FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Members of the Academy Community,

Finally winter has set in! As a lover of boots, gloves, coats and scarves I am delighted to see the arrival of winter, late though it is. Winter is a wonderful season, it is the season that lends itself to the nourishment of the soul - a period of reflection and introspection. It is a time to pause from all our running about and centre ourselves a little more.

Recently I came across 10 Commandments of Mercy. In this Year of Mercy and in this season of winter perhaps we could take some time to reflect on these commandments and the call of our God to be women and men of Mercy.

Later in this newsletter you will read of the very significant ceremony that took place at the College last week - with the installation of our 2nd flagpole and the raising of the aboriginal flag. I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sue Moran, Justice coordinator and Millie Boag, Justin Captain, for all their work that brought this day to fruition. Please read the article later in the newsletter.

Year 7 students celebrated 100 days of Year 7 with enthusiasm and joy and an opportunity was also provided for parents to celebrate this occasion. This celebration provided both parents and students with the opportunity to reflect back on the last 100 days. It is most gratifying to see that our timid, shy Year 7 group of February have developed into strong, resilient girls who are already contributing significantly to the life and spirit of the college.

160th CELEBRATIONS
Next year is a special year for the Academy of Mary Immaculate community. We will be celebrating 160 years of education on this site and also remembering the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Australian foundress of the Sisters of Mercy and the foundress of the Academy, Mother Ursula Frayne.

Two key days of celebration will be April 20, Foundation Day, the day the first 6 students enrolled at the College and September 15 Mercy day, where we will be acknowledging the blessings of the past 160 years.

A number of events have already been planned including the Alumnae reunion on February 26 – with Mass at St John’s Church in East Melbourne (2pm) followed by High Tea at the Catholic Leadership Centre.

Other events include the rededication of the grotto, the landscaping of the College grounds and the installation of a special piece of Artwork.

Every Blessing

Sr Mary Moloney rsm
Principal
Blessed are you, winter, you teach us valuable lessons about waiting in darkness with hope and trust.

Blessed are you, winter, season of blood red sunsets and star-filled, long, dark nights, faithfully you pour out your beauty.

The Circle of Life, J Rupp & M Wiederkehr

DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

GAT Exam
All students who study at least one Unit 3&4 subject are required to sit the VCAA General Achievement Test on Tuesday June 7.
Our Unit 3&4 students attended a GAT preparation workshop last week. The message to them was to be ‘alert, but not alarmed’.
The GAT is intended to be a broad measure of student ability and as such it is not a test that requires students to put in hours of study in preparation.
The three hour GAT paper includes two thirty minute writing tasks. The first piece requires ‘informative or expository’ writing and the second piece requires ‘persuasive or opinionative’ writing. The students are familiar with these writing styles from their regular English classes.
There are also seventy multiple choice questions that cover items in science, technology, mathematics, arts and social science. These items do not require a Year 12 level study of subject content in order to establish correct answers.
Students with good general ability will be able to read the questions carefully, identify all of the information they need in the tables, graphs or commentary included with the question and thus identify the correct answer within the multiple choice options.
It should be noted that regardless of whether students are studying science, technology, mathematics, arts or social science subjects, ALL of the seventy multiple choice questions are used to determine their individual GAT result. ALL students must attempt ALL multiple choice questions.
The GAT is used to support students to attain VCAA study scores that are a true reflection of their ability. If a student is unable to sit their VCAA examinations as a result of serious illness or personal trauma, then the GAT becomes a key measure in determining derived study scores. If a student with a very good GAT score has her VCAA examination papers marked harshly by the examiners, the discrepancy with what the GAT predicts the student would achieve will mean that the examination papers are remarked by another examiner.
The assumption is that all students give their best effort with the GAT. For students who sit the GAT in this spirit, the GAT will only ever work to support them.
The students did receive a small package of GAT questions at last week’s GAT seminar. Past GAT papers and answers can be found at http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/gat/gat.aspx. It is a good idea that students give some time to making themselves familiar with the style of the GAT examination paper and the common types of questions that appear regularly in the GAT papers.

Year 10 and VCE Change of Semester
Semester 2 classes at VCE and Year 10 will commence on Tuesday June 15, after the Queen’s Birthday weekend. Year 11 students and Year 10 Language students who successfully applied for a change of subject will commence their new classes on June 15.

Year 7 – 9 Change of Semester
The Year 7 – 9 Cycle 2 classes will finish on Friday June 17. The Cycle 3 classes for all Year 9 students will commence on June 20. Similarly, the Year 7 Language, Performing Arts and Technology classes will change on June 20, as well as the Year 8 Home Economics, Performing Arts and Technology classes.

Year 9 & 10 Examinations
Year 9 & 10 students take semester examinations in Language, English, Mathematics and Science.
The Year 9 examinations will occur during Periods 1 – 4 on Wednesday and Thursday June 8 & 9. There will be normal Year 9 classes for Periods 5 & 6 on both those days.
The Year 10 examinations will be held on the Wednesday to Friday, June 8 to 10. There will be no normal Year 10 classes on those days.

