MacKillop Catholic College
East Timor Immersion Program presents

TRIVIA NIGHT
Friday, August 14, 2015
7.00 pm start

MacKillop Catholic College Gymnasium

$10 per person (tables of 10)

Book your ticket through our College Office by phoning 6245 0099.

Tickets on sale NOW.

Major prizes - Silent Auction - drinks available - BYO nibbles

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS

Many women and men who suffer from an abortion decision remain locked in their own internal prison afraid of anyone knowing their deep secret. The retreats are a beautiful opportunity for people struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion. The retreat is a specific process designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. Rachel's Vineyard can help you begin the healing process. You can start this process of healing by calling the confidential phone line 62298739, (Mobile) 0478599241 or email rachelsvineyardtas@aapt.net.au. Our next retreat is October 2nd to 4th, 2015.

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION

CATCH-UP CLINIC – TERM 2

Clarence City Council has recently offered vaccination to all Year 7 students at high schools in Clarence. If your child missed out, you are welcome to attend our “catch-up” clinic:

Where: Clarence Council Chambers
38 Bligh St Rosny Park (behind Bellerive Police Station)

When: Tuesday 7 July 2015, from 4.30pm-6.00pm.

Immunisation is free for students in this class only. No appointment is necessary but it is recommended that anyone vaccinated remain for 15 minutes after their consultation. Contact Council’s Environmental Health Services on 6245 8614 if you would like any further information.

EXTRAS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER:

• Fundraiser: Grey Matters Flyer and Entertainment Book Membership Flyer

MACKILLOP CATHOLIC

COLLEGE

VOLUME 23    NO. 09    JULY 01, 2015

A motivating environment:

• is positive, optimistic and hopeful. People who do well usually expect to do well. They are positive about their ability to achieve the results they are aiming for. They understand that even failure can be a learning experience and are able to learn a lesson and move on.

• is pleasurable. The brain learns best when the student is enjoying the work. Teachers who make lessons fun, stimulating, hands-on and active, know their students do better. Finding ways to make learning enjoyable is a vital step in motivating children – and can start at home.

• is important. When people think what they are doing is a waste of time they quickly become bored. Students need work they can see is important – because it is intrinsically important, because it links to further steps in their learning, because they understand why they are doing it.

• is relevant. Students need to be able to see the reasons for what they are learning. Even young children can understand what they need to know. Giving students the context, or bigger picture, will help them concentrate on work that seems to have no immediate relevance.

• breeds success. The greatest motivation is success. Breaking learning into manageable chunks helps students master their learning in successful steps. Parents can help their children ‘chunk’ their work so they don’t give up in the face of what seems to be an impossible task. Giving children the opportunity to succeed is one of the best ways to motivate them.

REPORTS

At the end of this week, Semester One reports will be sent home with students.

The Parent-Teacher-Student Conference will be held on Wednesday, July 22. At the bottom of each report the subject teacher indicates whether a meeting is required or whether it is optional. I strongly encourage you to make a time to meet with your teacher regardless of the teacher’s indication, especially if you have any concerns regarding your child’s learning.
STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Mr Ben Slade, and his wife Sarah, on the safe arrival of their baby boy, Jack, last weekend. Owen is the couple’s second child, and a younger sibling for big brother Hamish.

Mrs Katie Gardner will be on long service leave for all of Term 3. Mr Adam Blackburn will be taking Mrs Gardner’s classes during this time. On behalf of all the College we wish Katie a restful and relaxing break and welcome Adam to the College.

At the end of the term Ms Rosemary Graham will also be commencing long service leave for the first four weeks of Term 3. Mrs Sandra Doyle will be taking on Ms Graham’s teaching responsibilities and we welcome Sandra to the MacKillop community and wish Rosemary a relaxing break.

Mrs Linda Versteegen is taking leave from the College for Term 3, to take up a teaching position at Dominic College for the term. Ms Jordan Tsouhas will replace Linda in Learning Support during next term. We offer our best wishes to Linda and welcome Jordan to MacKillop.

Congratulations to Natalie Fielding and her fiancé, James, on their recent engagement.

STUDENT FREE DAY – STAFF SPIRITUALITY DAY – MONDAY, 27 JULY

The staff of MacKillop College will be attending a Staff Spirituality Day on Monday, July 27. As all staff will be involved and off site, students will not be required to attend school on this day. Please note that the College Office will also be closed on the day. The College Office will reopen on Tuesday, July 28.

SENIOR PRODUCTION – WHAT’S NEW PUSYCAT?

Senior production students have been busy rehearsing. What’s new Pussycat?, our major drama production for 2015. The cast and crew will also be busy during production week (Term 3, Week 2) performing a total of six shows for a combination of school based audiences through the day and to public audiences at 7pm from Thursday, July 30 – Saturday, August 1 at GYC’s new performing arts space.

Tickets are now on sale at the College Office or by booking online at http://www.ticketbooth.com.au

FUNDRAISERS

I would like to draw your attention to two upcoming fundraising events. The first event, Grey Matters, is a fundraiser to support former student, Alexander Harris (Year 10, 2011) as he undergoes medical treatment and to support the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation. This event is being organised by Rosny College on Friday, July 17. A flyer for the event has been attached to this newsletter.

