INSTRINSIC MOTIVATION

Our Year 10 students have just completed a period of exams. My ongoing hope is that students receive the result they have worked for, but after many years of being a teacher I know that there are quite a few students who could make a much greater effort and are strongly encouraged to do so as they begin to prepare themselves for senior secondary education.

Students are regularly encouraged to maintain steady study habits rather than cram going into exam periods. It is important to remain motivated. The best motivation is intrinsic. That means working because of something driving you from inside, not because of a desire for rewards or a fear of failure. Children who expect praise or a treat for every achievement, no matter how small, soon lose the will to improve. On the other hand, children who enjoy the same reward for that achievement,

Students should be encouraged to try new things, even if they think it is a waste of time. They should be able to see the reasons for their efforts.

When people think they are doing a waste of time they quickly become bored. Students need work they enjoy. Teachers who make lessons fun, stimulating, hands-on and active, know their students do better. They are able to learn a lesson and move on.

For faith is a force that is greater, Than knowledge or power or skill, And many defeats turn to triumphs, So start out today with faith in your heart, And climb till your dreams come true.

For faith is a mover of mountains, There's nothing that God cannot do. And many defeats turn to triumphs, If you trust in God's wisdom and will.

For nothing in life is worthy, Is ever too hard to achieve, If you have the courage to try it, And you have the faith to believe. So start out today with faith in your heart, And climb till your dreams come true.

One thing is success. Breaking through the road will be rugged,

For faith is a force that is greater, Than knowledge or power or skill, And many defeats turn to triumphs, So start out today with faith in your heart, And climb till your dreams come true.

SOSE Reflective Learning

Intrinsic motivation is essential. It is the drive to learn that is internal and not driven by external rewards. It is the will to learn that is the key to success. Students who are intrinsically motivated are more likely to succeed because they have a internal drive to learn. They are more likely to take on new challenges and to try hard even when things are difficult. They are more likely to persevere when things don't go according to plan. They are more likely to be successful in the long term because they have a strong internal drive to learn. In contrast, students who are extrinsically motivated are more likely to rely on external rewards to motivate them. They may not be as successful in the long term because they are not as driven to learn. They may be more likely to give up when things get tough. In summary, intrinsic motivation is essential for success in the long term. Students who are intrinsically motivated are more likely to succeed because they have a strong internal drive to learn.
STAFF NEWS

At the end of the term Mrs Alice Smith will be commencing maternity leave for the remainder of the 2014 year. Mr Seb Milford will be assuming the responsibilities of the Level Co-ordinator role for Year 10 during this time. Miss Kaylee Bonfield will be taking on Mrs Smith’s teaching responsibilities and we welcome Kaylee to the Mackillop community. On behalf of everyone at the College I wish Alice and her husband, Anselm, every blessing as they wait for the arrival of their second child.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Tabbi Fasnacht (10 Green) who has been selected to represent Tasmania at the Australian Junior Surfing Titles to be held in December this year, Western Australia. All the best, Tabbi.

Congratulations to Chelsea Clark (9 Red) who has been selected to represent Tasmania in the U15 Girls’ Soccer Team who will be competing in Coffs Harbour early July. All the best, Chelsea.

Congratulations to Natasha Shirley (9 White) who has been selected to represent Tasmania in the U16 Women’s Team who will be competing at the Australian Basketball Championships in Geelong early July. All the best, Natasha.

Dr Sally Towns

PRINCIPAL

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. Over the coming week, in preparation for Term 3, I plan to write to all parents who have listed medical conditions that require such plans, asking for them to provide these details. If your son or daughter has an EpiPen that is out of date, during the term holidays please meet with your son’s or daughter’s Doctor in order to provide us with the relevant Medical Action Plan and a current EpiPen.

GYC APPLICATIONS

Late GYC applications will still be accepted at our College Office prior to the end of this term.

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 connections. If students are waiting for long periods of time the best suggestion is to wait in the shelter provided. We would prefer that students do not go into the centre, except when accompanied by parents.

