WHAT UNITES US
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Cover image: Eleanor Hammond, Year 12
Dear Parents and Friends of Monte,

On the eve of the 2016 Summer Olympics starting in Rio this week, members of our staff in Chapel reflected on both the inspirations of the Olympic spirit and what this means to us.

The Olympic motto is ‘Citius, Altius, Fortius’ or ‘Faster, Higher, Stronger’. They reminded us that we too, could apply this motto to our daily lives and asked how often do we challenge ourselves to be the best version of ourselves that we can be?

This week Pope Francis sent a message to young people to be the best version of themselves that they can be. “Dear young people, we did not come into the world to ‘vegetate’ ... We came for another reason: to leave a mark,” said the Pope.

He called on them to look beyond the instant gratification afforded by technology and instead try to change the world.

“The times we live in do not call for young ‘couch potatoes’ but for young people with shoes, or better, boots laced.”

He said their response to the challenges of life cannot be “texting a few words. He urged young people to “download the best link of all, that of a heart which sees and transmits goodness without growing weary”.

Many of our parents would have witnessed first hand at the Monte Personal Project Exhibition last week, our young women demonstrating that they can look to the horizon to create solutions for the future.

At Monte, our curriculum is based on a vision that develops students as critical thinkers, problem solvers, innovators and people of justice. It supports students to apply faith, knowledge and skills to their relationships and their experiences beyond school, to our local, national and global society.

The introduction of the International Baccalaureate MYP Programme at Monte in 2007 was a deliberate decision of the College to build an education platform that would afford positive change. As part of the MYP curriculum in Year 10, students have the opportunity to take a deeper dive into an issue of importance for them when undertaking their Personal Project.

In the experience of the deeper dive your daughters are able to develop a sense of purpose, a sense of self and sustain a meaningful project. In doing so they also develop resilience by accepting constructive criticism along the journey.

“What unites us as human beings is stronger than what divides us.”

Let us also pray that our young Mercy women continue to dream with determination and take positive actions for a better world.

May these Olympic Games remind us of the quote from Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon; “What unites us as human beings is stronger than what divides us.”

Let us prayer with Pope Francis that our young people be dreamers who believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples, one that refuses to see borders as barriers.

God Bless

Mrs Nicole Christensen
Principal
2016 Monte Blue Ribbon Bursary Rugby Lunch, Friday 12 August

Our Monte Bursary Silent Auction is now available for all members of the Monte Community. You don’t need to be attending the lunch to bid on any of our exciting prizes.

Silent Auction Now Live – Bid Today

Our online bidding site, Galabid, is now open for you to place bids on our incredible silent auction prizes. The instructions for registering to galabid are as follows:

To Register via mobile device - SMS

1. Text: monte followed by your full name
2. To: 61458678678
3. Example: monte Brad Pitt
4. Follow the registration link you are sent from GalaBid to login and place bids.

To Register via tablet, laptop or desktop

1. Visit: galabid.com/monte
2. Click on the ‘register’ button
3. Enter your details and click ‘submit’.
4. You will then receive a text to your mobile phone with the link to the auction catalogue and a passcode. Use the passcode to login on any browser or click the link in the text to be automatically logged in on the browser on your smartphone. You are now ready to bid.

IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR GUESTS ATTENDING THE LUNCH

We invite all guests to pre-register for Galabid prior to the lunch.

Why not save the time at the lunch and let us pre-register on your behalf today. To take advantage of our pre-registration service, simply email your name and mobile number to cbrooks@monte.nsw.edu.au, or call Claudia directly on 9409 6359.

Once registered, you will receive a text message from gala bid notifying you of your unique login code to access the site and start bidding.
**Major Live Auction Prizes**

Commission-free property sale - unlimited value! Thinking of selling your property in the next 12 months?

