MID YEAR STUDENT GOALS REVIEW

While teachers are busy writing reports, students have been busy assessing their own progress by reviewing the goals that they set for themselves earlier in the year. During Personal Development, Home Room teachers have led students through a series of personal reflections to assist students to ascertain where they are at with their individual, academic and personal goals, as well as completing a self-assessment on everyday basic skills such as organisation, punctuality and so on. Students will set new goals for the second half of the year when we return in Term 3.

“JUST MUCKIN’ AROUND” – IS JUST NOT OKAY

Unfortunately, some students don’t always take responsibility for their actions and make poor choices in how they choose to interact with others in the yard. Students are frequently reminded to think before they act and to think before they speak when they are feeling “wound up”. The line commonly used when students are challenged about their behaviour is “I was just mucking around.” The “mucking around” statement is usually a throw-away line used to disguise unwell-considered verbal and physical chasting. I urge parents to discourage this line when students are describing their behaviour or debriefing their day with you. It is everyone’s responsibility to make MacKillop a safe and happy community. Someone’s idea of “mucking around” could be another person’s idea of severe bullying.

KEEPING PERSONAL BELONGINGS SECURE

Please encourage your son/daughter to take care of valuable, personal possessions while they are at school. In particular items such as wallets, mobile phones, iPods and iPads should be safely stored in student lockers when not in use or given to the Front Office for safe keeping. Articles of clothing, books etc. should be clearly labelled with students’ names so that, if misplaced, they can be promptly returned. We need to generate a culture of care and awareness of the value of property.

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MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE PRESENTS

at The Don Bosco Creative Arts Centre, Guilford Young College, Glenorchy Campus.

Inspired by the sixteenth-century story of Puss in Boots, Judith Prior’s ‘What’s New Pussycat?’ follows the journey of Puss (a talking cat) as she tries to help Harry Miller find his fortune after his evil brother, Tom, takes over the family farm. Along the way she meets a range of colourful characters, both helpful and not so helpful.

Suitable for all ages, the show embraces an eclectic group of songs easily recognisable: “Material Girl”, “I Wanna Be A Billionaire”, “These Boots were made for Walkin ’”, “Walk Right In”, ” What’s New Pussycat?”, “Hey Baby” and more.

The MacKillop Catholic College 2015 Production showcases our most gifted performers, combining for the first time students from Years 9 and 10 in a musical extravaganza.

Thursday 30th July
Friday 31st July
Saturday 1st August
7.00 pm (approx. 1hr 15mins)
Tickets available through the College Office (6245 0099) or from the 19th June online at http://www.trybooking.com/ICQH.

Adults $15.00
Concession $10.00
Child (under 11) $5.00

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Mr Nicholas Lahey
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING

MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

VOLUME 23 NO. 08 JUNE 17, 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

REFLECTION

There would not be a single family who, at some stage in the life of their children, hadn’t encouraged them to “do their best”. Some children with a casual approach to life might have thought their parents’ encouragement to be an endorsement of their casual approach to life and so never really got themselves out of third gear, nor out of their comfort zone.

When we, as parents, tell our children to do their best, we also need to tell them that their best is never going to be the same from one period of time to the next. Everything is alive and changing all the time, so their best will sometimes be high quality and at other times will not be as good; it could depend on whether they are feeling wonderful and happy or upset and moody.

When children are doing their best, it’s usually because they enjoy what they’re doing and feel confident about it rather than doing it for a reward. They do their best because they want to do it, not because they have to do it and not because they are trying to please someone else. A few years ago there was a film called “Forrest Gump”, in which the main character had no special talents, nor burst of great ideas. However, he was a contented and happy person, because he did his best at everything he did. To his surprise, he was richly rewarded without expecting any reward at all. When our children don’t do their best, they are somewhat denying themselves the opportunity to be who they really are.

So, how can we support our children to do their best? Well, most children become what adults tell them they can become. Children take words to heart, especially words from the adults that are closest to them and so habitually say about them. Through our speech and behaviour towards our children, we communicate to them the boundaries of their potential.

