Many churches in Australia observe the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October each year. The feast commemorates the life of St Francis, who was born in the 12th century and is the Catholic Church’s patron saint of animals and the environment. It is a popular day for pets to be ‘blessed’. Most people are familiar with the Peace Prayer but a lesser known prayer is the beautiful Canticle of the Sun.

**The Canticle of the Sun**

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, all praise is yours, all glory, honour and blessings.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong; no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.
We praise you, Lord, for all your creatures, especially for Brother Sun who is the day through whom you give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour, of you Most High, he bears your likeness.
We praise you, Lord, for Sister Moon and the stars, in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.
We praise you, Lord, for Brothers Wind and Air, fair and stormy, all weather’s moods, by which you cherish all that you have made.
We praise you, Lord, for Sister Water, so useful, humble, precious and pure.
We praise you, Lord, for Brother Fire, through whom you light the night. He is beautiful, playful, robust, and strong.
We praise you, Lord, for Sister Earth, who sustains us with her fruits, coloured flowers, and herbs.
We praise and bless you, Lord, and give you thanks, and serve you in all humility.

(Extract from Canticle of the Sun, by St Francis of Assisi)
Dear Members of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community

Welcome to the new term after what I hope has been a refreshing break amidst exciting football finals and very varied weather.

Last term finished with an absolutely fabulous Mercy Day after it was postponed due to advised poor weather conditions that did not eventuate, and then further reports of inclement weather on the second scheduled day. The weather was perfect in that it was not too hot, not too cold and it did not rain. I spent the whole day wandering between the many student led activities and was thankful for the enthusiasm and effort of all involved. A new initiative this year was the sideshows run by students in the McAuley Hall, which became a hive of activity to complement the activities of the Ministry Lounge. Centennial Hall was also filled for both sessions of “Mercy's Got Talent” and “House Performing Arts”. These sessions were very entertaining as is the great variety of talent displayed by our students.

A highlight of Mercy Day is the Mercy Parade and of the four years that I have been involved in judging this activity, this year was by far the most difficult. The Year 12 students in particular displayed great enthusiasm, with thoughtful, well choreographed themes and imaginative costuming. To name one winning homeroom seems unfair, but there was a clear winner in the 12 White Wedding with a total score of 275 points. Honorable mentions should also go to: the 12 Purple Pilots, 12 Orange is the New Black, the 12 Gold Golden Oldies and the 12 Red Racers. The Year Level cup was won by a fantastic Year 7 Group.

Overall, celebrating Mercy Day on the last day of term was a delightful way to finish a long term of work and a week of final assessments and SACs. Congratulations to all involved in the planning, and I know that there were many. I was very appreciative of the very large contingent of Parents and Friends’ volunteers over the two days; Mercy Day and the postponed Mercy Day.

A quick look at the College calendar informs us that the start of Term 4 is very busy with celebrations of a huge variety: The Sports Awards Evening, the 2017 Prefect Investiture, The Mount Lilydale Mercy College 2016 Wine Launch, and information sessions like the Parent and Community Drug Forum. All of these are very important in the life of a College, but at this time of the year my thoughts are very much with the Graduating Class of 2016. Our Year 12 students have less than three weeks of formal classes left before they begin their final preparations, and for some, solo performances and LOTE Oral exams are scheduled quite soon. It is a very busy and important time for each and every one of these students and it is a time to remain focused and calm. Soon I will write to each student assuring them of my prayers and hoping that each will find time for prayer in their daily lives. As a community let us together pray for our graduating class that they graduate with a sense of pride and peace knowing that they have achieved and that we are indeed proud of them.

Over the course of the holidays I have written to the Prefect Group of 2017, offering them positions of leadership and congratulations. The Prefect Group for 2017 will be welcomed at the Investiture Ceremony in week 2 of this term. In deciding upon this expanded group, I thank the many students that applied for these positions as the number and quality of all applicants was indeed pleasing and an indication of the strength of our student body and their preparedness to be of service.