Thanks to the generosity of Jason Roach and Century 21 Northside, the successful bidder will be able to secure the professional selling services of one of Sydney’s leading real estate agents. Jason is a Monte Dad and specialist agent living in and covering Sydney’s North Shore and Beaches. This commission-free property sale has unlimited value and will be auctioned during our Live Auction. The estimated value of the prize is 2.50% (incl GST) of the selling price (for example, on a $2 million house, this prize is valued at $50,000).

This prize is now valid for a property sale in Ku-ring-gai, Northern Beaches, Ryde, North Sydney, Willoughby and Mosman areas. *Conditions Apply.

**Port Douglas Mansion for 10**

Escape to a luxury Mansion with 10 of your closest friends for 7 nights.

Offering sheer quality throughout, this large two storey residence is in a prime position in the exclusive Sands gated estate at Four Mile beach just two minutes walk to the golden sands of the Coral Sea and five minutes drive to the heart of Port Douglas.

There are a number of large living areas, formal lounge dining room, television room, large kitchen, informal dining area, huge bar, and guest’s double bedroom with ensuite. As the focal point of the home, the kitchen features quality electrical appliances and granite bench tops, walk in pantry and plenty of cupboard space. Adjacent to the kitchen is a built in bar with granite bar top and a casual lounge room.

Enjoy the luxury of this exclusive Port Douglas Mansion and the delights of glorious Port Douglas.

**Hong Kong 7s Experience Package**

Your chance to be part of the Hong Kong Sevens incredible event, the largest on the Sevens World Series “where the world comes to play”.

This amazing trip is valued at $7,000 and includes:

- Airfares ex Sydney for two to Hong Kong
- 4 nights twin share/double in 4 star accommodation
- 3 day Hong Kong 7s 2017 Rugby tickets for 2 people

Prize must be redeemed by April 2017.

**Don’t miss the Rugby Lunch video - click here!**

**Major Blue Ribbon Raffle prizes**

1st prize: Trip for two to NYC - US Open valued at $10,000!

This amazing trip includes:

- Economy airfares ex Sydney for two to New York City
- Twin share/double accommodation at a 4 star hotel in NYC
- US Open tickets for 2 people (29 Aug - Sept 11, 2016)

2nd prize: $3000 Day of Indulgence at Musson Jewelers

Experience the ultimate in luxury with a ‘Day of Indulgence’ from Musson.

You and your chosen guest will be collected from your home in a luxury car and transported to the iconic QVB where you will be greeted by Ollivar Musson at the Musson Boutique. You will then have the opportunity to redeem your $2500 Musson gift voucher. You may decide to design a beautiful new jewel, remake an existing piece or purchase one of Musson’s signature designs. You will then be treated to a champagne High Tea in the QVB’s spectacular Tea Rooms

What a way to spend a day...!!

With thanks to Musson Jewelers

If you won’t be able to make it on the day, to purchase $10 raffle tickets or a book of 25 for $240, please email cbrooks@monte.nsw.edu.au or call (02) 9409 6359
Last Thursday’s Year 10 Personal Project Exhibition was again an outstanding success, with the diverse range of student products a testament to their creativity, personal passions and depth of commitment. Behind the amazing art and craft works, models, magazines, books, movies, web-sites, musical compositions and events - raising awareness and funds for various causes - were many months of effort and organisation.

One feature common to many projects, regardless of the outcome, was the depth of research undertaken to ensure that the product was a meaningful reflection of the topic or issue being explored. Many of the projects showed the student’s deep interest in a global or local issue and their commitment to exploring solutions at a local or personal level.

The project products however, are only the tip of the iceberg. The process of completion has included regular meetings with a staff supervisor, maintaining a journal and writing a 3,500 word report on the project. These have now been submitted to supervisors and will be marked internally, before selected samples are submitted for external IB moderation and confirmation of results.

Congratulations go to all Year 10 students on completing this significant milestone in their MYP journey.
The following students’ work was selected for extended exhibition in the Library or Arts and Cultural Common Exhibition space.

