



# MARONITE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

23-25 Alice St Harris Park, 2150

Tel: 9633 6600 Fax: 9689 1662

Term 1 – Week 6: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Sr Margaret Ghosn

We have just completed the assessment block for Yr 12 students and it is a timely reminder that all students should be focusing on their studies. As I mentioned at the parent information evenings, focus should be on reading, literacy and numeracy at home. Naplan needs to be practiced by students in Yrs 3, 5, 7 and 9 and parents need to take an active role in their children's education. Parents who insist on academic excellence from their students will reap the rewards. I hope during this Lenten Season we can all focus on achieving our best and doing what is right for our students.

## DOING THE ROUNDS

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Vocation discernment day for students. Contact Sr Margaret if interested in attending

**Premier's Reading Challenge** - K-2 students will experience and share the PRC books at school. Yr 3-6 students should be reading PRC books and recording them on their Personal Reading Logs. Usernames and passwords will be provided as students near completion of their required reading.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Feb**, the NRL reps from Parramatta Eels conducted their annual Tackling Bullying program with Years 3-5 and Primary Gymnastics were getting into the swing of things!



Primary Australia clean-up day



Kindy Buddies – Yr 6 helping out Kindy



**Secondary Student Leadership** - Class Captains and SRC Representatives are new created roles where students elect two class captains and two SRC representatives for their cohort for semester 1. We congratulate the following students elected for terms 1 and 2: Yr 7 Class Captains: Peter Germanous, Charlene Sabat, Charbel Doumit, Rachelle Nakhoul, Joseph Katrib, Salma El Katrib, Romeo Rodriguez and Angela Marie Nemer. Yr 8 Class Captains: Charbel Feghali, Betty Atie, Toufic Darjani, Gayelle Elias,



Patrick Altakchy, Carla Katrib, Serge Boustany and Danni Makari. Yr 9 Class Captains: Joshua Nahmy, Lara El-Khoury, Jacob Lebnan, Elise Haddad, Isabella Bou-Said, Colin Makary, Matthew Bechara and Britney Chahin. Yr 10 Class Captains: Johnny Antoun, Natalie Haddad, Charbel Youssef, Zena Daoud, John Youssef, Angelina Bou-Said, Mark Azar and Daniella Fares. Yr 11 Class Captains: James Fares, Jennifer Katrib, George Sassine, Sharon Hatem, Michael Nemer and Melanie Haddad.

Yr 11 SRC Executive Team: George Abou-Antoun, Murielle Aboukaram, George Sassine, James Fares, George El-Bazouni, Claudia Douaihy, Simon Al-Ekhtiyar and Jennifer Katrib. SRC Representatives: Ibrahim Fakhri and Rafka Semaan (Yr 7), Julian Nakad and Simona Younes (Yr 8), Anthony Harb and Gina Sassine (Yr 9), David Touma and Mona Katrib (Yr 10).

Colour House Captains: MaKillop House (Blue): George Sassine and Cintia El-Khoury; Charbel House (Yellow): George Elbazouni and Rachelle Youssef; Rafqa House (Green): Simon Al-Ekhtiyar and Claudia Douaihy; Maroun House (Red): Wilson Njeim and Melanie Haddad

**Our new leaders presented with their badges by Mr James Shaw, Labour Member for Parramatta, and SRC leaders presented with badges by Sr Irene Boughosn**



**HSC assessment block – students hard at work!**







**Volunteers in the Secondary** - we welcome our parent helpers back to the Secondary: Mrs MarieRose Moussa, Mrs Adell Yaacoub (Textiles) and Mrs Fayrouz Fares. They are joined, in improving student literacy, by Mrs Jisele Fares, Mrs Jano Laoulach, Mrs Maya Bousaid and Mrs Yolla Boustani. Mrs Barbara Helou is assisting with the Food Technology and Mrs Gizelle El-Khoury in the library. A thank you to these ladies for their support of our students. We also welcome back Mrs Susan Fisher, (an ex-teacher) who brings her expertise to our students twice a week, offering her services to Yr 7 Literacy and to essay writing workshops with Yrs 11 and 12 students. Mrs Fisher's knowledge is sought by many students from selective schools; she is happy to share her expertise with our students, because of the love and loyalty she has for our College.

