



MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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Term 2 – Week 6: Monday 2nd June 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Margaret Ghosn

Last week saw the passing away of one of the Founding Sisters in Australia – Sr Marie du Rosaire. Born to Orthodox parents, Marie Saba entered the Congregation of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family despite the protests of her mother. She took on the name of Sr Marie du Rosaire which reflected her love of the rosary. Sr Marie du Rosaire, Sr Marie Henriette and Sr Juliette Ghorayeb arrived in Australia 10th October 1968 at the invitation of Monsignor Ziade and were to become the pioneering Sisters in Sydney. Their first home was at Saint Maroun's Cathedral, Redfern, where the Sisters started up a Primary school for the education of Maronite migrants in Australia with emphasis on the cultural, religious and linguistic identity. Soon after Sr Marie became Director of the Holy Family childcare centre at Belmore, where she spent most of her years and the place she called home. Adept at playing the organ, Sr Marie du Rosaire was often invited to play at Masses and weddings. In 2000-2004 she was appointed to Our Lady of Lebanon College where she worked in the Secondary department, before being asked to return to Belmore. Superior of the Belmore Religious community for many years, she stepped down in 2014. She passed away on 19th May 2014. May she rest in God's eternal love.



DOING THE ROUNDS

Dates to remember - <http://www.olol-college.nsw.edu.au/events/>

6th June – Pentecost Mass

13th June – Parent Volunteer Mass followed by morning tea

25th June – Jidoo and Tayta Mass followed by morning tea

Premier's Reading Challenge for Primary - Please add the books your children have read to their online reading records. Many children registered but have not recorded their reading log. Closes August 22.

The Premiers Reading Challenge for Secondary – Secondary students have been given their password to log on to the PRC website and have begun recording the books they read. Set a goal to complete reading 20 books by 22nd August which is the deadline for the 2014 challenge. Students' efforts will be acknowledged at the completion of the challenge.



On Tuesday, Firefighter Dave came to talk to Year 4.

He spoke to us about fire safety. He showed us a fire blanket, a little fire extinguisher, a smoke alarm and how we should have an escape plan. In the end, he let us try on his fire jacket and pants but not his helmet because it's too heavy for children. We then all took photos with him. It was a fun experience! - By Jonathan Chidiac and Jacob Semaan (4 Olive)

Mathletics and Reading Eggs - Recently a letter went home to parents explaining that the College will commence using Mathletics and Reading Eggs to support our Literacy and Numeracy learning programs at school and for homework. We are all excited about their implementation and are keen to begin!! Thank you to all parents who have already paid for the online learning programs. Log in details will be provided to students as soon as possible after payment has been received. Have a look at their websites to see what our students will be doing.

<http://www.mathletics.com.au/> <http://readingeggs.com.au/>

Kindergarten Interviews - We conducted interviews for Kindergarten 2015. Please contact the College Administration Office if you have forgotten to apply for enrolment to next year's intake. We thank all parents who attended and will catch up with those who could not make the interviews at this time.



Year 7 Scholarships - A reminder to Year 6 students that Year 7 Scholarship applications are due on Monday 9th June. Please hand these to your class teachers.

Young Leaders Youth Forum - On 16th May, the Parramatta Council, under the direction of Lord Mayor John Chedid, and the generous association of UWS Parramatta, two students from Year 11, Suzie Farah and Sarah Merheb, as well as two students from Year 12, Maryanne Moubarak and Marina Sabat, attended an event acknowledging young leader's participation in improving Parramatta and the greater Western Sydney suburbs. We attended the workshop "The Future of Technology" and acquired knowledge in relation to this topic. We participated in activities among many university students, business employees as well as other school students. We were privileged to be addressed by the Hon. Scott Morrison, the Lord Mayor John Chedid and other successful individuals. - Suzie, Sarah, Maryanne and Marina.



Female Leadership Forum: Deloitte Headquarters – On 21st May, four Year 11 students, Chanice Nahmy, Maya Sawaqed, Sarah Merheb and Therese Tannous, accompanied by Mrs Swamy, attended the Female Leadership Forum held in the Deloitte headquarters in the Parramatta diocese.



Many female students from a variety of schools in the Western Sydney area attended the forum, where we were addressed by the Minister for Planning, Pru Goward. She delivered an inspiring talk on what it was like being a female leader, qualities of being a female leader and overcoming barriers of gender inequality. This forum was organised by Mr. Geoff Lee, who was very motivated in preparing young females to take up leadership opportunities in the future. We are looking forward to the two follow-up leadership forums at later dates this year. - Maya, Therese, Sarah and Chanice

Spirituality centre and novitiate - The Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family are opening a spirituality centre at Dulwich Hill and a novitiate for those considering entering Religious Life. In quiet surroundings one is invited to come on a weekend and pray in the chapel and find spiritual guidance. For more information contact Sr Rose Therese on 0421 283 899 or Sr Margaret on 0412 588 045.

Social Justice Mass Gospel performance



Our netball team looking flash in the new gear!



And the intermediate netball girls team won 34-2 and the juniors just lost 13-11!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the students who participated in Maths Olympiad. Georgio Daher (Yr 6) achieved a perfect score! Other students in Yrs 5 and 6 scored 3 answers correctly: Jessica Bechara, Robbie El-Bazouni, George Attie, Gabby Baker, Ghadi Francis and Ryan Jammal.

