Building Hope and Resilience Through Faith

Year Of Mercy 2016

MONTE MATTERS

1 APRIL 2016 / TERM 1, WEEK 10
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**MONTE VIDEO NEWS**

**MONTE OPEN DAY**

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Produced by Monte's Development & Community Relations Team

Feedback welcome - doshea@monte.nsw.edu.au
Dear Parents and Friends of Monte,

Building Hope and Resilience through Faith.

We began this week at Monte with an uplifting Easter Liturgy. Most people think of Easter as a single day. But for Catholics, Easter isn’t just a day it is a 50-day festal season concluding at Pentecost, celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a time for us to reflect that even in the face of fear or uncertainty, we are able to live with hope.

Sometimes, bad things happen and it is difficult to see the silver lining, to put our best foot forward, to be resilient or to get up and try again and again; but this is precisely what we ask of our students and of ourselves.

Resilience is our ability to bounce back when things go wrong. Resilience isn’t sweeping the negative away; it’s seeing the negative and reframing it.

Academic research into resilience started about 40 years ago and shows that resilience can be learned. Harvard Medical School in Boston found that resilient people have three characteristics: a staunch acceptance of reality; a deep belief, often buttressed by strongly held values, that life is meaningful; and an uncanny ability to improvise and go with the flow.

You can bounce back from hardship with just one or two of these qualities, but you will only be truly resilient with all three.

I certainly believe our core values of Mercy, Justice, Service, Human Dignity and Care for the Poor strengthen our resilience and help us build bridges from present day hardships to a fuller, more meaning centred future.

Mary Reynolds RSM, Director of Mercy International Centre, writes about Catherine McAuley’s Lay Expression of Mercy. All of us are shaped and influenced by our early experiences – especially the difficult ones. Some emerge from such experiences the stronger for it; others are burdened by it for the rest of their lives.

Think of Catherine McAuley’s experience. Catherine was born into a comfortably wealthy Catholic family. However, her father died before she was five years old, and towards the end of her teens her mother also died, having flitted away the family inheritance.

By the time she was twenty, Catherine’s life was already chequered by transitions from wealth to poverty, to orphan hood, to being homeless, to reliance on other people’s charity and dependence on those who provided for her. Who would blame her if she felt a bit resentful and hard done by? Instead she turned it into an empathetic and compassionate woman, understanding of others who shared the same losses and this animated her to respond to the needs of such people.

From where does such strength come from? Mary Reynolds believes that in Catherine’s own faith life she allowed her own pain to lead her into the compassionate heart of God and this in turn led her into action on behalf of those who suffered. This was the hope of her own resurrection and truly demonstrates her own resilience.

This Sunday as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday I’d like to share with you the Mercy International Prayer of Intention this week.

“Jesus, we stand in awe at the mystery of your death and resurrection. We wonder at the depths of your love for us. May all peoples of the earth receive the good news of your gospel. As your people we ask this day for the power to live in the joy of your rising. Amen.”

God Bless.

Mrs Nicole Christensen
Principal
Seven Ways to Build Resilience

Here are seven of my favourite ways to build resilience in our everyday lives.

1. **Build your coping resources.** Exercise, pray, meditate, practice yoga or some other form of relaxation on a regular basis. These activities not only help you relax after a stressful day, they help you handle stress better in the future.

2. **Be flexible.** Trees and shrubs that don’t bend in the wind break. Learn how to go with the flow and compromise.

3. **Seek support.** Your family, closest friends, and members of our school community can help. These are your pillars of strength. A problem shared is a problem halved.

4. **See setbacks as temporary.** Try your best to move through difficult times knowing that eventually you will be OK.

5. **Practice an attitude of gratitude.** Before going to bed at night make a mental list of everything you have to be grateful for. Gratitude is one of the basic underpinnings of contentment and stress resilience.

6. **Have faith and develop your spiritual practice.**

7. **Take action.** Take positive action that moves you forward even if it is only a small step.
This Week on Social Media

@montecollege

MonteSantAngeloMercy
@montecollege

On Holy Thursday we are reminded to love one another through humble service.

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We reflect on Good Friday - "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son" John 3:16

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Monte students supporting the Timor Border Protest in North Sydney.

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"He took bread, gave thanks and broke it!" Luke 22:19

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Easter Sunday - rejoice our Lord has risen. "Do not be afraid. He has risen just as He said He would". (Matt 28)

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Monte students supporting the Timor Border Protest in North Sydney.

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Easter Saturday - "in stillness Earth awaits the Resurrection"
Over Easter Monte saw the arrival of a new kitchen garden planter boxes situated in the courtyard outside Catherine McAuley Place. This sustainable edible garden initiative includes 180 herb centrepieces from recent College functions planted to establish Monte’s fledgling kitchen garden. A rosemary hedge has also been planted to utilise at future Monte ANZAC Day ceremonies.

A beautiful statue of St. Francis stands as the garden caretaker. One of the first environmentalists, St. Francis of Assisi encouraged us to live responsibly within our environment. Why not interact with him by dropping a flower or herb into his bird bath as you walk past?

