

NEWSLETTER No. 8 – Thursday, 26th March 2009

*“Let us rejoice when good is done, no matter by whom it is accomplished”
Catherine McAuley (1778-1841) Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy*

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

We were saddened to learn last week of the death of Sr Nora Hearn rsm. Sr Nora was a very valuable member of our parish community over a long period of time. She would visit the sick in hospital and others who were housebound, as well as care for elderly Sisters. Nora gained notoriety for her travels by bicycle and somewhat laissez-faire regard for the rules of the road. A memorial service was held on Tuesday evening to remember Sr Nora. May she rest in peace.

Darren Atkinson, Principal

Winter Uniform

The transition into winter uniform will occur when we return from Term 1 holidays. From April 20th to May 1st students may choose to wear either their full summer uniform or full winter uniform as suits the weather conditions of the day. A hybrid of the two uniforms is not acceptable.

From **May 4th**, all students must be wearing the full winter uniform. An order form was attached to last week's newsletter. Please contact the College Office if you require another order form.

College Rugby Tops

The College rugby top is an approved outer garment when students are wearing their PE uniform or are representing the College in sport. It is not an alternative to the College jumper and cannot be worn with normal summer or winter uniform. Similarly, the College jumper is not an approved outer garment when students are in PE uniform or representing the College in sport.

Both the College jumper and rugby top are ordered to the highest quality we can source to ensure they are durable and long lasting.

MERCY TODAY AND PROJECT COMPASSION

At the Mercy International Research Conference at the end of 2007, the Sisters of Mercy arrived at the following vision statement:

A vision is the reality of the future for which we yearn.

Out of the first three stages of our theological reflection process, this vision emerged.

We Sisters of Mercy in the twenty-first century are in radical communion beyond all borders. We are grounded in the compassion of God. We are nurtured by the Gospel, and by the story of Catherine McAuley and of Mercy lived and living. Aware of our own brokenness, we join with others in healing the wounds of Earth and Earth's peoples. The Vision Statement challenges us as a Mercy school, and families as part of our Mercy community, to respond to the "wounds of Earth and Earths' peoples." **Project Compassion** allows us one such vehicle with which to make a difference, as we join with other communities around the world to make a difference together. Project Compassion joins with the local communities in need to find ways of responding successfully to the immediate and long term issues facing these wounded people.

All families are challenged to respond generously to this call to help the wounded in our world this Lent as we daily collect funds in homerooms to help others. Each of us must ask ourselves if we have done our bit or whether we need to make a greater effort in the next week of this term to make the College's Project Compassion effort one that can truly make a difference to the lives of a wounded community.



PROJECT COMPASSION EASTER RAFFLE

The College is running a Monster Easter Egg Raffle to raise money for Project Compassion. All students are asked to donate Easter eggs, baskets and wrapping paper for prizes. All donations will be greatly appreciated and can be left at the Student Office. The raffle will be drawn on **Wednesday, 1st April**.



LOCAL EXCURSIONS

Friday 27th March	
Periods 6 & 7	PED081K to Waves (Mr Smith)
Monday 30th March	
Periods 4 & 5	REL101D to Sunraysia Funeral Homes (Mr Aston)
Tuesday 31st March	
Periods 2 & 3	PED071M/R to Waves (Mr J McCormack & Mrs Minter)
Periods 2 & 3	PEDOEOA to Apex Park (Mr Doyle)
Periods 6 & 7	MWS081E/F to Vision Australia (Mrs Knight & Mr Reece)
Periods 6 & 7	MSW081C/D to Christie Centre (Mr J McCormack & Miss Hagen)
Wednesday 1st April	
Periods 4 & 5	PED071C/Y to Waves (Mr Smith & Mr Ficarra)
Periods 4 to 7	PEDOEOA to Kings Billabong (Mr Doyle)
Periods 6 & 7	DRAO8A to St Paul's (Mrs Kemp)
Thursday 2nd April	
Periods 2 & 3	PED081L to Waves (Mrs Sharman)
Periods 4 & 5	PED081D/C/M to Waves (Mr J McCormack, Mr Ficarra & Miss Howard)
Periods 6 & 7	PED071E to Waves (Mr Ficarra)
Friday 3rd April	
Periods 6 & 7	PED081K to Waves (Mr Smith)

BUS TRAVEL ON LAST DAY OF TERM

Sunraysia Bus Lines have advised that on the last day of term (**Friday, 3rd April**) school bus afternoon runs will commence at 2.30pm, HOWEVER, all public bus routes will run at the normal timetabled times. Therefore, students who would normally catch a public bus will need to make their own arrangements. Please contact Sunraysia Bus Lines on 5023 0274 for other bus times or further information.

A THOUGHT FROM THE URSULA FRAYNE WELL-BEING CENTRE

God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives.

Other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way....

Good friends are like that.... you may not always see them, but you know they are always there.

Please listen for my bell and I'll listen for yours. And remember....