Congratulations to our Student Prefects of 2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Captains</th>
<th>Nicholas Hamilton</th>
<th>Eden Pritchard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captains</td>
<td>Corey Whitchell</td>
<td>Isabella Preston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAuley Captains</td>
<td>Christian Toy</td>
<td>Ruby Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Lily McDonald</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Eve Gowan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith &amp; Ministry</td>
<td>Tahia Hayes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercy &amp; Justice</td>
<td>Chloe De Groot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health/PE</td>
<td>Abbey Sinclair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Kayla Jackson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Meg Dolphin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths/Science</td>
<td>Madeline Cimo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>Krystal Meyer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Dylan Findley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>Hannah Winte</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCAL</td>
<td>Yet to be appointed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Book</td>
<td>Lillian Chitty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Tyson Noyes</td>
<td>Stacey Fleming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Prefects</td>
<td>Angus Faulkner-King</td>
<td>Daniella Zappia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carr House</td>
<td>Andrew MacFarlane</td>
<td>Chloe Leenen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frayne House</td>
<td>Henry Staid-Dymond</td>
<td>Jenny Ting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maguire House</td>
<td>Kyle Stokes</td>
<td>Emily Corbett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Neill House</td>
<td>Garang Nai</td>
<td>Dominica Molluso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan House</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Dunn House</td>
<td>Christian Ruscitti</td>
<td>Rebekah Kelly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many families may be aware of the tragic accident that killed Old Collegian Susan Kilner Verhoef, Class of 1998, in America early last month. She was riding a bike on a bridge and was struck by a car. She leaves a husband and four children. Let us pray for the repose of her soul and may she, along with her entire family, find peace.

Finally, as I informed last term, I will be taking some leave at the start of Term 4 and Mr Michael Johnston will be acting Principal in my absence.

God bless

Philip A Morison
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STUDIES - MICHAEL JOHNSTON

Welcome back to Term 4. The next few weeks are a vital time for our Year 12 students. Hopefully they have completed a productive two week holiday revision period which included the trial exam program. With only eleven days of classes remaining, every minute is crucial. The first of the VCAA written exams is on 26 October, although oral and performance exams across a range of subjects are scheduled before this date. Subject teachers will guide the students through revision tasks and strategies, but students need to commit to that bit extra as they move into the final phase of their VCE studies. Our thoughts and prayers are with them in the coming weeks.

Related to the Year 12 finish is the fact that Tuesday, 18 October is a student free day for Years 7-11. On this day the Year 12 students join with the staff in a range of formal and informal activities to mark the end of formal secondary education. On the previous day there is a full school assembly to acknowledge the Year 12 students and to wish them well for exams and the future.

Michael Johnston
Deputy Principal - Studies

FROM THE ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STUDENTS - JOHN RODGERS

UNIFORM

A reminder that at the beginning of Term 4 students may choose between summer and winter uniform. An area that should never need to be an issue is the length of the summer dress. Please ensure the dress length for girls is the appropriate length - our uniform regulation states that the girls summer uniform must be worn to knee length. The choice of uniform will continue until Melbourne Cup weekend, after which time summer uniform will be compulsory. As part of our Sunsmart policy, it is a requirement that students wear hats at recess and lunch throughout term four. Please ensure your child has the school bucket hat. Failure to respond to requests to abide by this uniform regulation will be followed up by Campus Directors.

NEXT PARENT SEMINAR EVENING

Another reminder about the up coming Parent Seminar. Please put Tuesday, 11 October, 7.30 – 9.00pm into your calendar and join us for an evening discussing the topic of Drug Awareness and the problem of drug use in society. It will be held in Centennial Hall.

The night will take the form of a Q & A setup that will discuss a variety of scenarios and include representatives from the:

- Victoria Police
- Youth Alcohol and Other Drugs Clinician from EACH
- School representatives from Mount Lilydale Mercy College
- Young people’s voice - representatives from year 12 students

In an attempt make the night interactive and engaging, we are inviting you to send in questions that we can provide information to on the night. If you would like to take up this offer, send your question to ttasiopoulos@mlmc.vic.edu.au.

As always, if there is ever anything I can help you with, please pop in or give me a call.

