The Star of Bethlehem, or Christmas Star, is mentioned in the Bible. It’s said to have led the three wise men to Bethlehem.

The apostle Matthew records that the birth of Jesus was accompanied by an extraordinary celestial event: a star that led the magi (the “wise men”) to Jesus. This star “went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was” (Matthew 2:9).

What was this star? And how did it lead the magi to the Lord? There have been many speculations.

The Christmas star is not just a colourful decor; it signifies peace and high hopes. It gives you the ray of hope that the Son of God will help you confront and conquer every difficult situation you come across. It shows that every good thing comes from within and that there is a silver lining in every dark cloud.

A Prayer to Follow the Star

Lord, may I be like the Wise Men who were guided to you by the Star of Bethlehem.

Give me the wisdom to seek you,
    a light to guide me to you,
the courage and persistence to search until I find you,
    the graciousness to worship you
and the generosity to lay my gift before you,
who is my King and my God for ever and ever.

Amen
FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Members of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community

Today as we prepare to send this last newsletter to print (metaphorically speaking), I walked the grounds of the College reflecting on how very much it changes once the students have left. Firstly our maintenance team have swung into viral mode and trades people fill the grounds. I just saw an arborist leave the grounds after the six monthly tree prune and check-up. There are many trades involved as we completely open up and refurbish completely two new science laboratories and a computer lab in the power building. Painters are seen every day repainting classrooms to ensure that they are crisp and fully reflect the light in our many bright and airy classrooms. Some demolition is being undertaken in the Youth Ministry Lounge and McAuley Hall to remove worn and damaged windows so that they can be replaced with modern anodised aluminium windows. Walls in Cal thorpe and Heath buildings are having some sheeting removed, with some replastering to allow both buildings to be completely repainted internally. Lockers have all been removed so that casual staff can completely clean them. Parts of our school look like a demolition site and yet I know that all this is well planned and sequenced so that next year the students of 2017 will enter a school that has been continually prepared for them and in the most part they will not even know.

At the same time I wandered down to the Doyle centre where our maintenance team were meticulously laying out the seating and stage planned for our Night of Excellence, which is such an important event on our College calendar. It is a very different type of event to the Year Level Academic Award Ceremonies that held each semester. It is one of the few events whereby we bring together and celebrate achievement across the whole College and one of the few events where Year 7 students see Year 12 success and vice versa. As we prepare for Night of Excellence, Year 12 students are trickling into the College to discuss their Year 12 results and the doors that will now open to them. Some Year 12 students have experienced excitement, whilst others are disappointed. Either way opportunities abound. It is just a matter of seeing them. I look forward to analysing all our results this year and celebrating the many achievements: academic, social, spiritual and sport.

All of this in preparation for what is to come next.

I am also aware that yesterday was Gaudete Sunday or the third Sunday of Advent. We are preparing and rejoicing. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of the Christ child and at the same time rejoicing that our Lord is always with us and readying us for what is to come next.

Again I wish all the families of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community a happy, holy and peaceful family Christmas. May this birthday celebration be joyful and life giving.

Thank you for all that you do in support of our Mount Lilydale Mercy College community and I look forward to our collaborative support in 2017.

In the spirit of Catherine, may you all be blessed.

Philip A Morison
Principal

FROM THE ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STUDENTS - JOHN RODGERS

As another school year draws to a close it is right to give thanks to all members of our school community for their contribution in 2016. Mount Lilydale Mercy College has once again offered a rich and diverse range of activities that teach our students in so many different ways in and out of the classroom. Much of this is due to the dedication of staff who are prepared to offer activities beyond the classroom that enrich the lives of our students.

I would like to give thanks for the personal journey I have had this year as Acting Deputy Principal Students. It has been a rewarding year working for the College community in a slightly different capacity. The support I have felt from students, staff and parents has been very much appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER
- Wednesday 1 February - Year 7 and 12 students will commence
- Thursday 2 February – all students back at school
- Friday 3 February – school photos
- February is a blazer free month. Please remember if not wearing a blazer a jumper may not be the outer garment.

May your Christmas break be a time of peace and renewal for your family and may you all return safe in the New Year.

John Rodgers
Acting Deputy Principal - Students
The Star of Bethlehem

The Star of Bethlehem is a symbol of hope. The prayer on the front of this newsletter, although short, helps us to realise what is truly important in our lives. If we look deep within ourselves to discover what we can offer rather than focusing on our weaknesses, we can indeed help to make the world a better place.

Whilst preparing for our staff end of year Mass I came across this beautiful story – I hope you enjoy it.

The Little Christmas Star

Of all the stars that shine in the sky, there had always been one that was brighter and more beautiful than the others. The whole sky’s planets and stars looked on in admiration, wondering what could be the important mission that this star was to carry out. And the star itself did exactly the same, aware of its own incomparable beauty.

The speculation ended when a group of angels came to the star:

“Hurry, Your time has arrived, the Lord calls upon you to carry out an important mission.”

And the star went as fast as he could and found out that her mission was to show where the most important event in history would take place.

