Dear Parents, Students and Teachers of our College Community

Isn’t it fantastic news that we have a new Pope: Pope Francis the First, a Jesuit from Argentina. A simple man of faith we are told and being Jesuit, a man with a focus on Jesus Christ. As we learn more about our new “Peter, the rock on which the Church is built”, let us pray that he finds the wisdom to provide our Church and the world the leadership that is needed in such troubled times.

Last week my local Parish Priest handed me a document which contained the story of a letter written by a Judge to his local community. Apparently a school Principal in New Zealand found it last year, reprinted it and now it has gone viral on the internet.

Judge Gilliam’s letter to the Pierce County Tribune:

Open Letter to Teen-ager

Always we hear the plaintive cry of the teen-ager. What can we do?...Where can we go? The answer is GO HOME!

Hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork. Rake the leaves, mow the lawn, shovel the walk. Wash the car, learn to cook, scrub some floors. Repair the sink, build a boat, get a job.

Help the minister, priest, or rabbi, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army. Visit the sick, assist the poor, study your lessons. And then when you are through - and not too tired - read a book.

On the day the new Pope was elected it seemed fitting that the daily Gospel was John 5:31-46. The theme of this passage is, “The Father who sent me bears witness to me himself”. It speaks of Jesus being sent by God as a mediating redeemer to a world where people have moved away from God. Jesus tells the religious leaders that it is the Father who bears witness to him but his words find no home in them because they do not believe in the one God has sent. By not accepting Jesus they are also rejecting the Father.

Too often we are quick to judge and criticise and look for human error. This week let us pray for the openness to accept Pope Francis as God’s servant who has come to bear witness. Let us pray for Pope Francis, for the Holy Spirit to be ever present in him to guide him in his service and pastoral ministry. Already we see here a man of prayer and humility; help us to follow this example in our daily lives.

As a Jesuit, Pope Francis would no doubt use the following prayer as a guide for his ministry.

PRAYER OF ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as You deserve; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for reward save that of knowing I am doing Your Will.

Amen

This week let us try to live this message.

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
Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your city or village does not owe you recreational facilities.

The world does not owe you a living...You owe the world something.

You owe it your time and your energy and your talents so that no one will be at war or in poverty or sick or lonely again.

Grow up; quit being a crybaby. Get out of your dream world and develop a backbone, not a wishbone, and start acting like a man or a lady.

You're supposed to be mature enough to accept some of the responsibility your parents have carried for years.

They have nursed, protected, helped, appealed, begged, excused, tolerated and denied themselves needed comforts so that you could have every benefit. This they have done gladly, for you are their dearest treasure.

But now, you have no right to expect them to bow to every whim and fancy just because selfish ego instead of common sense dominates your personality, thinking and request.

In Heaven's name, grow up and go home!

Wow. Isn't it a strong message? And I would also ask myself is it too much of a negative message? How many times do we hear adults responding to events about youth by talking about the good old days when... Whilst the content of this letter may be true and the world certainly does not owe our young people anything and it is up to them to make it happen for themselves, I also believe that a strong positive message to our young people about development of their gifts, their love of others and the importance of being of service will have far better outcomes. We at Mount Lilydale Mercy College are privileged to work with such wonderful young people and we hold great hopes for their futures. I wonder how our new Pope would respond to such a letter? Interestingly, it was actually written in 1959. I wonder how that generation turned out!

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK**
As part of Catholic Education Week the Visual Arts Exhibition was held last weekend.

We congratulate Mitchell Taranto from Year 12 on being awarded the prestigious Julia Flynn Award for his work “Caravaggio reflects Golem, after Narcissus, by Caravaggio”. I am told that this is the first time a student from our College has won such an award, which makes it even more special. Well done Mitchell.

**YEAR 8 REFURBISHED CLASSROOMS**
Over the Christmas period under the guidance of Gerry Donovan, the College completely redesigned and refurbished all the Year 8 classroom block. The design is far more centred around the open learning style of the Mansfield Building and should allow a far more interactive style of learning. This process cost in excess of $550,000 and we believe our Year 8 students will benefit greatly from the new life given to these rooms.

**FACEBOOK**
Please just a gentle reminder that we at Mount Lilydale Mercy College have a policy about interactions on Facebook and we would remind all parents and students that they are asked to refrain from placing comments about members of staff or indeed about each other on pages in social media or in public forums.

**YEAR 9 CAMP**
Best wishes to Year 9 students who will be attending their Camp next week and special thanks to the staff who are supporting them during this time.