**Nicola Brayan** – Art works - exploring discrimination  
**Jasmine Chuawiwat** – Japanese Cos play - costumes  
**Tara Doyle** – Special effects makeup  
**Ali Fraser** – Health issues in Africa - model hospital  
**Eve Gaha** – Natural fabric dyes  
**Annabelle Harrison** – ‘Where people dance’  
**Camilla MacDonald** – Parisian Townhouse - model  
**Olivia McGrath** – Animal rights - paintings  
**Sara Mugnes** – Children’s picture book  
**Elizabeth Netting** – Dress - recycled bottle tops  
**Caroline Pace** – ‘Scents and Senses’ - natural fragrances  
**Georgina Perkins** – Magazine – Issues in the fashion world  
**Jami Prowse** – Environmental issues - surfboard  
**Lauren Radovan** – Family heritage - quilt  
**Caroline Silberberg** – Physics and music – a recycled guitar  
**Jessica Taylor** – Photographic portraiture - immigration  
**Michelle Thomes** – Villains and Heroes – art work  
**Niamh Thompsett** - Sudanese Immigration – artworks  
**Isabella Ward** – Fundraiser – Sri Lankan orphanage

**Michelle Stocks**  
*Director of Middle School and IB Middle Year Co-ordinator*
Last Thursday evening the buzz in the College was palpable with students from Years 10, 11 and 12 celebrating the culmination of their creativity and sustained effort with family and friends. While the Personal Project exhibition drew to a close, Year 11 Visual Arts students put the finishing touches to the installation of their sculptures in the Mercy Hall, and the Year 12 Visual Arts students were able to survey with pride their HSC Bodies of Work in the O’Regan Arts & Cultural Common. This year we were fortunate to have the assistance of Analise Hughes who guided students in making curatorial decisions regarding the display of their work, Mrs Lenore Betteridge, our Art Facilitator who assisted students in managing digital media demands and prepared artworks for display, as well as Mr Ken Jones who managed the fine art printing of photomedia artworks. Our students are blessed to have such support in achieving their vision. While exhibiting artworks can be exhilarating, it is also a daunting experience. However, student feedback attests to the significance of this final and affirming stage in the artmaking process.

FROM THE HEAD OF VISUAL ARTS

Kate Watson
Head of Visual Arts

ARTWORK BY JASMINE DEMPESEY

ARTWORK BY TORI AND SOPHIE H
‘It was so humbling to see people react to my work, and to take their own meaning from my Body of Work......... I found it very satisfying to see all of my hard work laid out, and to see people appreciating it.’ Frankie

‘The media, themes and intentions were so different, proving that this process is a very individual and personalised one, allowing us all to explore our own interests and creativity. I enjoyed seeing how Ms Hughes curated the art and I could see that she sometimes contrasted works or had similar aesthetics grouped together.’ Evie

‘I felt really happy getting feedback on my art as it made me feel like I had done really well and all the work was worth it. It also made me feel really pleased when my Grandpa saw my work and I think he really liked it!’ Mia

‘I discovered the logistical difficulties of finally displaying the work that we have been so committed to for so long... Final mounting involved six people to hold and put up my work. This exemplified how hard some works can be to finally display and gave us an insight into the processes of curating exhibitions.’ Lina
FROM THE HEAD OF VISUAL ARTS

ARTWORK BY AMELIA NEMETH
SR LECIA’S THOUGHTS

Sister Lecia Coombe RSM

SOUL, SPIRITUALITY, DISCIPLESHIP AND TENSION

Dear Readers,

If you look in a mirror and say: “I don’t know who you are!”, or you have nothing to get out of bed for in the mornings, you are probably experiencing a temporary loss of soul. Soul is the principle of life within us, the energy that keeps us together. Jesus once said: “What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but suffers the loss of his soul?”. These words, more about eternal loss of soul, startled Ignatius of Loyola, and changed his life.

A healthy soul needs both fire and glue. Sometimes we have to ask ourselves questions like: ‘What is better for my soul: “Sex in the City” or “The Life of Mother Teresa”? That depends on our need. The amoral movie may just be the glue we need right now to keep the fire burning. Soul is the most precious gift we have. Caring for our soul, now and forever, is the domain of Spirituality. We find Spirituality everywhere, even in unlikely places. Every religion, cult or sect offers its own brand of it. Being Catholic is in itself a practice of Spirituality, and we Catholics are fortunate to have access to many paths of Spirituality that have been and still are used.