How can you be involved in Monte’s Kitchen Garden? We are actively seeking novice and expert student and staff garden enthusiasts to act as interested caretakers of our beautiful herb garden. Or simply be involved by contributing an edible plant or cutting from your favourite herb.

“It is in giving that we receive” - St. Francis of Assisi.

For more information contact Sr Carmel on CMcDonough@monte.nsw.edu.au.

Sr Carmel RSM
“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.”
Robert Collier, author

As a teacher, I come to school each day and work with students to develop their knowledge in the classroom; to improve their thinking skills and their ability to solve problems. Hopefully, this happens and hopefully, this will lead to a successful future for them. As always, in my role as G&T coordinator, I have met with individual students and parents to discuss challenging goals and strategies for improvement for the year. One on one, it is a privilege to explore what success means for these individuals.

Every Monte girl, of course, is different and so academic success will look and feel different for each student. But how do you define success in a broad sense? We are often quick in education to look to quantifiable measures. Is a student successful simply for achieving Band 6s or Level 7s in their HSC or IB Diploma, or a high ATAR? Is it still success for a student who elected to study subjects that might appear to have been an ‘easy option’ for them given their ability? Does success require a level of challenge to be met by the student involved, and if so, how can we find that sweet spot between easy and cripplingly difficult?

In reading the excerpt from the SMH article provided, I challenge you to consider your assumptions about success. I have often used this article as a discussion starter regarding unrealistic expectations and gifted perfectionism. Evidently, this student's performance in her final exams was quantifiably fantastic – high marks across her subjects and securing the highest possible ATAR, which allowed her entry into all possible university courses. For many students would be the greatest indicator of success. But it would seem that success for this student was not about comparisons, it was about her ability to achieve her personal best. In her mind, the artificial ceiling of the ATAR was just that, and she wished to demonstrate and be recognised for her learning in different ways. We often speak of learning being more than just marks. Again, perhaps there needs to be a sweet spot between celebrating personal achievements and constantly seeking improvements.

Throughout this term at assemblies, year meetings and liturgies, we have heard Catherine McAuley’s charge to “be good today, but better tomorrow”. This seems a fitting way to characterise the personalised goal of a Monte education for each student. I hope that your daughters have worked hard in Term 1 to be successful students in the many possible ways this could manifest, and that they can enjoy their successes over the coming term break.

Lauren James
Gifted and Talented Coordinator

Student challenges ruling on her HSC

Sydney Morning Herald, April 28, 2012. Author: Anna Patty

A FORMER Abbotsleigh student who is now studying medicine at the University of Sydney is claiming the NSW Board of Studies wrongly refused to grant her special examination provisions in the form of a computer and extra exam time for the 2008 Higher School Certificate.

The 21-year-old woman, who does not wish to be named, was placed fifth in the state in her HSC chemistry exam with a mark in the high 90s in 2007, when she was in year 11. A year later she scored a university entry rank of 99.95, with marks of about 94 per cent in her English and modern history exams.

She was granted rest breaks during the exams in response to her application to the Board of Studies for special examination provisions. She has a disability described as a malfunctioning of the wrist. But she believes she should have been granted a computer or extra time to compensate for cramping in her hand after prolonged periods of writing.

Had she been granted a computer or extra time, the student believes she would have achieved much higher marks.

“The point isn’t that I was doing badly. I did do well, what a normal person would consider well,” she said.

“But you want your disability to be sufficiently addressed with special examination provisions so that everyone has a capability to communicate what they know in the HSC examinations, otherwise it is not a fair test of your knowledge.”
Language Learning in NSW - Monte Already Ahead

Recently I attended the Modern Languages Teacher’s Association of NSW Annual Conference. It highlighted to me the privileged position Monte students are in through the study of the MYP, in which the study of languages is undertaken in Years 7 to 10 and the support and commitment from the Executive of the College provides for the continuity of language learning through to the HSC and IB DP.

Following the release of the 2013 Review of Languages Education in NSW undertaken by BOSTES, Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards NSW, an extensive consultation was conducted. The proposals that came from this review identified wide ranging solutions and the development of advisory panels to develop Language learning policies, lobbing governments, promotion in the community and in business as well as the benefits languages graduates can provide. One message is clear that the study of languages is undervalued in NSW and in fact Australia wide, prompting the need to maintain the importance of language learning in our schools, on the political agenda.

Research around the world indicates that the earliest a child commences the study of a second language, the better it will be for her cognitive development cementing the need for languages to be studied in primary school.

BOSTES is currently undertaking a consultation for the writing of the new K-10 Syllabus Framework, in which inquiry learning and task-based teaching and assessment is emphasised. The inclusion of skills identified in languages syllabi, written by ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority will be adopted in part by NSW and have been incorporated into the NSW K-10 Framework. These include skills such as visual literacy, which is already a component of the MYP Language Acquisition Guide. Students at Monte develop skills in Listening and Visual Comprehension, Criterion A, as well as Reading and Visual Comprehension, Criterion B. Critical and creative thinking philosophies underpin the development of these skills.

