19 August 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your son's/daughter's class will be going on their Year 10 Retreat on Monday 25 August and Tuesday 26 August, 2014 at the Brighton Civic Centre, and involve travel to the Natone Hill Walking Track at Geilston Bay.

| Monday 25 August: 10 Blue and 10 Gold |
| Tuesday 26 August: 10 Green, 10 Red and 10 White |

The famous Greek philosopher, Socrates, once boldly stated: “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 examine and reflect upon our lives.

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 10 Retreat explores the theme of Journey, asking students to reflect on where they have come from, who they are, and what they hope for themselves into the future. Inspired by the Gospel, students will also begin to reflect upon gratitude for the important people in their lives, and how they might use their talents to contribute in the future.

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 MacKillop Catholic College 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. **Retreat days are a normal school day, and 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 on this day. Pencil cases, morning tea, lunch and a water bottle are also required. Students will not need their iPads, phones or iPods for the day and are required to leave them at home.

**BRING A SPECIAL ITEM FROM YOUR CHILDHOOD.**
As part of one of the sessions, each student is required to bring something special from their childhood, from when they were 1-10 years old. This may be a photo, a toy, an item of significance to talk about.

Students are given the opportunity to share a picnic lunch. They will need to organise themselves into small lunch groups between 3 - 6 students this week in Religion classes. All students will need to bring something to share with the group. If your son/daughter has food allergies, it would be best to pack a full morning tea and lunch for the day.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Linda Pollard & the Retreat Team
Director of Ministry & The MKC Retreat Team:
Mr Ben Slade, Mr Mat Dixon, Mr Ty Capaci, Mrs Kate Chasemore, Mrs Sharon Lawler and Mrs Debbie Arnett.