FAIR WORLD FESTIVAL

On Friday September 6, Allie Bull, Ellen Noye, Hazel Nicholas, Holly Blake, and myself went to the Fair World Festival. Run by Oaktree and Fairer World, this interesting event was attended by schools from all over Southern Tasmania. At the end of morning homeroom Mrs Wright took us in the bus to UTAS where we gathered in a lecture theatre for a welcome and to hear from the keynote speaker, Young Australian of the Year 2013, Abram Azmi.

After his interesting talk we had morning tea before being led to our first workshop. The sessions included Even You Have Laws - Australian Red Cross, Making A Difference - Caritas Australia, and Grow A Future - Oxfam Australia. At lunch time we looked at the Making A Difference stalls, as well as socialising with other schools. At the second and last set of workshops, we heard from Brightside Farm Sanctuary: Animal Rights & Wrongs, and Global Poverty Project/A Fairer World: I am global citizen. We wrapped up the day, back in the lecture theatre, Mrs Wright going back to school. We all had a great time, and I would like to thank Mrs Wright, Oaktree Foundation, A Fairer World, and everyone else who was involved for this amazing opportunity.

Madeleine Lucas, 9 Green

MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

VOLUME 21 - NO. 14 - September 25, 2013

flight to Dili, the capital of Timor Leste. Once we have arrived at our lodge in Dili we will be greeted by Niall Byrne the Timor Leste Country Manager for Mary MacKillop International. At the Mary Mackillop Education and Training Centre in Timor Leste, the Sisters will give us a general introduction to the Mary Mackillop Institute in Timor Leste, some lessons on Music education including lessons on the traditional instruments, Timorese music culture and the music education program they have in Timor schools, as well as some lessons on Tetum literacy education.

We have one night in Dili before we head to the Marobo community and whilst we are there we have the opportunity to discover some important historical Timor sites such as Santa Cruz cemetery, Alola Foundation and CRAV prison museum.

The next day we take a four hour 4 wheel drive trip up the mountains to our final destination in Marobo. Over our six days in the community we will be visiting two local schools, only one of which speak any English. Our time here will be focused on building relationships and the provision of needs-based support to the local primary school in Marobo and the broader community including the new Science of Life School. Our time here is all about looking, listening and learning about the real needs of this mountain community.

During our stay we will also visit the hot springs and observe what we think the community will benefit most from with the money that we have raised, which at this stage we think will be a library. On the last night of our immersion program we will experience a Timorese style Mass where we will say goodbye to the community before we start our long trip home the next day.

Thanks to the hard work of our students and parents. We have kindly been given a donation of $200 from our Tasmanian Premier, Lara Giddings. Our amazing fundraising efforts have included a BBQ, hot chip lunch, chocolate selling, pie drive, our stationery donations and other various fundraising events including even a student from one of our feeder schools, Gabs Foale from Corpus Christi, running a jelly-bean guessing competition. As a community we have raised nearly three thousand dollars that will go towards the building of the library if this is what is decided with the Marobo community. So from the Mackillop Timor students and the village of Marobo we would like to thank you all for your generous contributions. We look forward to sharing our experience with you when we get back.

The students involved are: Hannah Bird, Amy Breen, Troy Britton, Bianca Burgess, Chloe Chatterton, Demi Clark, Alana Cooper, Bridget Foale, Rachel Hay, Alice Hope, Emily Kerslake, Emma Versteeghen, Hannah Wall, Katelyn White, Ellen Williams, Connie Woodward.

MACILLOP EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE

ON TIMOR-LESTE

On Tuesday afternoon for Personal Development, the whole school had the opportunity to watch a very special motivational media presentation in the College Gym. An educational media company that tours Australia, set up three massive screens which allowed a cinema like experience for our students - complete with surround sound to present a program called “MADE FOR LIFE”.

The presentation contained powerful images and real people’s stories, enhanced by music, to encourage students to value the planning of their lives and to make something of themselves. The following is an extract from the Motivational Media introduction which articulates the general theme of the program:

When we’re young it seems that our whole life stretches in front of us and we have unlimited opportunities and endless time to do everything we want to do. What we often don’t realise is that if we don’t make a conscious effort to plan for our lives, opportunities and time can slip by and we are left with little but disappointment.