At a Curriculum Management Meeting earlier in the year, heads of department and middle managers were asked to reflect on the following question. “In an ever increasing global community, it is the College’s vision that Monte girls will be prepared in such way as to successfully sit at ‘the global table of decision-makers and to actively contribute to solve future world problems. What skills would she require?’ She would undoubtedly require a myriad of skills, knowledge and deep understanding on a vast array of subjects but most importantly empathy and compassion. Looking at this question through the eyes of a teacher of language, it was immediately evident that she would need to be bilingual or even multilingual, her colleagues sitting at that table would all speak English but they too would be able to speak their own language and perhaps several more languages. This vision is an exciting goal challenge for the College community and it is truly a possible reality for Monte girls.

What’s been happening in the Languages Department?

Every year Sydney enjoys the pleasure of a sell-out French Film Festival, providing delightful insights into the French way of life and the way of seeing the world. Year 10 were treated to this on 11 March where students attended the Norton Palace Cinema to view a matinee of the movie Avril et le monde truqué, along with other schools. A wonderful story in animation that offered speculation about the past and the future. What if the technological progress had been halted? Set in Paris 1941, in which coal and steam continue to be the main sources of energy, it is the stage for good verses evil.

Exchange is a wonderful and enriching experience that many Monte girls participate in every year. In Term 1, we had a ‘Welcome Back from Exchange Morning Tea’, an opportunity for students who went on exchange to catch up and chat with one another, sharing stories with their languages teachers and executive staff.

Students travelled to France, Germany Italy and Spain and presentations of their experiences were made at the school assembly, promoting and encouraging younger students to consider the possibilities.

On 22 March, we hosted another successful International Exchange and Gap Year Information Evening, at which we had representatives from a number of exchange and gap year organisations. It’s a great opportunity for parents and students to consult and enquire on the many exchange experiences available to them.

Inma Suarez
Head of Languages
Bienvenue. Добро пожаловат. Willkommen.

March 21 was Harmony Day and at Monte we set about to celebrate cultural diversity and respect for everyone who calls Australia home through supporting the Harmony Day Project: The Welcome, initiated by North Sydney Council. Through this project we learnt that 36.4% of North Sydney residents were born overseas from more than 50 different cultural groups, including speakers of Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish, French and Korean. The newest arrivals to the area include those from India, Iran, Nepal and the Philippines and whilst some are humanitarian refugees, our most new arrivals have immigrated under skilled migration or family visas.

Monte students, during their Religion classes were invited to write a welcome message to those new to our local community. Some fine ideals and sentiments were expressed by our students, however, it is our actions of welcome and hospitality which will make a real difference in a world so challenged with cultural misunderstandings and civil strife. Our Monte community can defy these trends to shape our words into actions to make a real difference. Take the next step.

Marshall Leaver
Head of Biamunga and Community Outreach

Pope Francis reminds us that the path of Mercy is one that welcomes all travellers with open arms and open hearts. “The Church without frontiers, Mother to all, spreads throughout the world a culture of acceptance and solidarity, in which no one is seen as useless, out of place, or disposable.” - Message for the 2015 World Day of Migrants and Refugees, September 3, 2014. We are called to be pioneers of a world that witnesses the dignity through diversity.

Daniel Petrie
Head of Student Spirituality and Service
Dear Readers,

What lovely Easter Celebrations did you enjoy? The highlight of my weekend really was a beautiful wedding! As I followed the long driveway to the house (the parental home of the Bride, my grand-niece), my attention was drawn to ribbons tied to the garden trees - an unmistakable sign of the joy of this family at the wedding of their eldest daughter to her perfect match!

Immediately I thought of another wedding told of in the Easter Vigil Exsultet: “O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wedded to those of earth, and divine to the human.”

We have most of the fifty days of Easter ahead of us. For this week, I would like to share with you just one story. First of all, find a quiet place and read it in Luke 24: 13-35.

Now, imagine you are one of those two disciples walking away from Jerusalem. You are bereft of hope. All your dreams have been shattered. You are both plainly miserable as you walk towards Emmaus, where you hope you will find something to divert your attention from your painful disillusionment.

A stranger joins you. He chides you as foolish and slow to believe all the prophets have foretold. Then he explains and asks “Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer before entering his glory?”

It is getting late. You ask the stranger to stay with you. He does. At table he takes bread, says the blessing, breaks the bread and shares it with you. Then he vanishes! Your eyes are opened!

“Didn’t our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road?”

Immediately, you turn your faces and footsteps back to Jerusalem, where you felt your first call to follow Jesus. You meet his other disciples there. They say “Yes! It is true. Some of our brethren have seen Him. He is alive!” And you tell them your story about how you met him on the road to Emmaus!