**Reports**

After a lengthy period of consultation with the subject departments, the College has decided that the practice of including a global statement of Satisfactory or Non Satisfactory for Year 7 – 10 subjects is no longer providing parents and students with useful information.

The design of the AusVELs curriculum, and the new Victorian curriculum that will be introduced next year, focusses on individual student progression through the academic demands of the various subjects. Our College reports will continue to provide parents with information as to their daughter’s academic performance on key Assessment Tasks and will comment on areas of future improvement. As well teachers will provide a rating of student performance based on the progression points stated in the AusVELs curriculum.

Importantly, all parents can use the Parent Access Module to track the academic progress of their daughters as results become available throughout the semester. This is timely feedback to parents of students who are performing poorly as it allows them to work with their daughter’s teachers to address any academic concerns.

There will be NO change for VCE subjects where the reporting of Satisfactory or Non Satisfactory Unit completion will continue. The discernment of an S or N for a VCE unit will continue to be based on the completion of the subject outcomes as stated in the VCAA study designs.

*Mr Mark Hyland, Director of Teaching and Learning*

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### JUSTICE

**ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE ABORIGINAL FLAG RAISING CEREMONY**

**Wednesday 25 May, 2016**

On Wednesday May 25 Academy staff and students participated in a moving celebration of our school’s commitment to the recognition of our First Peoples. In a student led initiative we raised funds for and installed a second flag pole dedicated to permanently flying the Aboriginal flag.

Over several years senior Justice Group members have petitioned school leadership, gathered support amongst the students to raise money, contacted local politicians for assistance and made inquiries to ensure they understood what was required.

When our flagpole finally arrived Millie Boag, Justice Captain and Justice group students were insistent that this event be celebrated by the whole school. Lunchtimes were spent making ribbons in the colours of the Aboriginal flag that students could purchase to wear on the day. The proceeds will be given to the Opening the Doors Foundation which supports the education of indigenous children. It was with excitement and pride that staff, students, Sisters of Mercy and special guests gathered in the Ursula Frayne Chapel.

In her acknowledgement of land, special guest, Ms Sherry Balcombe from the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry said,

> *My invitation to everyone here today is that in your everyday power, in your work place, with your regular authority, with your everyday resources; turn your mind occasionally to what you can do, for the benefit of all Aboriginal people.*

A student who had participated in the Lake Mungo immersion, spoke of how the experience reinforced our desire to permanently fly our own Academy Aboriginal flag as a constant reminder of our commitment.

Student Justice Group members talked about the significance of Fitzroy.

The Wurundjeri (Woiwurrung) people before contact lived, worked and looked after the land in the area known as Fitzroy since the beginning of time.

From the 1920’s onwards, the Aboriginal community of Melbourne began to steadily increase with the wave of Aboriginal people coming from the missions.
By the 1950’s, Fitzroy supported a community of more than 300 Aboriginal people, with many living in surrounding inner city suburbs. During this time, Fitzroy not only became the largest Aboriginal community in Victoria, it also became the social and political hub of Aboriginal Melbourne.

It was in Fitzroy and in particular around the area of Gertrude Street “that the Fitzroy Aboriginal community developed and defined some of the most important and influential organisations, ideas and movements, not just in Victoria but in the whole country.” City of Yarra Mayor Cr Amanda Stone 2009.

As part of the community of Fitzroy it is important to raise awareness of the significant contribution the First Peoples have made to Fitzroy’s cultural heritage. We need to develop a deeper understanding of Aboriginal history and to continue to stimulate conversation and foster more stories being remembered, told and preserved.

They reminded us that the symbolic meaning of the flag colours are yellow representing the sun, giver of life and yellow ochre, Red representing the red earth, the relationship to the land and the red ochre used in ceremonies, Black representing the Aboriginal people.

It was in June 1995, that the Australian Government proclaimed the Aboriginal flag as an official ‘Flag of Australia’.

In our prayer we recalled Pope John Paul’s address to the Aboriginal people in Alice Springs in 1986 recognising the connections Aboriginal people have to their country and that the land was related to the source of life. He acknowledged that they did not spoil the land, use it up, exhaust it, and then walk away from it. A message that is echoed in Pope Francis’ Encyclical ‘Laudato Si’.

Finally after we prayed the Prayer of the Four Directions, Mrs Vicki Clark, from the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry and Lake Mungo immersion leader, prayed the Australian Blessing over us.

-May you always stand as tall as a tree,
-Be as strong as the rock Uluru,
-Be as gentle as the morning mist,
-Hold the warmth of the sacred campfire within you,
-And may the spirits of our ancestors always watch over you.

(E. Pike.)

Millie Boag, our Justice Captain, led Mrs Vicki Clark, Ms Sherry Balcombe, Senator Gavin Marshall, Mr Kelvin Onus-King and Mr Graham Mumbulla into the Chapel Courtyard to raise the Aboriginal flag.
JUSTICE AT ACADEMY – LAKE MUNGO ABORIGINAL IMMERSION

Early in Term Two a group of Year 10 and 11 students accompanied by teachers, Mrs Christine McLennan and Ms Marie Cheek, participated in the Academy Yingadi, Lake Mungo Aboriginal Immersion Experience. Ms Vicki Clark from the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry whose family comes from this area spent the week with the group.