Sometimes, children will need feedback from their parents that might be negative in nature. However, we need to take care that the manner in which we give the feedback is not counterproductive to our children not thinking well of themselves and accepting the need to perhaps change their behaviour. When we do give feedback, we need to focus on the behaviour not on our child’s general worth as a person.

To help children to do their best we need to show a genuine interest in them and let them know how much we care about them. We need to acknowledge what’s important to them and provide affirmation about who they are and what they’re doing. We need, on occasion, to say “well done” for nothing worth doing is ever easy; worthwhile things always take time and effort. When the need arises, we might offer to lend a hand; if our children see that we are willing to commit our time and energy to their interests, they will be more committed to see things through and be less likely to give up on themselves.

Even as adults, we all like to be acknowledged by our peers and to have their support. So, let’s give Mark Twain the last word: “I can live for two months on one good compliment”.

Lord, we invite You to walk with us as we journey with our children. Help our guidance to be reflective of You so that it is loving, compassionate and honest. Amen.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs Olivia Stephen commenced her Long Service Leave last week. She will be absent from the College for the rest of Term 2. During this time Miss Kaylee Bonfield will be the Acting Year 7 Co-ordinator and Miss Cathy Allen will be teaching her classes. On behalf of all, I wish Mrs Stephen a restful break.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Kayla McFadyen (8 Red) who received a silver medal in the 111 tumbling at the Gymnastics Championships held in Melbourne recently. Well done, Kayla.

Dr Sally Towns
PRINCIPAL

GUILFORD YOUNG COLLEGE

PATHWAYS EXPO

Guilford Young College invites families from MacKillop Catholic College to our Pathways Expo at the Glenorchy Campus, next Wednesday. Students and parents can speak with GYC teachers and career advisors about more than 100 academic and vocational education courses that will be available to students in 2016. For more information, please phone 6245 4957.

Wednesday 17 June
9am - 8pm
a presentation for parents 7pm

GUILFORD YOUNG COLLEGE

a Catholic co-educational day secondary college - Learning for life

Blundstone Arena, Bellerive
Saturday, August 8, 2015
6.30 pm - 11.00 pm - $50.00 - 3 course meal
(This is an 18+ event)

To book to our ticket phone our College Office on 6245 0099.

SAVE the date and book NOW
Celebrating 21 years of inspiring learning

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Help us celebrate 21 years

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Mackillop Catholic College Hobart Old Scholars

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Telephone: (03) 6245 0099    Facsimile: (03) 6245 0100    Email: enquiries@mackillop.tas.edu.au  Website: www.mackillop.tas.edu.au
GUILFORD YOUNG COLLEGE TRANSITION

In what is a very busy week for Year 10 students we continued their transition to senior secondary education today with the GYC Pathways Expo. This is held at GYC Glenorchy and parents are strongly encouraged to attend this evening with their son or daughter to follow up from the morning session from 5.00pm onwards. After visiting GYC in the morning our Year 10s then travelled to the Open Day at UTAS or visited Work & Training in Glenorchy.

All parents will receive the GYC Preliminary Subject Choice Form later this week. This form needs to be completed with the enrolment package.

EXAM CATCH-UPS FOR YEAR 10

Due to the large number of students absent from exams over the past week, Friday, June 19, will be our designated exam catch-up day for students. Exam papers for any missed exam will be available during the day in our Resource Centre for students to complete.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the last fortnight I had the opportunity to meet with the policy developers in Australia of both Facebook and Google. They both spoke of how to best keep young people safe when online, and in particular the importance of reporting to them any issues of harassment. Below are some links they provided for me that may be of help to parents:

- Help to report things: https://www.facebook.com/help/reportlinks
- Help to report when you don’t have a Facebook account: https://www.facebook.com/help/34318713297607
- Underage accounts reporting form: https://www.facebook.com/help/157793540954833
- Social resolution tool: Help Centre details: https://www.facebook.com/help/
- Facebook Safety Centre: tips and resources for young people, parents and teachers: https://www.facebook.com/safety
- Be Bold Stop Bullying: information links for young people: https://www.facebook.com/boeboldstopbullyingau/photos/pb.46692.2616686341.-2207520000.1406306228.470664269312173/3&type=3&theater and parents: https://www.facebook.com/boeboldstopbullyingau/photos/pb.46692.2616686341.-2207520000.1406306228.470664269312173/Type=3&theater

