# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FROM THE PRINCIPAL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL PASTORAL CARE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR LECIA’S THOUGHTS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FROM THE LIBRARY</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORTS REPORT</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTE NOTICES</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Parents and Friends of Monte,

At this time of year when we celebrate the accomplishments of our Laureates, I believe it is a good opportunity for our community to reflect on what it means to be a Monte girl.

I believe our students are educated to have a strong and informed voice and it is our collective responsibility to use this voice to shape our own future.

This is the essence of being a Monte girl: through religion, knowledge and culture we are and continue to be, as Catherine McAuley once said, “shining lamps, giving light to all around us.”

Girls’ education is now a global priority and you cannot have democracy without equality, which some call feminism. Girls need to see themselves as the sources of knowledge, the entrepreneurs. It doesn’t matter what word we use, feminism, equality or justice - it is one and the same.

There is a powerful quote by Satoro, “Individually we are a raindrop, together we are an ocean.” As women we have strong and informed voices. We expect our girls to use their voice and make the difference as every raindrop has the ripple effect for change.

We need female leaders who can have a critical voice and build the divide across nations so that we have a voice for all. The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme, the Higher School Certificate and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, delivered through our framework of Mercy, prepares our girls to have a seat at all tables and prepares them for this world - the global world of the current century.

I believe we need to have a strong sense of how the world is developing and not remain stationary. As we keep moving and learning we need to keep building new experiences and solutions. It is a collective journey of evolutionary wisdom to be used for the common good in our common home.

God Bless.

Mrs Nicole Christensen
Principal
I would like to offer a very warm welcome to new students, parents and staff, and returning families to Monte for 2017. May your year bring with it 365 chances to be exceptional days full of new opportunities, experiences and teachings and may you take a moment to be grateful for what we have and mindful of the times we share.

In saying this, the start of each year allows us, as a community, to reflect on Religio, Scientia, Cultus - what we believe, what we know and what we value. Our lives are full of disruptors, many of which we feel we cannot live without. However, and more importantly the youth of today, must learn to control these disruptors from impacting on what they believe, know and value. As adults, it is our responsibility to role model good practices and language at home and in the learning environment, for language forms culture.

In the January Staff Conference, the Pastoral Management Team launched the Colleges new framework for Pastoral Care called **Self Growth**. This was built on the significant professional development work staff undertook in 2016 with its origins being – **SELF: Social Emotional Learning Framework** for staff. Here, staff embarked on counselling courses delivered by guest speakers such as Susan McLean and Rocki Baisi and worked with proven research completed by Dr. John Hattie. His findings on student growth outside the classroom and the importance of building relationships with students and teachers, shows that this significantly helps students perform better inside the classroom. These professional growth experiences for staff have equipped them with more ‘tools’, to guide, nurture and support your daughters throughout their journey.

With this extensive work completed in 2016 and drawing on benchmarks such as the ACER Social Emotional Wellbeing Survey undertaken for the past four years by students here at Monte, we launched an exciting new addition to the Pastoral program called **Self Growth**.

**GROWTH**, in its simplest form, stands for **Goals, Relationships, Organisation, Wellness, Transition And Humanity**. This program has amalgamated the learnings and knowledge of the staff with these six key focus areas for student activities and experiences. These touch stones will form part of the backbone of the Pastoral Program and will be mapped from Years 7 – 12 so that we can be confident that experiences, not only in pastoral sessions but in subject experiences, are explicit to these six focus areas. As language forms culture, new practices and routines will become the norm and our aim is for students to grow in the social and emotional realm of understanding. Part of our research for this initiative involved student voice which cannot be undervalued. Students have asked for more authentic conversations with their peers and with their teachers and greater connection with academia and pastoral experiences. This initiative aims to provide all of that.

With this new initiative we invite the students to have a growth mindset for new discoveries and possibilities. We ask them to bring the best of themselves each and everyday, ready to learn and experience new ideas.

Jacqueline Magurren
Deputy Principal Pastoral Care

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Jacqueline Magurren
Deputy Principal Pastoral Care
Dear Readers,

If you have not been baked to cinders, you will still be trying to get cool. I hope this communication adds to your comfort and inspires you to disregard the heat as you go about the business of your lives. It has been said that if we concentrate on sharing God's Presence with us, we will soon forget how badly we feel, and gain sufficient energy to keep going, with His help. You can test this!

Yesterday I saw a message from Pope Francis, at the same time both humorous and deadly serious! Its headline was “Many Christians only good for mothballs”. He was daring lay Catholics to go out and bring the message of Jesus to the world. He said, “Many believers are locked up and are going to be eaten by moths!” He concluded, saying, “Sometimes I think the best business we can do with many Christians is to sell them mothballs, so that they put them in their clothes and in their lives and aren’t eaten by moths.”

Whichever way you look at the Pope’s words, there are interesting analogies we could make. Can you think of a more miserable existence than to be surrounded by an odour that repels, and a solid block that confines us to the safety of darkness?

