From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of the Mercedes College Community

A Big Thank You
It is said the strength of a school can be measured by the way its community works together. By this measure we are indeed a very strong community. We are blessed with many parents who give of their time and talents in many ways. Large numbers of volunteers assist in the LAP, Inclusive Education and co-curricular programmes. Others assist by being members of formal committees and providing assistance in a myriad of ways. I thank all members of our community who have supported the College in any way in 2007.

News from the Mercedes College Council
As we reach the end of the year I wish to thank Prue McEvoy and Deslie Billich who have completed their tenures on the College Council.

Prue has been Chairperson of the Council over the last three years and has given her expert guidance to the Education, Faith and Spirituality and Finance Standing Committees. As Chairperson, Prue has expertly guided the College through the Governance change and the planning stages of the new redevelopment project. On a personal note I have appreciated her support and counsel.

Deslie completes her term on the Council and during that time she has made significant contributions to the Education and Faith and Spirituality Standing Committees as well as providing the Council with her expert input.

I congratulate Jocelyn Milne and Sam Arnold upon their election to the Council. Both Jo and Sam have been elected for two year terms and I hope their involvement on Council is a rewarding experience for them.

News from the MP&FA
Mary Odium who has been Chair of the MP&FA for the last three years is standing down at the end of the year. With her committee Mary has worked towards raising funds to go towards many important projects at the College. Over the last few years MP&FA funds have been used amongst other things, to renew the stage area of Gleeson Hall, refurbish the Hall kitchen, purchase of technology at the College and enabled us to erect shaded areas for the students.

MP&FA functions have also welcomed new members to our community and provided opportunities for old friends to catch up on a regular basis. I thank Mary and her committee for their tireless work.

The MP&FA also works with the women who staff the College’s Second Hand Uniform Shop.

Two long standing stalwarts in this area have been Anne-Marie Gray and Loretta Royal and both have decided to conclude their involvement at the end of the year. A sincere thank you to both Anne-Marie and Loretta who have provided such wonderful service to our community over the last few years. I look forward to Jenelle Thompson, Josie Buckley and Chris Hill joining Heather Sambrook in the shop next year.

World Youth Day
Some forty of our students and a number of staff are busy preparing for their visit to Sydney next year to attend the World Youth Day celebrations. Recently this group of young people joined with staff and members of the wider community to carry the World Youth Day Cross and an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary from the Carmelite Convent on Glen Osmond Road to the Monastery. There was a great sense of excitement and anticipation. In the coming months these young people will be organising a number of fundraising events to assist them with the finances required to attend the event next year and I commend these activities to you.

Head of Junior School
As you know Frank Ali will be leaving the College at the end of the year and we have organised an opportunity to say farewell to him on Thursday 29 November. If you would like to attend this function under the Marquee between 6:00pm to 8:00pm, for catering purposes, we ask you to please RSVP to Suzanne Moorhead.

Comming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-27 November</td>
<td>Leadership Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Year 10 Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 November</td>
<td>MP&amp;FA AGM 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-30 November</td>
<td>Frank Ali Farewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 December</td>
<td>Junior School End of Year Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>St Raphael’s 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 January 2008</td>
<td>End of Term – Dismissal 12:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 1 commences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peter Daw
Principal
A Friday thought...

The prayer at Mass last Sunday said it all... ...

“may we be unselfish and aware of the common good as we reflect on our vote in the forthcoming election, knowing that as Christians we stand for love and that we are concerned especially for the poor and marginalised.”

The notion of the ‘common good’ echoes strongly in the history of our land and it reverberates powerfully in the long commitment to social justice of our church community, internationally, nationally and locally. With so many appeals for our attention over these past six weeks, some of these concerns have been lost amidst the appeal to self-interest. So, it’s of value if, in reflecting on these issues, we ponder the words of both our Australian Bishops and our Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission as we consider our decisions for tomorrow.

The Australian Bishops tell us that they offer their reflections “in order to focus on some key issues of vital concern to the entire Australian community. In making this contribution, we draw upon a rich religious tradition and upon the Church’s long experience as a major provider of healthcare, education and social services in Australia. We encourage Catholics to look beyond their own individual needs and apply a different test at the ballot box – the test of the common good. Catholic tradition holds that the common good is underpinned by the promotion and protection of human dignity. Implicit in seeking the common good is the desire to serve the poor, the marginalised, the sick and the forgotten in our society. At a time when some argue that religious faith should be removed from politics altogether, we urge Catholics to take their democratic freedoms seriously and become involved in the political process. For some, this will also mean making informed ethical choices at the ballot box. For others, it might mean standing for election. We acknowledge and encourage the many Catholic people who are already engaged in political life at various levels.”

The Bishops then focus on eight specific areas where particular focus might be given. These are:
- Respect for Life at its various stages, especially with regard to the most vulnerable
- Support for the Family
- The needs of Indigenous Australians
- Education
- Health
- Care for our Environment
- Immigration and Refugees
- Promoting Peace


Our local Justice and Peace Commission reminds us that the Church is not in the business of telling people how they should vote. It does not endorse any political party or candidate. Rather, as a contribution to the democratic process, it draws upon a rich religious tradition to help electors judge policies by how they promote human dignity, human rights and the good of all. It hopes to encourage people to take their democratic freedoms seriously, and to consider their vote in the light not only of their personal interests, but of wider concerns as well.