Students have reflected on their experience:

Claudia Skubel Year 11

When asked to write a paragraph in reflection on my trip to Lake Mungo, I struggle. There are simply no words to explain such an incredible place and amazing experience. I didn’t know what to expect when leaving the Academy in the early hours of the morning. I just knew that I was looking forward to finding out. Any hopes or dreams that I had for the trip were soon blown out of the water. There is so much to learn about Aboriginality and culture that one can ever know unless they
get the opportunity to go to places like Lake Mungo. The experiences that I had and knowledge I gained will never leave me. Not only did I learn a lot about Aboriginal people and their past, but I also found that I learned a lot about myself. It was in the many moments of silence, surrounded by the Lake’s vast beauty, during which I was able to reflect on my own life and past. The opportunity to appreciate the little things in life is often missed. They are tremendously important and often play a huge role in shaping who we are today. The memories I’ve made and the experiences I had at Lake Mungo will never be forgotten.  **Lilli Starling Year 11**

On 18 April 2016, I was privileged to share a week long experience exploring Lake Mungo and its surroundings with 12 other girls and 2 teachers. After a 7 hour trip into rural New South Wales we finally reached our destination. We were led by Vicki, a Mutthi Mutthi woman and the organisers of the trip Karen, Dave, Pete and Bernard and taught many stories and traditions. We all participated in smoking ceremonies, reflections, discovery tours, walks and lots more. If you ask me to tell you about my favourite part of the experience, I could not possibly single out one event. From the collection of the message stick to the sunrises and sunsets, the 30,000 year old fossilised footprints to the campfire dreamtime stories, the indigenous campsites to the medicine wheel, it was an incredible experience and it will stay with me forever. The blessing that we were given before and during the trip was also inspiring and I would like to share it with you “May you stand as tall as a tree, as strong as the rock Uluru, be as gentle as the morning mist, hold the warmth of the campfire in your heart and may the creator spirit always walk with you” – E. Pike.  **Sophie Esposito Year 10**

**Yingadi**

The Aboriginal Immersion was an amazing experience and looking back was one of the best things I’ve ever done. This trip opened my eyes to a new way of thinking and gave me a new mindset to take back to the city. I learnt so much about spirituality in the week that we were at Lake Mungo. Some of the highlights were looking at the stars one night and finding constellations and listening to dream time stories. Watching the sun rise and set in a day and seeing foot prints of Aborigines dating 40,000 years ago.  **Meg Selianakis Year 11**
FROM THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

**GIRLS in STEM - Making it happen at Academy**

Recently, I attended a professional development session during Melbourne Knowledge Week – Girls in STEM: making it happen. The intention of this session was to learn how to engage girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Four main aspects were discussed:

- The language we use with girls and how we communicate is critical in girls' education. In providing feedback to girls, we need to focus on the process, strategies or capabilities rather than just the product or grade. We also need to equip students to have a ‘Growth Mindset’. This ‘can-do’ mindset build confidence and supports them as they learn and develop.

- To maintain girls in STEM, we need to create an open and positive atmosphere that appeals to girls’ inherently social nature.

- Our girls need to see role models that can give them the confidence to believe that they too can do any role. They are not confined by gender stereotypes.

- Girls are more likely to be interested in learning about science and technology if they can see links to themselves and the real world. Girls need to see the societal impact of STEM, that they can make a difference and do some good with pursuing STEM knowledge.

At the Academy, we are doing some great activities with our students in STEM and will be further sharing them with you over a series of newsletter articles.

**Ms Kate Jones, Head of IT Department**
FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

GIRL POWER IN STEMM OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS

Are you in a career in or finding out about a career in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)?

The University of Melbourne’s Engineering Faculty is offering 30 lucky Year 9 female students from all over Victoria the opportunity to learn about careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine! Read on to find out more about “Girl Power in STEMM”:

The Melbourne School of Engineering (MSE) and the Melbourne School of Information (MSI) are running a joint “Girl Power in STEMM” program across 4 years for a select number of female students from Year 9 to Year 12.

The first stage of this program will be an on campus female camp for Year 9 students during the upcoming July school holidays – (that’s four weeks away!). The camp will consist of

- Presentations by academics
- Panel discussions with industry
- Hands on, interactive workshops

The students participating in this year’s camp will be invited for a work experience in Year 10 where you will be placed at the University of Melbourne and the workplaces of our industry sponsors. This same group of students will then be able to participate in an ongoing academic and industry mentorship, peer mentor support and special events to help you develop your interest in Science and help ease and assist your transition to university life.