Actually I see these words of Pope Francis as an apt application to the Gospel of last Sunday: Matthew 5:13-16. Please meditate prayerfully on this whole passage once again. Jesus says to His disciples (and that includes you and me): “You are the salt of the earth”, and “You are the light of the world”.

We are the ones who bring purpose, meaning and joy to people, who are thereby drawn to the principles of Christian life we practice. If we do not wear our Christian principles, we will be like salt that has lost its savour, and light which is hidden: good for nothing! A true Catholic is not one who just quietly blends into the generally accepted norms of society, but one who stands out as “salt and light”. Christianity demands of us nothing less than to love God above all, and our neighbour as ourselves.

The story is told of an Indian man rescued from the gutter by Mother Teresa. He observed the loving care taken of a dying man lying beside him. He noticed how the Sister bathed this poor man’s dirty, broken body with great tenderness, smiling at him as she did so. The man beckoned Mother Teresa and said to her: “I came in here an unbeliever, my heart full of hatred, but now I believe, and my heart is full of peace, because I have just seen God’s Love in action.”

I pray this week we will all be salt and light by our joyful, loving works of mercy... and be saved from mothballs!

Until next time, best wishes.

Sr Lecia RSM
Sometimes books function as gateways to worlds we could never have previously imagined. Sometimes books are mirrors reflecting our own experiences back to us – reminding us that others have been where we are now. However, not every student has a natural inclination to reach for a book in a spare moment. Not every student has a ‘to-read’ pile that is a moveable feast of titles that never gets any smaller. But the beautiful thing about books, in the spirit of the quote by Julia Alvarez “A book does not discriminate against any reader. All are welcome at the table of literature”, is that there truly is something for everyone in the world of literature, and it is with this philosophy in mind that we welcome all students back to the Monte Library in 2017.

Some significant changes have taken place in the Library recently, both in terms of facilities and staffing. We are so pleased to welcome a new Teacher Librarian, Cathie-Jane Wotherspoon, lately of Brigidine College, St. Ives. Cathie joins us with a passionate love of young adult literature and a strong drive to connect Monte students with fabulous books they can’t put down. Her passion for literacy will be an incredible asset to Monte.

In terms of our physical library, we have refreshed our gorgeous heritage space with bright, white shelving which highlights both our collections and architecture. More face-out shelving means that students will more easily be able to find their next un-put-downable read.

Additionally, Study Centre (also known as Pitstop) has undergone changes in response to student feedback which was gathered by Monte’s Learning Enhancement Coordinator, Angelica Hannan. Study Centre provides a roster of teachers across all faculties to assist students with their homework, assessment tasks or general study skills, and operates out of the library on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Study Centre has now expanded to include morning sessions, from 7.30am to 8.15am. Students can simply come to the library and ask the rostered teacher to assist them to overcome any ‘speed bumps’ they might come across in their studies. The roster of teachers on duty changes every term, and appears both in the school ACTA newsletter every Monday, and in Monte Matters every week. We invite you to encourage your daughter to use this great resource to enhance their studies and academic confidence.

Deborah Brown
Manager, Library and Information Science
SPORTS REPORT
Michael Vandervelde  
Sport Program Manager

NSWCCC Blue Awards

I would like to start the year with some very exciting news. Two Monte students received awards at the NSWCCC Blue Awards Ceremony last Monday night. Awards are presented for accomplishments in 2016. The winners were:

Bree Delaney (graduated 2016) – Basketball Blue Bar (repeat of a Blue). Bree was selected in the NSW CCC, NSW All Schools and School Sport Australia Basketball Teams after her performances at the State and National Championships.

Charlotte Lloyd (Year 11 2016) – Volleyball Blue. Charlotte was selected in the NSW CCC and NSW All Schools Merit Team for Volleyball after her outstanding performance at the NSW All Schools Championship.

Swimming Carnival

The College Swimming carnival was held in near perfect conditions last Friday at picturesque North Sydney Pool. The winners celebrated with a Presentation Assembly on Thursday. Thank you to all of the staff and students who contributed to this wonderful event.

Congratulations to the following:

- 12 Years Age Champion – Chloe Le Blond (McAuley)
- 13 Years Age Champion - Natasha Hill (McAuley)
- 14 Years Age Champion – Sophie Walsh (McQuoin)
- 15 Years Age Champion – Taylah Thompson (McQuoin)
- 16 Years Age Champion – Madison Ward (McGuirk)
- 17 + Years Age Champion – Jami Prowse (Rankin)
- 200M IM Champion – Madison Ward (McGuirk)
- 100M Freestyle Champion – Jami Prowse (Rankin)
- Junior Relay Champions - McAuley
- Intermediate Relay Champions – Rankin
- Senior Relay Champions – Rankin
- All Age Relay Champions – McAuley
- Cheering Champions – McQuoin
- Champion House - McAuley
IGSSA Tennis

Competition commences on Saturday 11th February at various venues around Sydney. Girls can find all details regarding the draw, venues and rules on Monte Connect – Tennis Page. The draw is also available on the IGSSA mobile site m.ahigs.nsw.edu.au

ESSG Water Polo

The ESSG Water Polo competition commences on Saturday 11th February. A number of teams have byes in the first week. The draw for the first week is available to the girls on Monte Connect – Water Polo page.