John Rodgers
Acting Deputy Principal - Students
MESSAGE FROM THE REGISTRAR

On behalf of the College, I would like to give a very big ‘THANK YOU’ to the many parents who gave their time so generously, particularly over the last two weeks of Term 3. As you are aware, we had to postpone our original Mercy Day activities from the 9 September to the 16 September. Of course the food was already ordered, so we had to prepare and sell this during recess and lunch. Many of the same parents came again on the 16 September, along with others, to prepare and serve the hot food to the students and staff. Your support and hard work is appreciated.

Please note in your calendar the AGM for the Parents and Friends Association is on Tuesday 18 October at 7.30pm. Coffee and chat from 7.00pm. The meeting is held in the staff dining room, in the back of the Mount Saint Joseph building. All are welcome.

It was resolved at the meeting earlier this year to move the AGM to this time of the year to bring it in line with a calendar year. At this meeting all positions will be declared vacant and a new executive will be voted in. If you would like to find out more about these positions and what they entail, please feel free to contact me by phone 9735 4022 or email registrar@mlmc.vic.edu.au. As always, attending a meeting doesn’t mean that you will be ‘signed-up’ for every activity we run. There is no pressure.

Mary Ryan
Registrar

FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Fees

Term 4 Quarterly Tuition Fees and any outstanding balance remaining are due and payable by 14 October 2016. Credit Card payments can be made on the Parent Portal.

Year 9, 2017 Macbook Air Deposit are due and payable by Friday 28 October 2016. Payments to be made on the Parent Portal under the payments tab.

If you require any assistance please don’t hesitate to make contact with the Finance Office on 9237 1315 or 9739 2209.

KOOL SCHOOLS

18 students from Mount Lilydale Mercy College had the privilege of being part of the Kool Skools program. There students were able to work within a professional recording environment to record and package an album of music. Kool Skools is a multimedia and recording project for secondary school students across the Australian states of Victoria and New South Wales. Kool Skools promotes, develops and supports a diverse range of talent and genres of contemporary music. The very talented students involved in the 2016 Kool Skools Program include Marlee Carter, Chloe De root, Montana Drieberg, James Duncan, Grace Fahey, Tess Flint, Chris Fox, Sam Johnston-Bailey, Samuel Lees, Charli Lilagan, Bohdi Lindsey, Georgia McAleer, Krystal Meyer, Kayla Murphy, Tysha Ramacula, Chelsea Scott, Maddy Trimboli, and Jaimie Upton.

Mount Lilydale Mercy College would like to congratulate these students for their ongoing enthusiasm and professional approach throughout this journey. Let’s show our support to our fellow students by purchasing an original piece that will last for many years to come. CD’s can be purchased from Reception or the Music Department for a bargain price of $5. Correct money would be appreciated at the time of purchase.
The Frayne Speech Festival is an annual event where numerous schools founded in the traditions of Mercy Education gather together and compete in the form of Debating, Public Speaking and Voice Choir. The Festival illustrates many outstanding speakers and upholds a sense of unity across the participating schools. The Frayne Speech Festival was established in 1996 and is named after Mother Ursula Frayne, leader of the first group of Sisters of Mercy to arrive in Australia from Ireland in 1846.

This year the festival was hosted by Catholic College Bendigo. We had students participating in all three sections of the competition. Candice Farrugia-Roberts presented an eight minute prepared speech on the topic; ‘Boundless plains to share’, the Year 11 debating team debated the topics; ‘that our sports people are not good role models’ and their second topic was ‘that adolescents today are over parented’. Our 15 student Voice Choir displayed incredible tenacity and determination in the delivery of their performance. The performance involved two poems, one compulsory and one free choice. The poems were presented using vocal techniques, movement and dramatic gesture. The compulsory poem for 2016 was From Little Things Big Things Grow by Paul Kelly.

“The Frayne Speech Festival is a great time to bond with those in other Mercy schools and meet new people. When I was presented with the opportunity to join the Voice Choir for Frayne Festival, I was reluctant at first, as I believed it was near impossible to learn all the lines in only six weeks. But, ignoring that fact, I went ahead and managed to learn every single word and can still recite it now! It was a fantastic experience and I highly recommend it to anyone!"