Registrations for the Girl Power in STEMM Camp will be open from 9.00am on Wednesday 1 June until 5.00pm Friday 10 June. There are no limitations to the number of applications that can be submitted however only 30 students will be selected for participation in 2016. For more information about the application process please see below.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- The female student camp will run from the Monday 4 July til mid-day Wednesday 6 July 2016
- Students will arrive and register on the evening of Sunday 3 July and depart on the afternoon of Wednesday 6 July
- The program is free of charge and will include 3 nights’ accommodation, all meals and workshops during the camp
- There are a limited number of full and partial bursaries available to successful applications who demonstrate a need for financial assistance
- Accommodation will be at one of the colleges at the University of Melbourne – Ormond College
- Dietary requirements will be catered for and students will need to provide this information as part of the application process
APPLICATION PROCESS
• All applications need to be submitted online
• Registrations will be open from 9.00am Wednesday 1 June until 5.00pm Friday 10 June 2016
• Program is currently open only to students in Year 9
• Only 30 places are available in this program for 2016
• Each application by the student needs to be supported by
  o A personal statement from the student stating why they want to participate in this program
  o A letter of support from the School Principal supporting the application from the student
• Students and their Schools will be informed of the outcome on Friday 17 June 2016
• Selected students need to fill in the relevant documents and return them by Friday 24 June in order to participate in the program

To register for the program please visit - http://www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/engage/schools/girl-power-in-stemm

Please encourage your Year 9 student to consider applying for this amazing opportunity and if you wish to find out more, please email Ms Mercuri.

CAREERS IN NUCLEAR MEDICINE, RADIATION THERAPY, PET AND MRI ANYONE?

Year 11 Unit 1 Physics class were given a rare opportunity this week to visit the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in East Melbourne and receive a guided tour by passionate practitioners in the area of Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy and MRI. Only weeks before the centre moves to its brand new location in Parkville, the girls were shown all the powerful equipment that these practitioners use every day, with each machine worth millions of dollars. They were disappointed not to be able to see the powerful magnet in the MRI machine wreak havoc if an operator unwittingly leaves anything metallic and magnetic on when they enter the sealed room it is in.

The students have just completed a unit on the origin of matter and everything in the universe and have learned about the different types of radiation. This visit was able to put the study in context of how it can be used to help people suffering from different forms of Cancer. Unit 2 Physics also has an optional unit on Nuclear Physics in Medicine which the students may want to pursue next semester.

The Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre outreach program is always looking for students interested in completing work experience and I encourage to invite your students to consider this opportunity for their Year 10 work experience.

Ms Toni Mercuri, Head of Science

YEAR 7 REPORT

ANAPHYLAXIS
It is of the utmost importance that every member of the school community be aware that there are students at the Academy of Mary Immaculate who are Anaphylactic.

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, sesame, fish, shellfish, wheat and soy are the most common food triggers, which cause 90 percent of allergic reactions; however, any food can trigger anaphylaxis. It is important to understand that in some people even very small amounts of food can cause a life-threatening reaction. Some extremely sensitive individuals can react to just the smell of particular foods being cooked (e.g. fish or peanuts)

A reaction can develop within minutes of exposure to the allergen, but with planning and training, a reaction can be treated effectively by using an antihistamine, or, in serious cases, an adrenaline auto-injection device.

The Academy of Mary Immaculate is an allergy aware environment and with a significant number of our students having allergies, especially to peanut and tree nuts, we ask that you do not send any food products containing nuts of any kind to school with your child.

We would like to thank you for your consideration. For further information on anaphylaxis, please visit https://www.allergyfacts.org.au/

Ms Alex Cowin, Year 7 Coordinator
YEAR 9 REPORT

STRESS BUSTER WEEK NEWSLETTER
As many know, Year 9 is the year where students experience their first examinations, therefore being a very stressful time. As examinations are approaching, the Year 9 leadership team organised a “stress buster” period for their peers. In the extended homeroom, on the 26 May, students chose their “stress buster” activity. These activities were: Dodgeball, Mindful colouring, Yoga and Karate. As everyone is different in the way they handle stress, the Year 9s choose a specific activity that best suited them, if it was to relieve stress or just have fun. This idea was very successful, where “everyone had a lot of fun and got to relax.” The following pictures are snapshots of the different activities conducted during this period.

“It was a new way for me to de-stress and relax before exams. I had never done Yoga before so I learnt a lot of new things as well. I thought it was very worth-while and extremely calming.”– Tamsyn Buckle

“It was a great experience and I think we all took something out of it. She taught us how to calm down and that sometimes we just need to take a moment to ourselves- which in this period of time is helpful” – Zoe Wilson

“In karate we learnt how to do join kicks, if ever we were in a situation where we had to defending ourselves. We did Monkey punches and hand strikes. It was very fun as we got to do the hand strikes on the boards! For me this was a good way to take my mind off exams.” – Taylor Mercieca

“It was a productive lesson that was fun and useful. No one was harmed or bored. We learnt how to defend ourselves and were given advice on how to avoid trouble” – Anthea Talatau

“Very invigorating. Enjoyed it thoroughly” – Kelly Nguyen

“Dodgeball was fun. It got me to release my energy and take my mind off homework and exams that are soon coming” – Mia Franklyn