In our world today, we have so many new freedoms – freedom to travel, to choose a religion, to read books and see movies, watch TV, to do as we please. However, these same freedoms, for which we are grateful, can also be a narcotic, numbing us to reality. Therefore, it is more urgent now than ever before to seek a mature discipleship, that leads us not just to admire Christ, but to imitate Him.

As Catholic Christians, we carry the tensions that have and always will exist in the Church, and in the human soul. They are played out in differing views of religion, gender, poverty and globalization. Jesus tells us that while religious rituals are important, we will be judged on love. Fortunately these tensions provide growth points. As Freud says, “The only body without tensions is the dead body.”

Many of these thoughts are ones I carried way from a Forum in McQuoin Centre on July 2.

Together with several hundred other people I listened carefully to Fr Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, whose writings have truly touched my soul in recent years. The audience was mostly of older people, which prompted Fr Ron to say that Theology and Spirituality are fast becoming the hobbies of the elderly! That may be true, but there is no denying that Spirituality is the need of every man, woman and child.

Next week I may explore with you what Fr Ron calls the greatest cause for sadness in our world. Meanwhile, if you so desire, you can read Luke 18: 18-30 as a source of meditative prayer.

Sr Lecia RSM
SPORTS REPORT
Summer Sport

It is time to register for Summer sports at Monte. All students MUST register at the relevant sports page on MonteConnect and return the appropriate Permission Note prior to trying out.

It is essential for us to hold grading and try out sessions for each sport so that we can ascertain the most suitable competition grade to enter our teams into. Attendance at grading is COMPULSORY and should take precedence over all other activities that week. We have tried our best to condense the sessions so as to cause minimal disruption to other activities.

Grading for Year 8 students takes place in WEEK 4 – yes, next week. You can access the Grading Calendar HERE.

Links to sport specific Information and Permission Notes can be found below and any queries should be directed to the appropriate sports coordinator (information located on the Grading Calendar).

Representative Netball

Last Wednesday Monte competed in the CGSSSA Netball Championships after it was postponed due to wet weather the week before. I look forward to sharing the team player reports with you next week but can tell you that Monte won the overall Champion School award again this year.

Monte also took the opportunity to send a number of our highly qualified umpires to the event to represent the College. We are responsible for providing an umpire for each of our three teams however a number of Monte girls also fulfilled this role for several other schools. Congratulations to these students for their commitment to officiating – without them games of sport would not go ahead.

On Tuesday 16 August our teams will travel to Penrith to compete in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Championships.

Netball

We are getting to the pointy end of the NSNA Netball competition with just two weekends of the regular season left to play. Please note the following dates for finals:

Semi Finals - Saturday 20th August (1 v 2 and 3 v 4)
Finals - Saturday 27th August (Loser 1 v 2 versus Winner 3 v 4)
Grand Finals – Saturday 3rd September (Winner 1 v 2 and Winner of Final)

The Association has also put aside Saturday 12th September as a back up day in case of wet weather on any of the finals days.

Netball Umpires

Congratulations to the following umpires who were leveled recently:

• Lucie Barrie and Bridget O’Sullivan – Junior Level 2
• Mia Byrne - Junior Level 3

Hockey

Monte has entered 7 teams into the term 3 IGSSA competition which enters Round 3 this weekend. Three teams are making the trek to Frensham school in Bowral this Saturday with the College providing a bus for interested players and parents. The bus departs Monte at 5:30am and will return from Frensham.
leaving Bowral at 11:15am.

Football

Monte’s inaugural Football season is also coming to a close with teams moving into the final few weeks of competition. From all reports our girls have enjoyed their season even though a couple of our teams were graded into difficult divisions. I have had several emails from parents and players providing feedback and welcome others to my email address – shanrahan@monte.nsw.edu.au.