Perhaps in our reflection we might make our own the prayer, “For the Common Good”, approved for use in the Archdiocese by Archbishop Wilson:

God of yesterday, today and tomorrow:
You created a world of beauty and plenty for us all to share,
You gave us responsibility for this earth, rich in life and variety.
Create in us a desire to act in solidarity, sacrificing some of our freedom and self-interest for the sake of the common good.
Enable and strengthen us so that we may challenge the social and economic systems that create and sustain poverty.
Show us the paths that lead to mutual assistance among peoples, to a deepening of human knowledge, to an enlargement of heart, and to a more human way of living within society.
May we carry forward the work of Christ under the lead of the befriending Spirit.
A men.

For each of us, the opportunity to help shape our tomorrows is critical. May God enlighten the hearts and minds of us all.

Peter Williams
Director of Mission
From the Junior School

As you may know two significant educators have announced their retirement from the teaching profession - Toni Shiel and Marg Hobbs.

Toni Shiel has been teaching at Mercedes College for 14 years and in South Australia for a few more. She is a great loss to the College and to education in general. Toni has been a most professional teacher with amazing knowledge of all subject areas. Her inquiry approach and adherence to PYP principles and practices have made her an excellent exponent and example especially to new teachers. She had a wonderful rapport with her peers and her students respected and admired her.

Toni was instrumental in getting the Visual Arts Programme up and running in the Junior School. The Art Exhibitions that accompanied the Musical were outstanding examples of what could be achieved by young students. Our school promotes excellence in education and no one has been a better exponent of raising the bar so children excelled at their work than Toni. On a personal note she has been a magnificent colleague and loyal friend who will be missed by all. On behalf of the Junior School and the community in general, I am sure you will concur with my best wishes to herself and Paul for the future.

Marg Hobbs has been a loyal servant of Mercedes College for 16 years and to Catholic Education for 26 years, being in education for over 40 years. Her retirement at the end of the year will be wonderful for her but a huge loss for us and education in South Australia. As Religious Education Coordinator, initially for the Junior School and then the whole school, Marg has been outstanding. This is not to denigrate her teaching ability in any shape or form as she has been a wonderful Music Teacher, Special Needs Teacher, Religious Education Teacher, classroom teacher and much more. She has taught children from Reception through to Year 12 and has touched the lives of thousands of children. Her only flaw as I see it is her rabid support for the Crows – but we can’t all be perfect! We all know retirement is going to sit very well with Marg and wish her every happiness and joy for years to come.

Congratulations to Simon Munn and Jeff Wray and all their helpers for such a successful R-5 Sports Day. Slightly modified due to heat, the morning ran smoothly and fun was had by all. Congratulations to all the participants – you’re behaviour was outstanding!

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 November</td>
<td>Catholic Primary School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Year 5 Musical Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 November</td>
<td>LAP Mass 10:00am at the Monastery Junior School Strings Showcase 10:15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November</td>
<td>Carols in the Sunken Garden (6:00pm - 8:00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 December</td>
<td>End of Year Mass (7:00pm St Raphael’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>End of Term – 12:30pm dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Fee Accounts

Thank you to all families who have cleared their 2007 fee commitment to Mercedes College.

The College budget has been determined, based upon all families meeting their fee commitment either:

- By forwarding payment in full by the 30 November 2007
- By adhering to a mutually agreed regular payment arrangement (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) that would clear the account balance by the end of the current calendar year.

To ensure our cash flow is not compromised we are seeking the assistance of all families to clear their school fee commitments by the end of the school year.

If you have not already entered into a formal agreement and will be unable to clear fees by the end of the calendar year it is essential you contact the Finance Office at the College at the earliest possible opportunity.

H. Heather Burns
Finance Office
Telephone 8372 3221
hburns@mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au

Commonwealth Government School Assistance Act

- School Report
  In accordance to the Act, all schools are required to produce an annual report detailing certain statistical information. The topics included in this report cover such matters as professional engagement and key student outcomes. An electronic version of this report will soon be available from our website www.mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au. At the beginning of next term hard copies will be available upon request from Strathcpey.

- Comparative Grades
  In accordance to the Act, the College will provide data regarding the comparative grades for your child if requested. If you wish to receive this information please make a written request to Mrs Shauna Allen BEFORE 30 NOVEMBER, as this information is only available for a limited time.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

Please send along the following items by Friday 30 November:
- Tinned jams, fruits, hams, baby food, mustards, mayonnaise, pickles, sauces, biscuits, sweets, Christmas cakes, puddings, cans of soft drink, tea, coffee.
- Your donation in $s will help purchase goods for the Appeal.

Thank you for your support in the past.

Farewell to Frank Ali

Parents and friends are invited to join us to farewell Frank Ali as he moves on from the Mercedes community.

Frank Ali
Assistant Principal
Head of Junior School

Heather Burns
Finance Office
Telephone 8372 3221
hburns@mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au

Heather Burns
Assistant Principal
Head of Junior School
From the Middle School

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Our Remembrance Day Ceremony was held on Friday 9 November in the Rose Garden. It was a solemn and moving ceremony allowing students across the school to pause and remember the sacrifice of those men and women who have died in wars and conflicts and all those who have served during the past 100 years. Several Middle School students were involved in the ceremony, including James D’Alessandro (7LM) who read the Prayer of Remembrance, Josh Lee (9DT) who read the Ode and Renee Taylor (6PO) who did a superb job of playing the Last Post. Well done to everyone who played a part in preparing and running this special ceremony.

