

NEWSLETTER No. 27 – Thursday, 3rd September 2009

*“...amidst all this tripping about, our hearts can always
be in the same place - centered in God.”*

Catherine McAuley (1778-1841) Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,



There is great news to pass on this week in regards to immediate past principal, Sr Sylvia Williams rsm. Sr Sylvia has been appointed this week as an Assistant Director Administration and Finance in the Mercy International Association. The position requires Sr Sylvia to relocate to Dublin, Ireland, and she departs in October. Sr Sylvia is very excited about this new challenge and we know what a fabulous job she will do in this position. On behalf of our community, I congratulate Sr Sylvia and bid her bon voyage.

Mr Darren Atkinson, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 3rd September

Musical Production Matinee Performance

Friday 4th & Saturday 5th September

Musical Production Performance (Evening)

Friday 11th September

College Ball (Student Free Day)

51ST ANNUAL COLLEGE BALL

On the evening of **Friday, 11th September** the 51st Annual St Joseph's College School Ball will be held at the SJC Stadium from 7.30pm to 11.30pm. Entry on the night will be from the back car park on the restaurant end of the Stadium. The decoration theme this year is "Mod (*Trends of the Hyper Cool*)".

The College Ball is a formal style dance and certain standards of dress and behaviour are anticipated. Normal school expectations of behaviour and conduct will apply. **Alcohol is strictly prohibited** and students under its influence will be refused admission. Security will be present on the night and will refuse entry to any student who is inappropriately attired or exhibiting anti-social behaviour. These guidelines exist to ensure that all students have a safe and enjoyable night.

Students are reminded to make particular note of the following:

- Formal attire will be *strictly* enforced:

Boys – smart pants, shirt with collar, tie & jacket.

Girls – formal evening wear.

No theme costumes please. Wearing casual/sport footwear is not acceptable.

- All students are asked to bring a plate of supper: Boys - savouries, Girls - sweets.
- Entry doors will close at 8.30pm. If your son/daughter is not able to be present before this time, please write a letter to Mr Peter Carroll by **Wednesday, 9th September** explaining the reason for the late arrival. Mr Carroll will then provide a pass to allow late entry.
- Tickets will go on sale from **Thursday, 3rd September** and must be purchased by 2.00pm, **Thursday, 10th September** from the Student Office (\$15 individual, \$25 family ticket). **Students must present their ticket to gain entry. No tickets will be sold at the door.**
- There will be No Pass Outs.**
- All students are requested to assist with the clean-up at the end of the evening.
- All students must be collected by a parent/guardian.
- No student will be permitted to leave until 11.30pm unless they have submitted a written request from their parent/guardian to Mr Carroll by **Wednesday, 9th September**.

We encourage all students to arrive with a positive attitude and to expect the unexpected. An unforgettable, fun night of dancing is guaranteed!



LOCAL EXCURSIONS

Tuesday, 8th September

All Day SSSSA Athletics (Mr McCormack, Ms Cross, Miss Howley, Mrs Minter, Mr Doyle)

Period 4 & 5 POD111A to Waves (Mr Reece)

Wednesday, 9th September

Period 6 & 7 PHY342A to Mildura Senior College (Mr Wilson)

Thursday, 10th September

Period 2 & 3 PEDSK0B to Ten Pin Bowling (Mr Collins)

MWS082E to Sacred Heart School (Mrs Knight)

MWS082D to Oasis Aged Care (Ms Hagen)

Period 2 - recess MW082G to Princes Court (Mr Towns)

Friday, 11th September

10.30 - 3pm PED332A Exam Revision RSC (Mrs Pike)

BINGO

THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER

Sally Crothers	0418 145 821
Kiri Fillery	5022 2034
Cameron Crothers	0418 145 867
Ashley Munro	5025 3305
Emergency: Narelle Gallagher	5024 7136

THURSDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER

Catherine Healy	0437 936 276
Suliana Mataele	0448 658 687
Ken Knight	5025 7111
Neil Bradford	0427 947 650
Emergency: Chuck Audino	0427 686 405

HOW IMPORANT ARE PARENTS FOR ACADEMIC OUTCOMES?

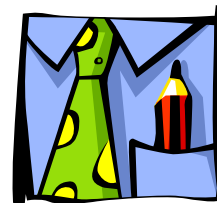
A recent study, titled "Young Peoples Interpersonal Relationships and Academic and Non Academic Outcomes" by Andrew Martin, Herbert Marsh, Dennis McInerney and Jasmine Green indicates that parents have more influence on academic outcomes than they realise. This study found that parents and teachers who fear their good work instilling academic discipline and motivation is ruined by a child's peer group can take heart. The University of Sydney study found that getting on well with your parents and teachers has a strong positive influence on adolescent's academic outcomes and a bigger influence than peers. Andrew Martin, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Education and Social Work, says "that parents and teachers who might feel powerless during adolescence have a bigger influence on academic motivation than they think - up to three times the impact of peers. If you think you have no or little impact, stick with it because you do, and not just in the early years - at all stages of secondary school teachers and parents have a

significant impact". However he also noted that the flipside of the research is that academic motivation suffers when a child does not get on well with parents and teachers and he goes on to say that "the study clearly points to the importance of positive connections and quality relationships with parents and teachers in adolescence". The study looked at 3,450 Australian Secondary Students in Years 7 - 12. Interestingly, when the study looked at non academic outcomes, for example physical self concept, honesty, and emotional stability, peers had a bigger influence than parents and teachers. He concludes that the findings highlight the need for young people to have a range of positive relationships in their academic, home/family and social lives.