The star was filled with pride, and dressed herself in her most beautiful costume of glint and bedazzlement. She proceeded to follow the angels, who would show her the right place. The star shone with such strength and beauty that she was seen from all parts of the World, and so much so that a group of wise men decided to follow her, knowing that she must be pointing to something important.

For days, the star followed the angels, showing the way, and she was eager to discover what place she was going to illuminate. However, when the angels stopped, and with great joy said “Here it is!” the star could not believe it. There were no palaces, no castles or mansions, no gold or jewels. Only a small, half-abandoned, dirty smelly stable.

“Oh no Not that! I cannot waste my shine and beauty lighting up a place like this! I was born for something greater than this!”

And though the angels tried to calm her, the star’s fury grew and grew, and so much pride and arrogance bubbled up inside her that she began to burn. And thus she consumed herself and disappeared.

Well, what a problem! There were only a few days left before the big moment, and they were without a star. The angels, in a panic, ran to Heaven to tell God what had happened. After thinking for a moment, God said:

-“In that case, search for the smallest, most humble and joyful of all the stars you can find, and bring it here.”

Surprised by the order, but unquestioning, because the Lord often did this kind of thing, the angels flew through the heavens in search of the smallest, most joyful star. It was a tiny star, as small as a grain of sand. He knew so little that he gave no importance to his brightness, and he spent his whole time laughing and chatting with his friends, the biggest stars.

When this star was brought to the Lord, he was told:

-“The most perfect star in creation, the most wonderful, the most brilliant has failed due to its pride. I thought that you, the most humble and joyful of all the stars, should be the one chosen to take its place and light up the most important event in history: the birth of baby Jesus in Bethlehem.”

The star was filled with so much emotion and joy that he had already arrived over Bethlehem, led by the angels, before he realised that his brilliance was negligible and that, however much he tried, he could not illuminate things much better than a firefly could.

“Ok,” he said to himself.

“How come I didn’t think before accepting this assignment? I’m the smallest star there is! It is totally impossible for me to do as well as that great shining star ... The shame of it! I’m going to mess up an opportunity that all the stars in the heavens would have loved to have had ...”

Then he thought again, “all the stars in the heavens.” Of course they would love to take part in something like this! And without hesitation, the star took to the skies with a message for all his friends:

“On December 25th, at midnight, I want to share with you all the greatest glory that can exist for a star: to light up the birth of God! I will await you in the little town of Bethlehem, by a small stable.”

And indeed, none of the stars rejected this generous invitation. So many stars joined together, that they formed the most beautiful Star of Christmas that would ever be seen, even though the little star couldn’t even be seen amid all the brilliance. And happy at his excellent service, and as a reward for his humility and generosity, God transformed this little messenger into a beautiful shooting star, and gave him the gift of granting wishes every time saw his beautiful trail gleaming in the night sky was seen.
AWARDS CEREMONIES | RECIPIENTS SEMESTER 2 2016

YEAR 11 RECIPIENTS

1 Merit Award

2 Merit Awards

3 Merit Awards
Sarah Boede, Emily Collins, Nathan Contebardo, Angus Faulkner-King, Kahla Gossip, Nicholas Hamilton, and Christian Toy.

4 Merit Awards
Denali Wraith-Tenson.

1 Academic Award
Emmerson Alford, Alexander Condello, Matthew Di Pietrantonio, Paris Fairweather, Cooper Giling, Aleisha Gislingham, Maleah Klep, Isabella Martin, Joshua McKenna, Erin McKenzie, Mohand Mohamed, Bethany Morison, Georgia Perry, Joel Peters, and James Tosh.

1 Academic & 1 Merit Award
Georgia Cullen, Rhys Deray, Meg Dolphin, Amber Downey, Ebony Downward, Michaela Jarvie, Rebecca Mollica, Jack Muscat, Thomas Sinton, Kate Spiden, Nathan Thompson, Jesse Wyatt, and Daniella Zappia.

1 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
James Bishop, Alexandra Campbell, Dylan Findley, Tahlia Hayes, Callum Lowden, Steven Presutto, Christian Ruscitti, Jordan Trollope, and Hannah Wintle.

1 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Alfred Mendez, Abbey Sinclair, and Jayden Voorzaat.

1 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Ashleigh Sartori.

2 Academic Awards
Nicholas Birznieks, Emmerson Daniels, Chloe De Groot, Kayla Jackson, Jessie Lawlor, Chloe Leenen, and Kelsey Sinclair.

2 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Chloe Dickson, Timeka Eales, Ruby Kelly, Marcus Kikidopoulos, and Natalie Koziol.

2 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Samantha Falconer, Chloe Falla, Zachary Griffin, Brendon Huynh, Paige Layfield, and Tysha Ramacula.

2 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Sam Di Pietrantonio, Georgia Goss, Tyson Noyes, Gemma Ryan, and Henry Staidn-Dymond.
2 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Emily Corbett, and Isabelle Townend.

3 Academic Awards
Lily McDonald, Ysabelle Price, Eden Pritchard, and Jacqueline Ricci.

3 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Cassandra Thaller.