The second event is the Timor Quiz Night at MacKillop College on Friday, August 7. The funds from this event will be used to support education initiatives in Timor-Leste through Mary Mackillop International. Please see the advertisement on the back page of the newsletter and book your tickets through the College Office.

TERM 2 HOLIDAYS

This week marks the end of Term 2 and this week is the final newsletter for the term. Classes finish on Friday, July 20 and resume on Monday, July 20. I wish all students, parents and staff a restful and relaxing break.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Jamie Laurence (7 White) on his selection to represent Tasmania at the Victorian State Junior Squash Championships recently. Well done, Jamie.

Congratulations to Natasha Shirley (10 Blue) on her selection to represent Tasmania at the Waverley International Netball Tournament in Melbourne next week. All the best, Natasha.

As we come to the end of a very busy term it is always good to reflect on what has gone on inside the College other than the normal day-to-day activities. Our Year 10 students have started their transition to senior secondary college, visiting the GYC Pathways Expo and the Hobart Campus. Preparations for the Senior Production are well underway and the Year 10 students have had their first experience of a formal exam format.

GYC ENROLMENTS

A final reminder that GYC enrolments are due on Friday, July 3. The enrolment package and the subject choice form can be handed in via our College Office.

START TIME

A number of students are getting into the bad habit of arriving late to school. All students should be in Home Rooms and ready for the start of the day by 8:30am. Parents need to ensure their son/daughter is at the College on time. The College does not accept students either Rosny McDonalds or Eastlands for breakfast or coffee while on transit to the College.

STUDENT REPORTS

Michael Grose has some interesting points for parents in regard to reading your son’s or daughter’s report and these are included below.

Could try harder… always does her best… lacks concentration… easily distracted… a pleasure to teach… Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people. Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

…. After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

The text from Michael Grose can be read in full at http://www.parentingideas.com.au

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

END OF TERM 2 – DEPUTY COLLEGE CAPTAIN

The following address was delivered by Deputy College Captains, Sarah and Brady, at our end of term assembly.

Good afternoon Staff and Students. Sarah and I would like to give you a bit of an update on what the Student Leadership Team have been doing this term and also some key events to look forward to next term.

I think it would be fair to say, that the Eddie Rice Camp, run on May 4, has been the highlight of our term. It was an eye opening and amazing experience. Giving the kids a chance to escape their tough lives for two days is a great thing to be a part of. We learnt so much about ourselves and our identity; gained a bit of perspective on our own lives. I would strongly recommend this experience for anyone who gets the chance in the future.

A new initiative this term has been the canteen being open for breakfast before school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This has been great, especially during winter, where we can go before class and get a hot toasty to warm up. Really take advantage of this, as it’s very important to get going at the start of the day and fuel your brain. There is also hot chocolate and toast run by Vinny’s on Tuesdays and Thursday.

The Year 10 Leadership Team has also been working on the design and ordering process of the Year 10 top.

We were pleased to see all of our SRC representatives for Years 7, 8 and 9 at our Vertical Leadership meeting a fortnight ago. All leaders of every age group work together and are supported by the Year 10 Leadership Team. We have been working hard at preparing for JIAMM week in Term Three, making improvements and changes to the program. It’s an important time in the College, with many activities and challenges to participate in, as well as our MacKillop Feast Day Mass. Thank you to the SRCs for brainstorming, and we look forward to working with you all throughout the year.

Another thing to look forward to is the second half of the year will be the celebration of MacKillop College turning 211 – yes – you’re all invited. The Vertical Leadership group, (once they’ve finished JIAMM Week) will be working on organising an afternoon where we can learn more about the history of the school and mark this milestone with the current MacKillop community. We’ve thought we’ll probably extend the afternoon to allow family members also to be involved, to see our new facilities and even eat birthday cake!

More details to follow.

Term Two break is rapidly approaching, and we hope you finish off the term on a good note. Enjoy your break, stay safe, and come back refreshed and ready for Term Three.

Sarah Robinson and Brady Stacey, Deputy College Captains

My congratulations to both staff and teaching for the way they have approached the various learning and teaching programs this semester. Both students and teachers are looking in need of a break away from the daily grind.

With the completion of assessment and reporting for this term, the College atmosphere is definitely now more on the relaxed side – welcome breaks and personal hygiene items. We had all items picked up last week to be distributed by Vinny’s to the homeless of Hobart. Your thoughtfulness and generosity is helping those who are most in need.

Milo Mornings

Thank you to the intrepid Vinny’s Team who have led the way providing hot milos and toast on the very chilly mornings this term. All proceeds will go to St Vincent de Paul, your community and leadership is to be commended! Led by Ms Katrina Haig, congratulations are warmly extended to: Ben Waller, Jaidyn Nichols, Gus Duffy, Oliver White, Meg Francis, Kate Broome, Charlotte Kenen, Andrew Merrigan, Rhiana Brewster. Thanks also to our recent pre-service teacher; Ms Janice Pieterson for lending a hand.

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Mr Nicholas Lahey

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING

ST VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

Winter Appeal

Thank you to those in our community who have contributed blankets, warm clothes and personal hygiene items. We had all items picked up last week to be distributed by Vinny’s to the homeless of Hobart. Your thoughtfulness and generosity is helping those who are most in need.

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DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Ms Lindi Pollard

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Dr John Snell