Welcome to Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College. It is always an exciting time for the students and staff when the new Year Seven girls, with their many talents and experiences, join us and add to the richness of our community.

For many of you it may seem very different to move from a smaller primary school to a large College but we will do all that we can to help you make the transition readily. Our current Year Seven girls have learnt to love the College quickly. They take up the varied experiences that we have to offer them and participate in so many activities from camps, to music groups, to sports, to debating and public speaking, to hobbies. I hope that you will take advantage of all of these opportunities to become involved. The girls who do so are the happiest and most fulfilled at our College.

During the first 125 years of Monte Sant’ Angelo College, the Sisters of Mercy led the College community. Today most of the staff are lay teachers rather than Sisters of Mercy. However, the Mercy values are just as important then as now and will form the foundation of much that you experience at the College.

Over your six years at Monte Sant’ Angelo, you will have the opportunity to learn about your world community, engage with an international curriculum and to experience efforts to improve the lives of people who do not enjoy all the benefits you have. We want you to learn that what you have been given is not just for you: we want you to use your gifts and talents to make a difference in the world, to stand up for the rights of all and for justice for all, in the spirit of Mercy.

I welcome you to Monte Sant’ Angelo in 2014. You are joining the College at an exciting time, as you study an international curriculum, the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme. You will also have many of your classes in the new learning spaces of Catherine McAuley Place. I hope you will enjoy your time with us and prosper as a young person in the College and wider community.

Nicole Christensen
ACTING PRINCIPAL
Six houses operate at Monte. You will be placed in a house and will remain in the same house for the six years you are at Monte.

The houses and their associated colours are:

**AQUINAS - GOLD**
Aquinas is named after St Thomas Aquinas who was a great teacher and writer. He is the patron saint of students. The house motto is TRUTH.

**MCQUOIN - BLUE**
McQuoin is named after Mother Ignatius McQuoin, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney. Mother McQuoin established Monte and was its first principal. The house motto is JUSTICE.

**MCAULEY - GREEN**
McAuley is named after Catherine McAuley who founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin. Catherine came from a wealthy family but used her fortune to educate the poor children and help the sick. The house motto is MERCY.

**XAVIER - RED**
Xavier is named after St Francis Xavier who is the patron saint of the Australian Church. He was a Jesuit father who devoted his life to spreading the Christian Faith. The house motto is COURAGE.

**RANKIN - ORANGE**
Rankin is named after Sr M. Baptista Rankin who was Principal of Monte for 26 years. Sister Baptista was an excellent student and inspiring teacher. The house motto is REVERENCE.

**MCGUIRK - PURPLE**
McGuirk is named after Sister Maureen McGuirk who began teaching at Monte in 1963. Sister Maureen was awarded the AM for her services to education. She was Head at Monte for 21 years. The house motto is FIDELITY.
When you are in Year 6 you are the leaders in your school. You know how the school works and who to ask for help if you or your friends are unsure about what to do.

In Year 7 at Monte you will be with 190 other girls who are all new and sometimes you will need to ask someone for help. If you or your friends are unsure about what to do or are really worried about something and you need a ‘helping hand’, here are some people you can talk to:

**First Point of Contact**

- Tutor Teachers
  - Ms Spence
  - Ms Cooper
  - Ms O’Sullivan
  - Ms McPherson
  - Ms Ford

- Academic Support
  - Ms Spence

- Wellbeing & Counselling
  - Ms McPherson
  - Ms Bell

- Acting Middle School Director
  - Ms Cooper

- Deputy Principal of Pastoral Care
  - Ms Magurren
HEAD OF YEAR 7    Ms O’Sullivan

A Head of Year is employed as a full-time teacher at the college and is given some time to attend to the needs of the students under her care. Therefore it is Ms O’Sullivan’s job to help you settle into Monte as quickly and as easily as possible. You will find Ms O’Sullivan near the Year 7 rooms in Catherine McAuley Place during morning homeroom. She is there to help get the day off to an organised start, answer any of your questions and also to give you an ‘early leaving’ pass if you need to leave the College during the day. If you have problems or concerns during the day, you can find her in her office at recess and lunch. Ms O’Sullivan’s office is located in Geary House which is behind Catherine McAuley Place on McLaren Street.

ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 7    Ms Ford

An Assistant Head of Year supports the Head of Year and is responsible for the organisation of your lockers, roll marking and absentee notes. She can also help with any concerns you may have. You need to see the Assistant Head of Year if Ms O’Sullivan is absent. Ms Ford is located in the PDH PE Staff Room.

ACTING MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR    Ms Cooper

The Middle School Director has specific responsibility in the College to oversee the structures, processes, events and programs that meet the educational needs of students in the first three years of secondary schooling. Ms Cooper works with the Head of Year and the Pastoral Team to ensure a successful transition from primary to high school and continues to liaise with Tutors and subject teachers to oversee academic progress up until the end of Year Nine. You can usually find Ms Cooper in the staff room on the top floor of Masalou.
TUTOR TEACHERS

Your tutor teachers will be the first teachers you see most days and will also teach you for one or two subjects. They will get to know you quite well and will take a special interest in you. To help support you in this important year each homeroom group is now led and managed by two tutor teachers.

It is the role of your tutor teachers to check punctuality, student absences from class during morning homeroom, to answer any daily queries and to advise you of the regular and special happenings at Monte through the ACTA, Monte’s daily newsletter.

When you arrive on your first day, your tutor teachers will provide you with information about the 10-day cycle, your timetable, subjects, whereabouts of classrooms and the location of your lockers. Throughout the year, they will also monitor your academic progress and work with you to develop organisational skills.

Your tutor teacher will guide and support you as you settle into Monte and will be involved in most of the activities that you participate in as a grade such as the welcome dinner, camp, chapel and excursions.
ACADEMIC SUPPORT TEACHER  Mrs Spence

The role of the Academic Support Teacher is to assist students with their learning across all subject areas. Mrs Spence supports both teachers and parents with issues concerning the progress of individual students. She will also work with students who need help with organisation, time-management and study skills.

HEALTH CENTRE  Mrs Thomas

The role of the Sister, as a Registered Nurse, is to ensure that the health care needs of the students are met in various ways. The Health Centre is centrally located in the McAuley Courtyard and is open from 8 am – 3.30 pm Monday to Friday. The daily activities of the Health Centre vary, from treating simple cuts and abrasions, to dispensing Panadol, to treating more serious illness and accidents.