Going along with the crowd may seem like the fun and easy thing to do, but if we really want to make something of our lives, we may need to take another approach...

All students have the opportunity to debrief their viewing experience back in the classroom where a resource book is provided for them to record their responses.

YEAR 10 LEGAL EAGLE / SAFE PARTYNIG / THE LAW AND SOCIAL MEDIA ETC…GUEST SPEAKERS

On Wednesday morning the College welcomed guest speakers from the Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania to address our Year 10 students about their responsibilities and the law. The Year 10s were very attentive during the 90 minute presentation in the Drama Room tuning in to the information about the legal and ethical consequences of risk taking, safe party protocols, sexting etc. Hopefully, the presentation will prove to be beneficial for our students especially just prior to the holidays and their Year 10 dinner in Week 2, Term 4.

LAST DAY ACTIVITY / YOUTH SUICIDE FUNDRAISER

Mr Nicholas Lehey
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING

nlehey@mackillop.tas.edu.au

In August, 125 students from Years 7 to 10 sat the Australian Mathematics Competition. Out of the students who competed, nearly half gained a Credit or higher. Students who achieved a Credit will receive their certificates in year level assemblies next term. Students who received awards higher than a Credit were recognised at the recent whole school assembly. In Year 7, Sarah Kerslake earned a Distinction. In Year 8, Andrew Merrigan earned a High Distinction and Zac Lewin, Lia Visentin and Paul Arcena earned Distinctions. The following Year 9 students all earned Distinctions: Molly Steer, Dana Mazengarb, Ryan Hall, Rachel Henmicker, Fiona Smith and James Cummins. In Year 10, Distinctions were earned by Amy Gadd, Kieran Byfield, Katelyn White and Clover James. A special mention goes to Troy Britton (Year 10) who earned a Prize in the competition. “Prizes” are only awarded to students who have achieved results in the top percentiles. No more than one prize is awarded for every 300 students, so this is an outstanding result for Troy Congratulations to Troy and all the other award winners of this year’s competition.

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DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING

nlehey@mackillop.tas.edu.au
FUNDRAISER FOR HARRY

Harry Cummins (7 White) was recently diagnosed with a brain tumour and to support him and his family, a fundraising event has been organized. The event connects all the networks of people who want to contribute in some way to support the family at this time, raising much needed funds. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for further information.

MACKILLOP ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Friday, September 13, was the annual College athletics carnival. Under beautiful blue skies, the Domain Athletics Centre was a hive of activity with students competing across a variety of track and field events. Well done to all the House Leaders for their leadership and encouragement of their teams on the day. Congratulations to Lochaber, ably led by Caitlin Stalker and Toby Jackson, for an outstanding win. A sincere thank you to Mr Justin O’Brien for his organisation, and to Miss Caitlin Webb for her support and assistance in the preparation of the day. We also would like to thank our parent volunteers and staff for their tireless work throughout the entire day.

Congratulations to the following:

AGE CHAMPIONS

U13 Female: 1st Meg Francis, 2nd Zoe Teders, 3rd Jessica Newell
U13 Male: 1st Seamus Hallum, 2nd Jayden Boost, 3rd Jacob Ellis, Kyle Kyle
U14 Female: 1st Lauren Thornburn, 2nd Natasha Shirley, 3rd Lia Visentin
U14 Male: 1st Zachary Flanagan, 2nd James Gill, 3rd Matthew Bomford
U15 Female: 1st Zoe Brown-Bourne, 2nd Julia Guevara, 3rd Isabel Schueler
U15 Male: 1st Jordan McDermott, 2nd Ned Absalom, 3rd Joshua Hope
U16 Female: 1st Caitlin Stalker, 2nd Bridget Foale, 3rd Nicole Brensheen
U16 Male: 1st Weston Tate-Turvey, 2nd Andrew Gill, 3rd Alec Willing

RECORD BREAKERS

Caitlin Stalker – U116: 100m, 200m, Javelin (13.01, 27.4, 23.53m)
Paige Gallagher – U13 F: 200m (29.84)
Zoe Brown-Bourne – U15 F: 90m Hurdles (16.90)
Greta Pitney – U13F: High Jump (1.45m)
Emma Keleher – U16F: Discus (25.80m)
Joshua Hope – U15M: 100m (11.80)
Ned Absalom – U15M: Triple Jump (10.97)
Tension U13 male: 4x100 Relay (1:00.00)

STUDENT FREE DAY

Please note that Friday, October 25, is a Student Free Day at the College. This is the Friday of Hobart Show weekend.