**Yrs 7-10 students have commenced reading for 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge** - Parents play a vital role in supporting the reading and writing programmes. Research shows children immersed in a language and literature rich environment are likely to achieve at a higher level in all areas than those who aren't. Please encourage your child to borrow books as well as buy books from Book Club magazines which are distributed to students twice each school term.



**Max Potential** - the function of this program was straight forward, as mentioned by its name, it aims to help you reach your maximum potential. It does this through a range of workshops, 'connect groups' and coaching sessions that help you to increase in confidence, efficiency and leadership skills. I attended my first workshop on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March and enjoyed the day especially the positivity displayed by the other students and coaches. – Murielle Abou Karam, Yr 11

**During the Lenten Season, the Maronite Eparchy of Australia is holding an appeal for internally displaced Christians in Erbil, Iraq for much needed everyday items.** Donations are to be collected by the Queen of the most Holy Rosary and items to be delivered to 128A Alfred St, Harris Park. For further information please contact: Badwi on 0433 318 875 or Nazha on 0414 358 383 or George on 0499 555 544.

**Website for students to manage exams and stress** - <http://au.reachout.com/wellbeing/school-uni-and-study/exams-and-study-stress>

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Honour Board Awards** - Congratulations to the students who received Honour board awards. Their work is displayed in the Primary hall. In Yr 2 Bianca Ishak, Jonathon Yaacoub, Sami Nassim, Kayla Maalouf. Yr 3 Mary Khoury, John Paul Akl, Sienna Mekary, Audrey Tannous.

**Rep sport** – We are on top of 5 out of 7 tables. Congratulations to our victorious teams. Keep the wins coming! In the Volleyball rep competition: Junior boys defeated St Marks 63-37 & St Marks 61-22; Junior girls defeated St Marks 56-21 & defeated St Agnes 68-29; Intermediate boys defeated St Mark 86-36 & defeated St Agnes 61-30; Intermediate girls defeated St Mark 91-31 & St Bishoy 57-50.

In the Touch rep competition: Junior girls defeated Delaney 3-2 but lost to Bede Polding 3-2; Intermediate boys defeated Delaney 4-3 & drew Bede Polding 5-5; Intermediate girls lost to Delaney 3-4 but defeated

Bede Polding 3-0.



## PARENT CORNER

**MCHF merchandise** – Students and parents can purchase the following from the main office: MCHF pen for \$1; MCHF 8G USB for \$10; MCHF umbrella for \$15; MCHF Lanyards for \$3. Primary ties for \$5

**FIRE DRILL – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

**LOCKDOWN DRILL – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Secondary Open Day** on 24<sup>th</sup> March from 9-11am. This will be open to all parents and to the outside community. You are invited to come and see the excellent work being done in Secondary.

**Parent Volunteers** - Any parents still wishing to volunteer to assist in the classroom see Paula Symin in the main admin office Monday or Tuesday to complete the Induction process. While parents are exempt from Working with Children checks, the College still requires parents to complete an induction process. As from 2015 this process will only need to be completed once and will include a signed Statutory Declaration which will be kept on file. If you are presently volunteering at the College and do not wish to re-attend the induction process annually, please collect a statutory Declaration form from the College office.

**Financial assistance** – This year some of our plans include: renovating the infants' toilets, a new elevator in B block, ramps around the College, extra computers in Primary classrooms, purchasing surrounding land to expand our grounds etc. If you can assist financially please contact the Principal. Last year quite a few parents were very generous and the College is grateful. We will also advertise your business in our College newsletter.

**Wellbeing presentation for the parents, present by a parent – Mrs Abir Dib**



**Survey about the wellbeing of people of an Arabic speaking background** - to find out more about the level of emotional wellbeing in the community and whether people experience symptoms of stress, worry, anxiety, sadness and low mood; where people seek help for these symptoms and whether they would be willing to try an internet-delivered course, to improve emotional wellbeing. For more info call Rony on 9850 9643 or visit the website, [HERE](#). The survey can be taken in English or Arabic. To participate click [HERE](#).

A reminder to parents regarding the Church community centre: is only open between the hours of 10am to 10pm for Youth over 18 years old. No Children are allowed in the centre without adult supervision.

**Stay in touch** - If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically write to [admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@mchf.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: <http://www.mchf.nsw.edu.au/> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ololcollegesydney?ref=hl>