3 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Stacey Fleming, Jack Lebner, Mark Melhem, Brittany Moorhouse, Thomas Royle, and Declan Scott.

4 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Emily Battaglene, Krystal Meyer, and Nathan Rice.

4 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Kylie Verbakel, and Elisabet Yuwono.

5 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Katherine Boyle, Eve Gowan, and Isabella Preston.

6 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Jake Rickard.

7 Academic Awards
Madeline Cimo.

Year 10 Award Recipients

1 Merit Award

2 Merit Awards
Ryan Anderson, Aaron Campbell, Sabrina Cianciaruso, Edward Clark, Gabrielle Corbett, Lachlan Cox, Laura Dalsanto, Mikeely Dell, Liam Gosling, Max Keithley, Ashley Leary, Sarah McDonald, Antonio Molluso, Andrew Purcell, Jeremy Pynaker, Wesley Rayner, and Stephanie Wells.

3 Merit Awards
Brianna Baxter, Sarah Dalgleish, Tess Egan, Lachlan Isbel, and Bethany Limburg.

4 Merit Awards
Rielly McGibbony.

1 Academic Award

1 Academic & 1 Merit Awards

1 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Harrison Allwood, Talia Colombangi, Kelly Edyvane, Anna-Maree Hammond, Mitchell Martin, Rachel Van Der Linden, and Isabella Yapp.

1 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
1 Academic & 4 Merit Awards  
James Gammell, Amelia Jarvie, and Lilian Pagels.

1 Academic & 5 Merit Awards  
Darcy Hennessy, and Jessica Owens.

2 Academic Awards  
Isabella Chidiac, Shani Colombani, Laura Mattucci, Gabrielle Shandley, and Jacob Starnawski.

2 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Charlotte Kollosoche, Eloise Trice, and Emerson Woods.

2 Academic & 2 Merit Awards  
Nicholas Camp, Alexandra Carstens, Alissa Cordedda, Lilly Kelly, Travis Rowden, Thomas Rutzou, Nicholas Salvitti, and Liam Walker.

2 Academic & 3 Merit Awards  
Natalie Boxell, Ava Brown, Ella Randle, and Chloe Sanderson.

2 Academic & 4 Merit Awards  
Isabella Pearce

3 Academic Awards  
Noah Fairlie, Jamie Hirschfeld, and Mia Walsh.

3 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Isabella de Wit, and Grainne Duncan.

3 Academic & 2 Merit Awards  
Bridget Bast, Isaac Biasuzzo, Erin Farquharson, Samuel Johnston-Bailey, Miranda Read, and Joshua Van Bockel.

3 Academic & 3 Merit Awards  
Emily Campagna, Ebony Martorella, and Melanie Verhagen.

3 Academic & 4 Merit Awards  
Zara Daniels, and Danielle Virgona.

4 Academic Awards  
Benito Di Battista, Kiara Walsh, and Jessica Zammit.

4 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Jack Jordan, Anthony Molluso, and Jessica Speight.

4 Academic & 2 Merit Awards  
Leah Del Giudice, Ana Malnar, and Keely Schoch.

4 Academic & 3 Merit Awards  
Brent Martin.

5 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Joshua Hausler, and Aragorn Keuken.

5 Academic & 2 Merit Awards  
Cailin Moerth, and Ethan Wake.

6 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Lucinda Flamsteed, Jasmine Hendriks, and Lilli Totton.

6 Academic & 2 Merit Awards  
Olivia Henry, Erin Jones, Teresa Toscano, Callum Young, and Annaliese Zmegac.

7 Academic & 1 Merit Awards  
Breanna Ruscitti, Jordan Schuyt.

8 Academic Awards  
Jessica Duff, Hollee Mandelt, and Grace McKee.

This school community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children
Year 9 Award Recipients

1 Merit Award

2 Merit Awards
Noah Andueza, Edward Bourke, Lara Cassar, Jade Commerford, Hayley Downey, Mackenzie Goss, Sophie Hennessey, Sophie Licciardi, Natalee Marchese, Harrison Strachan, Emily Tighe, Flynn Tirchett, Alice Tripp, Madeleine Wightman, and Belinda Wild.

3 Merit Awards
Riley Atwell, Jai-Kobi Butcher, Jade Callaway, Alex D’Angelo, Anthony Salvitti, Rachael Spry, and Madison Whelan.

4 Merit Awards
Ella Tosh, and Lachlan Zeniou.

5 Merit Awards
Maddison Pirrotta.

6 Merit Awards
Chloe Baulch.

1 Academic Award
Neve Biggin, Tyler Blanchard, Joshua Boede, Lachlan Brown, Katelyn Ennis, Tara Jean, Rianna Kirkham, Tia Lush, Kai Martin, Nicholas Sanelli, Jayden Santiago, Bronwyn Scott, and Hayden Ting.

1 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Anthony Cappellucci, Christelle Cartledge, Emma Croney, Connor Dennis, Jessica Emary, Zara Fehring, Tessa Goff, Joshua Graham, Lily Houm, Georgia McAleer, Guido Parrella, Elly Royle, Roisin Scoble, Chloe Stokes, Marcus Tyzack, and Lachlan Young.