Mr Greg Kluske, Director of Curriculum

TACKY TIE DAY - FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

Padua and McAuley House will be holding a special 'Tacky Tie' fundraising day this **Friday, 4th September** in support of Mercy Works.



Students are asked to wear a 'tacky tie' with their winter uniform and bring a gold coin donation. There will also be a sausage sizzle at lunch time. We ask that all students participate and help raise money and awareness for Mercy Works.

Mrs Fiona Pike, McAuley House Leader
Ms Catherine Burke, Padua House Leader

ENGLISH

COMPLETE WORKS THEATRE COMPANY

Year 7 students enjoyed poetry as performance and Year's 10 and 11 students were able to deepen their understanding and knowledge of their Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *Macbeth* through seeing a wonderful performance of key scenes and characters. Students were quite taken with the use of humour and the ways in which professional performers interpreted the characters they played.

VCE FILM SCREENING

There will be a screening of 'In the Name of the Father', a film text to support the study of encountering conflict after school next Monday. While not compulsory, students are encouraged to attend as it will deepen their understanding of conflict experienced by the people of Northern Ireland. Students will need to bring an afternoon snack and arrange their own way home. The film will begin at 3.40pm and should finish by 6pm.

ENGLISH TUITION

Parents and students are reminded that English tuition is available on Wednesday afternoons in the Library Seminar Room. Two teachers are available to assist students from Years 7-12 with their homework, preparation for oral tasks, preparation and completion of writing tasks, preparation for assessment tasks and exam revision skills.

Ms Jenny Gilbert, English Domain Leader

HAENEN LIBRARY NEWS - TERM 3

August has seen the conclusion of the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge. Congratulations to the students who completed the Challenge. You will receive a certificate signed by the Premier of Victoria in the near future.



Children's Book Week was held from 22nd - 28th August. The theme this year was 'Book Safari' and the Library fiction area was invaded by giraffes, zebras a huge boa-constrictor and many other animals.

Regional Arts Victoria organized a workshop which was held at the Mercy Theatre on Wednesday, 19th August by one of Australia's most successful illustrators, Heath McKenzie. Year 7 & 8 boys were shown how words and pictures fit together to illustrate stories in the 'Draw It, Read It' session.

Families are invited to meet one of Australia's most popular children's authors, Andy Griffith, at the Mildura City Library during a FREE family session on **Monday, 14th September**. The session will run from 6.30pm - 7.30pm. Bookings can be made by phoning MRCC Library on 5018 8350.

Mrs Jane McEvoy, Head Librarian

CHESS NEWS

On Friday, 7th August the Year 7 & 8 junior chess team competed and won silver medals in the Northwestern Region Interschool Chess Championships at Irymple.

Congratulations to Ralph Mislang, Jordan Brown, Luke Divola, Joseph Nguyen, Denim Pay and Aaron Darling who competed on the day.



Mrs Jane McEvoy, Coordinator

A THOUGHT FROM THE URSULA FRAYNE CENTRE

ABOUT HEALTHY FAMILIES

Healthy families trust, support and show respect for one another. Family members communicate with, and listen to, each other.

Non-threatening behaviour: talking and acting so that family members feel safe and comfortable doing and saying things.

Respect: listening to members of your family in a non-judgmental way, being supportive of your family, respecting your family's rights to their own feelings, friends, activities and opinions.

Honesty and shared responsibility: accepting responsibility for the things you do as a member of the family, admitting being wrong when you are, everyone agreeing to share the household jobs, making family decisions together.

DEMONS BASKETBALL SUMMER COMPETITION

TRAINING TIMES

Saturday, 12th & 19th September,

girls & boys:

- U10 - 11am - 12noon
- U12 - 12noon - 1pm
- U14 - 1pm - 2pm
- U16 - 2pm - 3pm

Mildura Basketball Stadium.



WORKERS GOL GOL CRICKET CLUB

All existing and new junior players are welcome to attend the Workers Gol Gol Cricket Club registration day for the 2009/2010 cricket season, on **Tuesday, 15th September** between 5.00 - 6.00pm at the Alcheringa Club Rooms.

Please Note: Age groups have changed this season to Under 10s, Under 12s, Under 14s and Under 16s.

For more information contact Shane Carmichael on 5024 8982 or Mark Blows on 5024 8610 or 0428 884 861.

PRAYER

God, I pray for the youth of the world.

For those taking the steps to becoming more mature, here in the classroom and here in this school.

Give them patience, obedience, openness, energy and joyful hearts.

I pray for the youth of the world.

What I have asked for, I need for myself too.

I make this prayer in faith.

Amen.