New Parent Induction Evening

Our new parents for 2008 gathered in Gleeson Hall on Tuesday 13 November to begin their induction into our Middle School. Several people spoke on the evening about different aspects of Middle School life and parents also had an opportunity to meet or catch up with each other over supper. I would like to thank the Home Group teachers and Year Level Coordinators from Years 6 and 8 for taking the time to be with us on the night so that parents could introduce themselves or ask questions, as well as the staff who presented items. I would also like to thank the 2007 Middle School leaders who had several roles throughout the evening and represented the Middle School students in an outstanding manner.

LaN Test results

The Year 7 Literacy and Numeracy test results have recently been forwarded to parents and students. The test results this year again reflect that Mercedes students are performing well above the state average in both Literacy and Numeracy and our school averages increased again this year. The work our students do through the PYP and MYP clearly gives them a great foundation on which to build their education, and we should all be proud of the manner in which our teachers work collaboratively with parents and students to bring out the best in each individual within our school.

2007 Visual Arts Exhibition

The Year 6-12 Visual Arts Exhibition showcased the work of the Year 12 Art and Design students, also highlighting a selection of work by students from Years 6-11. Many parents, students and families attended the evening and enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and the opportunity to view the wonderful art talents of our Middle and Senior School students. Congratulations to all of the students involved and especially to the Middle School students who received awards for their efforts and talents in Art and Design.

Middle School Leaders for 2008

It is my pleasure to announce that the 2008 Middle School Leaders are Naomi Francis, Gabriella McEvoy, Nick Davis and Luke Crocker. We congratulate them on being elected by their peers and teaching staff to these important positions and look forward to having them assist with the leadership of the Middle School next year.

I would also like to acknowledge the other students who took part in the selection process. It takes a lot of courage to put your name forward at the risk of not achieving your goal and they should all be very proud of the way in which they represented themselves, their families and their school. You don’t need to have a title to be a leader within any community and so we also look forward to their future contributions to the leadership of the Middle School. We are lucky to have such a talented cohort of students throughout our school.

End of year

On Friday 7 December students in Year 6-11 will gather in Gleeson Hall to acknowledge the academic success of individual students. Parents of Middle School students who are receiving awards will be notified in the coming weeks. During this assembly we will also recognise the transition the Year 9 students will make into the Senior School next year.

Paul Wadsworth
Assistant Principal
Head of Middle School

Computers

Do you have an old, unused computer sitting around gathering cobwebs? As part of their Community and Service responsibilities, a number of Year 11 IB Diploma students will be completing a voluntary computer construction course next year in their own time, with the working PCs they construct being donated to the Nepabunna Aboriginal Community in northern South Australia. Any old PCs donated will allow more students to be able to get ‘hands on’ experience, better computers to be built, and more computers for Nepabunna! If you are able to donate an old computer (‘dead or alive’ – we would like to know which) to this cause, please contact Murray Head at mhead@mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au
From the Senior School

MYP Graduation Assembly

An invitation is extended to you as parents and friends of students who participated in the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) in 2007. The presentation will take place in Gleeson Hall at Mercedes College, November 27 from 11:45am - 1:00pm.

Students will be expected to come to school in full summer uniform, with a blazer and, if appropriate, shoulder hair tied back. We will consider whether students need to wear the blazer on the day, according to the weather. As this assembly is at the conclusion of the Year 10 exams students will be dismissed at lunchtime and may go home.

Any enquiries please contact Ian de Boar.

Ian de Boar
MYP Coordinator

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<td></td>
<td>Leadership Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Nov-6 December</td>
<td>IB Diploma Transition</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Year 12 2008 Transition</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 November</td>
<td>Year 11 2008 Transition</td>
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<tr>
<td>29-30 November</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Observation</td>
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Glenside Hospital Redevelopment

A meeting was recently convened between the College and representatives from the Government of South Australia, Mr Damien Walker (Major Projects Director Urban Planning) and Mr Chris Sexton (A/General Manager, Specialist Statewide Mental Health Services). This meeting was part of the ongoing consultative process by the department.

Discussions centred on the Government of South Australia’s Concept Master Plan for the Glenside Hospital Campus and their commitment to rejuvenate the site with a modern world class hospital and specialist health services for mental illness and substance abuse. It also provided the opportunity to put forward the College’s concerns at the loss of the Glenside Oval facilities and the potential impact it has on our resources and sporting commitments.

Whilst the current Glenside Oval facilities will be lost and replacement facilities do not feature in the Concept Master Plan, we acknowledge and appreciate the past assistance provided by the Department of Health since 2004 and their continued support to finding alternative sporting facilities that suit our College’s requirements. The indication is that there are significant resources available and the Department of Health will assist us to seek shared use of appropriate facilities for the future.

The Department of Health is also dedicated to establishing a long term relationship between Mercedes College and the Glenside Hospital Campus for future use of the passive playing fields. We have also been assured of the availability of the Glenside Oval facilities for use during Terms 1, 2 and 3 and possibly Term 4, 2008.