1 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Georgia Berrie, Alec D’Angelo, Benjamin Decorrado, Mikayla Mortimer, Priya Richards, Keranda Simmons, Hayley Stephens, Molly Tucci, and Jacqueline Voss.

1 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Rosalie De Francesco, Cooper Downey, Matthew Gamble, and Jessie Williams.

1 Academic & 4 Merit Awards

2 Academic Awards
Riley Dawson-Muir, Ella Delgorge, Darcy Hamilton, and James Macfarlane.

2 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Abbey Arnold, Emma Boyle, Faith Butler, Sophie Cook, Ciara Robinson, and Lucy Ryguschek.

2 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Lily Baxter, Esther Cook, Kayley McKenna, and Madelyn O’Donnell.

2 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Jackson Flint, Nathan Hausler, Harrison Keeling, and Taylah Lonergan.

2 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Taylah Paterson.

2 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Jasmine McDine, and Michael Platten.

2 Academic & 6 Merit Awards
Laura Del Biondo, and Emily Knight.

3 Academic Awards
Ivy Ferguson-Mayer.
3 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Timothy Carrington, Jayde Cooper, Samuel Lees, Jamie Marshall, Daniel Schlueter, and Charlie Wells.

3 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Daniel Bresnan, Grace Clinton, Molly Matthews, Philippa Read, Kendra Spencer and Ashlee Sumner.

3 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Angelo Eglezos, and Hannah Steele.

3 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Emily Gazzola.

4 Academic Awards
Sienna Clark, and Jack Daelish.

4 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Courtney Stevens, Meg Thompson, Abigail Van Bergeijk, and Jack Woodward.

4 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Jessica Dalgleish, Jade Fairweather, and Katie Lowry.

4 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Claudia Finta, and Patrick Keating.

4 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Ethan Preston, and Harrison Stolzenhain.

5 Academic Awards
Todd Garner.

5 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Selina Corrone, Gemma Klep, and Grace Vanderkolk.

5 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Alanah Archer, Macy Giling, Kara Inglese, Kaitlyn Spinks, Annabelle Welsh, and Emily Zmegac.

5 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Sarah Brindley, and Molly Jones.

6 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Meagan Farrugia-Roberts, and Jason Rice.

6 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Mikayla Byrne, Amelia Cimo, Ethan Cornish, and Charlotte Young.

7 Academic Awards
Charlotte Cilia, Tea Grebe, Sarah McSpadden, Willow Thomas, and Isabella Whitelaw.

7 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Sheridyn Hiney and Keilani Trewavis.

7 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Tristan Mifsud and Grace Staindl-Dymond.

8 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Lara Griffin-Krenn, Molly Henderson, Brianna Kollosche, and Chelsea Rogers.

9 Academic Awards
Alana McGurgan, and Sophia Zappia.
**Year 8 Award Recipients**

1 Merit Award
Liam Abbott, Bailey Blundell, Maclaren Cooper, Callum Evans, Mitchell Farr, Ryan Gurney, Cory Leenen, Lily Maxworth, Kane McDonald, Nelson Mwagiru, Isabella Parker, Dylan Peters, Sophie Potts, Jye Price, Joshua Read, Finn Reardon, Ella Rumian, Nathaniel Savaris, Zak Stafford, Max Staley, Jayden Steventon, Genevieve Trolley, Hunter Walsh, and Nathan Zmegac.

2 Merit Awards
Jai Addison, Benjamin Bourke, Aaron Campagna, Dane Cerveri, Lachlan Cox, William Fahey, Chelsea Godwin, Alex Heath, Ella James, Tyler Leist, Josephine Molluso, Amy Roberts, Mitchell Mutsaers, and Taryn Williams.

3 Merit Awards
Reilly Acabado, Aiden Butler, Max Harvey, Emily Leach, Maree-Rose Orlando, Sara Perrotta, Lachlan Van Der Klift, and Thomas Whitaker.

4 Merit Awards
Bailey Hipfel, and Emily Hoiles.

5 Merit Awards
Thomas Clements.

1 Academic Award
Holly Archer, Jackson Davis, Cooper Milne, Jay Rooney, Bradley Van Steyn, and Brooke Zeniou.

1 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Taylah Allen, Isabella Anns, Georgia Bateman, Rhett Bethune, Joel Bogojevic, Lachlan Bourke, Sarah Boyle, Jade Edyvane, Christopher Fox, Ariana Gowan, Zara Monk, Rhani Oxley, Emma Roberts, and Erin Towning.

1 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Ebony Eacott, Max Hall, Adriana Hawkins, Rebecca Meyer, Ebony Smark, Jack Thomas, and Jacob Vuils.

1 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Ashlee Atwell, Abbey Carter, Lily Dove, Isabella Green, Ella Johnson, Lucy Nation, and Lochlann Tipping.

1 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Ethan Downey and Rosemarie Galluzzo.

