next and there are no issues with quarantine or the like, however, I wanted to inform you as a precaution. If you want any more information please read about it at http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Scabies

God bless

Philip A Morison
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - STUDIES - BRIAN HAWTHORNE

THE IMPORTANCE OF RESILIENCE
At this time of the year it is easy to get caught up in a sense of ending or feeling overwhelmed with the onset of exams and final assessments. Personal letters were issued to all Year 10 to 12 students outlining key dates, which are outlined below. Full school uniform is required to be worn to exams.

Irrespective of what year level, it is important that students accept responsibility for their learning which includes key assessment and undertake the necessary steps to ensure that they approach these demands with strategies to support the revision of concepts, the organisation of materials to meet deadlines and give themselves adequate sleeping habits. Resilience is learnt over time by not taking easy options, but by solving problems to achieve desired outcomes. If all we do is take easy outs, nothing is ever learnt or gained. With this in mind planning ahead for key dates and putting energy into the correct priorities rather than excuses, can only achieve better outcomes.

Brian Hawthorne
Deputy Principal - Studies

SAVE THESE KEY DATES

VCAA Exams 30 October – 21 November
Year 12 Graduation – 21 November
Year 11 Study Day – 7 November
Year 11 Exams – 8 November to 15 November
Year 12 2014 – Academic Foundation Program – 18 November to 27 November
Year 10 Exams – 22 November to 27 November
Year 11 2014 – Academic Foundation Program – 28 November to 5 December
Year 9 Core Exams – 25 November to 28 November
Year 11 Awards Ceremony – 28 November
Year 7 Awards Ceremony – 4 December
Year 8 & 9 Awards Ceremony – 5 December
Year 10 Awards Ceremony – 6 December
Final Day Year 11 – 28 November
Final Day Years 7 to 10 – 6 December
Please note that 29 November is a student free day
Annual Night of Excellence **Monday 16 December.** Students receiving awards will receive notification. It is an expectation that students attend on the evening to receive their award. Students are required to RSVP for this event.

Come and Join Us

We celebrate Mass every Thursday morning at 8am in the College Chapel. 

**All are welcome, staff, students and members of the community.**

Please join us when you can.
In 2014 the Italy Study Tour will take place. Tentative dates are Thursday 18 September until Saturday 11 October. The tour will be open to students in Years 10 & 11 in 2014. Preference will be given to students studying Italian but non language students are also invited to apply. The cost of the trip will be approximately $6,000. The program involves an initial period of touring. Some of the key tourist destinations will include Rome, Florence and Venice followed by a host school/family experience at our sister school in Casale Monferrato in the Piedmont region of northern Italy. Further details can be obtained by contacting Mr Johnston. Students can make application for the tour by writing an expression of interest letter to Mr Morison outlining why they would like to participate in the tour and what they would hope to gain from it. These letters should be delivered to Student Reception in a clearly marked envelope by Friday 22 November.

A further reminder that Friday 29 November is a Correction/Reporting Day and as such is a student free day.

At 3.15pm each day the main driveway of the College is very busy with parents collecting their children. Safety is the number one consideration and I would ask all drivers to exercise great caution and courtesy as they wait in the line of traffic. Please avoid collecting your child from an area other than the designated drop off/pick up zone. Students weaving amongst cars in an attempt to speed up collection is a risk that can be avoided. Please obey the directions of the crossing supervisor who has responsibility for the safety of students at this time of the day.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal - Students

LIBRARY NEWS

Congratulations to the following Award Winning Writers at Mount Lilydale Mercy College for October

Vanessa Clarke Year 10
Rebecca Spry Year 10

We continue to encourage the students at the College to submit their poems and short stories for consideration for monthly awards and look forward to sharing these with our College community. If you would like further information on the competitions that are running please visit our library website with online resources or chat to the library staff.


Andrea Coney
Head of Library & Information Services

SPORTS REPORT

YEAR 9 EISM RESULTS VS AQUINAS, LUTHER, MT SCOPUS

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<td>Bye</td>
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<td>Indoor Soccer A</td>
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YEAR 8 EISM RESULTS

Due to the Year 12’s Activity Day, Year 8 EISM did not go ahead.

Details of each week’s fixture, venues and results can be found at http://www.eism.org/
The final days for Year 12 were filled with joy and a sense of celebration. There was, however, a feeling that the journey that started 13 years ago was not quite finished. There were still the exams to face. On Wednesday 30 October, our students stood prepared and set for the first of the VCAA exams – English. After the three hours, students emerged happy to have one down and ready to move on to the next. The exam period finishes on Thursday 21 November. Our VCAL students are also adding the finishing touches to folios and work requirements to ensure all competencies have been met to achieve their Senior VCAL certificate. We wish all our students every success as they complete their final assessments.

COLLEGE COLOUR AWARDS
An important aspect of a student’s life at Mount Lilydale Mercy College is their involvement in the range of activities available and a great way of acknowledging this is through our College Colour program. Congratulations to the students who achieved a College Gold or a College Double Gold.