Now return to the reality of your own own life. Do you feel the Easter Peace that only God can give? Can you look on your woes, even with joy, as ways of being united with Jesus in his suffering, knowing that in the end you will also share in his resurrection, experiencing with him the endless, complete happiness of heaven? Can you trust that along the way, God will supply all you need to bear the burdens of each day? Have you realized God always gives you joy to balance sorrow? Do you know your loving God looks after you? How often has His Mysterious Hand guided you away from useless diversions back to Himself? Talk to Jesus, your Best Friend, about these things, and thank Him from your heart.

Blessed be our Risen Lord and Saviour for ever!

Sr Lecia RSM
MONTE’S NEW MUSIC MINISTRY

On Tuesday as the whole college gathered to celebrate the Easter season, Monte’s newly formed Liturgical Choir began their ministry. The choir is an initiative of Claire Miller (Year 12, Liturgy Captain) as a way to encourage prayerful engagement in the liturgical events celebrated at Monte throughout the year.

The choir have dedicated several lunchtimes to learn new songs under the direction of Mr. Andrew Young, Claire Miller and our college liturgy team which includes Ms Alice Priest, Mr Daniel Petrie and Miss Kerri-Anne Ramsay. The musical choices for this liturgy were contemporary Catholic hymns including Emmanuel Worship’s ‘Arms of Christ’ which had inspired Monte student delegates when it was performed at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Adelaide last December. A number of our choir members also cantored for the congregation. Molly Ryan (Year 9) and Giulia Rinaudo (Year 12) led a moving prayer for peace singing ‘The Prayer of St Francis’ and Adeline Kassis (Year 11) led us in the joyous recessional hymn ‘Joyful Joyful’.

Unlike other choirs and ensembles at the college, students do not need to be musically trained to join. All that is required is an ability to learn a tune and to sing prayerfully to lead the congregation into celebration. There is no long-term obligation for commitment other than the immediate lead-up to each particular liturgical event that students wish to minister at. As a ministry to the College community, participation in rehearsals for this choir is recognised as internal community service.

Any students who would like to participate in the choir are encouraged to email Claire Miller or Miss Ramsay.

Music ministry opportunities for Term 2 will be:

Week 2: Mother’s Day (Year 8 & 9 students invited to join)
Week 4: Spirit Mass (Year 10 & 11 students invited to join)
Week 6: Grandparent’s Day (Year 7 students invited to join)

Kerri-Anne Ramsay
Religious Education Teacher
The 2016 Theartresports season is off to an exciting start. Our squad of over 40 girls have been training on Wednesday afternoons with Bridie Connell and Siena Crisafi, developing their skills in improvisation. Our Monte representative teams have now been selected and the following girls will represent the College in the Theatresports School Challenge this year.

Senior team: Siobhan Fagan, Dani Stephenson, Violet Simpson, Erinn Spink and Nina Mountford.

Intermediate team: Claire Brownlie, Jasmine Heffernann, Elizabeth Mills, Caitlin Quinn and Sasha Zenari.

On Wednesday this week our two teams and healthy following of supportive family and friends, visited St Ignatius College for the annual Monte V Riverview Theatresports Friendly.

This tradition was started in 2013 by the then Monte Drama and Theatre Captain, Isabel Hoy who teamed up with the Riverview Drama Captain, Noah Vaz (pictured) to host the fun-filled afternoon.

It was great to see Isabel at the games this week, judging with Noah and Year 8 parent, Andrew Housego. The Monte teams played exceptionally well and managed to blow away pre-competition jitters as they performed for a near-full house at the St Ignatius O’Kelly Theatre.

Keep an eye out for information in ACTA about the upcoming competition dates. In the meantime, the squad will continue their training regime as they endow, offer, yield and extend their skills each week playing a growing repertoire of games.

Karen Partington
Drama Teacher & Theatresports Enthusiast
Invitation to all Years

Monte will be hosting a Chess Challenge on April 29, the first Friday of Term 2, from 8:30am - 2:15pm.

It will be a regional Chess event so there will be visiting students and staff from both Primary and Secondary Schools competing in the tournament from the North Shore. It is being organised by the Sydney Academy of Chess. Monte is providing the facilities and invitations are open to competitors from the College.

To enroll: The tournament will run through the day so competitors from Monte need to ensure that there are no assessments scheduled for that day. Places are limited, so parents please email sorourke@monte.nsw.edu.au with approval for your daughter to participate in the Tournament and provide the following information:

• (Subject line) Chess Challenge 29 April
• Daughter’s name
• Birthday (required for placement in appropriate division)
• Emergency contact number

The format is run as an individual event (not a team), with the winning school determined by adding the four highest scorers from each school. This means a school can enter any number of players, and there is no need to rank them into teams.

This tournament is a seven-round Swiss competition. This means that all players play seven games and no-one is knocked out of the tournament. Round 1 begins at 9:30am and prize giving commences 2.00pm. School will be invoiced after the tournament takes place.

Prizes: Trophies will be awarded for the top scoring players from each division: 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, 4th Place and 5th Place.

Trophies will also be given out to the top three placed schools in each heat. All participants in the tournament will receive a certificate of participation.