STAFF NEWS

Next term Mr Joe O’Hea and Mrs Alice Smith return from their respective leave from the College. I would like to thank Miss Cathy Allen and Mr Raymond Blizzard for their hard work in replacing these teachers during this time.

I would like to wish Mrs Louise Wright a relaxing and safe Long Service Leave break next term. Louise will be away from the College for the first five weeks of the term. Miss Jenna McMahon will be replacing Louise during this time.

TERM 3 HOLIDAYS

This week marks the end of Term 3. Classes finish on Friday, September 27 and resume on Monday, October 14. I wish all students, parents and staff a restful and relaxing break.

OLD SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to former student, Isabelle Brighella (Year 10, 2012), on being elected Guilford Young College Captain (Hobart Campus) for 2014.

BEST WISHES

Best wishes to Danica Wright (7 Green) who is involved with the Clarence City Council YNAG Youth Consultative Committee. She is involved in many local events throughout the year.

Best wishes to Lauren Buck (7 Red) and Lily Fitzgerald (7 Gold) who will be appearing in the upcoming production of Disney’s Aladdin Junior at the Peacock Theatre in October this year. Shows are on at the Peacock Theatre from 18 to 22 October, with tickets available from Centertainment 6234 5998 or www.centertainment.com.au

Best wishes to Fletcher (10 Blue) and Gilbert Williams (8 Red) who are participating in the Huon Valley Theatre company production of “Peter Pan the musical”. Fletcher will play the part of Smee and Gilbert is John Darling. Performances will be in the first week of the school holidays.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Nicole Bresnehan (10 Blue) on her selection to represent Tasmania in the State National Short Course Swimming Championships held in Canberra recently. Well done, Nicole.

Congratulations to Joshua Williams (8 Green), Jake Percy (8 Gold), Tayla Mann (8 Blue) and Maggie Rogers (8 Blue) on their selection to represent Tasmania at the Australian Dance Festival in Sydney held recently. Well done to all.

Congratulations to Liam Brooks (7 Gold) and Ben Kershaw (7 Red) on representing the College at last weekend’s National Robotics Championships. They placed 12th out of a field of 34. Well done, Liam and Ben.

FOOTY COLOURS DAY

This Friday, September 27, is the traditional Footy Colours Day in the College. Students are encouraged to wear their footy colours to school with their College sport uniform for a gold donation. All money collected will be donated to “Albice House”. On Friday, students will have the opportunity to participate in a BBQ lunch. This will be the only hot food available at lunch from the Canteen on the day.

YEAR 10 TERM 4

With the change of term structure the time between returning from holidays to the end of the year will go very quickly for our Year 10 students. It may be helpful for parents to note the following dates:

October 23
Year 10 Dinner Tattersalls Park
November 18-20
Year 10 Assessments
November 20
GYC Course Counselling
November 22/25
Moving On Conference
November 26
Thanksgiving Mass and Graduation Evening
November 27
Final Assembly Year 10

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

As we continue to improve our methods of communication with parents and the community, we encourage parents and any friends of the College to follow us on Twitter. Twitter is a short messaging system that updates people to the general day-to-day happenings of the College in real time. To follow us on Twitter either join via the link at the bottom of our webpage or search for us on Twitter: @KillopMac.

PLANNER USE

The focus in classrooms continues to be on planner use. All students are required to have a College planner. The planner is an organizational tool and should be taken home each night so each class to record notes or homework information. If a student planner has been lost they can be replaced at the College Office for the discounted price of $10.00.