2 Academic Awards
Sebastien Stevens and Moses Villani.

2 Academic & 1 Merit Awards

2 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Isaac Barnes, Gabriella Phillips, Braeden Shean, and Kirra Smark.

2 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Catherine Gillet, Lachlan Sims, and Meghan Wobbes.

2 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Cassandra Banks, Kyah Burns, Christina Del Giudice, Angus Hill, Joel Starnawski, and Tara Vanstan.

2 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Matilda Kelly.

3 Academic Awards
Annalese Gammell and Toby Van Berkel.

3 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Joanna Bryce, Niamh Gilligan, Kathryn Green, Jamie La Morticella, Kira McNair, Justin Platten, Charlee Prescott, and Clinton Sibberas.

3 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Reanna Corrigan, Amber Gosling, Casey Parker-Turner, and Lainey Sandford.
3 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Shelby Dewar, Shaelyn Jean, Charles Schneider, Jacksen Sealey, and Riley Van Bockel.

4 Academic Awards
Amelia Moorby.

4 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Maddison Andueza, Tessa Bourke-Finn, Jasmine Maa, William McDonald, Rhiannon Nanscawen, and Bryce Woods.

4 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Anthony Centracchio, Darby Huggins, Emma Pitt, Olivia Spiteri, and Harrison van Duuren.

4 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Samuel Hodgett, Tatiana Lintzeris, and Nicholas McKenzie.

4 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Tegan Toole.

4 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Luca Cianciaruso.

5 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Kai Frost, Hayley Jackson, and Summer Thomas.

5 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Isabella Davies, May Flamsteed, Alesha Gray, and Talisha Nichols.

5 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Bridget Deed.

5 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Cameron Oude-Meilink and Michelle Richardson.

6 Academic Awards
Alexandra Falconer.

6 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Meg Hazell-Langley, Hannah Napier, and Rory Townend.

6 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Ashley Herrod, Tiarna Jackson, and Karen Laan.

6 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Rebecca Snell.

6 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Molly Bollaart.

7 Academic Awards
Hugh Basset, Emily Cullen, Tomadia Ghali, and Kirsten Moerth.

7 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Adam Camp.

7 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Harrison George, Madeline George and Madison Violi.

8 Academic & 1 Merit Awards

8 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Liam Pritchard.

8 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Kaitlyn Crymble.
9 Academic Awards
Georgia Drummond, Amy Frazzetto, Jamieson Manger, Mai Reed, and Riley Swankie.

10 Academic Awards
Patricia Aguinaldo, Madeline Remminga, and Chloe Rickard.

Year 7 Award Recipients

1 Merit Award
Jessica Bonanno, Darcy Byron, Nicholas Carrington, Liam Cox, Joshua de Wit, Patrice Demetriou, Robert Derma, Jasmine Dillon, Mychal Enever, Liam English, Holly Fernando, Ashley Frazzetto, Jessica Herrod, Christopher Holmes, Abbey McCann, Connor McGuire, Samuel Mitchell, Alana Morabito, Beau Norney, Olivia Rieschieck, Olivia Savini, Daniella Scabellone, Frank Toscano, Jarrod Voss, and Natasha Vukic.

2 Merit Awards
Lachlan Friswell, Cameron Isbel, Mia Kusnezow, Mikaela O’Brien, Aimee Sartori, Charlotte Welsh, Grace Whelan, and Tamara Whitmore.

3 Merit Awards

4 Merit Awards
Harry Chivers.

1 Academic Award
Tarin Cooper, Cougar Cowan, Ashton Dobbin, Cinzia Giudice, Molly Glenn, Niall Hudson, Jay Lewington, Adam McKee, Sean O’Connor, Kyron Phillips, Harrison Sealey, and Madeline Trimboli.

1 Academic & 1 Merit Awards

1 Academic & 2 Merit Awards

1 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Paige McMaster, Amy Wahrenberger, and Mitchell Wolski.

1 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Matilda Cottier, Liam Gibson, and Tiana King.

1 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Sophie Embleton.

2 Academic Awards
Cooper Devlin, Georgia Haynes, Hunter Keen, and Marek Orlowski.

2 Academic & 1 Merit Award
Mackenzie Adams, Codie Condon, Toby Fraser, Maddison Macpherson, Maddison Murray, Brianna Steele, and Jake Wyatt.

2 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Amber Daigleish, Ebony Damen, Christian De Iulio, Jack Hendrie, Shanae Love, Ellen McDonald, Jemma Paterson, Thomas Reardon, Daniel Ryan, and Isabel Woods.

2 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Flynn Michel-Collins and Fletcher Stafford.

2 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Alannah Conte, Ruby Rock, and Jacob Whitehouse.

2 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Dianne Sayco.
2 Academic & 7 Merit Awards
William Geeves and Lachlan Isbester

3 Academic Awards
Sophie Jaworski and Amelia Jerin.

3 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Hana Bainbridge, Vincent Belford, Sarah Biasuzzo, Ashlea Calvi, Georgia Cuteri, and Jaimee Strachan.

3 Academic & 2 Merit Awards

3 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Danielle Greene, Ella Henri, Lilly May, Poppy Rayner, Ryan Webb, and Jasmin Wood.