The top three schools from each heat will qualify for the Regional Semi-Finals, held in Term 3. I encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity, as it is through playing that you improve skills, just like any sport.

Date: Friday 29 April, 2016. Cost: $13 per participant.

How do I sign up? If interested, enroll your daughter please through my email address asap.

Secondly, the annual Metropolitan Interschool Chess Tournament is held on Fridays 4pm throughout Term 2, starting from 6th May.

Monte has three teams registered, giving students the opportunity to learn through competing. Junior (Years 7 & 8), Intermediate (Years 9 & 10) and Senior (Years 11 & 12). The competition is run on a home-away basis.

To enroll: If your daughter would like to participate each week or be a reserve player when available, please register with me through email: sorourke@monte.nsw.edu.au providing details:

• (Subject line) Interschool Chess Tournament
• Daughter’s name
• Year Group
• Emergency Contact name and number

Volunteers? There are a few weeks a Monte team might need to be transported to a school out of walking distance (we walk to Shore, Aloys, Marists, North Sydney Boys and Girls). The matches start at 4.00pm and may be completed within 20mins to 45mins. Please let me know if you are available to drive four girls to a competing school on such occasions (eg. St Pius at Chatswood or to Manly).

Stephen O’Rourke
Monte Chess Coordinator
sorourke@monte.nsw.edu.au; 9409 6279
STUDENT SHOWCASE
MARITIME BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN TIMOR LESTE AND AUSTRALIA

On Wednesday 23 March, 11 students and staff went to North Sydney station to support a protest about the political relationship between Australia and East Timor. The students and staff who attended are all part of Monte’s Timor Leste immersion programme and so have an interest in this issue and in advocating for fair solutions for the Timorese community. East Timor is Australia’s closest neighbouring country, and is considered one of the poorest countries in the world. Timor and Australia face the issue of negotiation of sea boundaries, which are rich in oil and gas reserves. Since East Timor became an independent country in 2002, Australia has refused to negotiate a fair agreement on the boundary with East Timor. Recently, East Timor’s Prime Minister, Rui Maria de Araújo, wrote to his Australian counterpart, Malcolm Turnbull, requesting a discussion about a permanent maritime boundary between the two countries. It is now up to Australia to take responsibility and support our closest neighbouring country in the endeavour to improve their socio-economic status.

Bella Tonkin
Year 11

If you would like to know more about this issue, please visit the Timor Sea Forum website http://timfo.org/. On there, you will find information about how to advocate for Timor Leste with the Australian government.
SPORTS REPORT

Stuart Hanrahan
Sport Program Manager

Water Polo
This term Monte fielded 10 water polo teams in the Eastern Suburbs School-girls Water Polo Competition. After six weeks of round games 9 of the 10 teams progressed through to semi finals. Of those 9 - 2 Monte teams have earned a place in the grand final to be played this weekend at UNSW Pool. Good luck to the players in Monte 3 and 7 in those matches on Saturday.

Tennis
The IGSSA tennis competition comes to a close this Saturday with finals for teams that finished 1st-4th in each of the 8 team divisions. IGSSA made a decision this year to run 8 team pools with only 1 week of finals – those being a grand final between the 1st and 2nd placed teams and a play-off match between the 3rd and 4th places teams. Four Monte teams earned the opportunity to play-off for 3rd and 4th. We wish them good luck and also extend our best wishes to Monte 14 who were the only Monte team to reach a 1st v 2nd place grand final match this term.

Netball
Monte is fielding 53 netball teams in the NSNA competition in 2016 – the most of any club and the most in Monte's history. I know that Miss Barton and Mrs Dorahy have been working hard to finalise coaches and training schedules for all teams so please bear with them as they complete this time consuming process.

With 53 teams comes the responsibility of providing umpires for 53 matches each week. Monte's umpiring program has become a real strength of the College in recent years with some 20 ‘National C’ badged girls amongst our current student cohort. The program is doing so well that several smaller clubs call on Monte to help fulfil their umpiring requirements. This means that Monte will actually be taking responsibility for providing umpires for over 90 matches each weekend. A huge effort and one we are extremely proud to encourage and support.

Football - Soccer
Monte's first group of club footballers take to the pitch in their first matches this Sunday 3 April. The players start training on Friday are extremely excited to have the opportunity to play football for their school. I look forward to reporting on their progress through the winter.

Hockey
We thank everyone for their patience in relation to the finalisation of hockey trials and grading. Juniors will finish this Friday and Year 7 players will be invited to have a trial/training session next week. Monte has shifted to the Sydney East Hockey Association (SEHA) school-girl competition for Term 2 2016. We look forward to a season where most games will be played on turf fields and against a wider variety of schools.

Basketball
Monte will be entering eight teams in the IGSSA basketball competition in term 2. Final details of teams and draws will be available towards the end of the term.

Congratulations
• Dana Tavener of Year 10 who was outright 2nd in the International 420 Sailing State Championships. The event includes boys and girls.
• Jacinta Milenkoski of Year 11 who became the first Monte students to be selected in the NSW All Schools Tennis Team to compete at the School Sport Australia Championships.

