



"Be Informed...Be Compassionate"

From the Principal:

Welcome to 2010 school year. I am hoping that this year's College theme 'be informed, be compassionate' was the inspiration already for the warm welcome which was evident this week as new and returning students and staff mingled, sorting out lockers, planners, timetables, photos...not to mention catching up with friends! I expect that students across all classes and Home Groups will extend the hand of true friendship and support to those new to the College. May we truly enjoy a multifriendship school!

We welcome especially the following teachers new to Mater Christi College this year:

- Eliza Fildes – Outdoor Ed and PE
- Prue McLeod – Head of Humanities, Commerce & Economics
- Margherita Magagna – VCAL Coordinator
- Justine McMahon – English & SOSE
- Sarah Owen – Dance, English & Drama
- Kate Bateman – Religious Education
- Sean Peoples – Visual Communication & Design
- Gregoria Rivaloro – Mathematics & Religious Education
- Catherine Michael – Psychology & English
- Claire Loudon – Maths & Business Management

Students were excited in the new

courtyard area at lunch and recess breaks, enjoying the artificial turf, sheltered from full sun by new shade cloths. A number of other facility upgrades have been appreciated as classes got underway. By the end of this first week, we will have practised two emergency assembly drills.

As we face new fire protection strategies and improved fire warnings, the College Emergency Management Plan has been revised and updated. A summary document will be uploaded onto the College website. In the event of an emergency or urgent notice, we will communicate via SMS or email, so your cooperation is essential in ensuring that we have correct mobile and email contact details.

We are most fortunate and enjoy safe living and learning opportunities here in Belgrave. As we consider the enormous tragedy of lives lost, homes devastated and communities starving in Haiti, we must realise our responsibility especially this Lent to support fundraising for Project Compassion, providing for the relief work being undertaken in Haiti by Caritas Australia.

Congratulations to the students of Year 12 in 2009 where VCE and VCAL results have resulted in many excellent ENTER scores and where 91% of students who applied for tertiary study were offered a place. Of these, 50% received their first preference and over 84% received either 1st, 2nd or 3rd preference. The median score was an improved 32 with many outstanding individual study scores across a wide range of subjects. More details in our next edition.

2010 Theme

Amidst the buzz at the launch of the MySchool website, the Director of Catholic Education, Stephen Elder, reminds us that Catholic schools continue to be 'vibrant communities of learning, faith and life' He says that "Test results can help teachers, parents and schools address the needs of students, but fundamentally test results are only one part of the story." Our job remains to ensure parents and school communities are informed, so that in partnership we will work effectively to meet "the needs of every child, in learning, in life and in faith." Here at MCC, NAPLAN results form part of the data to ensure continuous school improvement. I encourage parents to see me if they wish about this development.

We remember family and many friends who mourned the death in December of former Maintenance Staff member Bill Grudgefield.

We celebrate the arrivals of Eva to Julie Lau and Richard Pryzkowski, of Vivienne Rose to Cara Manion and David Gearon and first daughter Audrey and of Lucas Anthony to Maryanne Karoussos and Craig Jennings.

We pray that God will especially bless our new parents and those families suffering the loss of a loved one. We include in our prayers also those families experiencing hardship or serious illness at the start of this school year.

May our year be a celebration of learning in a supportive and prayerful community.

Mary Fitz-Gerald Principal



Year 12 2009 High Achievers



Franziska Adomat - Chairperson's Award

Ellen Saber winner of the Astrid
Renehan Excellence in Chemistry Award



Lisa Jackson Year 12
High Achiever



Amy Callway and Meg Ryan, winners of the
Australian Defence Force Long Tan Award

Some of the Year 11, 2009 High Achievers



Changed contact details???

Please notify the Registrar, koomen_c@materchristi.edu.au of any changes in contact details. Especially ...

email address, e-news coming soon

mobile number, for College SMS communications.

Young Citizen of the Year

Fiona Bilton (Year 10) was recently named Yarra Ranges Council Young Citizen of the Year. Fiona was recognised for her work with young people and parents who suffer from mental illness. Fiona works as a volunteer in community education with numerous groups including the council's Paying Attention to Self (PATS) and a program conducted through the Austin Hospital, Looking Out For You and is often called on to speak at Rotary functions and to other organisations. Congratulations to Fiona for her inspiring commitment and for truly engaging "freely and creatively in the affairs of society".