Sports Fixtures Newsletter

Each Friday when you receive your link to Monte Matters you will notice a second link that is to our weekly Sports Fixtures Newsletter. On it you will find draws or links to draws for Monte teams playing on the weekend.

Congratulations

• **Eve Peel** who competed at the Flying 11 National Sailing Championships on the Derwent River. Eve and her skipper completed 10 races over 5 days placing 5th overall and winning the all girls division.

• **Mina Ferguson** who competed at the National Sailing Championships in the Optimist Dinghy Class and as the 5th ranked Australian was selected into the Australian team of 5 who will compete in Thailand in July for the World Championship.

• **Selina De Silva** who has been selected into the Volleyball Australia High Performance Program, National Junior Women's Development Program and now into the Australian Youth Women's Development Squad. She will tour Bangkok in May 2017 and compete in the Thailand Under 20 National Championships.

Sports Department Staff

Please feel free to direct your specific enquiries to to me on mvandervelde@monte.nsw.edu.au or contact the relevant staff member.

Mr Michael Vandervelde: Sports Program Manager, Waterpolo, Tennis and Football
Phone: 9409 6420
Email: mvandervelde@monte.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Liz Morgan: Sports Administrator looking after Hockey, Dance, Aerobics and Softball. Mrs Morgan works on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays.
Phone: 9409 6421
Email: lmorgan@monte.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Tania Dorahy: Head Netball Coach and Emerging Athlete Support Program.
Phone: 9409 6422
Email: tdorahy@monte.nsw.edu.au

Miss Katie Barton: Netball, Athletics, Snowsports, Volleyball and Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
Phone: 9409 6423
Email: kbarton@monte.nsw.edu.au

Mr Matthew Rowan: Head Coach for Touch Football, Basketball, Athletics and Cross Country.
Phone: 9409 6487
Email: mrowan@monte.nsw.edu.au

Michael Vandervelde
Sport Program Manager
MONTE NOTICES
### MONTE ENSEMBLE TIMETABLE 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>Advanced Strings</td>
<td>Guitar Ensemble</td>
<td>Orchestra</td>
<td>Monte Singers</td>
<td>Senior Stage Band</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior Stage Band</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cello Ensemble</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Year 7 Cello Class</td>
<td>Year 9 Strings</td>
<td>Lunchtime Concert</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Violin Class</td>
<td>Junior Sax Quartet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Sax Quartet</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>Concert Band</td>
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<td>Wind Ensemble</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>Jazz Improvisation Class</td>
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### Ensembles and Instrumental Lessons at Monte

**All of our ensembles are now rehearsing. Please make sure you return your ensemble forms to the Performing Arts Department.**

We have some new opportunities available this year. There is an **Introduction to Violin and Cello** class for Year 7 students.

Ms Loretta Palmeiro will be teaching a **Jazz Improvisation** class on Monday afternoons. Forms for all ensembles are available on Monte Connect and the Performing Arts noticeboard.

There are still spaces available for individual lessons—especially for drums, violin and cello. Please drop in and see Ms Walmsley if you have any questions or would like to try a new instrument.

Please check the ensemble timetable for your rehearsal time.

**Ms Walmsley**  
*Leader of Instrumental Music*
SPACE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Alliance of Girls’ Schools Australasia is excited to announce that they are offering two student scholarships. The Junior scholarship (value $9537) will enable a student of a member school to attend the HASSE Junior Space Program in June 2017 and is open to students in Years 7 – 9. The Senior scholarship (value $9840) is open to students in Years 10 – 12 who wish to attend the HASSE Senior Space Program in December 2017.

Students applying for a scholarship must have a keen interest in science and as a member school, we can only nominate ONE student for each scholarship. The scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, admission to the program events, airfares, accommodation and meals, and travel insurance. It excludes personal expenses.

Application forms are available by emailing Ms Mascarenhas and need to be returned to her not later than Thursday February 16 consideration.

Dear Parents

It is my pleasure to invite you to our MYP Recognition and Awards Ceremony for the Year 10 Class of 2016. This event will be held on Thursday 23 February 2017 in the College’s McQuoin Centre.

Refreshments preceding the ceremony will be served at 12:00pm. Graduates, staff and guests will be asked to take their seats from 12:20pm.

Please ensure you RSVP with number of guests attending to rtrenaman@monte.nsw.edu.au for catering and seating purposes.

We look forward to celebrating with you the achievements of the MYP students of 2016.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Stocks
Director Middle School & MYP Coordinator

Rugby Union is back for 2017 at Mosman Junior Rugby Club

We have competition formats for boys and girls, ages 5 – 16 for both non-contact and tackle versions of our great game.

The Club promotes skills development, active participation & game play and FUN.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT MJRC.COM.AU

Sun Feb 12 – TRY RUGBY DAY – Rawson Oval, Mosman - 8am – 11am

Come and test out your rugby skills and ask the Club Committee any questions about the season.