3 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Jaidyn Askham, Olivia De Vincentis, and Lakoda Scopel.

3 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Alec Grebe.

4 Academic Awards
Caitlin Fawdry.

4 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Bella Bergamin and Kaylah Young.

4 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Sebastian Aisea, Victoria Cappellucci, Clara D’Angelo, Holly Johns, Ryan Jones, Isabella Keeling, Madeleine Read, and Jared Wake.

4 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Blake Archer, Tess Flint, Abbey Wheeler, and Emily Wicks.

4 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Jessica McGrath and Kelly Whitchell.

4 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Sam Green and Alisha Rowden.

5 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Bailey O’Neil and Katelyn Ruscitti.

5 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Ella Arter, Samantha Brewer, Trent Campbell, Charlotte De Vries, and Caitlin Lowndes.

5 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Emma Di Paolo, Katelyn Kollosche, Ethan Prentice, and Charlotte Sims.

5 Academic & 5 Merit Awards
Lily Trewin.

6 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Max Bradley, Samara Brauman, and Jayden Lavorgna.

6 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Isabella Elderhurst, Elizabeth Griffin, Stephanie Martinez, Taylah Martorella, and Holly Russell.

6 Academic & 3 Merit Awards
Madison Jackson and Keisha Sunderland.

6 Academic & 4 Merit Awards
Molly Williams.

7 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Joshua Keagan and Alyssia Trinnick.
This school community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children

7 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Jessica Gamble, Hardy Nagel, and Andre Parlas.

8 Academic Awards
Madeleine Keating, and Caitlin Van Den Broek.

8 Academic & 1 Merit Awards
Dominika Kaczmarek, Wiktoria Krawczyk, and Lucy Rogers.

8 Academic & 2 Merit Awards
Kimberley Fiorentino, Zoe Hendriks, Callum Ludwig, Nadia Mattucci, Shae Preston, and Mia Wright.

9 Academic Awards
Ava Bartusch, Brianna Moore, and Connor Taylor.

9 Academic & 1 Merit Awards

10 Academic Awards
Krishia Catungal and Laura Fitzgerald.

On Monday 28 November, 27 students from the Instrumental Music Program participated in the Music Recital Evening. Parents/Grandparents were invited along to enjoy the various instruments Mount Lilydale Mercy College have on offer for our students. Some of these students have only been learning an instrument since the beginning of 2016, while other students have been actively involved in music lessons for years. We believe it is really important for their parents/grandparents to view what their son or daughter have learnt thus far. We are very proud of the time and commitment the following students and music teachers put into this wonderful evening: Cassandra Banks, Molly Bollaart, Shelby Dewar, Emma Di Paolo, Tess Flint, William Geeves, Ashley Herrod, Zoe Hendricks, Joshua Janssen, Sam Lees, Caitlyn Lowndes, Ellen Mc Donald, Grace Moody, Reuben Muir, Jackson Parker, Nicholas Piccioli, Shae Preston, Madeline Remminga, Lachlin Riddiford, Amy Roberts, Sebastian Roberts, Clinton Sibberas, Kirra Smark, Tara Vanstan, Charlotte Vranken, Amy Wahrenberger and Macky Wilson.
Regular readers of the newsletter will be very familiar with the successes and amazing experiences of the young farmers in 2016.

It was fitting then, to spend Sunday the 4th of December with these young people at the Polo to watch the 2016 Flowerfield cup. Spending the day in the company of the fine young people and families that make up our young farmers community was a treat. Our hosts for the day were the Lithgow family, owners of Flowerfield. I would like to thank them, and indeed all our sponsors and supporters this year.

Every event we attend emphasizes the importance of providing opportunities for our young people in their school life. Seeing the wonderful way in which our students dressed and comported themselves on the day made for yet another amazing contrast. From seeing these students covered in cow dung sleeping on concrete floors in winter, trimming goat hooves in the rain, showing animals in the main ring of the show to at this latest event where they dressed up for a society day at the Polo. What a great, capable, well rounded bunch of young people we work with!

All that we achieve cannot be accomplished without the support and belief of those in the community. Sally Wingett, Andrew Feher, Jessica Tipping and myself would like to thank our staunch supporters and sponsors. Mr Phillip Morison and the Executive team, Mr Mick Hill, Andrew Comerford and the Maintenance team, Rural Fence and Trade, Wandin Veterinary Clinic, Yering Station Wines, Suzanne Halliday, Five Oaks Wines, Team H Cattle, Para Boer Goats of Negambie and the Tourism Network Yarra Valley. Without these wonderful people supporting us and helping out we could simply not achieve all that we do. The opportunities that the club provides the students that partake extend well beyond the classroom and inspire life long learning and social skills beyond the grasp of many students. Please do support these wonderful businesses as they provide so much for our students.

I look forward to spending time next year with such an amazing group of young people, community and staff, who make such a real and positive difference to our community.

Now it is time for rest and reflection. I hope that you all have a lovely Christmas and new year with your families and look forward to seeing our 2016 group and new members for adventures next year.