If a student in Year 7 needs to go home due to illness she must first report to the Health Centre. Mrs Thomas will then contact home and the student must be collected from the Health Centre by a parent or guardian.

THE SCHOOL COUNSELLORS  Ms McPherson & Ms Bell

The School Counsellors offer a service to the entire school community of students, parents and staff. Students can make an appointment to see them any time during the day either individually or with a small group. It is important to remember that talking about a problem can help you to work out what to do. The Counsellor's office is located on the top floor of Geary House.
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, PASTORAL  
Ms Magurren

The Deputy Principal is responsible for pastoral care in the College and works with all members of staff and in particular with the Heads of Year and Pastoral Care Teams to ensure that students receive appropriate advice, support and encouragement during their school life. Her office is in the main corridor of the Administration building. You can get there either by going along that corridor from the Front Office entrance or by going through the door from the McAuley Courtyard.

ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, CURRICULUM  
Mrs Stocks

The Acting Deputy Principal responsible for curriculum is Mrs Stocks. It is her responsibility, working with Heads of Department, to oversee each student’s program of studies from Year 7 to Year 12. She gives information and advice on assessment and on the subject choices that are available at the end of Years 8, 10 and 11. Her office is opposite the Principal’s in the main corridor of the Administration building.

HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION  
Mr Galletta

The Head of Administration organises your school timetable and teachers, and the rooms in which you have your classes. He is also responsible for assisting in the organisation of many events, including the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Day, school excursions and a number of other College activities. As well, he teaches Maths classes. The Head of Administration’s office is located on the top floor of the Masalou building near the Mathematics department. You may need to see him if you need a new timetable.
DIRECTOR OF FAITH, FORMATION AND LITURGY  Mrs Addicoat

The office of Faith, Formation and Liturgy encompasses two ideals, to be and to live. Our Catholic Christian BE-LIEF (life) stands for our Father and our Mission. We believe in God, Father (creator), Jesus (the Christ, Saviour and Redeemer) and Holy Spirit (Gift Giver). Our mission is to DO this belief.

As the person who gives this direction, Mrs Addicoat supports and empowers the prayer, spiritual ritual growth life of the College.

DIRECTOR OF MISSION  Sister Carmel McDonough

Sister Carmel, a former pupil of Monte, is a North Sydney Sister of Mercy. Her role is Director of Mission.

Sister Carmel encourages all students to participate and use their talents to enhance the prayer life of the College. She supports the Mercy Action Group and encourages students to be involved in Social Justice Initiatives.
In a large school such as Monte there is a great deal of information to be shared, events to be organised, achievements to be celebrated and messages to be sent and received, so communication is constant and considerable.

Students need to be attentive when information is being given, such as during assemblies, and take responsibility for ensuring that letters, forms, weekly newsletters and so on are taken home and read carefully. If a student is late to school, ACTA may be accessed via Monte Connect. Please note that the weekly parent newsletter, Monte Matters, may be accessed on line at the school’s website – www.monte.nsw.edu.au.

**TYPICAL PAGE OF ACTA**

The daily newsletter at Monte is called the ACTA DIURNAR and is read out each morning during Homeroom. Remember to listen carefully for information about activities for students and general school news.

**ACTA DIURNA**

**Friday 11th October 2013**

**~ PRAYER ~**

*Feast of St Damien of Molokai*

St. Damien, brother on the journey, Teach us to live our lives with a joy like yours, to be in solidarity with the outcasts of the world, to celebrate and contemplate the Eucharist as the source of our commitment. Help us to love to the very end and, in the strength of the Spirit, to persevere in compassion for the poor and forgotten so that we might be good disciples of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

**LUNCHTIME DETENTIONS**

*Friday 11 October*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>Nadine Mattini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ronan</td>
<td>Alysia Thomon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>McGurk</td>
<td>Isabella Ong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Detentions are at lunchtime. If you are detention today, you must bring a pen & diary with you to complete a written reflection task.

**FAIR TRADE CAFÉ**

Fairtrade Café open this morning from 7:30am, McAuley Kitchen.

**MONTCLAIR ARTWORK OF THE WEEK**

Starting next week, keep an eye out in ACTA for some great pieces of artwork, produced by our talented students. It could be a piece of art, a sculpture, some photography maybe. But will definitely be something worth looking at. Starting Monday, hope you enjoy the pieces.

**ATTENTION YEAR 8**

Would all students who have not returned their science fiction novels from last term please return them asap. If you have the novel in your locker you are to bring it to the library without fail at recess today.

**ALL YEARS**

- South African High Tea Volunteers. Can all the girls who have put their names down to volunteer for the High Tea at Monte on Saturday 19th October, please see Mrs Hendricks in the Library TODAY at Recess. Thank you.

**YEARS 7 & 8**

- Year 7 & 8 girls are invited to be an audience for our Junior Theatresports Team’s debut. Come to RY02 (S1) Lunchtime Friday for a brief showcase as our Junior girls perform in preparation for the 2013 Theatresports Challenge.

**SPORTS NOTICES**

- In Year 10 and 11 and are not currently in Monte 1 waterpolo team, there will be an assessment on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October. All current players will be assessed at this time. Any student who is not currently playing waterpolo and who is in Year 7-9) must attend these sessions.

**NEW LIBRARY RULES**

- Any student who does not attend the assessment sessions must attend the final assessment on Tuesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October. All current players will be assessed at this time. Any student who is not currently playing waterpolo and who is in Year 7-9) must attend these sessions.

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**BAGS**

Put something on your bag to distinguish it from others, such as a ribbon. Do not write on the outside of your bag. Your bag is not to be carried around the school grounds; it is to be left in your locker all day. Bags are always to be carried correctly, on your back with both straps. Write your name inside your bag.

**LOCKERS**

In your equipment package purchased from the College Shop you will receive a coded padlock. If you have any problems with your locker please see Ms Bernasconi. It is very important that you practise locking and unlocking your coded padlock before you come to Monte, so you are familiar with the way that it works. Bring your padlock with you on the first day so you can be allocated a locker.

- Money should never be left in your locker. Do not bring large sums of money to school.
- Your locker should always be locked, otherwise items may go missing.
- Students are not allowed to go to their lockers during lessons. This means you must get yourself organised during the breaks - morning homeroom, recess and lunch.
- All valuable items, such as money and mobile phones MUST be kept in the zipped pocket of your uniform.