For further information and a copy of the Concept Master Plan go to www.health.sa.gov.au/mentalhealth.

MGIS Exchange

During the last week of Term 3 and the first week of the holidays a group of fifteen students and three teachers took part in the MGIS cultural exchange to Ahmedabad. This exchange has been run for over 6 years now and offers students the opportunity to be fully immersed in Indian culture.

While in India our students are billeted with students of the same age. There is a saying in India which states “if you have a visitor to your home you must treat them like they are a god.” This meant that our students and staff were very well looked after. The exchange also allowed our students to visit the Mahatma Gandhi International School and work on joint projects with Indian students. This helped to highlight that although we are separated by thousands of kilometres and are culturally very different, our global society faces the same issues. Students discussed global warming, deforestation, poverty and other topical and relevant issues.

Although much of our stay revolved around the development of personal and meaningful relationships we were fortunate enough to visit some significant sites in and around Ahmedabad. Highlights included Mahatma Gandhi’s Ashram where he started the salt marches and staged his hunger strike, paper recycling factories and textile manufacturing areas. All of these experiences filled us with the thought that India is a proud and thriving nation that does not need our pity but our respect.

All of the staff and students who took part in this experience returned to Australia with a much deeper understanding of the world and human relationships. The students represented the College with a maturity far beyond their years and exemplified all of the values we hold dear.

Michael Ebert
Year 9 Coordinator

Second Hand Uniform Shop

If you wish to sell good quality uniforms please deliver to Strathspey no later than Monday 10 December. All clothing is required to be freshly laundered and on coat hangers. Skirts, Pinafores and Blazers must be dry cleaned. Volunteer staff will be processing all clothing on Tuesday 11 December for sale in 2008. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Loretta, Anne-Marie & Heather
Mercedes Parents and Friends Association (MP&FA)
Email: mpa@mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au

Wine Fundraiser Launched - Place Your Order Now
Our 2007 Wine Fundraiser has been launched and this year is generously supported by Abbey Rock Winery and Kingston Estate Wines. Order forms have been mailed to all families so why not place an order, stock up your cellars ready for the festive season AND help raise funds for the students of Mercedes College. Alternatively, order forms may be downloaded from the website www.mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au. Please note orders must be in by **28 November**. No late orders will be processed.

Raffle!
We have a wonderful raffle running with tickets being sold around the College - at Strathspey and The College Shop as well as at a number of the end of year events currently taking place. Tickets are $2 each and the prizes are being drawn on 30 November at the Junior School Carols Evening.

Many thanks to Bernadette Davey for organising the prizes and of course a special thank you to our sponsors who once again have given so generously:

- The Schemeczko Family
- The Whelan Family
- National Pharmacies, 297 Glen Osmond Road Glenunga
- Edinburgh Hotel and Cellars, Mitcham
- House & Garden of SA, 243 Unley Road Malvern
- Torrens Arms Hotel, 95 Belair Road Kingswood

Retirements ...
Second Hand Uniform Shop
At our end of year dinner held last week, the MP&FA acknowledged Loretta Royal and Anne-Marie Gray who have been regular volunteers in the Second Hand Uniform Shop for many years.

Chairperson
I too, was acknowledged at the MP&FA end of year dinner as I am standing down as Chairperson of the MP&FA at the AGM next week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the MP&FA Committee members who have worked so hard and made my role of Chairperson an enjoyable one over the last three years. I have also enjoyed writing the MP&FA column in the Mercy Vine and hope that the school community has enjoyed being kept informed about MP&FA matters.

AGM – Tuesday, 27 November 2007, 7.30pm Strathspey
The MP&FA will hold an AGM on Tuesday, 27 November 2007 commencing at 7.30pm in Strathspey. Please come along and support us. New members of the committee would be most welcome.

Contact Details
If you wish to contact the MP&FA please do so – either by email or by phone (Mary Odlum Mob: 0403 360 648 or Liz Watson 0438 775 009).

Mary Odlum
Chairperson
Mercedes Parents & Friends Association

Family Matters - Parent Information Forums
Many parents were able to take the opportunity to attend the “Introduction to CyberWorld” parent information forum held last night in the Carmel Bourke Library and Resource Centre. Guest speakers provided a wide range of information including an overview of internet technology and information uses and misuses, legal implications for students and parents, as well as specific information on “cyber-bullying”. The opportunity for parent questions and discussion was invaluable.

The evening came about as a result of a number of requests received from parents of students of all ages and represented a need to fill a void in available and accessible information.

I would like to extend my thanks to all guest speakers, graduating student Lachlan Jones, IT Systems Manager Albert Sabadin, Detective Senior Sergeant Barry Blundell and Dr Phillip Slee for their input during the evening and to all parents who attended. A special thank you must also go to the Mercedes College Parents and Friends Association (MP&FA) for their assistance with supper on the night.

Next year promises further information evenings for parents under the auspices of the MP&FA, with three evening sessions being offered by Mark Le Messurier, Educational Consultant on the theme of “Setting your Children up for Success”.

Information forums provide a great opportunity for not only hearing from a range of specialist guest speakers, but also an opportunity to talk with other parents and share some of the experiences challenging us as parents.