**COLLEGE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**
The Athletics Carnival will hopefully be held on Tuesday March 19. This is a community day and as such compulsory attendance is required. Students who cannot compete due to illness or injury can still assist the House Leaders or Staff and I ask that they register their willingness to provide this assistance. In the event of inclement weather, the Carnival will be held on Friday March 22 and Tuesday's classes will operate as normal.

**STAFF NEWS**
We wish Mrs Cathy Pote, Assistant Business Manager, and Mrs Leonie Ziolkowski, Communications Officer the very best as they begin leave from Monday March 25 2013.

Philip A Morison
Principal
CELEBRATING LEARNING

Last Tuesday myself and Elizabeth Keogh were fortunate to attend a Leadership and Learning evening function at the Catholic Education Office in Melbourne for the launch of two significant books that featured some outstanding learning programs being delivered in Catholic schools. The first of these was “Collaborative Literacy Learning communities”. Staff from our College participated in this program and were part of the video presentation viewed on the evening.

The second book launch was “Teaching and Learning Science through cases”. A published case study within this book was “Attention! Please” which is about the use of technology devices within the classroom, prepared by John Parlas, the eLearning Leader at our College. John was presented with a certificate from the State Education Minister, Mr Martin Dixon and The Executive Director of Catholic Education, Mr Stephen Elder for his involvement.

ART SHOW

Adjacent to the CEOM book launch was the Catholics Schools Art show and exhibition. Four of our students had exhibits in the show which was wonderful to witness. Isabella Andueza had exhibited “Submerged” a digital print on canvas taken with an underwater camera, Alexandra Carter had exhibited “Appropriation of Sailor Kissing a Nurse” a black and white recontextualised image of the past of a nurse in times square at the end of WW2, Mitchell Taranto with “Caravaggio reflects Golem, after Narcissus, by Caravaggio” and Daniel Kelly with “Inside My Head”.

STUDENT PROGRESS INTERVIEWS

Bookings are now open for Unit 3 interviews. These will close on Monday March 25. Bookings for Years 7 to 11 will open on Thursday March 28 and close on Monday April 22.

YEAR 12 NEWS

With only two weeks left of Term 1, the Year 12 students are now undertaking assessment and SAC’s in many subjects. It has been fantastic to see the commitment many students have made and their willingness to work to achieve their best.

SCHOOL ASSESSED COURSEWORK (SAC’S)

This form of assessment is used by the VCAA in conjunction with the end of year exams to allocate marks for each subject. These marks are then used to create a student’s ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank). Students need to ensure they are prepared and perform at their best during these SACs. If the workload is becoming overwhelming, encourage your son/daughter to speak with their teachers or homeroom teachers for advice on best practice methods of study. The only reason a student would not sit a SAC on the required date should be due to extreme illness; a medical certificate must be supplied for an alternate date to be arranged. If a student simply misses a SAC, they may forgo the marks which will have major implications for their overall scores. Please contact me if there are any concerns regarding this.

SPECIAL PROVISION

Special Provision provides eligible students with reasonable opportunity to participate in and complete their senior secondary studies. There are several forms of Special Provision ranging from School Based Assessment to Special Exam Arrangements and Derived Examination Scores. To be deemed eligible, students must apply for provision and provide all the necessary documentation before such requests are considered. Any students who have not already sought advice regarding this are advised to this week.

PREFECTS

The Prefects have taken their roles on with great enthusiasm this year and continue to immerse themselves in the everyday running of the school. Thank you to all for their work in the World’s Greatest Shave last Friday and their participation in the Leadership afternoon that followed. Their continued passion for their role will no doubt be shown on Tuesday during the Athletics Carnival. Best wishes for a successful carnival, particularly to our House Prefects and Sports Prefects.

EARLY LEAVERS PASS

The Year 12 students are making great use of their study periods using the time to complete tasks or consult with their teachers. If students are required to make appointments or driving lessons, these must be made outside school hours to ensure each student is able to get the most of their class and study time. In the event a student does need to leave early, they are required to have a note by way of explanation and present that both to me and the office prior to signing out.