**PROPER USE OF LOCKERS FOR ALL STUDENTS**

1. Unpack before morning homeroom.
2. Organise books for the day into three lots:
   a) Periods 1 and 2
   b) Periods 3 and 4
   c) Periods 5 and 6.
4. Do not leave food or drink in your locker.
5. Do not stick stickers in, or on your locker.

**Good Locker**

**Bad Locker**
DAILY ORGANISATION

It is important that you learn this routine:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.15am - 8.25am</td>
<td>Classrooms will be opened and students may organise their books for Periods 1 and 2. Students take their books for Periods 1 &amp; 2 into Homeroom with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.25am - 8.40am</td>
<td>Homeroom - roll call and the ACTA, Monte’s daily newsletter, is read.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.40am - 10.30am</td>
<td>Periods 1 and 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am - 10.55am</td>
<td>Recess – During the last few minutes of recess students should organise their books for Periods 3 and 4. (This should take no longer than 5 minutes.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.55am - 12.45pm</td>
<td>Periods 3 and 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45pm - 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch – During the first 5 minutes and the last 5 minutes students are to organise books for Periods 5 and 6. Students must not eat lunch in the classrooms or in the corridors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30pm - 3.20pm</td>
<td>Periods 5 and 6. During the last 5 minutes of Period 6, rooms must be tidied and made secure. Students are then dismissed, and may go to their lockers. Students do not go to their lockers before they have been dismissed nor do they bring bags to Periods 5 and 6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.20pm</td>
<td>Afternoon dismissal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUBJECTS STUDIED IN YEAR

- Religion Studies
- Mathematics
- *History and *Geography
- Design and Technology
- Language - One of: French, German, Italian, Indonesian
- English
- Science
- Physical Education, Personal Development and Health
- *Art and *Music

* These subjects are studied alternatively for one semester each, half a year in Years 7 and 8.
EXERCISE BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

The following books are required for your subjects in Year 7:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>EXERCISE BOOK REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</td>
<td>1X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 128 PAGE 70GSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH</td>
<td>2X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 64 PAGE 70GSM RED MARGIN 1X DOCUMENT WALLET A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>2X BOOK BINDER TUDOR A4 128 PAGE 5MM GRID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>2X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 96 PAGE 70GSM RED MARGIN 1X BOOK EXERCISE 8MM RULED 225X175MM 48 PAGE STAPELED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY</td>
<td>1X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 128 PAGE 70GSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOGRAPHY</td>
<td>1X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 128 PAGE 70GSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANGUAGES</td>
<td>1X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 128 PAGE 70GSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC</td>
<td>1X BOOK MUSIC FEINT AND STAVED A4 96 PAGES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASTORAL CARE/ LEARNING JOURNEY</td>
<td>1X BOOK BINDER 8MM RULED A4 64 PAGE 70GSM RED MARGIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DESIGN &amp; TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>1X PAPER REINFORCED LOOSE LEAF 7MM RULED A4 PK/50 1X DISPLAY BOOK A4 20 POCKET BLUE 2X PEN FINELINE ARTLINE 200 0.4MM BLACK 1X FLASH DRIVE USB VERBATIM STORE N GO 4GB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Please label each book or Folder with your name, Homeroom (e.g. Yr 7 Gilchrist - you will be told your homeroom on your first day), your teacher’s name and the subject.

- You MUST cover all your books in plastic or contact.

- You do not need these books on the first day of orientation – Tuesday 28th January. You will need them the first school day – Wednesday 29th January. Your tutor teacher will help you determine which books you need to bring.

VISUAL ART KIT

A kit of materials and tools necessary for the completion of art activities in Years 7 and 8 will be distributed to students at the beginning of the first semester of study in the subject. These kits have been assembled through a central supplier to ensure suitability of components and cost-effectiveness. The cost, no more than $60, will be billed to each student's account on distribution.

STATIONERY

You MUST also have the following equipment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1X PENCIL CASE 340X135MM CLEAR</td>
<td>1X LARGE ERASER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2X PEN BALLPOINT 1.0MM RED</td>
<td>1X 30CM PLASTIC RULER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2X PEN BALLPOINT 1.0MM BLUE</td>
<td>1X SCISSORS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1X LEAD PENCIL HB</td>
<td>1X GLUE STICK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1X LEAD PENCIL 2B</td>
<td>1X HIGHLIGHTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1X LEAD PENCIL 6B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALL OF THE EXERCISE BOOK AND PENCIL CASE ITEMS LISTED ABOVE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN A STATIONERY PACK THAT WILL BE SOLD BY THE COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP
TEXTBOOKS
Monte’s recommended bookseller is Better Books at College Street, Gladesville. Better Books has details of all the books on Monte’s various booklists at www.betterbooks.com.au

Please note that it is most important that students purchase the correct and most current edition of the textbooks listed as many are updated frequently. Many of the Year Seven texts will be reused in Year Eight and should be retained.

The 2014 text list will be posted to you in November. Many textbooks selected for purchase are also available in digital format. Due to copyright laws, these e-textbooks can only be installed on student laptops if original hard copy texts are purchased or appropriate on-line validation processes followed in the case of second-hand purchases. Installation of e-text books will occur at the iLearn induction for Year Seven in February.

PLANNER

- Each student will be issued with a school planner at the beginning of the year. Write your name on your planner inside the front cover.

- Girls must only use the official school planner.

- The planner is to be carried at all times - during Homeroom and lesson time.

- The planner is for the student’s homework and for parents and teachers to communicate with each other.

- Planners are not to be folded back, scribbled on or decorated in any way. Stickers, other than those provided, should not be placed in your planner.

- A student’s planner should be extremely organised.

- Planners will be checked regularly by your teacher during the year and should also be monitored by parents.

- A student may be asked to purchase a new planner if her planner is defaced in any way.

HOMEWORK

Year 7 students should only spend 1 1/2 - 2 hours per night completing homework. If homework is taking longer than this then it is a good idea for the student and parents to talk with their subject teacher, Homeroom teacher or Head of Year.

Study Time:

- Plan your homework time every night.

- Break your homework up into tasks. Tick off when the task is completed.

- If you have to study for a test, mark it down on your nightly timetable.