We welcome input from parents at any time if there are particular topics or issues you would like to hear more about through information forums. Similarly, we welcome hearing from you if there are particular issues you would like us to cover in the 2008 editions at the “Family Matters” column of the Mercy Vine.

Anne Way
College Psychologist
Music News from Strathspey and Beyond

2007 Guitar Concert
Friday 16 November saw many of the College’s talented guitarists converge on the Drama Room to showcase their musical skills in this year’s Guitar Concert. Led by Mr Robin Pratt, three ensembles performed as well as several solo acts, many of whom played pieces from their upcoming guitar exams. Nervous energy abounded and all students played with style and maturity with some real stand out performances. Many thanks to Adam Hooper who helped out on bass guitar, and Esther Lamb and the Drama Department for the use of the auditorium.

As always at this time of the year, it is a busy time in the Music Department at Mercedes College. Students and staff are busily rehearsing for the various performances leading to the end of the year. We have all been astounded at the level of enthusiasm and commitment the students have demonstrated towards learning their repertoire. We have had extra lunchtime rehearsals, auditions for solo parts and many intense, focused class rehearsals.

There are a number of dates to put into your diaries. We do really value your support at all of these performances.

27 November 10:15am: Year 5 Band Concert. This concert features Year 5 class bands, R-2 Recorder Ensemble and the Junior Stage Band
29 November 12:00pm: Year 3 String Concert, featuring the Year 3 class ensembles and the Stringlettes
30 November Junior School Carols. Each class from R-5 will perform plus there will be plenty of fun communal singing.
6 November Junior School Mass featuring Rec., 3, 4 and 5 choirs plus a number of soloists

If your child is involved in any of these concerts and is unable to attend, please let the music staff know as soon as possible.

A letter was sent home this week explaining a change of provider for hired instruments through the school. For those concerned it is very important that all instruments are returned and or exchanged at the correct time. Please read the note carefully and if you have any queries contact the Music Department. Thank you for your support with regard to this, we know that it is a busy time for all of us and there are many things to remember for both students and parents!

I would like to say a special thank you to two of our peripatetic staff, Kathryn Sharp and Robin Pratt who organised two very entertaining concerts to showcase our talented Flute and Guitar students at Mercedes College. Many thanks to the students who performed and parents and friends who were there to support them.

Beatrice Lemm
Music Teacher

Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB) Exam Results

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in their recent practical exams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grace Cooper</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby Schutz</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Hogan</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Twizell</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>First Grade</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tessa Bell</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Second Grade</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Cordoma</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Second Grade</td>
<td>Credit (B+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fergal Banks</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Third Grade</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Grant</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Fourth Grade</td>
<td>Credit (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Quirk</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Fourth Grade</td>
<td>Honours (A)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs Mary Wagstaff
Piano and Theory Teacher

Congratulations to all students on their achievements. These include:
Andrew Heuzenroeder Grade 5 Clarinet B
Stephen Heuzenroeder Grade 5 Alto Saxophone B+

Speech and Drama

Results of the Individual Examinations are as follows.

Grace Berwald, Drama and Performance Second Grade, A
Olivia Case, Drama and Performance First Grade, B+
Chloe Dunstan, Voice and Communication Third Grade, B+
Georgia Penglis, Drama and Performance Third Grade, A
Ben Reichstein, Drama and Performance Eighth Grade, C
Michael Reynolds, Voice and Communication Preliminary Grade, B+
Sarah Reynolds, Drama and Performance Third Grade, B
Lucy Schapel, Drama and Performance Second Grade, C+
Jewel Tan, Voice and Communication Third Grade, B

Congratulations to all students.

Peta Long

Chess

Christopher Bierton 12JR receives the Senior Chess Service award for 2007. Christopher has given excellent service to the College over the last 6 years, most of the time as Chess Captain. He is pictured here with Mr Kingsley Head.
New Curriculum and Learning Structure 2007 - Request for feedback

2007 saw the introduction of a new curriculum and learning structure prompted by the requirements of the Schools A assistance (Learning Together - Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) A d 2004 together with feedback from the CIS accreditation process in 2006 which helped identify and clarify a range of curriculum and learning issues in our previous structure.

Underlying reasons for the changes included:
- ensuring an equitable balance of time allocated to subject areas in the Middle Years Programme
- imbalance of time allocation to lines in Years 11 and 12
- IB Diploma students only able to undertake Group 3 subjects as anticipated (standard level) subjects
- resolving the shortcomings of an integrated MYP Technology course
- providing at least 2 hours of physical activity per week
- responding to the requirements of the National Safe Schools Framework in terms of a Health and Well-being Programme
- consolidating Values education
- dealing with the disruption of time due to un-programmed assemblies

Following widespread discussion and consultation throughout 2006, we implemented a new structure this year. This involved:
- A move to a 7-lesson per day timetable involving three lessons in the morning, two after recess and two after lunch
- Reduced lessons generally by 5 minutes to be approximately 40 minutes each
- An Extended Pastoral Care time on Wednesdays used for smaller (informal) assemblies, House meetings, year level meetings, year level liturgies, Health & Well-being activities, administrative time etc.
- Eliminating afternoon home group sessions for students in Years 6-12 with dismissal of students from lesson 7 at 3:25pm
- Re-distributing lessons for subjects to ensure equity and satisfy externally mandated requirements
- Implementing a core Health and Well-being programme from Reception to Year 12 involving Pastoral Care, PE & Health and Religious Education.