Congratulations in Secondary to Anthony Harb, Jenny Moussa and Jonathan Yacoub for gaining a very pleasing 3/5 for the First Maths Olympiad followed closely by Youssef Faddoul, Jacinta Semaan, Marius Younes, Thomas Taouk, Zaidan Moussa, Jacob Lebnan, Michelle Mereb and Sarah Nemer who scored 2/5. These Olympiads are extremely challenging and getting one question correct is quite an achievement. Congratulations to all participants from Yrs 7 and 8.

Congratulations to our Yr 10 students who participated in Mock trial for the very first time defeating Santa Sabina College 151-149! They were asked to step in as the Year 11s withdrew from the competition due to exams. Congratulations to the following students on their excellent achievement: Murielle Abou-Karam, George Sassine, James Fares, Laura Sassine, Melanie Haddad, Jennifer Khoury – Ms S Wakim

All Rounder Awards – Yr 7: Rita Layoun, Boutros Yaacoub, Mary Sabat, Chantal Rizk, Angela Ibrahim, Sam Hanna, Gina Boumelhem, Chloe Wakim, Charlene Semaan, Cassandra Moujalli, Julian Nakad, Naomi Chehade Yr 9: Johnny Antoun, Claudia Daher, Michelle Frangi, Natalie Haddad, Giorgio Makdessi, Christian Saad, David Touma, Charbel Youssef. Yr 10: Mikhael Maksisi, Anthony Tannous, Setrida Tawk, Charbel Yacoub

Bronze award – Yr 7: Allana Lichaa, Gayelle Elias, Mimo Nassar, Jessica Wehbe Yr 9: Jebreen Mawad Yr 10: Murielle Abou Karam, Abella Yacoub

Silver Award – Yr 7: Rita Laba Yr 10: Laura Sassine

Well done to our senior boys rugby league team on their hard fought win over Marian College. Being down on numbers and poor discipline reducing the boys to 12 men in the first half, saw the boys trail 16–4 early on. A better second half ensured the boys sealed a 24–22 victory. Best on field: George Fakhr.

Congratulations to our senior rugby league boys win 30–10 against Northmead High School.

PARENTS' NEWS

Pastoral Care of our College community – if there are any family members of our College who have a serious illness, please inform us. The Sisters and College community would like to keep in their prayers any parents or siblings of students who are seriously ill and the Sisters would like to visit anyone gravely ill.

Holy Communion Meeting - Year 3 parents are invited to attend the re-scheduled Holy Communion meeting on 3rd June at 7pm in the Primary Hall.

Uniform - A reminder to students and parents that all students must be in full winter uniform. This includes

long sleeve shirt and ties (for the boys).

New College and Sport Uniform Supplier – Please be aware that the College has entered into negotiations with Lowes at Westfields Parramatta to be the new provider of the College uniforms as of term 4. In the meantime Joseph's at Guildford will continue to supply uniforms and we take this opportunity to thank the retailer for many years of service to the College. More information on price lists will follow later in the year.

Absence Letters - A reminder to parents that medical certificates and/or letters must be submitted to homeroom teachers if your child was late or absent from the College. It is essential that the absence record of your child is explained with documentation in order to meet College and Government requirements.

Progress of Yr 10 and 11 Students - A letter dated 15/05/14 was sent home to parents through your child explaining the College's expectations and consequences regarding the progress of all Yr 10 and 11 students. If you have not received this letter please address your child or contact the College Secondary Administration for a copy. It is College expectations that parents ensure they read and understand the College's position regarding Yr 10 and 11 students.

Financial assistance and donations appreciated

Keeping a K-12 College in tip top condition requires constant improvements. Over the year we have spent a great deal of money installing WiFi in Primary, repairing items, painting rooms etc. We have a number of projects lined up and if any parent or benefactor of the College would like to assist we would be most grateful. Items on the maintenance list include:

- Recarpeting Kindy Red and other classrooms to follow
- Purchasing and installing Smart Boards in the 4 Primary classrooms that don't have them
- Upgrading WiFi in Secondary which will cost over \$100,000
- Refitting the infants toilets

If any parent can help us financially or in any way please contact the College. Your much appreciated contributions will be highlighted in the fortnightly newsletter.

PA are holding a Fundraiser Cake Stall Wednesday 18th June - If any parents are able to donate any cake or cupcakes towards this event, please contact PA: Adell Yaacoub Ph:0411380576.

PA Update - The recently advertised PA Chocolate Drive has been postponed. Other exciting fundraisers will be advised as the year progresses. Also second hand uniforms are needed urgently for the PA Shop. If you have any uniforms to donate or would like to purchase second hand uniforms, the PA shop is open every Monday morning from 8.30am.

Ladies Night - Fundraiser to support health care and research at Westmead on June 20th at 7pm at Grand Royale Granville. Cost \$80. Purchase tickets through wmrf.org.au or call 8836 4000. Special guests and incredible prizes and giveaways. Theme: All that glitters.

New beds (single and king single) with mattresses and side cabinet at cheap prices – see Sr Irene if interested.

Parking – parents are asked to follow the road rules, speed limits and drive very carefully during drop off and pick up times. **Disabled parking** – must be used only by those parents who have children with a disability. Please do not park illegally or in front of the College driveway at any time of the week.

NSW Government Health – smoking has been banned in public outdoor places including transport stops and stations. Please visit the website for more info www.health.nsw.gov.au/smoke-free

Road safety issues around school – Please see attachment

EMAIL, WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

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

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