- Break assignments down into tasks according to the number of working days; note the breakdown in your diary for each day.
Monte iLearn Program

As a leading educational institution, Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College aims to offer a contemporary educational approach which harnesses the power of new technologies to improve student learning outcomes. The College is now in its fifth year of the iLearn student notebook program as a compulsory innovation for all students.

The iLearn Program will:

- equip and support our students and staff to utilise and integrate technology as an essential learning tool for the 21st century
- provide a well-supported, customised, safe and secure digital device service for all students
- complement our online learning environment, known as MonteConnect
- enable ubiquitous, anywhere/anytime learning environment
- encourage stewardship and responsible computer usage for all students
- harness new pedagogies and learning possibilities for students

Included in the annual cost of the Program is the notebook computer, on-site Helpdesk support, hot swap/spare parts availability, 24-hour vendor telephone support, 3 year Apple Care warranty, full insurance and a comprehensive suite of educationally relevant software such as Microsoft Office 2011, iWork, iLife and the Adobe Creative Suite, plus many more Apps available through our internal Self Service App Store.

The notebooks will be pre-loaded with software and e-text books will be installed once proof of purchase has been obtained (alleviating the need to carry heavy text books to and from school). They will also incorporate student and school identification, a protective casing and an ergonomic carry bag.

The compulsory iLearn Induction Program, requiring each student to attend a workshop during class time plus a compulsory evening session with their parent/carer, will be held on Thursday 30 January 2014. An information package will be sent home with your daughter, including copies of the iLearn Responsible User Guidelines and the MOnte iLearn Handbook, during the first week of term.

In the meantime, be sure not to purchase your daughter a new computer for her birthday or Christmas as the College issued MacBook Air is a compulsory addition to your daughter’s daily life at Monte.
Features of the iLearn Program include:

- A Monte Google Docs and Gmail account for every student to enable cloud-based productivity and communications
- Bedtime settings set across the year such that the computer will automatically log your daughter off at 10pm and enable logins from 6am each weekday
- Access to system updates and specialist software via ‘Self Service’ available from the MacBook Air both at home and at the College
- A fully featured online learning component for every subject enabling 24/7 access to assessment notifications, relevant websites, curriculum materials and interactives (via MonteConnect)
- Access to iAssist helpdesk each school day from 7:30am – 4:30pm for support
- The integration of ICT skills into the curriculum, where relevant
- The capacity for girls to learn how to organise their notes and learning materials on their MacBook Air, PLUS the discipline to back up her data weekly using Time Machine (provision of an external hard disk drive is included in the program)
- Access to an iLearn Essentials workshop to sharpen her ICT skills between 3:30-4:30pm each week held in the College Library
- Provision of an extensive software suite including Macintosh OS X, Microsoft Office 2011, iWork, iLife, Adobe Creative Suite, Sophos Anti-Virus, Inspiration, Frame by Frame, etc
- The iLearn bundle includes a Monte carry bag, clear protective case, full insurance ($200 excess applies) and Apple Care 3 year warranty

Further information about the program can be obtained by calling the Coordinator of ICT Services (Ms Keli Maddison) on 9409 6282 or emailing iassist@monte.nsw.edu.au
CHAPEL

Every fortnight all of Year 7 assembles in the Chapel for prayer during morning Homeroom. Each Homeroom will be responsible for preparing this prayer on a rotational basis. Your Tutor teachers and Sister Carmel will help you prepare the prayer.

Full school uniform is expected and all students are to be seated by 8.25 am. Therefore, on days you have chapel you need to ensure that you are at school on time. You need to take your diary into chapel with you, but leave your books for Periods 1 and 2 outside the chapel.

CLASSROOMS

- You will be having many of your lessons in your Homeroom so students should take pride in their Homeroom classroom. It is always to be left clean and tidy.

- All students will be on Homeroom duty.

- Food is not to be taken into, or eaten in the classrooms or corridors. However, on wet days students may eat in the corridors where directed by duty teachers.

- Students should not remain in the classrooms or corridors at recess or lunch on fine days.

- It is certainly not wise to leave any possessions on desks. ALWAYS put your belongings into your locker, that way you will not lose any of your possessions.

- The bottom of CMP is your area and should always be spotless.

ABSENCE & LATENESS

Late Students
School starts at 8.25 am. If any student is late for morning Homeroom and misses roll call she is considered LATE. That means if you arrive at school after 8.25 am you must write your name on the sign-on sheet, which is located inside the Absentee Office. You must bring a note from your parent/guardian explaining the reason for your late arrival. Hand the note to your tutor teacher.

Leaving Early
If you need to leave the College grounds during the day you must bring a letter signed by your parent or guardian. The letter must state the reason for the absence and time you are to leave the College. You must show the letter to your tutor teacher and then to Ms O’Sullivan or Ms Bernasconi during morning Homeroom. You will then be given an early leaving pass.

Absence Notes
It is a legal requirement that all absences are explained by a note on a student’s return to school. These notes are to be given to your Homeroom teacher. Such notes should clearly show the date of absence, your full name and your Homeroom name.

Extended Absence
If, for some extraordinary reason, you will be absent from the College for a longer period of time, eg, representing the state in a sport or attending a special event or travelling overseas, a letter seeking permission for this must be forwarded to the principal well in advance. Please see the College website for application form under College Policies. NB - not all such applications will necessarily be approved.
UNIFORMS

- The full rules regarding your uniform are in your diary.
- (NB: Shoes must be black leather, lace-up in style, with a low heel.)
- All articles of clothing - including socks, shoes, hats and all parts of the P.E. uniform must be *labelled clearly with your name*.
- Lost property can be located by going to the Front Office before school, at recess, lunch or after school from Monday to Friday.
- Uniform requirements may be purchased from the College Shop which is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8.00 am – 1.30 pm and Wednesday from 10.30 am to 4.00 pm. The shop is closed between 12.00 pm and 12.30 pm.
- A copy of the College Shop price list is included over the page.
- To spread the demand and relieve crowding at the College Shop, days for purchasing the uniform have been allocated during December – please see the coloured insert you have been given in this handbook or ring Mrs Eade on 9409 6256.

JEWELLERY

The only jewellery items you are allowed to wear to school are:

- a watch
- plain silver or gold studs or sleepers
- a necklace with a small cross which must be long enough to fit underneath your uniform
- school and house badges should be worn at all times

*No make-up or nail polish is to be worn to school.*
COLLEGE SHOP PRICE LISTS

COMPULSORY YEAR 7 ITEMS

Students purchase all of their uniform requirements from the College Shop. In addition to the uniform, there is also a compulsory kit Year 7s must purchase.