STUDENT DRIVERS

One of the major highlights for many Year 12 students is turning 18 and becoming eligible to gain their driver’s licence. Students who have their licence and drive to school need to be mindful of the time they are required at school. The day begins at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. Students are not to leave school premises during the day unless prior arrangements have been made. All student parking is off campus. Notice must be paid to council regulations regarding parking times.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns on 9237 1361 or email barrj@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au
EISM SWIMMING CARNIVAL

An excellent result for the College at the recent EISM Swimming Carnival. Mount Lilydale Mercy College came a hard fought second place, being beaten by Knox School by a very close 5 points. Mount Lilydale claimed the Girls Overall, Open Girls and Under 14 Girls divisions on the day. The individual winners were:

- Teagan Harty
- Danni Algar
- Holly Sutherland
- Bec Owens
- Phillip Windridge

An all round excellent effort, both team and individual, put in by all of our students on the day. Second place overall is an excellent result, congratulations to all involved.

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

SENIOR EISM RESULTS VS BILLANOOK

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>MLMC</th>
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YEAR 9 EISM RESULTS VS MT SCOPUS

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<td>14</td>
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Details of each week’s fixture, venues and results can be found at http://www.eism.org/

Easter Services for St Brigid’s in Healesville and St Aloysius in Yarra Glen

Let’s make this Easter the best, the most rewarding and life giving one we have ever had in our Parish, our Parish school and our families.

In Preparation for Easter:
The Rite of Forgiveness
Holy Week:
Passion Sunday
The Triduum:
Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lords Supper
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross
Good Friday - Solemnity of the Death of Jesus
Easter Vigil - Celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead
Easter Sunday

Thursday 21st March at 7.30pm at St Pat’s in Lilydale
Sunday 24th March at 8.30am at St Brigid’s

Thursday 28th March at 8pm at St Brigid’s
Friday 29th March at 10am at St Aloysius in Yarra Glen
Friday 29th March at 3pm at St Brigid’s
Saturday 30th March at 8pm at St Brigid’s
Sunday 31st March at 8.30am at St Brigid’s
Maddies Embellished Garden ........from Trash to Art

Open Garden and SALE

Nestled beneath towering pines and pin oaks is this fascinating garden

of Whimsy and Imagination

Follow the labyrinth of pathways to discover Umpteen rooms each with a different colour and theme, created from “found” and recycled objects.

Through the innovative use of “junk” we’ve fashioned artworks, fencing, platforms, walls, seating, raised beds and so much more ...........

Visitors will also be delighted with our fabulous “garden themed” SALE of goodies, contributed by many local artists and gardeners ....sorry ... CASH only

Our next opening is on Sunday 24 March 2013
10am till 5pm
At 80 Pembroke Road, Mooroolbark (cnr Pine Rd) Mel Ref: 51K2

Cost: $6 per adult and $1 per child
Refreshments and Devonshire teas will be available.

Proceeds to Mary McKillop East Timor Mission. Bring your friends
Phone 9728 5628 email: maddiesw@bigpond.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK : Madeleine Willingham
I would like to remind parents, guardians and students that the P&F will be manning the B-B-Q’s and selling food tomorrow on the Athletics Day. This year we are trying something a little different and will also be selling wood-fired pizzas (including gluten free bases) throughout the day. There will also be a coffee van with coffee, hot chocolate, iced coffee and chocolate and fruit slushies.

As we have done for the last couple of years, the students will purchase money tokens and use them to purchase from the various food outlets. (Cash can be used at the coffee van). Any tokens left at the end of the day can be cashed in. If possible, please don’t send ‘large’ denomination notes as they take a lot of our change from the float. As this is a fundraiser for the P&F the coffee van and Pizza will give a percentage of their takings to us.

If you would like to help for some time during the day, please contact Jacqui Mc Donald pfs@mmlcillydale.catholic.edu.au

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**PRICE LIST**

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<td>Donut</td>
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<td>Pizza (per slice)</td>
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<td>Snakes</td>
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<td>Chupa Chups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iced Coffee/Chocolate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fruit Slushie</td>
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2013 Mount Lilydale Mercy College Athletics Carnival

When: Tuesday March 19
Time: 8.45-3pm
Events: Track, Field, Ball Games and Novelty Races
What to wear: Sports uniform or to change into house colours at Quarry Road

Parents and Families Welcome

“Come run & have some Fun”
Learn Traditional and Contemporary Art Techniques

TERMS 2 & 3
THURSDAYS
3:30-5:00 PM

All Welcome

See any Visual Arts Teacher for more Details.

Come to sign up:
HTH 0.3 Art Room
Lunch Time
March 18th

The Art Academy is an initiative of the Visual Arts Teaching staff. It aims to provide students with a fun environment to extend their art experience beyond the scope of the classroom.