“The stress buster, mindful colouring in program was a great way for the Year 9’s to relax and unwind from all the examinations and assessment study. It was a great way to lighten the stress - colouring in patterns and listening to music. It seemed that everyone enjoyed this calming time.” - Alessia Di Vita

“Mindful colouring in for stress buster week really helped be relax and made me less stressed about exams. It was really good.” – Sarah O’Brien

NEWS FROM THE LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Academy girls have put in a magnificent effort during the recent Language Perfect World Championships, earning a total of 56 certificates which is the highest tally of certificates won in the five or so years that we have been competing in this annual competition. Whilst all girls from Year 7 through to 10 use Language Perfect in their regular language classes and as a revision tool at home, each year in May we also participate in the World Championships against more than a thousand other schools across the world. This year in the ten days of competition, Academy girls spent 2373 hours learning (compared to 974 hours in 2015) and answered 350,120 questions (compared to 215,107 questions in 2015). We came 167th globally out 1111 school and 10th in the 251-500 students category of schools in Victoria.
This year we must congratulate Lisa Ly of Year 9 who made it into the “Elite” category by gaining more 10,000 points. Well done Lisa – a great achievement! Lisa and the 55 other girls who achieved certificates in the competition will be recognized at our end of Semester assembly. Congratulations to the following girls who will be awarded certificates for their impressive participation in the competition:

**ELITE (10,000+ points)** – Lisa Ly

**GOLD (3000+ points)** – Lydia Plastow, Emily Corkhill, Shayla Dang, Kelly Nguyen, Francesca Perri, Kasthuri Sahathevan, Odessa McNamara, Sharon Guan, Jenny Quach, Millie Beccia, Abbey Hill

**SILVER (2000+ points)** – Karina Finlayson, Tina Trinh, Mia Franklyn, Jamie Cheeseman, Lara Gibney, Xinzhu Tan, Chloe Liang, Shannen Stanzah, Amy Tran

**BRONZE (1000+ points)** – Jessica Offen, Tina Huynh, Tiyari Lopez-Ceballos, Claudia Parrino, Ivy Au, Lily Bratovic, Annabelle Aiton, Ruby English, Hope Kaczynski, Cindy Trinh, Imogen Bozinova, Carla Swannie

**CERTIFICATE (500+ points)** – Kayla Dunkin, Bridey Lobb, Hannah Truong, Kylie Cui, Faith Seci, Isabella Bester, Julia Liu, Stephanie Tsergeouinis, Jessica Cabral, Mia Devine, Tirhas Haftu, Tracey Nguyen, Biba Guario, Thao Tran, Caitlin Hall, Julie Tran, Bianca Luong, Thi Lien Le, Cindy Pham, Kouki Yoshida, Phoebe Doherty, Sarah Wills, Chloe Lawton

**YEAR 9 LANGUAGE DAY**

On Tuesday 21 June, all Year 9 Language students will be involved in a Language Day. The morning session is designed to get the girls to start to think about subject selection for next year. All girls are encouraged to continue to study a language for as long as possible to keep both their further study and career options open. Two guest speakers will come to speak to the girls about how they use a language in their professional careers. After a language themed morning tea, the girls will complete a trail of Melbourne to help them understand that cultural influences can be seen, felt and experienced in a variety of different forms and settings. The unit of work the students have been studying in all three languages has been designed to enhance students’ personal satisfaction of using language by utilizing expressions and vocabulary for giving and following directions and locating specific places/ products/ signs. Excursion permission forms will be distributed to all Year 9 students shortly.

**ITALIAN SISTER SCHOOL VISIT**

Our Italian sister school, Ruffini High School, in Imperia, Italy, will be making a visit to the Academy in Term 3. Two staff members from Ruffini High School will accompany 19 girls on the visit which will take place from Saturday 27th August until Saturday 10th September. Many thanks to all those families who have volunteered to host a student for one or two weeks. All Italian students have now been placed with families and those Academy girls who are hosting are looking forward to making contact with their host sisters before their arrival in August.

Ms Jodie Muller, Head of Language

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

On 16 May, we had two teams participating in the competition. There was the C Grade, consisting of Stefania Ferraro, Kylie Cui, and Olivia Bula. The D Grade also participated, with Maeve Heenan, Ella Hamilton, and Bella James as the speakers for the evening. Supporting the C grade were Mrs Bula and Mrs Ferraro, and with the D Grade came Mr Heenan, Ms Kilian, Mrs James, and Edel Miskella. Parents and friends served as an attentive audience for the debate, giving the girls an opportunity to talk in front of a larger crowd and build confidence.

The girls in the C Grade were faced for the first time with a secret debate topic. The girls’ points were valid in challenging the topic ‘That only perpetrators of violent crimes should receive prison sentences’. Stefania was the first speaker, arguing that we need to imprison people who commit wrongdoings to make an example of them to the community. She spoke clearly and with confidence. Next was Kylie, who argued that all people had the right to feel safe, and so we should imprison drug dealers and thieves to make communities safer. She, too, was able to thoroughly convince the audience.
Lastly came Olivia, who stood up to rebut the opposition’s arguments. She had well thought-out, logical rebuttals, and concluded by appealing that we ‘Come on, folks!’ The Year 9 students, when up against a group of Year 10s, proved to be quick and witty debaters who can take on anything, and despite their marvellous effort, they unfortunately lost the debate.