The following items are sold as a pack:

Geometry Set
Baseball Cap
Water Bottle
Sewing Kit
Combination Lock for Locker

PACK PRICE $140.00

COMPULSORY UNIFORM ITEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monte Blazer</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$180.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monte Jumper</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back Pack</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 87.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monte Sports Bag, large crested</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monte Sports Bag, crested</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 40.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summer Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dress</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>$ 90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Suit Top</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>$ 65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Suit Skirt</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>$ 65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Socks</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$  7.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winter Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skirt</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blouse - Junior</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blouse - Senior</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tights (Dyed especially, available from College only)</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 14.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional Uniform Pieces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vest</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Scarf</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 18.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All the following items are ONLY available from the College Uniform Shop

MONTE COMPULSORY P.E. UNIFORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tracksuit Jacket</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracksuit Pants</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby Top</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 95.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Sleeve Polo</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimsuit</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 78.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Swim Caps</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Cap</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$ 17.00</td>
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</table>
OPTIONAL ITEMS - COMPULSORY FOR DESIGNATED COMPETITION SPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletics/ Basketball/ Touch Singlet Top</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$48.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike Shorts</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Bike Pants</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey Skort</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey Socks</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball Briefs</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball Skirt</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monte Sports Socks</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCESSORIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hair Accessories</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribbon</td>
<td>$ 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloves</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbrella (Telescopic Monte)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badges:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior School</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Colour House</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior School</td>
<td>$11.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Colour House</td>
<td>$11.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII (Yr 12)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COLLEGE SHOP

The role of Mrs Eade and Ms Hunter is to assist students and parents in outfitting the College uniform. The College Shop also carries the necessary sports uniform items, second hand uniforms, accessories and stationery. Parents may record their credit card details at the College Shop for students’ future use.

Mrs Eade is the mother of five daughters, all educated at Monte and has had a 25 year association with the College.

Please note that all prices include 10% GST and are subject to change

Hours:    Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:- 8.00 am to 1.30 pm
          Wednesday: - 10.30 am to 3.30 pm
          (Closed daily between 12.00 pm and 12.30 pm)

Please note: Students may make purchases before school, recess or lunchtime ONLY.

Phone:    9409 6256
Email:     meade@monte.nsw.edu.au

Payment Method:  Cash, Cheque, Visa, MasterCard, Eftpos, AMEX
NO DINERS CLUB CARDS ARE ACCEPTED
PARENT MESSAGES TO STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

In most instances it is expected that travel, appointments and other personal arrangements will be clarified with students before they arrive at school and that communication between parents and students during the school day will be limited. However, on occasion, emergencies arise or unexpectedly arrangements change and so the procedures for leaving messages are as follows:

The Front Office Receptionist will accept messages when:

1. The message comes from a parent or a carer – no one else will be able to leave messages.
2. The message relates to sudden and unforeseen changes in arrangements or personal circumstances that have direct consequences for student safety.

NB: Urgent messages for students are not to be emailed or left on the telephone message bank of the Head of Year or tutor teacher. While these staff are directly concerned with the welfare of students, as teachers they have a busy load in the classroom, many meetings and other commitments which may mean that they are unable to access or pass on messages during the day.

When messages are received for students, students will be called to the office at LUNCH TIME ONLY and given a written message from their parents or carers. In extraordinary circumstances, messages will be given to students before 12.30 p.m.

We request every parent to support this communication system by please:

1. encouraging your daughter to use her diary to remind her of routine appointments;
2. encouraging the development of independence and responsibility;
3. rewarding forward planning and developing a fall-back/what-if system with your daughter;
4. reminding your daughter to listen to PA and ACTA announcements;
5. phoning us only when you have an urgent message for your daughter and
6. ensuring your daughter can phone from school using a mobile phone or in an emergency by approaching her Head of Year.

MOBILE PHONES

While it is acknowledged that for safety, security and convenience reasons girls may need to have mobile phones with them at school, it is essential that girls learn the correct etiquette and rules associated with their use. The main guidelines are as follows:

- Mobiles are to be turned off during class time.
- Mobiles are only to be used before or after school, during recess or lunch.
- Use of mobiles should be kept to a minimum and will be for necessary rather than social reasons.
- Inappropriate use of mobiles, especially during class, will result in confiscation for the remainder of the day and a Wednesday afternoon detention.
- Offensive or harassing SMS messages are considered to be bullying and will be dealt with accordingly.
- Mobile phones are valuable items which, if brought to school, are the individual responsibility of the owner. They should be kept on your person, (all uniforms have zippered pockets), or securely locked away at all times.
TRANSPORT

The School Student Transport Scheme provides subsidised travel for students who live more than 2 kilometres from the school attended.

Subsidised travel is only available for direct trips between school and home, once per day. Application forms for appropriate transport passes – rail, bus or ferry, are available from Mrs Grunsell at the Front Office. Once issued, passes cannot be changed (except for a change of address), so routes should be chosen carefully. Replacement passes for those lost or damaged currently cost between $15 and $24 – these forms are also available at the Front Office.

It is strongly recommended that parents familiarise Year 7 students with the chosen service in the week preceding the first school day in January. One or two practice trips and discussion of ‘What ifs?’ in case of delays or other unexpected circumstances will do much to allay anxiety and avoid problems.

At the beginning of the year especially, travel with a friend or an older student is preferable. A buddy system will be put in place during the first full week of school for those students who may still be new to the transport mode or route being used.

LUNCH

Year 7 students may sit anywhere in the school during recess and lunch. Many Year 7 students like to eat their recess and lunch in the McAuley Courtyard or around Catherine McAuley Place as it is not too far from their Homerooms. The Canteen is open at both recess and lunchtime.

If you forget your lunch, report to the Clinic where the sister will issue you a lunch voucher for a limited choice of healthy items from the canteen. The cost of these items will be billed to your school fees account at the end of the term. ID must be shown.