Cyber Safety

On Tuesday 23 February, Susan McLean will speak with all Years 7, 8 and 9 students about cyber safety. Susan is one of Australia's leading experts in the area of cyber safety and young people. We encourage parents to visit her web-site www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au

What can parents do?

An evening with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, one of Australia's highest profile Adolescent Psychologists.

for

Middle School Parents

Tuesday, 23 February

Seated by 7:15pm for a 7:30 start

We encourage parents to visit his informative web-site

www.michaelcarr-gregg.com.au

Fire Response Procedures

Due to the College's unique location in a richly forested area, it is important that parents be familiar with the precautions we take on days of Total Fire Ban and in the event of a bushfire in the area.

Our main perceived threats are an emergency situation on-site (e.g. fire on the property), or a bushfire in the area. In either case, our immediate response is to ensure student safety. If deemed necessary, students will be evacuated to the Hall and Gym.

With both the CFA and the Police close by, Mater Christi is well placed for keeping informed on any emergency situation in the Dandenongs.

On days forecast to be Catastrophic (Code Red) Fire Danger Rating, parents and students will be advised of School Closure via SMS with details confirmed on College website. Once a closure day has been declared, this will proceed regardless of any change in weather patterns. This information is also available from the Catholic Education

Commission at <http://web.cecv.catholic.edu.au>. Select "Bushfire Preparedness" then "School Closure List".

Procedures for Total Fire Ban days (Extreme or Severe Fire Danger Rating as declared by the CFA)

Unless otherwise announced by the College, school will continue as normal, but with restrictions on student movement. Careful consideration will be given to excursions/off-site activities. Where we believe that there is an unacceptable risk, the activity will be cancelled.

If there is an outbreak of fire

In the event of fire in the area we will liaise with the local CFA to ensure safety for all. This contact will be ongoing during the day. If there is no immediate danger, classes will continue until normal closing time. The following transport regulations will then apply.

Students will be dismissed only if there is NO doubt about the reliability and

safety of their transport arrangements and the safety of the environment at their destination. Students will only be dismissed when the situation is declared safe by the Emergency Services, or into the direct care of their parents.

Any student who is collected and signed out from the College by their parent will be recorded as such on the Emergency Evacuation Sign Out Sheets. A student will be dismissed to travel with another adult only with the express permission of her parent.

Evacuation Procedures

If fire is threatening the school, we will evacuate to an appropriate safe location. This will be in accordance with directions provided by Emergency Services. The school will remain in communication with the Catholic Education Commission Victoria (CECV). Parents can contact the CECV on 03 9267 0228 or visit their web-site for the latest information.



Erica Barclay & Salome Bricker winners of the University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Award



Rhian Pospischil - Monash University Prize winner

From Mary Close Deputy Principal - Welfare

Contact between home and school

Your first point of contact for queries related to your daughter should be her Home Group Teacher, who may refer your query to other staff as necessary.

It is very important for the Home Group Teacher to be able to coordinate all contact regarding your daughter. Please ask your daughter what Home Group she is in and the name and contact details of her Home Group Teacher. Each Home Group also has a support Home Group Teacher. If you are unable to contact the Home Group Teacher, please speak to the support teacher. Your daughter should be able to tell you the name of this teacher as well.

There is a list of the names of people who have specific responsibilities related

to student management at the College on the Mater Christi website under the Student Services tab.

College activities and excursions

Whenever a school activity or excursion is planned, girls are given a hard copy of the information to bring home to parents for information and approval.

Copies of these letters are placed on the College Intranet.

Students will be able to login to General Information > Student Information > Year level to download copies of these letters if they misplace the original copy. No replacement copies will be available at school. This practice is consistent with Mater Christi's commitment to strive to protect our environment by

using less paper and to ensure that girls take responsibility for their own learning.

Uniform

It was great to see all girls now in blue uniform at the return to school this year. Please remember that we recommend black lace up shoes to be worn with the uniform. T-Bar sandals or solid shoes with a strong buckled or velcro strap are permitted but not ideal. In the interests of safety, no ballet flats or slip-on styles are permitted and no skate shoes or volleys are permitted with the Sports Uniform. Girls may wear Sports Uniform to and from school on days that they are timetabled for a PE class.