The D Grade team were arguing against the idea ‘that we should use prison labour for public works’. Maeve opened the debate, stating that using prisoners for public labour is using them as slaves. She spoke confidently and clearly. Ella came next, arguing that prison is for incarceration and to exclude the prisoners from society. Lastly, Bella rebutted the case of the other team before summarising the debate entirely. She used good examples to prove her points, notably stating that the pyramids were made by builders so the best work could be done. The girls were just short of winning.

The girls have enjoyed their experience, and have begun to prepare for their next debate already. They have proven to be a dedicated and diligent group of students who have been a pleasure to work with. They are looking forward to participate again in the next round, on 30 May.

Alexandra Dooley (Public Speaking Captain)

On 26 May Alexandra Dooley and Tiffany Dang competed in the senior VCAA Plain English Speaking Competition. The girls had to prepare a speech of 6 minutes in length on a chosen topic and they also had to deliver a 3 minute impromptu speech on the day. Alexandra spoke on ‘The Portrayal of Mental Illness in the Media’ and Tiffany spoke on ‘Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery’. The girls had well researched speeches and executed really well on the day. Although they found the topic of ‘Look Before You Leap’ challenging as a topic for the impromptu speech they both did well to draw on their public speaking skills. Thanks for representing the Academy at the competition girls. Well done!

Mrs Loucilla Sgambellone

FROM THE SPORT DEPARTMENT

Individual Achievement
Pierre De Coubertin Awards
Each year since 1999, the Academy has the opportunity to nominate one student for the prestigious Pierre De Coubertin Awards. These awards are sponsored by the Victorian Olympic Council and are primarily intended to recognise students who demonstrate, through sport, attributes consistent with the aims of the Olympic movement.

In 2016, Frayne House Captain Bridget Healey will receive this award at a Ceremony at the MCG. She will be joined at the Olympic Academy by Lillian Starling (Year 11) and Nina Trupkovic (Year 10).
**Lacrosse Champions**

Congratulations to Year 10 students Abbey O'Mahony and Taylah Comeadow. After the recent Lacrosse Championship, both girls have been selected to play in the Victorian Under 17 Team at the National Championships. This is not the first time that either has made State selection. We wish them continued success.

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**State Volleyball Selection**

Congratulations are also extended to Year 11 student Lillian Starling on her selection to the Victorian Under 17 Volleyball Squad. Lillian is our first “home grown” State Volleyballer, having taken up the sport here at the Academy in Year 9.

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**Team Successes**

**SCSA Div 2 Athletics**

Led by Captain Michaela Selaidinakos we joined 7 other schools to compete at Bob Jane Stadium.

First Placing in one or more events:
Year 7: Mia Briedis
Year 8: Ruby Privetta
Year 9: Olivia Tsantarlis, Alyssa Petronio
Year 10: Taylah Comeadow
Year 11: Yvonne Savea
Year 12: Mikeala Selaidinakos

Second or third placing in one or more events were recorded by:

At the end of the day’s competition the School was placed in 7th position in the Aggregate.

**SCSA Div 2 Futsal**

Our second event in a very busy term saw the Academy Intermediates take out the Trophy after a full day’s play. The Soccer Excellence award is given to Nina Trupkovic for an outstanding performance throughout the entire day. Many thanks to staff soccer coaches Mr Andritsos, Mr Tomassini and Year 12 student Bridget Healey (Junior Coach).

**SCSA Div 2 Badminton**

The Academy was host to the SCSA Badminton and an absolutely enthusiastic team ensured that the sport will remain on our radar for future competitions. Our Juniors were placed 3rd, Intermediates 4th and Seniors 6th in the competition. Many thanks to Badminton Captain Anna Vuong and staff coaches Miss Vajda, Ms Brogan and Ms Cheek for their support and interest.

**SCSA Div 3 Basketball**

Another great day at the basketball! Coached by Miss Vajda, Miss Cowin and Mr Molino, all teams made finals with the Seniors taking out the pennant.

Congratulations to Basketball Captain, Caitlin Kuzman and also to Geneva Forster who was awarded the MVP in the Grand Final.

Ms Tyrell Harding, Director of Sport
FROM THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

YEAR 11 EXCURSION TO THE SUPREME COURT!

“Wow! What a fantastic excursion!” is what the Year 11 Legal Studies students were able to say as they had the incredible opportunity to attend the Supreme Courts right near Academy’s local hub!

During this term, all Year 11 students studying legal studies were fortunate enough to attend and observe the Supreme Court and its crucial role that it plays in society. This visit enabled us to apply our knowledge from legal studies to real life situations, as well as allowing us to gain an insight into the legal system and the potential effects it has on society.

The excursion to the Supreme Court was a great opportunity which not everyone can say they have experienced! The day started off with us entering into the Supreme Court, taking in the regal appeal and classic history plastered against the walls of the building.