#ITSOK2PLAY - even if you are a beginner

Stuart Hanrahan
Sport Program Manager

NSWCCC Tennis
On Tuesday 22 March, I travelled to Bathurst to represent the NSWCCC team as part of the Tennis All Schools Tournament and Pizzey Cup trials. The trial consisted of two parts: a morning pool determining the overall team winning the All Schools competition and the afternoon pool determining who would make the NSW Team to compete in the Pizzey Cup. In the morning pool I was able to win all three of my matches, placing me first in my pool meaning that I would progress into the afternoon pool. Overall, the NSWCCC team did very well considering we were the smallest team.

After coming first in my morning pool, I progressed into the Pizzey Cup trials with the top two in each pool progressing into the NSW Team. I was able to win two of my three matches placing me as second in my afternoon pool meaning that I would progress into the NSW Team. I will now be travelling to Albury in four weeks with a team of eight girls and eight boys to compete against all other states as well as individually in the Australian Championships.

Jacinta Milenkoski
Year 11
PARENTS & FRIENDS
I hope you were able to enjoy some relaxation and family time over the Easter break and that both parents and daughters are feeling refreshed and ready for a busy two weeks before a well-earned break at the end of term.

Our Year 11 parents and carers met for morning tea this week, representing the last of our Term 1 P&F Events. We do hope you’ve enjoyed meeting and mixing with your fellow parents during at least one of the events held this term.

Throughout Term 2 the P&F offers parents the opportunity to get together for an evening function with each year group (details below). Please note that the Year 11 parents’ cocktail party has been postponed to Saturday 30 July.

Cathy Cooper
P&F Vice President (Social)

### Dates for your Diary

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MONTE NOTICES
Winter Clothing Drive for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The House of Welcome’s vision is for a society in which there is full recognition of the dignity, equality, human rights and humanity of all people living in the community no matter their age, gender, sexuality, nationality or religious affiliation, and no matter how they came to be in Australia.

The House of Welcome provides housing, emergency food, clothing and services to asylum seekers and refugees. The House of Welcome is independent of Government and relies entirely on the support of Churches in the community.

They are currently organising their 2016 Winter Clothing Drive to collect vital warm clothing and blankets. As you are no doubt aware the need is significant with people from many parts of the world currently seeking asylum in Australia.

The clothing will then be distributed to the asylum seeker and refugee community over two days, 20 and 21 April from a Church Hall in Carramar (near Villawood).

They are looking for good quality new and second hand winter items including: quality warm winter clothing for women, men and children including infants; quality doonas, blankets and hot water bottles in good condition are also welcome. Please do not include underwear and old or odd socks, thin or summer clothing (t-shirts, shorts etc) stained or ripped items.

If you have warm clothing, surplus to your needs, please bag it up and bring to the Collection Box on the Masalou Balcony in the next two weeks. Thank you for your consideration of this urgent collection.

Sr Carmel RSM
MONTE NOTICES

**Careers Notices**

**Lower North Shore Tertiary and Careers Expo**
Shore School Gymnasium  
Blue Street North Sydney  
Tuesday 5 April 2016  
4.00 pm – 6.30 pm

Over 60 higher education institutions and professional training providers will be onsite. Parents warmly invited. Students are to wear full school uniform. Refreshments available.

**University of NSW**
Year 10 Subject Selection and Information Evenings in Term 2  
6.15 pm – 7.30 pm  
Thursday 5 May 2016  
Tuesday 10 May 2016  
Wednesday 18 May 2016

To register to attend, go to: www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/whats

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**Saint Ignatius’ College, Riverview Careers Expo & Presentations**

**MONDAY 9TH MAY, 2016 5 - 8PM**
Saint Ignatius’ College, Riverview Careers Expo brings together exhibitors including tertiary institutions, training organisations, employers, providers of HSC, career and gap year resources and information.

**WHERE**
EXPO: 5-7PM  
Gartlan, Saint Ignatius’ College, Riverview

**PRESENTATIONS: 7-8PM**
STEM (Science, Technology, English, Maths) - Therry Hall  
Business (Finance, Law, Sales & Marketing, Communication) - Theatrette

**NO COST**
Parents and students from all schools welcome. Light refreshments available.

**EXHIBITORS INCLUDE**
UTS, ACU, Sydney University, UWS, UNE, Macquarie University, UNSW, Notre Dame, Bond, Wollongong University, Charles Sturt University, UAC, plus many more.

**University of Sydney**
Year 10 Parent Information Evenings in Term 2  
6.00 – 8.00 pm  
Monday 16 May 2016  
Wednesday 18 May 2016

More information on how to register available soon: http://sydney.edu.au

**Year 10 Work Experience**
A reminder that students must have confirmed their Work Experience placements by Friday 3 June. All students are required to hand in at least their ‘Placement Notification and Parent Acknowledgement Form (Form 1) on or before this date.

All due dates, information and forms are available in the '2016 Work Experience' tab on the Year 10 Pastoral Page on Monte Connect.