Zoe Hendriks | 7 JADE

The Frayne Speech Festival was one of the best things I have ever participated in. It was such a thrilling experience and a great opportunity to try something new. I really enjoyed seeing all of the different Mercy students and representing my school as part of such a tradition. It was also great to spend time with my friends from Year 7 and 8 outside of school. I would definitely love to have the opportunity to be a part of the Frayne Festival again next year”

Georgia Drummond | 8 RED

VCAL STUDENTS COMPLETE RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

This year Intermediate VCAL students completed the Responsible Community Challenge (RCC) program at Yarra Valley ECOSS. ECOSS is a not-for-profit organisation that has adopted a community enterprise model to provide education that demonstrates sustainable living practices. Students worked in teams over five weeks on a variety of projects to develop skills and knowledge of sustainable building practices. The projects included:

- Greenwood Furniture Making
- Earthbag Building
- Cooking with a wood fire pizza oven

The program provided an opportunity for students to be self-reflective and self-directed learners. Thank you to ECOSS for their kind support and congratulations to all students who contributed in making this year’s RCC a rich and authentic learning experience.

Steve Tarulli
Applied Learning Coordinator
YEAR 10 SOCIAL

I think we all had a wonderful time at the social! It was a night full of dancing and singing, and everyone looked amazing! It was definitely a stressful month leading up, with everyone booking hair and makeup appointments, buying suits and dresses. Every single person who came looked beautiful and handsome, and I think everyone had a great time.

The music was awesome, and we all danced the night away. The food was great and the place was beautiful. My favourite part was definitely getting to dance with all my friends, and seeing how gorgeous everyone looked - both girls and guys.

Rachel Van Der Linden | 10 Silver

YEAR 9 SOCIAL

The night was wild! So many different social groups turned up and we all had a terrific time. It was a superb night that my friends enjoyed as much as I did. The music was very crazy and loud, which many people enjoyed dancing to throughout the night. The teachers were getting involved as much as the students were. The competitions encouraged us to participate. The night was all round amazing.

Hayley Downey | 9 Blue
SPORTS REPORT

EISM CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday 7 September, MLMC took 120 students to Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster to compete at the EISM Cross Country. Once again, we were blessed by beautiful weather and had a very successful day on the course.

MLMC finished 3rd overall, behind Luther and Aquinas, and our Under 15 Girls managed to take out their age group flag, with several finishes in the top 10.

Place getters on the day were as follows:

Max Benson – 1st Under 13 Boys
Ella Garrett – 2nd Under 14 Girls
Alana McGurgan – 2nd Under 15 Girls
Sienna Clark – 3rd Under 15 Girls

MLMC also had several students finish in 4th place this year, just outside the medals! Well done to every single student who ran on the day – it is a difficult course to run and you should all be very proud of yourselves.

CROSS COUNTRY SEASON

A particularly big congratulations needs to also go to those students who have attended Cross Country training throughout the season – many early mornings and evenings were spent running around the local trails and tracks! A tally was kept of all students who attended training, College Colours were awarded for milestone kilometres, and there was an award for the most kilometres run at the end of the season. This award was won by Max Benson (Year 7), who ran a total of 116.5km. Max also went on to win his age group at EISM Cross Country!

Thank you also to the staff who ran training sessions throughout the season – Mr Worrell, Mr Murray, Mr Beard, Mr Wicks, Mr Leaumont, Mr Ryan, Miss Moschetti and Mrs Rhodes. These sessions would not be possible without you all, so THANK YOU!

Thank you also to the Year 11 Sport and Rec students who, as part of their assessment, ran training sessions and warm ups / cool downs at the EISM Cross Country – the students all really appreciated your encouragement and guidance.

YEAR 9 EISM SPRING SEASON

The new season of EISM Sport for Year 9 students begins first week of Term 4 – Thursday 6 October. If you have been selected in a team for the upcoming season, please make sure you bring all your gear for Round 1 (mouthguards, socks etc.). Congratulations on your selection and best wishes for a great season in Sport!
**Student Achievements**

**Football**
Congratulations to Hailee Stokes (Year 9) who has recently been awarded Under 15 Best and Fairest for the Wandin Junior Football Club and selected in the Under 15 Victorian Kickstart Team, who are traveling to Shepparton in the school holidays to compete in the 2016 Female National Diversity Championships. Well done, Hailee!