We had the privilege of being introduced to Associate Justice Melissa Daly, who spoke to us in depth about the types of civil and criminal cases which are heard in the Supreme Court. This was valuable information which helped us to understand the role of this particular court in contrast to the others. Associate Justice Melissa Daly also spoke about how she became a lawyer and how she progressed to the current role she pursues today. She also suggested ways in which would be most appropriate into gaining a career in law. Each one of us appreciated her guidance and advice!

Soon after our meeting with Associate Justice Melissa Daly, our guides allowed us to sit in areas that defined significant roles of court personnel. This was very helpful for us as we were able to physically view the court’s set up and appreciate and understand each role of the personnel within a court room.

Before we knew it, we were able to finally view a murder case! This was perhaps the part that we all thoroughly enjoyed the most! Everyone found the case intriguing and I could see each girl whisper to each other about what they thought the verdict could possibly be! This part of the day was also the most educational as we were able to see and apply the knowledge that we had learnt in class and apply it all to the actual case. An example of this is when we were able to see the court personnel actually perform their roles as well as hear witnesses and cross-examinations. It was very invaluable to see the legal system in action!

To finish, we went into the law library! This was filled with historic paintings, books and newspapers as well as statues of significant individuals who have made an impact on the law and its role today! The law library was also very regal and one of the things I found particularly interesting was the actual court book which contained the verdict and sentence of Ned Kelly!

After a wonderful excursion, we were fortunate enough to head out for lunch and talk about the excursion, particularly the trial we had seen! We all had a wonderful time and would do it again! On behalf of the Year 11 Legal Studies Students, “Thanks for the opportunity to visit the Supreme Court!”

Grace Pucci, 11 Green

Mr Joe Natoli, Humanities Teacher

PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

Music

Term 2 has had an amazing run so far and there is still more to come! Our Music department has been extremely busy with a number of events on that have been fostering the buzz of performance for our budding musicians.

Vocal Workshop with Steve Angrisano at Mercy College – 12 May

On Thursday 12 May, members of the Academy of Mary Immaculate Choir and Concert Band travelled to Mercy College Coburg with Mr Power, Ms Morris and Ms Fogarty to participate in a singing and musical workshop with American singer/songwriter Steve Angrisano. Students and staff discussed how we as musicians can improve music culture in our school. Sharing this experience alongside fellow musicians from Mercy College and St Aloysius, our time was spent singing, dancing and sharing a few laughs as we learnt how welcoming the Christian musical world truly is. Steve inspired us with the idea of how simple actions can turn a few singers into a congregation.

As a flautist myself and not a singer it was interesting to learn tips to improve our band rehearsals, ensemble performances and make changes to enhance our knowledge as musicians. It was amazing to see how three different Mercy schools
could come together, connect and perform without worrying about judgement from our peers. It was a memorable experience where even the teachers participated and had smiles on their faces. All up the event received positive responses from various members of the musical family at the Academy, and students are looking forward to sharing their knowledge at our next whole-school event.

Megan Kolbe – Academy Band Captain

Royal Australian Navy Band Visits the Academy! - 23 May

On Monday 23 May, the Royal Australian Navy Band visited the Academy to run a workshop with the Academy Concert Band in preparation for the Victorian Schools Music Festival. As part of a two-week educational tour of Victorian schools, the RAN Band provided expert tuition and ensemble experience for our girls on the pieces they will perform at The Hawthorn Arts Centre in Term 3.

Following the workshop, the band provided a very entertaining set of music showing the quality of their musicians in a versatile manner. The ensemble produced Drum-Core work (Edinburgh Military Tattoo-style), Traditional Concert Band repertoire including the Liberty Bell March by Sousa, film music from Star Wars, as well as some big band standards such as Paper Moon, and the theme music from Austin Powers.

Band Captain Megan Kolbe of Year 12 expressed her thoughts on the day as “One of the most unforgettable moments I’ve ever experienced. Receiving advice from such talented musicians was truly unforgettable.”

Overall, the band and audience had an invaluable experience in bringing some of Australia’s finest instrumentalists to the Academy. Here is a link to our website showing a recording of the students playing the theme music from ‘Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban’ alongside the mentorship of the RAN Band.


Year 7 Instrumental Music Program Breakfast Concert – 31 May

As Semester 1 nears the end, the students of 7 Red and 7 Silver performed as part of the culmination of their study on a wind, brass or stringed instrument. The Academy ‘Concert Hall’ was lined with buzzing Year 7s at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday 31 May with some tired parents queued up at the coffee urn! By 8:30 am all were well and truly awake after being graced with the sounds of beginner Violins, Violas, Trumpets, Trombones, Flutes and Clarinets! Students played out of their skins in their debut performance heralded as one of the best cohorts the Academy has seen in years.

Music Captain Leah Alysandratos, compered the concert in style alongside Band Captain Megan Kolbe. Students were on stage together for impressive items such as Justin Bieber’s ‘Love Yourself’ (which the string group generously dedicated to Bieber-Fever Fan and Deputy Principal Adrian Fuller), ‘Power Rock’ for all the Queen fans featuring ‘We Will Rock You’ and ‘Another One Bites the Dust’, as well as ‘The Academy Breakfast Blues’, an upbeat blues written especially for the concert with guest drummer and Year 11 student Stefeny Cheng from the Academy Jazz Band.