Tim Thompson
Young Farmer at Heart.
A REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES WHO USE GOVERNMENT FUNDED MYKI CARDS:

The 2017 Victorian Public Transport Concession Card Application form will be available for completion in mid-January. Eligible families will receive an SMS with a link to the school website, asking you to please fill out the form and return it to MLMC Reception by 8 February. Every student who is eligible for a Government Funded MYKI needs to return this form.

To prepare for this application over the holidays, we suggest having two passport size photos ready and the correct money (we have not been advised yet of 2017 cost but will notify you in mid-January, it was $9 in 2016) to submit with your form.

Students with 2016 Government MYKI cards will be able to use these cards up until the end of February. However, to ensure students have 2017 cards before the expiry date, we require all forms to be submitted by no later than Wednesday 8 February.

New students to the college will be required to use their own personal MYKI or make alternative travel arrangements until Government Funded MYKI’s become available.

We appreciate your assistance in returning these forms to MLMC Reception by Wednesday 8 February.

Amy Sheehy
Bus Coordinator

FROM THE IT DEPARTMENT - IT WORKS IN THE COLLEGE DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please note the IT Staff will be conducting IT maintenance works from 19 December 2017 to 13 January 2017.

During this time, access to College web sites may be disrupted. IT Staff will endeavour to keep disruptions to minimum.

Thank you for your understanding.
The Mount Lilydale Mercy College Old Collegians’ Association are hosting the inaugural Yarra Valley Film Festival on Saturday 4 March 2017. The Festival will include a twilight market, art exhibition and live entertainment. The Old Collegians’ Association would like to invite anyone who would like to participate or get involved in the planning of the event. Volunteers are needed, as well as stalls for the Twilight market. Please register your interest at oc@mlmc.vic.edu.au.

"The Yarra Valley Film Festival is seeking corporate sponsorship and prizes with the opportunity to promote supporters on the big screen on the night as well as on social media”

For more information about the event, go to: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/yarra-valley-film-fest-free-event-tickets-29317425208

More exciting announcements to come!

The Mount Lilydale Mercy College Old Collegians' Association presents

A FREE community event under the stars of the Yarra Valley.

The Yarra Valley Film Festival
Saturday March 4, 2017 Let the films roll!

BOOK your FREE ticket NOW @ www.YVFF.eventbrite.com.au

Showcasing the best in short films, local wines, beers, ciders and food!

Twilight Market – Live Music – Art Exhibition – Jumping Castle & More!

Proudly supported by Yarra Ranges Council
### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2016/2017

**St Peter Julian Eymard Parish**

#### December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26th/27th</td>
<td>1st Sunday of Advent&lt;br&gt;Social Justice Collection - Advent Appeal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>Advent Twilight Retreat (SPJE Church) 6.15 – 9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd/4th</td>
<td>2nd Sunday of Advent&lt;br&gt;Baptisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th (Thur)</td>
<td>St Richards School End of Year School Mass—9.15am&lt;br&gt;St Richards Hall – Parishioners invited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No 9.15am Mass at SPJE Church)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parish Thanksgiving Mass – 7pm followed by&lt;br&gt;Supper at Parish House Backyard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th/11th</td>
<td>3rd Sunday of Advent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th (Tues)</td>
<td>Advent penitential Service – 7.30pm (Church)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th (Wed)</td>
<td>SPJE School Graduation Mass – 7pm (Church)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th (Thur)</td>
<td>SPJE School End of Year Mass— 12pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th (Thur)</td>
<td>St Richards Graduation Mass – 7pm (St Richard’s Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th (Fri)</td>
<td>Term 4 ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th/18th</td>
<td>4th Sunday of Advent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th (Tues)</td>
<td>St. Richard’s Staff Mass – 11am&lt;br&gt;(No 9.15am Mass at SPJE Church)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24th (Sat)</td>
<td>Christmas Eve&lt;br&gt;6.00pm Family Mass SPJE Oval (Carols 5.30pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.30pm Mass (Carols 8.00pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Midnight Mass (Carols 11.30pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th (Sun)</td>
<td>Christmas Day&lt;br&gt;9.00am Christmas Mass&lt;br&gt;10.30am Christmas Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26th (Mon)  No 9.15am Mass

27th – 30th No Masses

31st        Saturday – 6pm

1st         Sunday – 9am & 11am – Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th (Sun)</td>
<td>Feast of the Epiphany—Mass 9am &amp; 11am&lt;br&gt;Baptisms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ORIENTATION DAY UNIFORM SALES AT MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP  
TUESDAY 6th DECEMBER 2016 9am - 2:00pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAST TRADING WEEK 2016</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 26th November</td>
<td>9:30am - 12:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th November</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th November</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 1st December</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students' Last Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 3rd December</td>
<td>9:00am - 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5th December</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6th December</td>
<td>9:00am - 2:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Trading Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACK TO SCHOOL TRADING HOURS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JANUARY 2017</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 14th</td>
<td>9:00am - 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th</td>
<td>9:30am - 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td>12:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Selling Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
<td>12:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
<td>12:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 28th</td>
<td>9:00am - 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31st</td>
<td>12:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Normal Trading Hours Commence Thursday 2nd February 2017 ~</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRADING HOURS DURING TERMS 1, 2 &amp; 4:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Saturday of the month</td>
<td>9:30am - 12:30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRADING HOURS DURING TERM 3:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12:30pm - 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Saturday of the month</td>
<td>9:30am - 12:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMPORTANT INFORMATION: CALCULATORS FOR 2017