**Sally O’Keeffe**  
Higher Education and Careers Advisor
Calling Alumni Speakers for the Careers Insight Evening

Save the Date: Careers Insight Evening May 18

Hear inspiring stories from Monte Alumni in a wide range of industries.

Last year speakers included a senior sergeant in the NSW police force, a veterinarian, a federal court judge and everything in between. Details to follow.

Any Monte Alumni interested in speaking on the night contact sgraham@monte.nsw.edu.au

Monte Blue and Blue Scholarship Lunch

Save the Date

Friday 13 May
NSW Parliament House

Call for Prizes for Blue & Blue Lunch

The Monte Blue & Blue Scholarship Lunch will be held on Friday 13 May at Parliament House. The lunch raises much needed funds for Monte’s Bursary program which assists with the education expenses of Monte families facing troubled times.

Can you provide a raffle or silent auction prize to assist with the fundraising for Monte’s Bursary program? Ideas include travel vouchers, artworks, gift items, beauty vouchers, experience vouchers, movie tickets. No donation is too small. Supporters will receive recognition of their generosity in the event program and on other promotional material.

Please contact Sonia Brennan in the Development Office if you can help sbrennan@monte.nsw.edu.au.

Year 7 Learning Conference

When: Wednesday 6 April 2016

Where: McQuoin Hall

Time: 4.00pm - 8.00pm
(break from 6.00pm - 6.30pm)
### MONTE NOTICES

#### Free Homework Help at Monte

A roster of Monte teachers volunteer their time after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to help our students with any homework or study issues they may have. All students have access to this free service. No appointment is necessary: students can simply come to the Library and get the extra academic support they need regarding homework, assessment tasks or study skills.

For more information, contact Mrs Brown in the Library, library@monte.nsw.edu.au

#### College Shop

The end of Term 1 is approaching very quickly. With Term 2 starting on Tuesday 26 April, there are only four trading days left to purchase any winter uniform items required for the first day back.

The closer we get to the end of Term, the busier we become and there will be long queues, so get in early.

**Year 10** – It is compulsory for all Year 10 students to purchase the senior blouse for winter. Stocks of this and other winter items are available from the College Shop.

**New students Years 8-12** – If you didn’t manage to make it to the fitting days last week please make sure to come in before the end of term to be fitted for your winter uniform.

Parents do not need to accompany their daughters for fitting unless they wish to do so. Cheque or cash may be sent with your daughter on her allocated house colour day, or if you have set up account we will charge the uniform cost to the held credit card.

If you have not already done so and would like to set up account please send your daughter into the College Shop to pick up a credit card slip before her allocated house colour day.

A reminder that the College Shop hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 7.30am to 1.30pm (closed 12-12.30pm for lunch). The students are allowed to purchase at the shop before school, at recess and at lunchtime.

**Lost Property** – All un-named lost property will be cleared from the lost property bins on Thursday 7 April and disposed of. If your daughter has lost any items of uniform please make sure she checks the lost property bins before this date.

_Nikki Horbach_

*College Shop*

_nhorbach@monte.nsw.edu.au*

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>ENGLISH: Mr McHugh (Seniors)</td>
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<td>HISTORY/LEGAL STUDIES - Note</td>
<td>Ms Jenkins</td>
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<td>Taking, Revision, Essay Writing:</td>
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<td>ITALIAN: Ms Skerl</td>
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<td>MATHS: Ms Randazzo</td>
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<td>GEOGRAPHY/JUNIOR HISTORY/</td>
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<td>SCIENCE: Ms Shareef (RY201)</td>
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<td>MATHS: Ms Randazzo (Day 3)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Taking, Revision, Essay Writing:</td>
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<td>ESPANISH, FRENCH, General Study</td>
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<td>Skills, Revision: Prof Varela</td>
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<td>ENGLISH, ESSAY WRITING: Ms Luiz</td>
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<td>MATHS: Ms Patterson</td>
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<td>SCIENCE: Mr Zitzelsperger (RY201)</td>
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Italian Parent Classes - Open for All Year Groups!

Have you ever wanted to learn Italian and know more about the language your daughter is learning? Well here is your opportunity!

The College is running language learning classes for parents, so that you can gain an appreciation of your daughter’s experience of language learning. Through these lessons, you will acquire communication skills, study techniques and strategies that allow you to use basic language and support your daughter as a co-learner.

The 7-week course is open to parents of students who are learning Italian and is aimed at those with little or no experience of the language. Italian classes run on Tuesday evenings in Term 2 from 5.45-7.15pm starting on Tuesday 3 May.

The course is run at no cost to you. An intermediate course will run in Term 3.

Please contact: Ms Maria Gaudioiso (Italian) mgaudioiso@monte.nsw.edu.au for more information or to enroll.