We will be maintaining the same basic structure for 2008 to eliminate the “building under construction” factor from any implementation issues. However, I would appreciate your comments on the changes made this year to help clarify which aspects worked and which require a little more refinement. Any constructive suggestions on improvements will be gratefully considered. Please email Adrian Chiarolli - a chiarolli@mercedes.adl.catholic.edu.au

Booklists

There have been some queries regarding the booklists distributed to students recently. I would like to highlight that we will be moving Years 6-10 Science and Mathematics text books to the book hire scheme next year. This decision was based on these text books being a one-year use and the increasing cost was an unnecessary financial burden on parents. The hire costs will be absorbed within the Composite (Resource Fee) (which was not increased for 2008). Advice from Campion regarding the booklist process is included below:

Please ensure that you have submitted your order online at www.campion.com.au before the due date (30 November) to ensure your order is filled from stock reserved for our School. Once online a drop down box will let you know if the prepack is still open or whether it has closed. You can still place your order online once the bulk prepack closes, but there may be a number of books not available and these will be placed on back order for you and delivered when stock becomes available usually within 2 or 3 weeks.

If paying by money order please send in your booklist, either to the School before the due date or directly to Campion, with the money order attached rather than submitting online. If you have forgotten to order a particular text, small orders can be placed with Campion Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm throughout the whole year.

A Campion representative will be present at our Second Hand Book Sale on Saturday 8 December to record any texts acquired that will therefore need to be removed from your order. You will only be charged for the texts that you require. Adjustments to your order can also be phoned in to the Campion Office before the second hand book sale but no adjustments can be made after the sale date. All texts not required can then be returned to a Campion representative at The College Shop on Thursday 31 January and Friday 1 February.

Orders that are for the Resource Fee and subject levy payments only, or any charges related to texts being supplied by the School, are not charged any delivery or processing fees and are best submitted on the paper booklist and sent direct to Campion at PO BOX 6807 Halifax Street Post Office Adelaide 5000.

Your paid order will be delivered during the week ending 18 January, 2008 to your nominated business or residential address. If you have any enquiries please phone Campion direct (84106940) or email our School representative directly at jwyatt@campion.com.au

A drian Chiarolli
Director of Curriculum and Learning

SECOND-HAND BOOK SALE

The College is providing the Hall on Saturday 8 December from 10:00am to 12:00 for anyone interested in selling/purchasing second-hand books for Years 8-12. A representative from Campion Books will be present to assist with your online booklists and the purchase of second-hand books. Campion Books due date is 30 November.

Prospective sellers are required to ring Asha Allen on 8372 3218 by 26 November to register for a trestle. Cost is $5.00.
The Arts

The last two weeks has been extremely busy in the Arts at Mercedes College. On Wednesday 14 November the 6-12 Visual Art Exhibition was opened by Cherie Prosser, a graduate of Mercedes in 1987. Cherie inspired all those present to appreciate art in our own individual way and to follow our passion. As the Curatorial and Communications Manager of the Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art at UniSA, Adelaide’s second largest and second most prominent public art gallery, Cherie is well qualified to do so.

Immediately following the official opening, the inaugural Art Domain Mavis McBride Visual Art Prize was announced by Mr Peter Daw and presented by Mr Jeff Tolcher. The quality of work this year saw the panel of five award this prize to two outstanding Senior students: Lucinda Burgemeister and Karolinka Wicik. Lucinda also received the Principal’s Award which means her work will be professionally framed by Jeff Tolcher from Art Domain (who kindly donated his services on the night beyond his already generous contribution) and hung in a prominent place in Strathspay for a year.

The following young artists were awarded prizes for outstanding work in their year level:

**Art Awards**
Year 12: Natalie Castree  
Year 11: Angela Chan  
Year 10: Mitra Karimi and Nasreen Jawad  
Year 9: Alexis Souverijts  
Year 8: Bernadette Klavins  
Year 7: Thomas Jaccarini  
Year 6: Alicia Espinosa

**Design Awards**
Year 12: Elizabeth Glamuzina  
Year 11: Lisa Crocker  
Year 10: Valerie Thompson  
Year 9: Margaret Kyprianou  
Year 8: Natasha Wilson-Beddoe  
Year 7: Andrew Hogan  
Year 6: Jonathan Beilby

**Film Awards**
Year 9: Marcus Doherty  
Year 10: Alex Graham

Earlier that night Year 11 Drama students performed their individual projects in the John McDonald Performing Arts Centre and Music students entertained exhibition goers with some very classy jazz numbers.

I would like to recognise the hard work of the Visual Art staff for setting up the exhibition and working with the students to produce such amazing work throughout the year: Miss Coral Winterbourn, Mrs Lisa Hooper, Miss Liza Siviu, Ms Sam Reynolds, Mr Ian de Boar, Mr Ryan Stor and Mrs Erica McNicol (Arts ESO).

I would also like to acknowledge the support both before and during the night of Ms Suzanne Moorhead, Miss Alecia Cooper and Mr Mark McNicol, and Mr Peter Daw for his support and patronage, our sponsors: Jeff from Art Domain, Clive from Premier Art Supplies and Dean from Eckersley’s Arts and Crafts.