ASK FM WARNING FOR PARENTS

Over recent weeks I have become aware again of the issues with a social media site a number of our students are accessing. There are clear and obvious risks to its users, of which parents need to be aware. Ask.fm has very few privacy controls, which means that both questions and answers can be viewed by anyone, even non-users of the site. This is the default setting and there does not appear to be an option to change this: once a post is published it is publicly accessible.

A search of the site turns up offensive questions and answers directed at students, and we would advise young people not to use the site. There have been numerous reports in the media and online of significant levels of bullying on the service and there is also sexualised content.

The site is obviously utilised by bullies who want to inflict psychological and emotional harm without facing the consequences.

STUDENT REPORTS

As mentioned in Dr. Towns’ newsletter article, reports will be sent home next week. Michael Grose has some interesting points for parents in regard to reading your child’s report:

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

Mrs Sue Howard

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING

THE LAUNCH OF VERTICAL LEADERSHIP

Last Tuesday, all Year 7-9 SRC members, as well as the Year 10 Student Leaders, met together for the first time to organise Vertical Leadership. This system of leadership allows more senior, skilled leaders to share their leadership skills with younger student leaders. Our Year 10 leaders will demonstrate how to run effective meetings, plan and deliver events and identify further whole-school improvements from a student perspective. The first task for the Vertical Leadership Team is to plan and promote our school-wide celebration and activities around Mary MacKillop Feast Day (Friday, August 8), now commonly known as JJAMM Week (Joseph, Julian And Mary MacKillop). We wish the Vertical Leadership Team all the best in their endeavours.

YEAR TEN TOPS

The Year 10 Student Leaders presented a thorough proposal to the Principal early this term, requesting that the tops for 2014 be hooded tops rather than rugby tops. Their proposal was successful.

YEAR TEN RETREATs

Next week, Year 9 will head out on their annual Retreat. On Wednesday, July 2, 9 Blue and White will go to Lindsfarne Rowing Club. On Thursday, July 3, it will be 9 Red, 9 Green and 9 Gold at Brighton Civic Centre.

The famous Greek philosopher, Socrates, once boldly stated that: “The unexamined life is not worth living.” We are unable to grow towards a better understanding of our true nature unless we take time to reflect upon our role. At MacKillop Catholic College, the Retreat programme strives to help students appreciate the need for time out and reflection if they are to grow spiritually and personally.

The Year Nine Retreats explore the theme of Relationships, challenging students to reflect upon how they view their world, and how life-giving their relationships are and can be. Inspired by the Gospel, students will also begin to reflect upon the role they are growing into as young men and women, and what this means for present and future healthy relationships. The concept of hurt and growth are also explored in the context of God’s love and the power of forgiveness.

Retreats are considered an integral part of the Religious Education programme and, as such, all students are expected to attend. The program will be facilitated by the Retreat Team, comprised of Staff. The students will leave school at approximately 8.45 am on the bus, and they will return to the College to go home at their usual time. Retreats are for a normal school day and under our Duty of Care responsibilities students are not allowed to make their own way to or from either venue, regardless of how close they live to it. Sports uniforms are to be worn and students may wear these to school in the morning. I look forward to two great days with Year 9!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Thank you to Mr Ben Shaw’s Hospitality classes who made four delicious flavours of soups for Louie’s Van recently. The Vinnies Conference all pitched in to help set-up, serve and pack up the soup. The potato and leek soup was hugely popular with students, so hats off to a great bunch of chefs.

Thank you to the generosity of all families who have donated their warm winter woollies for the Winter Appeal. I have about fifteen large bags ready to be collected by Vinnies. Many thanks for your thoughtfulness and donations.

INSTRUMENTS FOR TIMOR LESTE

The trickle has begun – we have had some instruments donated which is very exciting. One thing that all immersion students came back last year saying was that the whole Marobo community sings and plays guitars and any other instrument every night. It was an amazing sight for our own students, and one of the areas they identified the work of the student Night School. Most of the guitars were missing a few strings, but they were considered the most valuable item in the community. At MacKillop, we would like to contribute to their enjoyment of music by donating instruments – second-hand or new. Thank you to families and individuals who have donated guitars, recorders and tin whistles. As we head into the second term holidays, please have a good search around home and your local market or second-hand store and bring them in. Instruments without full sets of strings will be repaired here at the College before being sent to Timor Leste.