This year Australia has also appointed its first e-Safety Commissioner, Alastair MacGibbon. The appointment of Mr MacGibbon, who is set to begin in the role from July 1, follows the passing of the

Enhancing Online Safety for Children Act 2015 earlier this month. Mr MacGibbon will be empowered to fine big social media companies up to $17,000 a day if they fail to remove cyber-bullying material targeted at children. He will also be able to issue internet trolls with formal notices to remove offensive material, and if they fail to do that, seek a court injunction or refer them to the AFP.

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION

As parents would be aware, it is very important that we have the most up-to-date medical information for all of the young people in our care. With the current number of young people with allergies and chronic medical conditions in our College, we need to have medical health action plans provided by the young person’s doctor readily to hand.

SHORELINE BUS MALL

The Shoreline bus mall has become an area of concern in recent months. A number of our students pass through this transit area and need to wait for long periods of time the best suggestion is to wait in the shelter provided. The Shoreline Hotel has requested that students do not sit in the forecourt area and stay away from the entrance to the hotel. We would prefer that students do not go into the centre, except when accompanied by parents.

YEAR 9 RETREATS

The Story of the Adulterous Woman (John 8:2-11)

At dawn he (Jesus) appeared again in the temple courts, where all the lawyers and the Pharisees had gathered, for the trial of a woman accused of adultery.

The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing her.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. They continued to ask her, “And where is the man who taught her to sin?” At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

“No one, sir,” she said.

“No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

Last week’s Year 9 Retreat Program centred on relationships, which builds on from the Year 8 Retreats, which addressed challenges around becoming men and women. Students were presented with John’s Gospel story, whereby Jesus refused to judge an adulterous, challenging the leaders of the time to cast the first stone if they themselves were without sin. Students were expertly led to explore their own perception and judgements of each other, and then presented with a scenario around healthy and unhealthy relationships. Scenarios around healthy and unhealthy relationships were presented and navigated. The sessions during the day prompted students to become aware of their own relationship skills to help them articulate and develop their own communication styles. Students were engaged, honest and reflective about the relationships in their own families and communities. The day ended with a ritual of reconciliation and hope. Thank you to the Student Retreat Team for their ongoing professionalism and sense of fun whilst running the Year 9 Retreats.

GRILS’ DAY OUT

Ten intrepid, enthusiastic Year 9 girls gathered at the Gym on Friday, June 5, to meet ten equally enthusiastic and caring young girls for their first “Girls’ Day Out”. The afternoon was facilitated by a great team of young adults from Edmund Rice Camps with some input from Miss Kaylee Bonfield. After some get-to-know you games, the “Beauty Salon” opened, with a large variety of colours, sparkles and methods of nail polish application. Our well-prepared Year 9 girls pampered and spoiled their buddies with lots of colour, conversation and polish. A dance-off followed with some incredible moves and loads of fun. Dinner followed in the Food Studies rooms. After dinner, the Year 9 girls helped their buddies to make beautiful dream catchers; many, many dreams were dreamt and caught by them by the end of the afternoon! Thank you to our Year 9 girls: Laura Waller, Imogen Pybus, Laura Cruise, Olivia Pettit, Lauren Eaton, Maisie Keil. Maggie Tilley, Tylsah Crawford, Kirstyn Stevens and Taylah Stanley, as well as Miss Bonfield; to the ERC Young Adults and the our young participants for the second memorable Girls’ Day Out at MacKillop.

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- Social resolution tool: Help Centre details: https://www.facebook.com/help/
- Facebook Safety Centre: tips and resources for young people, parents and teachers: https://www.facebook.com/safety
- Be Bold Stop Bullying: information links for young people: https://www.facebook.com/boeboldstopbullyingau/photos/pb.46692.2616686341.-2207520000.1406306228.470664269312173/3&type=3&theater and parents: https://www.facebook.com/boeboldstopbullyingau/photos/pb.46692.2616686341.-2207520000.1406306228.470664269312173/Type=3&theater

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