Maria Gaudioiso
Italian Teacher
MONTE MATTERS  1 APRIL 2016  /  TERM 1, WEEK 10

MONTE NOTICES - YEAR 10 AND 11 SCIENCE TOUR

12 Day NASA Science Education Tour - USA
Dates: 24 June - 4 July 2017

Overview:

• Educational tour of the USA’s rich scientific community
• Tour structure includes links with the NSW Science curriculum • In-depth exploration of space discovery at NASA
• First hand learning experience of biology, physics and chemistry and their interactions in the real world
• The opportunity to build friendships, improve teamwork and responsibility

Our tour around America will allow students to immerse themselves in new and extraordinary places where they interact with the biological and chemical processes shaping their lives.

Our journey begins in Orlando, one of the epicentres of scientific development, where students will visit the NASA – Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral and learn about the science of aerodynamics. They will get to relive the wonder of the Apollo era at NASA’s exhibit, which celebrates the unprecedented journey undertaken by mankind to land on the moon. They will also get a unique opportunity to meet a veteran NASA astronaut and a chance to explore the NASA base including its launch sites.

While in Orlando the students will also experience the thrills and excitement of rides and attractions at Universal’s Islands of Adventure Theme Park, which is home to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

Traveling on to Washington DC we explore the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and the Museum of Natural History.

Among other things, we will take in some famous sites of the capital such as the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, The Vietnam Vet Wall, Arlington Cemetery, Washington Monument and more.

We will then travel to New York City, home to a diverse collection of museums and attractions. Student will get to experience a live Broadway show and a Hudson River Cruise, a UN Tour as well as spending some time exploring sites such as Times Square and meet the Sisters of Mercy.

The students will visit the American Museum of Natural History including the Planetarium obtaining a deeper knowledge of the geomorphic and evolutionary past that shaped the current patterns and systems of the world around us.

Whilst this tour is highly educational with workshops and guided tours, there will be many opportunities along the way to sightsee, relax, and immerse students in the vibrant culture and scientific world of America.

Students will emerge from this experience with a greater understanding of the scientific foundations which established a precedent for modern scientific innovation.

Price: $6686*

Included:
• Flights, accommodation, venues, taxes, guides, food (B&D)

Excluded*:
• Lunch, travel insurance, US Visa, fuel surcharges, taxes & currency

Deposit*:
$1338 due no later than Friday 15 April 2016

Information Night:
Wednesday 30 March 2016 @ 6.00pm

Venue:
Room RY102

Contact:
pwacher@monte.nsw.edu.au

Libertas Travel Pty Ltd PO Box 926, North Sydney, NSW 2060. ABN 30 154 091 433. www.libertastravel.com.au *Tour terms & conditions will be disclosed in full in the contract document presented to the school upon tour approval. Copyright ©. Any unauthorized copying or reproduction will constitute an infringement of copyright.
art for molo

Saturday 9th April 2016
Spot 81 Abercrombie street
Chippendale, Sydney

4pm - 5.30pm

Refreshments will be served

Art works created by students in Sydney and Cape Town will be sold to raise funds for Molo Songololo - a Child Advocacy Organisation in South Africa.

www.molosongololo.com

A raffle prize of two return tickets to South Africa, courtesy of South African Airways, will also be on sale.

“Home”
Dear Parents,

Over the next few months, more than 100 Syrian and Iraqi refugees will be placed in the Northern Beaches area and need a place to live. With limited finances and knowledge of the area, finding a home while they are finding their feet will be challenging. With this in mind, the Christian churches on the Northern Beaches have set up an initiative to help refugee families.

Together with Settlement Services International, the Northern Beaches community have offered self-contained properties at a reduced rent for refugee families to live in for 6 months. Others are donating money to cover the cost of rent. So far, with the incredible support of the community, we now have enough accommodation and financial pledges offered to house approximately 10 families.

As a Monte community, with a heart for the vulnerable, we want to join forces with this initiative to welcome and offer our support in any way we can to help those who have suffered. Although pledges and accommodation are still vitally needed, we are now keen to find committed mentors for these families when they arrive.

A mentor is someone who:
- Helps new arrivals improve their English
- Helps them understand Australian ways and culture
- Helps them understand the public transport system, where to shop, how to complete applications and forms
- Helps them to find education and employment opportunities; and most importantly,
- Is a friend to a new arrival, and helps them to build confidence

We are therefore looking for people who will be committed to a family/refugee for a minimum 6 month period, and who will commit to the following mandatory criteria:

- 4 consecutive training workshops
- 3 monthly debriefs after mentoring relationship has commenced
- Criminal record check
- Working with children check
- Interview with course trainer
- Meet with mentees for 1hr per week for 6mths

At this stage we do not know the timeframe of arrivals, but we certainly want to be ready and prepared for when they do arrive.

If you would like to become a mentor or to help in whichever way you can, please contact Michael Aitken, Senior Minister at St Stephan’s Anglican Church, Belrose (details below).

Contact:
- Call: Michael Aitken 0411443752, or
- Email: rinbc@ststephans.net.au

We also invite you to link in to our Facebook page to stay abreast of any updates. https://www.facebook.com/refugee.initiative.northern.beaches.churches/

Many thanks for your anticipated support.