USING THE SCHOOL CANTEEN

1. To order your lunch:
   • All lunch orders MUST be placed before 9.30am
   • A canteen menu, paper bags and pen are located on the table outside the canteen.
   • Write out your order and place the money in the paper bag
   • Please remember to write your name and year on the bag
   • Place your completed lunch order (money included) in the timber order box located outside the canteen on the wall
   • Any change will be returned upon collection of your lunch.
   • Lunch orders can be collected at lunch time from the canteen

2. Using the canteen at recess and lunch:
   • Breakfast is the only time students are able to use the microwave to heat muffins provided by the canteen.
   • Please take your time and enjoy the self serve system
   • All food items have price tags
   • Please choose your items you would like to buy and proceed to the counter
   • To avoid any delays, please have your money ready

FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY WE ASK THAT NO SCHOOL BAGS OR OUTSIDE FOOD ITEMS BE TAKEN THROUGH THE SERVERY
COLLEGE CANTEEN PRICE LIST

Canteen Phone: 9409-6259

Canteen Hours: from 8:00am

LUNCH ORDERS MUST BE IN BY 9:30am

Write Name and Year and place in Order Box

BREAKFAST MENU
8:00am COUNTER ONLY

- Toast with Vegemite / Cinnamon: $1.00
- Fresh Fruit: from $1.50
- Banana Bread: $3.00
- Muffins: $3.00
- Milkshakes Terms 1 & 4 only: $3.00

SNACKS & DRINKS

MILK
- Moove - 300ml (flavoured): $2.50
- Moove - 375ml (flavoured): $3.00

YOGURT
- Yoghurt Tubs (mixed fruit): $3.00

JUICE
- Popper 100% Juice: $2.00
  (Orange, apple, tropical, etc)
- Classic Original Juice Bottle - 100% Juice: $3.00
- Fruit based slushies: $2.00

WATER
- Water (sparkling, mineral, flavoured): $2.00
- Pumped (flavoured): $3.00

CONFECTIONERY
- Snakes: $1.00
- Ovaltineys: $1.00
- Tic Tacs: $2.00
- Chips: from $1.50
- Jelly: $1.50
- Soft Serve Ice-Cream: Cones $2.50
  Cups: $3.00
- Clinkers: $0.50
- Red Frogs (4): $0.50
COLD LUNCH MENU
ORDERS ONLY

SANDWICHES/ROLLS
White, Wholemeal, Multi-Grain available
Rolls - 60c extra
Turkish & Lebanese Bread - $1.00 extra
Buttered Roll ............................................................1.00
Vegemite...............................................................2.00
Cheese........................................................................2.50
Egg.....................................................................2.50
Tuna ............................................................................3.50
Ham ...............................................................................4.00
Chicken ........................................................................4.00
Salad .............................................................................3.50

EXTRAS
Tomato Sauce ...........................................................0.50
Mayo ...........................................................................0.30
Lettuce, tomato, cucumber, carrot ........................0.50
Cheese, egg, avocado ..............................................0.50

WRAPS
Lebanese Bread or Turkish Rolls
Salad .............................................................................5.00
(avocado, tomato, carrot, cucumber, lettuce)

SALAD BOXES
Salad - plain .............................................................3.00
Specials ............................................................from 3.00
Watermelon Tubs ..................................................2.50

HOT LUNCH MENU
ORDERS ONLY

Pesto Pasta...............................................................3.00
Sausage Roll............................................................3.00
Beef Pie (low fat)..................................................3.00
Bolognaise Twist ...................................................3.50
Specials/Extras.............................................from 3.00
Chilli Chicken Strip with lettuce & mayo........3.50
Chicken & Corn Strip with lettuce & mayo........3.50
Chicken Breast Wedges(4) ................................3.00
Nachos ........................................................................3.00
Foccacia Pizza Slices (Canteen made) ..............3.00
Hokkien Noodles(Canteen made) .......................4.00
Spinach & Ricotta Sausage Roll....................3.50
Vegetable Pasties..................................................4.00

Frequent Purchase REWARDS System
at Monte Canteen

PLEASE WATCH NOTICEBOARD OUTSIDE CANTEEN FOR DAILY SUMMER & WINTER HOT LUNCH SPECIALS
“Food poisoning bacteria will start to multiply when chilled food is reheated to temperatures above 50°C. They will stop multiplying when the food reaches 60°C.”

“Food poisoning, with symptoms of vomiting, diarrhoea and stomach cramps, is a very unpleasant illness from which most of us will recover. Keeping food at the right temperature will prevent food poisoning bacteria that might be in the food from multiplying.”

“Examples of potentially hazardous foods that are likely to be cooled and reheated:

- Cooked meat or cooked food containing meat, such as casseroles, curries and lasagne
- Cooked food containing smallgoods (e.g. Strasbourg, ham and chicken loaf), such as pizza topping
- Dairy products, such as milk and custards
- Seafood including patties, fish balls, stews and sauces containing seafood and fish stock
- Cooked rice and pasta
- Foods containing eggs, beans, nuts or other protein rich foods such as quiche, soy bean products and lentil burgers”

In the best interest of our students in regard to health and safety we are unable to heat any food that students bring from home, as we do not have the facilities to keep these items refrigerated and in a ‘safe zone’. We encourage students to pack their lunches in thermal lunch packs with an ice brick, particularly with the warmer weather approaching.

Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

Robyn Cornforth
Canteen Manager

Jacqueline Magurren
Deputy Principal Pastoral

No heating and cooling facilities are available to the students at Monte.
SPORT

A number of sports are offered to Year 7 students. We encourage everyone to play sport with the school. You will get fit, learn skills, meet other students and have lots of fun!

You will need to listen to all the messages in the daily newsletter. Registration information and specific sport information and notes can be found in the SPORT section on Monte Connect.

PARTICIPATE AND HAVE FUN!!!!!!