Mrs Sue Howard
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

showard@mackillop.tas.edu.au

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY

YEAR 8 REFLECTION DAYS

The famous Greek philosopher, Socrates, once boldly stated that: "A wise man is not one who is able to grow towards a better understanding of our true nature unless we take time to examine and reflect upon our lives. At MacKillop Catholic College, the Reflection Day programme strives to help students appreciate the need for time out and reflection if they are to grow spiritually and personally.

BOYS’ DAY: Becoming a Man

The Year 8 boys headed off to Bellerive Yacht Club last Monday and Friday for their Reflection Days. The focus for the day was looking at the male role models we have in our lives, and the pressure young men face on their way to becoming young men today. Sessions focused on “What is a Man?” “Becoming a Man”, and “Being a Man”. The boys shared a fish and chips lunch in the sun and enjoyed each other’s company throughout the day.

Between arm wrestling, analysing media stereotypes, looking at rites of passage, the importance of gratitude, and forming a Bro Code, the boys were thoroughly challenged to have a close look at where they stand on the threshold of the journey into young adulthood as men. Thank you to our energetic, professional and enthusiastic program creators and facilitators: Mr Ben Slade, Mr Matthew Dixon and Mr Ty Capac.

GIRLS’ DAY: Valuing Girls

The Year 8 girls headed down to Lindisfarne Rowing Club last week for their Reflection Days. The focus for the day was looking at the female role models we have in our lives, and the pressure girls and young women face in response to the “Ugly Industry”. Stereotypes were analysed to come to an understanding of how to accept, love and value the reality of what we are. We shared how what we like and what we can contribute. Sessions focused on “Blindness” as created by the beauty industry and who that serves; “The Real You” – reflecting on and affirming the public and private self, a possible future self and how others “see” you; “Gratitude and Womanhood” looked at the women who are guides in our own lives and giving thanks for all that we have.

Our young women entered each session with openness and enthusiasm and were challenged on whether they bought into the pressures of our media-saturated culture. Challenging blind walks and funny stick and naming games, together with a shared experience of the day showed how we can grow. Thank you to all the girls, parents and staff who supported us and our energetic, professional and enthusiastic program creators and facilitators: Mrs Kate Chasemore, Mrs Linda Pollard and Mrs Sharon Lawler.

Mrs Linda Pollard
DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY

lpollard@mackillop.tas.edu.au

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LEARNING & TEACHING

Please note that Interim reports have been issued TODAY. Parent-Teacher conferencing opportunities are provided during the day on Thursday, October 17. Bookings for conferences can be made through the parent portal on the College website from 5:00pm TODAY.

For Year 8 and 9 students, parents will find selected 2014 elective subjects included in this report. Any queries or problems concerning either the interim report or the allocation of electives should be directed to the Director of Learning & Teaching at jmell@mackillop.tas.edu.au

Dr Sally Towns
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

ATTACHMENTS

From the Deputy Principal Flyer
2. Sport News

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

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 continued their transition to senior secondary College which included visiting the GYC Pathways Expo in late July, the whole College has celebrated the Feast Day of St Mary Mackillop, we’ve had the Year 10 Drama production, Mackillop Music Showcase, Year 8 Reflection Days, athletics Sports finals and finally the Timor Leste immersion program. There are many other learning opportunities which would fill the newsletter if I continued to list them all. The new seven week term arrangements has allowed us to structure our calendar to make the most of our time in the College.

SUMMER UNIFORM

A reminder that when we return for Term 4 all students are required to be in full summer uniform. Please note this does include a College hat for all HPE classes and any outside activities.

GRAND THEFT AUTO 5

There has been a lot of talk over the past weeks regarding the recently released video game “Grand Theft Auto 5”. As many may or may not be aware, this game has been designed for an adult audience and contains many themes that are inappropriate for our students. As a school community we encourage parents to be informed about such games so they can encourage behaviours and ideas that directly work against the ideals we uphold as a College. This game has received an R 18+ rating for good reason. It contains strong adult themes, strong violence, strong language, explicit sexual scenes and explicit sex scenes. We encourage parents to be informed and if your son/daughter requests this game or borrows it from a friend be aware of what they are being exposed to.

[Murray Herbert]