GRADUATION
Our Graduation evening is Thursday 21 November at 7.30pm. Students may collect their tickets from Student Reception. It is a special evening for the Year 12 students and their families and we do ask students to try to arrive by 7pm to ensure time for the fitting of gowns prior to the commencement of the evening.

Mrs Janet Barr
Year 12 Wellbeing Coordinator
barrj@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au
OUTSTANDING FEES

Thank you to all parents and guardians who have once again co-operated with the payment of school fees and levies. As at late October, we only have a small number of outstanding accounts.

Any parent or guardian who feels that they are unable to finalise any outstanding amount prior to 15 November, please contact me directly at the College on 9237 1314 to avoid unnecessary collection action.

If you have an existing approved arrangement whereby the payment of fees are regular which will allow for a zero balance by early December, there is no need to make contact.

Dean de Munk
Business Manager
Email: de_munk@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

DEB DRESS SALE

SELL and BUY
DEB DRESSES, SHOES, ACCESSORIES
AFTER-FIVE DRESSES

Tuesday 19 November 4 to 6pm
McAuley Hall

Dresses for sale can be delivered to McAuley Hall on Tuesday before recess if required or after school.
Photos of the dress and accessories can be displayed to assist with the sale.

For further enquiries please contact the Registrar Mary Ryan the_reg@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE OLD COLLEGIANS’ ASSOCIATION NEWS

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 Ziołkowski or Patricia Olson at the College or email ziołkowi@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au or olsonl@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 one remembered.
Open for class tours
Oct 30th - Nov 14th
Showcasing:
Interactive Digital Media
Visual Communication
Design & Technology
Studio Art
Textiles
Media
Art

All Welcome
Awards night
Thursday
Nov 7th
7:30pm
McAuley Hall

Mount Lilydale Mercy College presents
2013 YR 7-12 VISUAL ARTS
& TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION
To commemorate our much loved and admired Deputy Principal, who commenced at the College in 1996 and became Deputy Principal in 1997, the College Executive has named an annual award for an ‘educationalist’ in his honour. Mark had a deep love for his God and was passionate educator who had a deep sense of the school community. He listened, accepted and embraced all the people he found in his life. Mark demonstrated strength during his own battle with illness and throughout his life he was willing to be a ‘shelter in a storm’ for others. He was a deep thinker and came to believe strongly in the stewardship model of leadership.

The award will be presented annually to a member of staff who most exemplifies Mark’s educational philosophy and witness as judged by the following criteria which embody the spirit of Mark as an educator. It is expected that the recipient of this award will reflect many of these characteristics.

Mark:
- had a passionate respect for the dignity of each person
- set a public example of integrity, love, commitment and awareness each day
- showed empathy and concern for the welfare of others
- fostered genuine, honest, authentic, compassionate and just relationships
- had a healthy sense of tolerance, acceptance and openness
- was filled with the excitement of teaching
- was a courageous and committed learner
- aspired to and encouraged excellence
- exhibited a quality of teaching which opened up learning to others
- encouraged a love of learning in others
- was willing to take risks and learn from experience
- believed that teaching mattered
- fostered a strong climate of community involving students, teachers and parents
- had a sense of civic responsibility and pride
- contributed to the social and spiritual environment of the school

The selection of the winner will be made by a special panel. The Members of the Selection Panel will be the Principal, an Advisory Council Member, two Staff Members and one Student (a Student Leader).

I wish to nominate ............................................................ for the Mark Prest Award

Signature of Nominator: .....................................................

Please attach a Statement addressing the above criteria and forward to the Principal by 8 November 2013
FREE two day workshop and information sessions for PARENTS/CARERS of school age students on the autism spectrum

Workshop: 2013VICPC11 Location: Frankston

The Positive Partnerships initiatives have been developed and delivered by Partnerships between Education and the Autism Community (PEAC) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Helping Children with Autism package.

What will you learn?
As a result of participating in the workshops and information sessions as parents/carers you will gain:

- a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- knowledge about how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- specific strategies on how to:
  - advocate for your child
  - support your child’s participation at school
  - develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- information about your local school system’s processes
- opportunities to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- opportunities for discussion around a range of topics relevant to students with an ASD and their families

Some key community representatives that support families living with autism will be identified and invited to participate in the workshop with a view to supporting a community focus beyond the workshop.

Workshop details
Venue: Best Western Frankston International
        389 Nepean Highway, Frankston VIC 3199

When: Two day workshop – Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 November 2013
      Day 1: 9.00 a.m - 4.30 p.m (Registration from 8.15am)
      Day 2: 9.00 a.m - 3.30 p.m

Registration opens Tuesday 1 October 2013 and closes 2 days prior.
Registration may stay open until one day before the workshop if spaces are still available, but we strongly recommend that you register as soon as possible.
You will receive a confirmation of your registration.
Online registrations preferred: please go to the website www.positivepartnerships.com.au.

Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet and fax or mail to:
Fax: 02 9451 9661; Mail: Positive Partnerships, ASPECT, PO Box 361, Forestville NSW 2087

Positive Partnerships info Line number: 1300 881 971