The Following sports are available to Year 7 girls:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 1</th>
<th>TERM 2</th>
<th>TERM 3</th>
<th>TERM 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Team</td>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Touch Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch Football</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Swimming Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (Reps only)</td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>Waterpolo</td>
<td>Softball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Cricket (Reps only)</td>
<td>Waterpolo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Term 4 Touch Football, Softball and Tennis continue into Term 1 of the following year

ALL YEAR: Swimming Squad  
Tae Kwon Do  
Yoga

The Monte Sant’ Angelo Sports Policy Handbook is available on the College website. Please refer to the handbook for more specific information regarding the sport program or contact the sports department on (02) 9409 6420.
The Monte Sant’ Angelo Music Academy provides instrumental tuition on the following instruments, subject to annual needs:

**STRINGS**
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass

**WOODWIND**
- Flute
- Piccolo
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Bassoon

**BRASS**
- Trumpet
- French Horn
- Trombone
- Euphonium
- Tuba

**OTHER**
- Piano, Keyboard
- Voice
- Guitar & Bass Guitar
- Drums & Percussion
- Musicianship, Music Theory
- Composition
- Flute Choir
- Chamber Winds
- Orchestra
- Chamber Strings
- Choir
- Monte Singers
- Angelo Singers
- Percussion Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble

Music Academy students receive eight forty minute lessons per term and the lessons are held upstairs in the music block. Lessons are held during class time; with senior students and girls with special needs sometimes being given the option of lunchtime lessons. If a student decides to discontinue private tuition, a full term’s notice IN ADVANCE must be given to the tutor in writing. If you would like to start learning an instrument next year in Term One, please complete a music academy registration form or contact Mr Young in the Music Department. You are welcome to commence lessons any time throughout the school year, depending on teacher availability. Forms can be obtained from the Monte website - cocurricular - music academy registration.

Some of the larger, more expensive instruments are available for hire - phone the Music Department for details. There are also several music stores that hire out instruments, so you can play and learn just about any instrument you wish at Monte.

**CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC ENSEMBLES**

All girls learning an instrument at Monte are strongly encouraged to join a college performing group. Performing groups at Monte include:

- Wind Ensemble
- Concert Band
- Stage Band
- Chamber Winds
- Flute Choir
- Orchestra
- Chamber Strings
- Choir
- Monte Singers
- Angelo Singers
- Percussion Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble
The Monte Sant’ Angelo Music Academy provides both individual instrumental and voice lessons, and opportunities for girls to play and sing in ensembles.

**Instrumental and Voice Lessons**

Lessons are available in voice, and in a number of instruments: String, Brass, Woodwind, as well as Piano, Guitar, Drums/percussion, Musicianship and Theory, and Composition. Some large instruments are available for hire, with an expectation that girls will have their own instruments after a year of lessons.

Music Academy students receive eight 40-minute lessons per term. Lessons are held in the dedicated music rooms upstairs in the Performing Arts Department. Lessons are held in class time, but lessons are timetabled so that girls do not miss the same curricular class every week. Senior students or girls with special needs sometimes are able to have lessons out of class time, by negotiation. Payment for lessons is made direct to the Music tutor.

Girls/parents need to complete a green Music Academy form and return it to the Performing Arts Department.

**Co-curricular Music Ensembles**

All girls in Music Enrichment or elective Music classes should join a performance group, and all girls learning an instrument at Monte are strongly encouraged to do so. These ensembles include:

Wind Ensemble; Concert Band; Stage Band; Flute Choir; Chamber Winds; Orchestra; Chamber Strings; Years 7-10 String Groups; Choir; Monte Singers; Angelo Singers; Percussion Ensemble; Guitar Ensemble.

At the beginning of 2014 a form will be available for ensemble participation: this must be completed before girls can join. There is a fee for inclusion in an ensemble and this will be added to your school fees account at the end of Term 1 2014.

**On line Information**

A copy of the Performing Arts/Music Academy booklet for 2014 is available on the Monte website under Co-Curricular/Music Academy. This will give you some idea of the groups and costs involved, and will of course be updated early in 2014.
DRAMA CLUB

Drama is offered at Monte to Year 7 as an extra curricular activity. The classes give the girls an opportunity to mix with a variety of students across Years 7 and 8, learn skills and provide a pleasant, co-operative venue for the girls to explore and develop their talents as well as their self-esteem and inter-personal relationships.

Drama Club is held after school one afternoon per week, for eight weeks over two terms. The workshops offer plenty of fun in a non-competitive environment.

There can only be 25 students to a class however, those who miss out in Year 7 will have the opportunity again in Year 8. The ACTA Diurna will advise the girls when the classes are to commence at the beginning of Term 1 and Term 4. Girls have the option to take up elective Drama in Year 9.
DEBATING

Debating is very popular at Monte and exists in multiple forms, varying in competitiveness. Each year students are invited to trial for a competitive debating team. Competitive debating takes place in Terms 1, 2 and 3, with Monte teams representing the school in the ISDA and Archdale competitions. In Term 4, a training program also operates.

At the beginning of 2014, all students in Year 7 will be invited to trial for a position on a debating team, even if you don’t have any debating experience at all!

Debating is a great way of improving your communication, essay writing, public speaking, persuasion skills, ability to win an argument and confidence in a supportive and social environment!

ISDA

ISDA Debating is a co-educational competition that occurs on Friday evenings at schools around Sydney. Currently, Monte competes against schools including but not limited to; Abbotsleigh, Ascham, Barker, Cranbrook, Grammar, Kings, Knox, Loreto Kirribilli, MLC, PLC Sydney, Queenwood, Ravenswood, Riverview, Roseville, SCEGGS Redlands, Scots, Shore St Aloysius’ and Wenona.

This competition commences at the beginning of Term 1 and continues throughout Term 2. Monte has a total of 6 teams in this competition. There is one Year 7 team, composed of 5-6 speakers.

ARCHDALE

Archdale Debating is an all-girls’ competition which takes place on Tuesday afternoons at schools around Sydney.

This competition begins in the middle of Term 2 and continues throughout Term 2 and 3. Monte has a total of 8 teams in this competition. There are 2 Year 7 teams, each made up of 5-6 girls.

UNIVERSITY DEBATING DAYS

Throughout the year, Monte is invited to attend a number of Debating days hosted by Universities, such as Macquarie, Sydney and UNSW. These days offer a unique opportunity for our debates to develop their skills, as well as network with students from other schools around Sydney. Students are able to gain valuable feedback from University level debaters and adjudicators.

TERM 4 DEBATING TRAINING PROGRAM

In Term 4, the College runs a 7-week coaching program for any students, from seasoned debaters to newcomers. The program is designed to teach girls the necessary skills for getting selected into a team the following year and develop their technique and confidence through a mixture of seminars, group activities and practice debates. This is a unique way to hone your skills or learn some new ones, and is a fun way to practice in preparation for the following year of debating. World-ranked debating professionals run this program in conjunction with the debating coordinator.