**Basketball**
Congratulations to Angelo Eglezos (Year 9) who recently played his Rep basketball grand final for the Warrandyte Venom Under 18 fives. They won after a nail biting match by one point! Further to this, Ange received the season MVP.

Top effort, Ange. A future Australian Boomer!

**Swimming**
Congratulations to Keilani Trewavis (Year 9), who competed at the Victorian Short Course Swimming Championships on 2-4 September. Keilani had a very tough program, with several swims per day. She had a fantastic meet and achieved the following results:
- Gold - 100m Breaststroke
- Gold - 200m Breaststroke
- Silver - 200m Butterfly
- Silver – 200m IM
- Bronze – 100m IM

Although these events were combined age groups, she won the Under 15 section of the 400m IM and 400m Freestyle.

What a huge effort! Keep up the super work with your swimming Keilani!

**Victorian Schools Mountain Bike Series**
Congratulations to Wesley Rayner (Year 10), who participated in the Victorian Schools Mountain Bike Series at Lysterfield on the 4 September and won his age group race. He now goes on to compete in finals next month in Bendigo. Congratulations and goodluck with finals!

If you have any student achievement news, please email dwebb@mlmc.vic.edu.au.
The panel will address the drug problem in the local society, the effects of different drugs, treatment and how to help prevent drug use in young people. Questions and answers from the audience invited.

A panel of speakers will present on the night including:

- Victoria Police
- Youth Alcohol and Drug Clinician from EACH
- School representative
- Senior students from Mount Lilydale Mercy College representing the young people’s voice.

An important free event not to be missed!
Socktober

In the month of October Catholic Mission’s runs its schools appeal, Socktober, the purpose being to ‘sock it to poverty’ by holding a sock themed fundraiser. As Catholic Mission is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church, operating in over 160 countries worldwide, it is a great privilege for us as a Catholic Community to support their work.

This year, the theme is “Just as you did it to one of the least if these, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40) Money raised is going towards providing educational services for Cambodian children in the slums of Phnom Penh. Cambodia is a country that experiences high levels of poverty and has a violent past. The Khmer Rouge regime of 1975-79 killed 3 million Cambodians and particularly targeted teachers, priests, doctors and other professionals. Now, many families simply cannot afford to send their children to school and have to work long hours to support their families, leaving their children alone in the slums during the day.

Sr Eulie Desacula, a Sister of Charity, is working with local staff and teachers running a mobile educational centre out of a tuk-tuk, a motorized taxi vehicle. This initiative provides children with free education as well as running essential food and hygiene programs. Sr Eulie and her team require funds to increase the frequency of community visits and to purchase resources, petrol for the tuk-tuk and to pay the teachers.

To support this appeal the College will be celebrating Anti-Poverty week from the 17th- 21st October, holding activities and engaging in awareness raising throughout the week and concluding with Crazy Sock Day on Friday 21st. On this day students can wear their most colorful, out-there pair of socks and bring a gold coin donation for Catholic Mission, a Sock Parade will be held at lunchtime with prizes for the best socks! Throughout the week, socks will be available for $2 a pair in the Ministry Lounge. We look forward to supporting ‘the least of these’ through our fundraising efforts and are grateful for your support!

For more information please visit http://www.catholicmission.org.au/wmm.
"THE ALIENS HAVE TAKEN MY CHILD!"

Do you sometimes feel your child as you knew them has disappeared and some other child has moved in?

Come along to a parenting seminar where two counselors from EACH Social and Community Health will talk about their personal and professional experiences of living & working with teenagers. We will explore:

- Physical & emotional changes including brain development that effects behavior
- Coping strategies for parents to ensure that you don’t disappear too!
- Referral pathways for specialized problems

Please bring along your sense of humor as it is essential for survival until your child returns

Who: Parents of secondary school aged children

Where: EACH Social and Community Health, Building B

46 Warrandyte Rd Ringwood

When: Wed 26th Oct 2016

Time: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Cost: free

More information: Amanda Jenkins – Youth and Family team EACH, 9871 2632

RSVP by 19th October, bookings essential