To the artists, staff, students, parents and friends of Mercedes College thank you for your attendance and support.

A shley Coats  
Coordinator of the Arts R-12

From the Sports Desk

Nominations have been received and appointments made of Captains of Sport for 2008. Congratulations are in order to those students whose role it will be to promote sport within the school, help with Inter-house sport, assist with coaching and training, provide the community with updates on developments in sport via newsletter reports, assist with selection matters, their communication and results generation and help generally with administration during Intercollegiate sport and other major events.

**Sporting Achiever – Cycling and Athletics**

Phillip Mundy was invited to try out as a result of the PE Talent ID testing undertaken at Mercedes. From this, he was asked to attend SASI for further testing in January including VO2 max and strength testing. Consequently he was invited to be part of a 14 member training squad for a year coached by 3 SASI cycling coaches.

Phil has participated in several road races and 2 cycling tour races throughout winter and has now just started the summer track season. He has won the silver medal in the SASSSA schools tour; silver in the time trial at the State Championships and 4th in the State Championships road race. He also managed to complete a grueling 3 day tour in June which included part of the course to be used by the international riders in the Tour Down Under. He finished a credible 8th (3rd SA rider) in a very strong national field.

Last weekend he participated in an invitation only event at the Velodrome on the same programme as Australia’s best international riders including Stuart O’Gready, Brett Aitken, Shane Kelly and the Meares’ sisters. He will now join the Cycling SA/ SASI Junior Development Squad in January with a view to working towards a SASI scholarship in the next couple of years.

Whilst Phil has had to give up football it is doubtful he will ever give up running as Phil continues to impress in cross country and athletics as one of the Colleges’ emerging Track and Field stars.

Bill Ganyor  
continued next page
Cross Country

Despite extremely testing conditions on Friday 16 November, Mercedes College students triumphed in the SSSSA 50km Schools’ Relay taking out the Year 8 and Year 10 Championships against the cream of South Australian schools.

In the previous two years Pembroke has dominated this event, winning all three age categories both years, often by close margins against some of our teams. However, 2007 was to be our year. The Year 8 team won by a whopping 9½ minutes ahead of Pembroke with an additional 9½ minutes back to emerging St John’s College. Official results for Year 8:

1. Mercedes College 3:27:32
2. Pembroke School 3:37:01
3. St John’s College 3:47:33

This triumphant team consists of Luke Crocker, Eleanor Wardleworth, Alex Praschifka, Nicholas Davis and Naomi Francis, with very encouraging and important pacemakers Alexander Kedzior and Matthew Van Der Wijngaart.

The Year 10 team had a much more difficult competition with the lead changing several times with Unley High before they finally prevailed by just over a minute. Results:

1. Mercedes College 3:16:04
2. Unley High School 3:17:19

This talented team includes Matthew Crocker, Phillip Mundy, Madeline Wardleworth, Ciaran Banks, Brittany Hewett and expert pacers Davis Lane and Sam Weber.

In the Year 9 Division our team (3:45:54) finished a credible 6th behind Westminster (3:19:51). This team consists of Harrison Hughes, Felix Ritson, Brigid Symes, Thomas Gordon, Emma Rajic (Yr 8), with pacers Ben Tripodi and Paul Van Mierle.

All three teams should feel proud of their contribution towards this most successful season, with four SSSSA Championship winning teams and a national team medal. A special thank you to Mr Robinson and parent Chris Symes, who managed the Year 9 team, and Mr Billing who managed and inspired the Year 10 team.

A number of the above named students show a lot of exciting promise and should be aiming towards state selection in the 2008 Cross Country season. Training will continue on Monday and Friday mornings for those interested in keeping fit.

Gary Zeuner

Year 9 Touch Football

Our second game of Touch Football was played in warm conditions and it turned out to be a lesson in how to play the game. 12-1 was the final score with Mercedes on the lower end of the ledger. Although we tried gallantly our opposition was far more experienced and tested us on every attack. Although we were beaten convincingly it proved to be an excellent lesson for our new players. We look forward to next week when we hope to reassert our authority on the competition.

Mike Ebert

8-12 Girls Sport

Our Senior teams had their play-off round last weekend with a number of teams playing for Premiership pennants. Our Volleyballers played a tough three set game against Mary Mackillop, losing the deciding set 19-21. Our team was a force to be reckoned with throughout the whole season, with all girls still in Years 10 and 11. They will be more experienced in 2008. Well done!

The Basketball teams played off for minor placings in Term 4. Mercedes Gold and White played with depleted numbers and a few injuries on game day which resulted in narrow losses as both teams put up a huge fight. Mercedes Green defeated a strong SAC team, claiming 3rd place for Term 3.

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All junior teams will participate in the play-off round this weekend and mid-week sport has a few more weeks of competition before play-offs in the final week. I am looking forward to seeing more success cap off a very successful year.

Carol Guirguis

Softball

The Mercedes College Year 4/5 B1 Softball team and coach with their trophy from the recent Lightning Carnival.