Following the Year 7 performances the Junior Strings demonstrated the next level of playing for students who receive private tuition and participate in the College’s Core Ensembles. As parents and students enjoyed a croissant and coffee our Junior Strings played an item called ‘Cinnamon’. To close the concert one of our Extension Ensembles, the Chamber Choir then pleased audience members as they sang a flawless acapella version of John Kander’s ‘Cabaret’.

Overall the event was a wonderful way to showcase the development of our youngest musicians supported by some of our more experienced ones.
Coming Up - Winter Recital Night – 7.00pm 15 June in the Hall
It might be cold by then, but what better way to warm up than to listen to the sound of live music. Half way through the year is a perfect time for all of our instrumental students to strut their stuff! Come along for a concert beginning in the Hall, and then splitting up into several school venues for some wonderful intimate performances. These will range from budding beginners playing middle C on the piano, right up to sufficiently seasoned music students delivering the most technically and musically satisfying live music the school has to offer.

Thursday 23 June – Lunch Time Concert
For the first time in a while, the Academy is offering a lunch-time concert to students and teachers at school in the hall. Various ensembles will be showing off their work for the semester to their peers, and parents are welcome to attend. Most likely in the courtyard depending on weather!

New Enrolments, New Offerings!
For students interested in taking up a musical instrument, now is the time to enrol for Semester 2! Recently the application forms have been updated to provide some new offerings. Students can still opt to learn in private one-to-one tuition, or in pairs, but next semester students will be allowed to learn in group lessons for 3-4 students. This is a great way for friends to start learning together at an affordable price. Contact us at music@academy.vic.edu.au for more information about the Instrumental Music Program, or pick up an application form at Reception. We’d love to hear from you.

Academy Music Support
The Academy Music Department is a busy one with many staff and students involved. To coordinate this and to deliver sound music education to students requires many resources both human and instrumental. If you have or know of any old instruments lying around at home/amongst friends or family, and you are interested in donating them, I’m sure an Academy student could benefit from this. Alternatively, music as an extra-curricular activity with expert tuition comes with added costs. If you are at all interested in sponsoring a student to learn a musical instrument, this would also be welcomed. If you are interested and would like to find out how you can help to support the music department in any way, please send an e-mail to music@academy.vic.edu.au.

Thanks and warm regards,

Mr Andrew Power, Head of Performing Arts

VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

AROUND THE GALLERIES
Our Year 7 and 8 students have been enjoying their time at the NGV this term. The Year 7s have been looking at Indigenous Art, while the Year 8s have focussed their attention on the Renaissance and Baroque collection, with particular attention being paid to Tiepolo’s Banquet of Cleopatra 1744.

Mr Martin McInerney, Head of Visual Arts
WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM 2016

For a week in May, I had the amazing opportunity to take part in a Journalism Internship at Australian Catholics Magazine. Over the week, six of us from across Australia came together at Jesuit Communications in Richmond, and learnt about the fascinating process of writing, editing and publishing a magazine. By talking to skilled journalists, photographers, designers and publishers we were given a fantastic insight into the incredible world of journalism. With these new skills we were then given the task of designing the spring edition of the magazine – thinking up ideas for articles, writing them and then contributing our own ideas of possible designs for the magazine. I can honestly say that I had such an amazing and exciting time, making some great friends and picking up plenty of valuable skills along the way. Jennifer Krikis Year 10

Academy’s Year 10 Work Experience Program runs 12-16 September this year. Some students have been proactive in securing amazing placements prior to this week as evidenced above by Jennifer Krikis.

Our year 10s were very fortunate last week to attend a presentation by two remarkable women, past students Tracey Keogh and Sharon Crofts. Tracey & Sharon were best friends at school and now co-direct a very successful Recruitment organisation. Their succinct and comprehensive session outlined many key areas relating to employability skills, developing confidence in approaching potential employers, job interviews, resume writing and always being polite and respectful in their communication. Students were reminded they are competing in a market with hundreds of other students throughout Victoria and therefore need to recognise, develop and promote their own individual talents, skills and style.

As parents and guardians you may be in a position to offer Work Experience placements for students at the Academy and we would be keen to hear from you. While it is sometimes a great opportunity to work in industries where they have relatives, we would encourage students to broaden their experience, dream big and extend themselves to challenges beyond their comfort zone.

You are encouraged to support your daughters/young people in your care in their pursuit and Careers Consultant, Amanda Siva and Work Experience Coordinator, Anne Marie Allan are always happy to assist where we can.

Mrs Anne Marie Allan, Work Experience Coordinator
## BUXWEAR UNIFORM SHOP

### SCHOOL SHOP HOURS AT ACADEMY FOR TERM 2 to 4 in 2016

The uniform shop will be open on Tuesdays

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*Thanks Anne Holland, Buxwear*