INTER-HOMEROOM DEBATING COMPETITION

An inter-homeroom debating competition is run in Year 7, with one team from each homeroom entering this fun and friendly competition. This is a great opportunity to test out an interest in debating, develop confidence and make new friends.
PUBLIC SPEAKING

At Monte, you will have the opportunity of being involved in public speaking. Many girls choose this activity because they learn how to speak in public and meet lots of new friends both at Monte and in other schools.

Monte participates in many public speaking competitions and Year 7 girls will have the opportunity to compete against other schools early in Term 1, in the Catholic Schools Public Speaking competition. The College participates in a variety of competitions throughout the year.

MERCY ACTION GROUP

The Mercy Action Group was established in 1995 and is based on the values of the Mercy tradition – Mercy, Human Dignity, Justice, Service and Option for the Poor.

The Mercy Action Group is open to all students who have a passion for learning more about social issues and want to have an active role in addressing some of the injustices in our community e.g. the elimination of poverty, to achieve more just working conditions and so on.

The Mercy Action Group presently consists of about fifty students from Years 7 - 11 and there are leaders from each form. Education, advocacy and outreach are the main areas of our work. This includes activities such as excursions, guest speakers, letter writing, signing petitions, fundraising, visiting community groups and public events.

The Mercy Action Group puts the mercy values into action.

The group meets fortnightly. Meeting times are announced in the daily newsletter.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

What do John the Baptist and Attila the Hun have in common? Or is this more your style... what’s the next number in this sequence: 1, 4, 13, 40, 121, X? If you love puzzles, you’ll love Monte Minds! Monte Minds happens in Term 1, and you compete with 6 girls from your home room class against other homerooms in art, poetry, logic puzzles, code breaking and more! It’s a great way to get to know other girls and challenge yourself. You also win points for your house!

In June we take part in the DaVinci Decathlon, and Monte always does really well. Teams challenge other schools in difficult games of strategy, engineering, forensics and more, all based on the talents of Leonardo DaVinci. It takes place at Knox Grammar School. If you love challenging yourself academically, this one’s for you! We take applications for team places at the end of Term 1 so we can get some practise in before.

In August we have Tournament of Minds. This is where you join a team with girls from other year levels involved and have to create a play which solves a problem. You usually get about 6 weeks to develop your solution, and you have to make all your own costumes, props and sets. If you’re a creative and out there thinker, you’ll enjoy TOM. It’s also a great opportunity to get to know girls from other years. Applications are taken in Term 2 so we can organise the teams well in advance.
MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

The SRC is the voice of the students. Representatives from each tutor group in years 7, 8 and 9 are chosen by student vote. After the Year Seven camp, when you have got to know your new classmates a little better, you will be given the opportunity to nominate for this role, and two representatives for each homeroom group will be chosen.

The council meets fortnightly, under the leadership of four Middle School Leaders. As a representative, you will have the opportunity to report issues and concerns from your class to the leaders and the Director of Middle School – the teacher who facilitates the leadership programme. As well, you will work on goals and ideas to improve the Monte community, participate in fund raising activities and conduct surveys or discussions to contribute student ideas when changes or innovations are introduced in the college. Some areas where the Middle School SRC has contributed over the last few years include:

- Editing and adding features to the school planner
- Bell times and timetable adjustments
- Student facilities – seating and water stations

As well as working for others, you will also be given opportunities to attend leadership training days and forums, aimed at developing your collaborative skills and personal attributes.

Overall, being elected a council representative is both a privilege and a responsibility.

HOUSE PLAYS

The House Play performances is one of a number of events at Monte which is designed to help develop relationships between students throughout the school. It provides Year 11 students with the opportunity for leadership and Year 7 students a chance to establish relationships with many other students. As well, it encourages the girls to express themselves creatively and experience the excitement and success that comes from working in a team.

The event is usually held during Term 2 and is eagerly anticipated by staff, students and parents. There is a 4-5 week preparation and practice phase that is lead by Year 11 students. Year 7 are expected to participate fully in all aspects of the event, especially rehearsals that occur on Friday afternoons and over the weekend. These dates are noted in the Student Planner and College Calendar.

The groups prepare a 15 minute dance, music and drama extravaganza which explores the theme chosen for the year. The performances are a riot of colour and action with each house group coordinating costumes, props, even makeup and lighting for the house colour! The whole procedure is a lot of fun, as well as hard work, for the girls involved.
THE YEAR 7 CAMP

The Year 7 Pastoral Camp will be held from 26 February 2014 to 28 February 2014, at the Vision Valley, Arcadia. Attendance at this camp is compulsory as it is seen as an important introduction to Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College. The Year 7 Pastoral Team teachers conduct this camp, assisted by the expert instructors at the Academy and the theme is ‘Getting to Know One Another.’

The focus of the camp will serve various purposes:

- interaction as a year group
- interaction with staff
- developing friendships
- participation in challenging physical activity.

It is the perfect opportunity for students to get to know each other and some of their teachers.
OVERCOMING PROBLEMS IN YEAR 7

Sometimes small worries can grow into what seem to be big problems.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

See: Your Homeroom teacher
Your Subject teacher
Ms O’Sullivan (Head of Year)
Mrs Thomas (Clinic Sister)
Ms McPherson and Ms Bell (School Counsellors)
Ms Cooper (Acting Director - Middle School)
Ms Magurren (Deputy Principal – Pastoral)
Mrs Spence (Academic Support Teacher)

Talk to one of the people above and you will find that they will help you solve your problem.

JUST REMEMBER - ALWAYS ASK IF YOU ARE UNSURE

FRIENDS

In Year 7 you will meet many new people and make new friends. Some people make friends easily. For others it takes a little more time. The best way to make friends is to be a friend.
DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

1. Read this Handbook **thoroughly**.
2. Purchase your Monte uniform and label all your uniform items.
3. Purchase your books and cover your exercise books.
4. Label all your belongings: your bag, pencils and pens, exercise books, textbooks and other equipment.
5. Practise locking and unlocking your coded lock until you are able to lock and unlock it quickly and easily.
6. Put something on your bag to distinguish it from others.

FIRST DAY CHECKLIST

1. Make a large and colourful name tag to be worn during class for the first couple of weeks of school.
2. Bring your lunch to school for the first week.
3. Bring your coded padlock for your locker and the piece of paper with the code and instructions for your coded padlock.
4. Be sure to bring a pen and some paper.
5. Make your way to the HALL. You will be introduced to your homeroom teacher and taken to your homeroom classroom.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 28th January 2014