Details of calculator arrangements for 2017 appear below for clarification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>CALCULATOR REQUIRED</th>
<th>All students (On Booklist)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 7</td>
<td>Sharp EL-531</td>
<td>All students (On Booklist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 8</td>
<td>Sharp EL-531</td>
<td>All students (On Booklist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 9</td>
<td>Texas Graphic Ti-Nspire CAS Calculator</td>
<td>All students Purchase details below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 10</td>
<td>Texas Graphic Ti-Nspire CAS Calculator</td>
<td>All students Purchase details below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 11</td>
<td>Texas Graphic Ti-Nspire CAS Calculator</td>
<td>All students doing any Maths. Purchase details below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 12</td>
<td>Texas Graphic Ti-Nspire CAS Calculator</td>
<td>All students doing any Maths. Purchase details below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PURCHASE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TI-Nspire CAS CALCULATORS

The TI-Nspire calculators may be purchased from Haines Educational as per the instructions below. This arrangement has been made with Haines to reduce the cost of the new calculator for parents. Preloved calculators may be used.

COST: TI-Nspire CX CAS Inc. free wallet and pre-registered 3 year warranty and USB wall charger $213 ($205 without charger)

MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE CALCULATOR PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

It's easy, just follow the steps below.
1. Go to the Haines Educational home page at www.haines.com.au
2. Click on portal link (underneath the My Cart box) halfway down page on left side
3. Enter code mlmc (lower case only), School portal page will open
4. Follow the instructions and add your required calculator package
5. Check that details are correct in MY CART (yellow box on left), proceed to checkout
6. Ensure that the Student’s Name is entered (required for delivery at College)
7. Add details, address and contact number (Ignore any ticks in boxes as delivery will be to College)
8. Complete payment method (Mastercard or Visa only available)
9. Click on Place Order, (a confirmation email will be sent to you, retain for collection/taxation purposes.
10. Click on return to home page.(at top of page) Order completed

Any problems ring Haines Educational  87366000

Deadlines:  20/01/2017 for 30/01/2017 delivery to MLMC
           10/02/2017 for 17/02/2017 delivery to MLMC
Orders made after these dates will incur a $12 delivery fee
You don’t need an instruction manual to make the most of the school holidays. After all, holidays are about kicking your feet up, relaxing and getting away from the usual routines. Right?

But the holiday season can be stressful. For many parents the prospect of keeping children occupied for up to six weeks can be daunting. Kids who kept busy with school, after school activities and weekend sport suddenly have time on their hands and look to you to keep them busy.

Christmas can also be a difficult and lonely time for some. Sole parents and step-parents usually experience particular challenges at this time of the year as family catch-ups cause conflict, and disputes can arise over who children spend their time with.

Often family differences are contained during the year but spill over when normal routines cease over the holiday period. High maintenance children who’s behaviour is bearable when they are at school can suddenly seem very challenging indeed when you spend 24/7 time with them.

Here are some ways to help reduce tension over the festive season and make the holidays enjoyable and fruitful for all.

1. Be creative with how festivities are organised
For instance, two or more Christmas dinners may be needed so everyone is included. If you are flexible with your arrangements as well as your thinking then the potentially tricky times will flow more easily.

2. Mix up the routines
The best part about holidays is the move away from the routines of school-life. Some kids feel comfortable with the routines of school-life and can feel a little lost until the new holiday routine kicks in. Be patient with these routine-junkies! Also make sure you begin adjusting the routine as a return to school comes closer so kids are prepared for going to bed and getting up at earlier times.

3. Mix ‘me’ time with ‘them’ time
Plan a mixture of outdoor activities or trips with quiet at-home activities where you can relax and recharge your own batteries. The holidays are a chance to spend time as a family but you also need to take some time for yourself each day. It helps to let your kids know that you are having some timeout too.

4. Resist being your child’s home entertainment machine
Give children opportunities to keep themselves occupied or think of inexpensive, fun ways to keep themselves amused. “I’m bored” is an invitation for kids to keep themselves occupied rather than for you to keep them amused.

5. Team up with other families
Whether it is sharing celebrations with other families or just holidaying with friends, holidays offer the chance to broaden your child’s social circle. Create opportunities to spend time with other families preferably with children the same age as yours.

Make sure you provide the three types of activities that children want with their parents – i.e. rituals and celebrations, including family mealtimes; one-on-one activities where you spend some time alone with each child; and unstructured, impromptu activities such as playing simple games, story-telling and walks around the neighbourhood. These are important relationship-building activities that bind families together and enable you to build up emotional collateral with kids as they move into adolescence.

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