DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING ONLINE ASSESSMENT TRIALS

Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) is considered by many to be one of the essential 21st-century skills. As such the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has established a set of trials of an online assessment process specifically assessing the underlying skills required to successfully engage in CPS.

Our Year 8 students have been involved in Readiness preparation for the CPS Trials to be undertaken next week (19 October – 21 October). To date the Readiness sessions have gone well with one or two small problems which have been reported back to ACARA for investigation.

YEAR 10 EXAMS

The Year 10 Exam block is Monday, 16 November – Wednesday, 18 November. The full schedule is currently being worked on and will be published in the next newsletter.

Exam feedback to students will be available on Monday, 23 November.

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

UNIONED NATIONS DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Everyone is free and we should all be treated in the same way.
2. Everyone is equal despite differences in skin colour, sex, religion, language for example.
3. Everyone has the right to life and to live in freedom and safety.
4. No one has the right to treat you as a slave nor should you make anyone your slave.
5. No one has the right to hurt you or to torture you.
6. Everyone has the right to be treated equally by the law.
7. The law is the same for everyone, it should be applied in the same way to all.
8. Everyone has the right to legal help when their rights are not respected.
9. No one has the right to imprison you unjustly or expel you from your own country.
10. Everyone has the right to a fair and public trial.
11. Everyone should be considered innocent until guilt is proved.
12. Everyone has the right to ask for help of someone they trust to care for you, but no one can enter your home, open your letters or bother you or your family without a good reason.
13. Everyone has the right to travel as they wish.
14. Everyone has the right to go to another country and ask for protection if they are being persecuted or are in danger of being persecuted.
15. Everyone has the right to belong to a country. No one has the right to prevent you from belonging to another country if you wish to.


TIMOR-LESTE IMMERSION PROGRAM 2015

MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

CATHOLIC MISSIONS MONTH

World Mission Day is celebrated every year in every country wherever there are Catholics committed to building a better world for all of God’s people, a world where everyone has all they need to live a dignified and fulfilling life. It is the day on which we reflect on the urgency to proclaim the Gospel in our times.

Missionary activity is a response to the love with which God loves us. God’s love is the spiritual energy that can make harmony, justice and communion grow among persons, races and peoples, and for which everyone is searching. It is who, God, who loves the Church towards those farthest away and calls us to be renewed from the original source, Jesus Christ, from whose pierced heart flows the love of God.

The God of Love is the source of care, tenderness, compassion, hospitality and interest in other people’s problems, for spreading Christ’s charity around the world.

Catholic Mission around the world has the responsibility of promoting a dignified and fruitful celebration of World Mission Day. This year World Mission Day is Sunday 18 October 2015.

SATIS ATHLETICS

After our great results in the SSATIS Athletics competition at the end of Term 3 we now head to the State Carnival in Launceston this Saturday. Winning the Southern Co-Ed Trophy, coming third in the junior boys section and fifth in the junior girls was a great achievement by our whole team. I would like to thank Mrs Fiona Geappen and her team of coaches for preparing our team and we look forward to this week’s competition.

Some outstanding results achieved at the SSATIS Athletics competition were the following:

Jemma Smith (10 Red) - 3rd 400m, 1st 800m, 2nd 1500m u/16
Saasha Hinks (9 Gold) - 1st 400m u/15
Jessica Minifie (8 Gold) - 1st High Jump u/14
Jamie Laurence (7 White) - 1st 800m, 2nd 1500m u/13
Adrian Butterworth (7 Red) - 1st Long Jump, 1st Discus u/14
All Relays finished in top 4 - great effort.

IMMERSION TIMOR-LESTE 2015

We welcome back our students and staff who travelled to Timor- Leste at the end of last term. All students appear to have had an amazing experience, coming home with great stories of their time both from Dili and Manobo. I would like to thank our staff, Mr Matthew Dixon, Mrs Rebecca Prenter, Mr Phillip Stanley and Mrs Linda Pollard, for their support of all the young people who travelled. Some outstanding results achieved at the SSATIS Athletics competition were the following:

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the time they gave both in preparation for the trip and their time away from their own families.

YEAR 10 DINNER AND TRANSITION

Next Wednesday night October 21 our Year 10 students have the opportunity to celebrate their time together as students of Mackillop Catholic College. This dinner allows students and staff to mix in a relaxed atmosphere to make the transition from the secondary school environment to senior secondary school.

Our transition program will continue this term with subject choice evenings and VET applications for all students in the coming months. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that the Australian Government requires us to report on the pathway of each student, outlining their choice of senior secondary educational facility, as all students in Australia under the age of 17 must be enrolled to continue their education in some form.

TERM 3 REPORTS

Parents should have received their son or daughter’s interim report from the College at the end of Term 3. If you have not received this as yet please make contact with your son or daughter’s Home Room teacher.

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY ONLINE: ASSESSING SKILLS FOR 21ST CENTURY LIVING

Working collaboratively together in an online environment is an increasingly common part of twenty-first century living and working.