Mary Close
Deputy Principal - Welfare



Year 7, 2010 First Day Activities



Student Victorian Public Transport (VPT) Concession Cards

myki – Victoria's new smart card ticketing system, has recently been launched on Melbourne's train network with travel on tram and bus services to follow soon. There are a number of key changes being made to student concession travel ticketing arrangements.

These are as follows:

- The 2010 VPT Student Concession Card & Victorian Student Pass application form, packaged together with the myki Student Registration form can now be obtained from:
- MCC Intranet
- Metropolitan premium stations
- metlinkmelbourne.com.au

- Students wanting to buy a Half Yearly (\$213.50) or Yearly (\$410) Victorian Student Pass will be required, as normal, to obtain a 2010 VPT Student Concession Card, regardless of age, as proof of their concession entitlement (the standard \$9 fee applies).
- Students 16 years or under who do not wish to purchase a Student Pass are not required to obtain a VPT Student Concession Card and are currently able to get a child myki by visiting myki.com.au or calling 13 6954.
- Students 17 years and over who require a VPT Student Concession Card as proof of their concession

entitlement, can obtain their 2010 concession card and apply for a fee concession myki at the same time, by completing and lodging both the abovementioned forms.

Transporting Ticketing Authority

College Instructions

Application should be completed and signed with two identical photos attached.

Forms can then be submitted to Main Reception Office for authorisation and collected at the end of the school day.

Mai Ling Sholl Office Manager

28 Bayview Road Belgrave Victoria Australia 3160

P + 61 3 9754 6611 F + 61 3 9752 5180

W www.materchristi.edu.au



Open Day
18 February 2010

9:00am - 12 noon and
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Whether it's celebrating with friends or celebrating achievements, the opportunities are yours at Mater Christi – a Good Samaritan Catholic School for Girls. Experience the difference for yourself at our **Open Day on Thursday 18 February 2010**.

Enquire today for more details on 9754 6611.

Education embracing diversity,
quality, innovation and care.

28 Bayview Road Belgrave Victoria Australia 3160
P + 61 3 9754 6611 F + 61 3 9752 5180
www.materchristi.edu.au

St John's Netball Club seeking new players

Teams from aged 8 up to Open

Come to our Fun Night

Friday 12 Feb, 6:00 – 8:00pm

St John the Baptist PS Hall
Forest Road, Ferntree Gully

Contacts: Di Hilder 9758 7523 or
Karyn McGrath 9759 6363.



Canteen Volunteers

The College Canteen provides a great opportunity for parents to play an active role in their daughter's school.

We are grateful for the parents who have already volunteered to assist in the Canteen. However, help is still needed, so if you are available on the first Monday of the month or on a Friday there is an opportunity for you to be part of this positive experience.

Please contact the Canteen on
9757 0832 for more details.

Mark Janke Business Manager

Education Maintenance Allowance

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.
- Submit your application to the school by the due date

The eligibility criteria for the first instalment of the EMA must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (27 January 2010).

To receive the 1st instalment, applications must be submitted to the school by 26 February 2010.

Application forms are available from the school office. For further information, please visit the EMA website:

www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/ema/default.htm

Important dates

Friday 5 February

Mater Christi College

Foundation Day

Wednesday 10

Feast of St Scholastica

Thursday 11

Years 7 - 9 Swimming Carnival

Friday 12

Year 12 Formal

Sunday 14

Chinese New Year Year of the Tiger

Monday 15

Second Billing 2010 Tuition

Tuesday 16

Shrove Tuesday

Thursday 18

Open Day

9:00am - 12 noon 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Friday 19

Good Samaritan

Student Leadership Day

Canteen Roster

Monday 8 February

Kosna Vantwest

Tuesday 9

Monique Froude

Wednesday 10

Sue Nicholas

Thursday 11

Karen Trill

Friday 12

HELP NEEDED

Monday 15

Angela Staffan

Tuesday 16

Pauline Gibcus

Wednesday 17


Trisha Gadsden

Thursday 18

Brenda Felton, Roula Pouloupoulas

Friday 12

HELP NEEDED

	Contact Employment Privacy Policy Enrolment Enquiries
a good samaritan school for girls	
Our College Curriculum Co-curriculum Student Services News and Events	

News and Events

Check the News and Events page on the web-site
www.materchristi.edu.au

 Printed on Recycled Paper