From the Sports Desk (cont)

Primary Schools Swimming Carnival

On 4 November the following students Brianna Watson, Amelia Ebbs, Tom Ross, Sam Royal, Molly Lloyd, Matthew Lovell, Tom Murdock, Ellen Watson, Isabelle Bambacas, William Twizell, William Ross, Ronan Banks, Ciaran Sambrook, James Mitchell, Lucy Bambacas, Jack Heath, Matthew Shaw, Alice O’Connell, Ashlihn Sambrook, Georgia Hughes, Fergal Banks, Christian Belperio and Mark Chu represented Mercedes College at the Inter Primary School Swimming Competition run by Marion Swimming Club at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. There were some fantastic swims on the day and Mercedes College finished fifth overall in the event.

Also, thank you to all the parents who helped on the day with marshalling and time keeping duties. There will be another 3 meet series next year on 16 March, 15 June and 2 November. If anyone is interested in representing the College and learning more about swimming and competition please contact myself or the Sports Department.

Ryan Stor

R-7 Sports Coordinator
As a Fundraising initiative, the Mercedes College Parents & Friends invites parents to take part in this fantastic wine offer.

The offer is being supported by Abbey Rock Winery and Kingston Estate Wines.

Once you have completed your order, (remember to stock up for Christmas!) please forward it per the instructions at the bottom of the order form. Stocks are limited.

For all enquiries please contact Bernadette Davey, Mercedes College Parents & Friends 8338 5638 or 0412 891 208

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| WHITE                          |                |                      |                  |                |            |
| 2006 Abbey Rock Semillon Sauvignon Blanc | $180           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |
| 2006 Black Ridge Chardonnay Colombard    | $90            | 750                  | 12               |                |            |
| 2007 Giesen NZ Sauvignon Blanc            | $160           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |
| 2007 Sarantos Soft Press Sauvignon Blanc   | $190           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |

| RED                              |                |                      |                  |                |            |
| 2006 Abbey Rock Cabernet Merlot Coonawarra | $220           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |
| 2006 Cranswick Shiraz Merlot       | $100           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |
| 2006 J & J Shiraz McLaren Vale     | $150           | 750                  | 12               |                |            |

| FREIGHT                          |             |                      |                  |                |            |
| Freight will be charged at $10 per order |             |                      |                  | $10.00        |

**TOTAL ORDER**

NAME: ____________________________________________

Work Phone: ___________________________ Mobile Phone: ___________________________

DELIVERY ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

Please fill in full delivery address including post code:

SPECIAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS: ____________________________________________

**PAYMENT METHOD** Cheque / CreditCard Visa / Mastercard / Amex

Credit Card Number ___________________________ Expiry Date ___________________________

Name on Credit Card: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

Full case order only. Orders must be received by Wednesday 28th November 2007. Payment via credit card or cheque – made payable to Mercedes College. All payments will be processed Friday 30th November 2007 and delivery will be in the week commencing 10th December 2007.
MERCEDES COLLEGE PARENTS & FRIENDS WINE OFFER

2006 Abbey Rock Pinot Chardonnay “Christine”
This Adelaide Hills Sparkling Chardonnay is a blend of 52% Pinot Noir and 48% Chardonnay grapes. The colour is pale straw and the bead is exceptionally fine. The aroma is of strawberries and pears with hints of melon and bread. The palate is elegant, crispy and fresh with strawberry length as well as a good balance between fruit and yeast characters.

2007 Sarantos Soft Press Sauvignon Blanc
An ideal match for today’s outdoor lifestyle, this Sauvignon Blanc is crafted by gently handling the grapes to maximise the variety’s pure flavours in the free run juice before fermentation. This approach ensures the wine is clean and naturally balanced with just the fresh, pure taste of premium Sauvignon Blanc. Enjoy!

2006 Abbey Rock Helmsford Semillon Sauvignon Blanc
This Clare Valley Semillon Sauvignon Blanc is a classic blend with pale straw colour and the aroma of pears, apples, citrus and hints of grassy herbaceous notes with an intense, crispy palate supported by great mouth feel and length. Cellaring 5-8 years.

2006 Black Ridge Chardonnay Colombard
This unoaked fruit driven wine exhibits vanillin overtones with a soft full flavoursome palate and a crisp clean finish. Enjoy this blend from the South East with poultry, seafood or just on its own.

2006 Abbey Rock Cabernet Merlot
This classic blend from the Coonawarra district of South Eastern Australia has aromas of blackberry, cherry, mulberry, hints of chocolate, mint, cedar, spice and a palate with supple mouth feel, elegance, great length and balance between the intense Cabernet, the softer Merlot fine tannins and the integrated oak. Cellaring 8-10 years.

2006 Cranswick – Smith Bin 19 Shiraz Merlot
From South Eastern Australia this Shiraz Merlot is deep coloured with a purple hue and the classic aromas of plum, pepper and spice. Bin 19 offers a good length of palate with plenty of fruit, ripe tannins and an approachable softness of character imparted by the Merlot.

2007 Giesen NZ Sauvignon Blanc
The Giesen Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc typically displays a distinctive blend of intense tropical fruit, vibrant citrus and dried herb aroma and flavours with a crisp, refreshing acidity which provides length and a refreshing zest to the palate.

2006 J&J Vineyards McLaren Vale Shiraz
A rich elegant wine displaying great varietal character and length of flavour. This Shiraz comes from one of the best vineyards in the McLaren Vale wine region and was made by the 2007 Bushing King Scott Rawlinson. It won a trophy and top gold medal for a 2006 Vintage Wine under $20. Limited release.