ACARA, along with the NSW Department of Education, is part of a global project which includes education agencies in Ireland and Sweden. The project is investigating the development of innovative high-quality online assessment methods and tasks that will give reliable data on students’ collaborative problem solving skills.

Collaborative problem solving online assessment involves students working together to solve tasks. For example, working with another student online to find out why the fish are dying in a creek or why an electric circuit is not working. The tasks assess the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that will assist students to live and work successfully in the twenty-first century and which are included in the Australian Curriculum as general capabilities.

From 19 October, Year 8 students from Mackillop will take part in a week-long trial of online tasks. The results of the trial will help ACARA better understand how to develop valid and reliable online assessments of collaborative problem solving skills that teachers may be able to use in their classrooms.
and tradition in the College, provides a known cost to parents and ensures equity for all students’.

(Mackillop Catholic College Uniform Policy reviewed 2011)

As daylight savings has finally arrived, students are expected to now be in summer uniform. For details go to page 14 of the Student Planner or our College website.

GIRLS: Dresses replace skirts with short white socks (Mackillop band at top) with black leather lace-up shoes.

BOYS: White short-sleeved open neck overshirt with College logo with grey shorts or trousers with grey socks (Mackillop band at top) and black leather face-up shoes.

Our Uniform Shop is located in the Kirby Building adjacent to the Administration Building and can be accessed from Goddi Street.

Opening hours: (except during school holidays) Tuesday: 8.15 am – 1.30 pm and Thursday: 12.30 pm – 3.45 pm

Parents or students can also use QKR app for ordering items following the steps posted on our website.

21ST BIRTHDAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION WEEK

In Week 4 of this term Mackillop will celebrate turning 21! On Tuesday 3 November a whole-school assembly will be dedicated to reflecting on the 21 years of Mackillop history with past students and staff invited back to share their stories. Mr Stanley will be packing the time capsule ready to be buried on this day. On Thursday 5 November the College will celebrate with a giant 21st cake being created by Mr Shaw and Food Studies students, while Miss Bon and her team of Talented Artists prepare their MacKillop band logo cake to be the topic of discussion for parents at the evening dinner.

The day will be bookended with a performance from our talented music students co-ordinated by Miss Scott. You’re invited to help us celebrate.

Mr Nicholas Lahay
Acting DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

JUSTICE ACTION DAY 2015

The Justice Action Network in Hobart, led by Mr Eamonn Pollard and Mrs Helen Spencer, organised a Justice Action Day which took place on Friday 4th September at Guilford Young College, Glenorchy. Approximately 500 students from Years 9 – 12 from schools all over Hobart participated in a variety of workshops and listened to some very inspiring keynote speakers. The purpose of the day was to empower students to act for justice. Students were very privileged to hear Julian Burnside speak on the correlated and justice, children’s rights and commercial slavery in Australia’s international trade relations. Mr Ian Barnett spoke of child slavery and various ways that students could voice their concern and advocate for justice in their school and local communities.

WORKSHOP REPORT: EDMUND RICE CAMPS WORKSHOP

One of the workshops on the 2015 JAD was for Edmund Rice Camps Tasmania. At this workshop, we were given some of the story behind Edmund Rice and what he did in Ireland. He established what was called a “hedge school”, which was an illegal school for children who were unable to attend regular schools. In this spirit, today Edmund Rice Camps are run for underprivileged children to give them opportunities that wouldn’t normally be able to have. They are partnered with a particular person for the duration of the camp. During the camp, we, the workshop group, played a few games that are normally played on camp. These games are designed to put everyone involved on the spot, so that everyone looks like a fool together. This draws everyone together and quickly builds relationships between the kids and their mentors, whilst having fun.

Kate Cheesman, 10 Blue

Justice Action Day was an incredible experience that really broadened my mind to what the real problems are in the world, from guest speakers such as Julian Burnside sharing his inspiring stories about his experiences as a human rights advocate, to extremely passionate workshops run by Year 12s from different schools about various ethical issues. Julian Burnside is also an advocate for refugees and he explained to us that Australia isn’t doing enough to make sure that ‘boat people’ are safe and healthy. People are surviving horrific journeys to make it to Australia, yet they’re more likely to die in the detention centres than on the journey itself. He really capitalised on how short a time it takes for an innocent person to go insane in our detention centres, and an extreme amount of pressure is placed on the children who are sometimes seeking refuge alone. Julian Burnside explained his stories in great detail and he made us all realise that Australia is just as much of the bad guy as the countries making these people journeys to make it to Australia, yet they’re more likely to die in the detention centres than on the journey itself.

Daniel White, 10 Blue

See back page of newsletter for United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

Justice Action Day 2015

Dinner on Day was an incredible experience that really broadened my mind to what the real problems are in the world, from guest speakers such as Julian Burnside sharing his inspiring stories about his experiences as a human rights advocate, to extremely passionate workshops run by Year 12s from different schools about various ethical issues. Julian Burnside is also an advocate for refugees and he explained to us that Australia isn’t doing enough to make sure that ‘boat people’ are safe and healthy. People are surviving horrific journeys to make it to Australia, yet they’re more likely to die in the detention centres than on the journey itself.