#ITSO2PLAY – try not to be nervous during grading – just try your best. Remember you can control the amount of effort you put in.

Stuart Hanrahan
Sport Program Manager

Equestrian Interschools

From June 23-26, Lucy Jarjoura and myself competed at the NSW State Equestrian Interschools Championships. The event was run over the four days and required us to stay overnight with the horses out at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, waking up to freezing temperatures every morning. Lucy competed in the dressage and hacking and did very well scoring highly in her prelim and novice dressage tests, placing her both 11th and 13th. I competed in the combined training, showjumping, dressage and hacking and placed 12th in the 90cm showjumping and 17th in the prelim dressage. Both Lucy and I were very happy with how our horses performed and overall had a very enjoyable and successful week. A big thank you to the event organisers Equestrian NSW for putting on such a well run event.

Sophie Hugh (Year 12)
PARENTS & FRIENDS
Hi everyone

Most of us will be Monte parents for at least 6 years. That's a long time to feel like a stranger in a place that is a second home to our daughters. It is true that by becoming involved in Monte through the P&F, you are role modelling the contribution to community which is part of why we send our girls to a Catholic college – and that's a great reason by itself to our girls to a Catholic college – and that's a great reason by itself to volunteer.

But, from my personal experience, the benefits flow both ways.

As a result of the time I've invested in the P&F (and it is an investment), I don't feel like the stranger or visitor to the College that I was on the first day of Year 7. Instead, I feel really connected to a pretty special place which has a significant influence on the fine young women my daughters are becoming - and it feels good.

But to experience that feeling requires each of us to take that first step – to volunteer to help at a function, to be a class parent or to join the P&F Executive. Taking the initiative to create a connection with the College via the P&F represents an opportunity to get to know the people to whom we have each entrusted with helping us raise our daughters. Being able to walk around the place, to bump into people who know you and whom you know, is what transforms Monte from being merely a campus to being a community - and makes the experience as a Monte parent much more rewarding.

It is also true that P&F Executive roles do require a bit of your time – but they are also the roles which are most immersed in the College's daily life. And there are plenty of other ways to participate in the College which are less demanding. Volunteering to help at a function is one way – with the Monte Blue Ribbon Bursary Lunch next Friday just one opportunity. Participating in the working groups the P&F is considering for initiatives like electronic calendars, shared contact lists and digital access to presentations parents can't attend in person, are other ways to connect things you are passionate about with contributing to the Monte community.

All of our lives are busy with lots of conflicting priorities - but some of us make the time to participate despite these other calls on our time and energy. Are you one of those people?

I can tell you, it is an investment that pays good dividends!

If you are, please let me or your friendly class parent know by email. You will be warmly welcomed in whatever capacity and for whatever time you can make available.

Have a great week.

Andrew Rutherford
P&F President

Dates for your Diary

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<td>Fri 12 August</td>
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<td>Fri 2 Sept</td>
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<td>Tue 6 Sept</td>
<td>P&amp;F AGM Year Coordinators and Class Parent Appreciation Evening</td>
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MONTE NOTICES
MONTE NOTICES

Monte Study Centre: Term 3, 2016

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In the Monte Library
Make an appointment, or just turn up!
Free study help for students after school in the library

MONTE BURSARIES
FOR 2017
NOW OPEN
APPLICATIONS CLOSE 23 SEPTEMBER 2016

At Monte we believe in preparing young women
for a life of significance, purpose and success.

ELIGIBLE TO APPLY:
✓ Students from Yrs 7-11 currently attending the College
✓ Students not currently attending the College that are at present enrolled in Years 6 to 10 elsewhere

Full details and 2017 application form available on the website www.monte.nsw.edu.au

NEXT INFORMATION MORNING AND COLLEGE TOUR TUESDAY 23 AUGUST
Enquiries: registrar@monte.nsw.edu.au

MONTE MATTERS 5 AUGUST 2016 / TERM 3, WEEK 3