MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Margaret Ghosn

As we come to a close of term 1 we thank God for watching over the Maronite College of the Holy Family, the Sisters, staff, students and parents.

I would like to thank the family of MCHF that has worked tirelessly together in term 1, to ensure the best for our students.

As we enter into the final days of Holy Week and the Resurrection, we pray that Christ’s radiant light of hope illuminates the world and conquers all hate and evil with the only true weapon of forgiveness and love. I pray that your Easter be a blessed one with your families.

DOING THE ROUNDS


Vocation discernment day 22nd March – 14 girls spent time reflecting on their vocation with the Sisters

Staff news – we celebrated with a morning tea after our Holy Week Mass. Staff were treated to hot cross buns and Easter eggs. The Sisters received a voucher. We farewelled Ms Stavrou and Ms Macauley.
New instruments in Primary: 16 sets of wooden claves/rhythm sticks, 4 sets of maracas, 1 glockenspiel, 3 half round tambourines, 4 sets of mini cymbals and 3 triangles. **Dentist check for Primary students.**

Collection for Caritas during Lent was over $2500! A fantastic effort by staff and students.

**Elevate Education Study Skills** inspired Yr 10 and 12 students to do the best they can in their studies.

Yr 9 had a forensic incursion where they had to use the scientific evidence to catch the criminal! **Former student Bridgette Lahoud has released her first CD of Opera songs.** You can purchase a copy for $20 from the main office.

Secondary Open Day held on 24th March allowed the community to see firsthand what takes place.

Miss Kazzi’s Yr 7 Religion class has been studying about Abraham and his trust in God and the covenant. So every student was paired, blindfolded and using the guidance of their leader had to walk the track, avoid the obstacles and touch the picture of Jesus to succeed. We learnt that if we open our hearts and ears to Jesus, he will guide us to our destinations like Abraham. - Robbie El-Bazouni 7A
Social justice – Congratulations to the Yr 10 social justice group who visited the local aged care centre. They supplied morning tea, sung songs and spent time chatting with the residents. Charbel Tasipale and Maria Moussa provided entertainment on the Grand Piano, and Charbel Dandah learnt some Mandarin Chinese. Well done to all the students for their enthusiasm and generosity. – Mr Hassarati

20th March, Yr 9 & 10 Arabic classes attended Al Telegraph Newspaper - We were addressed by the chief editor Mr Antoine Kazzi. It is the only Lebanese DAILY newspaper outside of Lebanon and contains the latest news about politics, sport, economics, weather and two pages on Australian news. We were informed that there are daily, weekly and monthly editions written both in Arabic and English. Al Telegraph Newspaper is opening a new section for the public to express their thoughts and knowledge about global issues. The Newspaper defends against bad news that is reported by the English news about people from the Middle East. A big thank you to the Arabic teachers - Nicolas Fajloun and Jenny Moussa Yr 9

Yr 9 students delivered their speeches about Anh Do’s autobiography The Happiest Refugee: Rita Chalhoub, Salem Boustany, Jana Ibrahim, Anita Francis, Charbel Estephan and David Khoury did a great job speaking before an attentive Year 5 audience. Well done!

Infant toilets are being redone over the holidays at a cost just under $90,000.
Term 2 commences for staff 20th April and for students 21st April in full winter uniform.
We are in the early stages of leasing more laptops and iPads for use in Primary classrooms.
Friday 1st May will be a student free day as staff has an in-service.

CONGRATULATIONS

Honour Board Awards - Congratulations to the students who received Honour board awards. Their work is displayed in the Primary hall. In Yr 6: Taylor Keirouz, Tiana Khoury, Elly Nassim.

Congratulations to the following students for being selected in the PDSSSC teams in their chosen sports: Terasa Anjoul – U/15 girls Touch football; Lara Elkhoury & Cintia Elkhoury – Swimming; George Fakhr, James Tasipale, Elie El-Zakhem, Georges Dagher, Eddie Fakhri, Charbel G Katrib, Elie Toubia, Justin Makhlouf, Anthony Moussa - Rugby League.
James Tasipale and Georges Dagher have since been selected in the Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges team to play at the NSW All schools rugby league tournament in May.

CONGRATULATIONS VOLLEYBALL GRAND FINAL CHAMPIONS! Our junior boys, junior girls and intermediate boys with their coaches Mr Hassarati and Mr Julius, had convincing grand final wins. Junior girls defeated St Agnes 89-22; Junior Boys defeated St Clare 62-41; Intermediate Boys defeated St Clare
In Touch the Junior girls lost to St Mark’s 1-2. In the semi-final the Intermediate Girls defeated St Agnes 5-3 and have progressed through to the Grand Final. Good luck.

All Rounder Awards – Yr 7: Alex Azar, Mabelle Chamchoum, Robbie El-Bazouni, Raychel Fares, Peter Germanos, Christy Gettany, Karen Hawache, Georgia Khattar, Christopher Makedessi, Rachelle Nakhoul, Charlene Sabat, Ann-Maree Semaan, Rafka Semaan, Antonella Yaacoub, Elie Choueiri, Theresa Doueihi, Charbel Doumit, Marybelle Haddad, Rafqa Kayrouz, Tia Malouhi, Romeo Rodriguez, Olivia Saroufin and Ramona Touma Yr 10: Sandy Yaacoub, Danielle Aboukaram

Bronze award – Yr 7: Gabrielle Baker, Jon Bou-Melhem, Theresa El Halabi and Christina Ibrahim

PARENT CORNER

The Crossing – when the Crossing guy has the stop sign up it means cars must stop and pedestrians can use the crossing. When the stop sign if facing down it means no one is to cross and cars can pass.

Financial assistance – This year some of our plans include: installing an elevator in B block including ramps around the College, extra laptops/iPads in Primary, etc. If you can assist financially please contact the Principal. We will advertise your business in our newsletter.

Medical Updates and Photograph/Video Permission Notes - Notes have now been collated and our SAS records updated. If you did not return the notes the existing information we have has been brought forward to 2015. Please advise the College if there are any changes at any time throughout the year.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs presentation for parents

Merrylands RSL Club and Sub Branch Anzac Day Dawn Service - 100 Years Commemoration, Saturday 25 April 2015, at 5.30am. Charles Mance Reserve, Corner of Newman and Miller Street, Merrylands. It is with great pleasure that Merrylands RSL Club welcomes you to attend the special Centenary Anzac Dawn Service. Please note there will be a march and service on Sunday 19 April 2015 at 10.30am – starting from Merrylands RSL Club, 14 Military Rd Merrylands NSW 2160.

Stay in touch - If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically write to admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au