Be kinder than necessary - everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

**Live simply,
Love generously,
Care deeply,
Speak kindly.....
Leave the rest to God.**

EARLY NOTIFICATION OF PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held on **Tuesday, 28th April**. Please mark this date in your diary. Prior to the interviews, parents will receive mid Semester reports which will be mailed home at the end of Term 1. You can make appointments to see teachers by calling a dedicated phone number in the two weeks prior to Parent Teacher interviews. More detailed information will be included in the newsletters between now and the end of the term.
Mr Greg Kluske, Director of Curriculum

MERCY WORKS

Mercy Works is a new subject that was introduced at Year 8 in 2009. Students complete three periods a week, one at the St Joseph's College Stadium on Monday mornings and two at the main College campus or out in the community on Tuesday afternoons. The students have embraced the concept of Mercy Works with great enthusiasm. They have been involved in learning about Service Learning and its relevance to us, a Mercy school. We have incorporated our Mercy values into looking at the needs of the school community and the wider Sunraysia community, identifying those needs which we can address in the weeks and months to come. Guest speakers have been invited to speak to the students, sharing their experiences of volunteering. We thank all those people who so generously gave up their time to do so.

Over the last few weeks, students have been experiencing volunteering first hand, moving out into the community. They have visited the Salvation Army, Vision Australia, Around Again and Jill Joslyn has come to speak with them about the Mildura Youth Centre. All organizations and their representatives have been incredibly impressed with the behaviour, awareness and enthusiasm of our students. I am very proud of their efforts. I also congratulate the teachers involved, Mr Reece, Mr Towns, Mr Josh McCormack and Ms Hagen for their incredible efforts in getting this subject up and running so effectively.

If you know of a need in our community that you think might be of interest to our students, please email me with details to dknight@sjcnda.vic.edu.au.

Denise Knight, Mercy Ethos Coordinator

ENGLISH TUITION

Commencing in term two, English Domain staff will be available on Wednesday nights after school to help students with homework and assessment tasks for English. There will be two staff members available to ensure we cater for the needs of both the junior and senior students. More details about the location for this support program will be advised soon.

Jenny Gilbert, English Domain Leader

LONGEST LUNCH

On Friday 13th March some of our students volunteered to serve lunch for the major fund raiser 'Longest Lunch' organized by Deakin Rotary Club. This involved students serving meals to 200 patrons all in good time with smiles on their faces. The organisers of the event and the kitchen staff at The Grand Hotel were impressed by the behaviour and work of the students. Congratulations to these students for a job well done!



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Rohan Broadhead (Year 10/HPA03) who attended the South Australian 2009 Little Athletics State Individual Track & Field Championships in Adelaide on 21st and 22nd March. Rohan achieved the following in his five events:
Silver medal - Triple Jump 11.97 metres
Bronze medal - Long Jump 5.72 metres
Bronze medal - Shot Put 11.26 metres
Bronze medal - Discus 37.23 metres
Bronze medal - 100m Hurdles 14.83 secs
Rohan also attended the South Australian LA State Multi-Event Championships on 22nd February and achieved a ranking of 5th in the State. His events were 100m, shot put, 100m Hurdles, High Jump and 800 metres.



BINGO

THURSDAY, 2ND APRIL

Jackie Bishop	5025 4300
Carolyn Theofelos	5021 5310
John Dyson	5023 7218
Brendan Sheahan	5022 7794
<i>Emergency: Margaret Burton</i>	0409 502 414

THURSDAY, 4TH MAY

Narelle Gallagher	5024 7136
Cveta McKeever	5023 3898
Wayne Nash	5023 5839
Larry Eagle	5024 2667
<i>Emergency: Brenda Forrest</i>	5021 1057

MILDURA YOUTH SERVICES SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Monday 6th April - Drop-in Activities
Tuesday 7th April - Picnic at the Park
Wednesday 8th April - Afternoon at the Cinema
Thursday 9th April - Italian Cooking & Bocce
Tuesday 14th April - Snakes & Ladders
Wednesday 15th April - Drop-in Activities
Thursday 16th April - Sculpture Making
Friday 17th April - Games Day
For further information and bookings contact Kerren on 5018 8282 or drop in to MYC at 48 Twelfth Street.

IMPERIALS JUNIOR FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB TRAINING & REGISTRATION

Training for U16s and U14s is held each Tuesday and Friday at the Aero Ovals from 4.30pm. Registration will be accepted at training.

SOUTH MILDURA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB TRAINING

U14s & U16s - 4.30 to 6.00pm from Tuesday 31st March and 5.00 to 6.00pm from Thursday 2nd April at No. 3 oval, corner San Mateo & Eleventh St, Mildura. Further enquiries to Phil Newey on 0428 618 201.

GIRLS JUNIOR CRICKET TEAMS

Girls between the age of 8 and 15 who are interested in playing in an all girls cricket team in the Mildura 09/10 season are invited to contact Darryl Pearl on 0439 550 531 or email pearls2@inet.net.au.