



# OUR LADY'S COLLEGE

ANNERLEY

newsletter

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12 February 2021

## Principal's Message



*"May the spirit of unity and love reign amongst us"*

The Mary MacKillop quote chosen for this year has been launched and celebrated this week in our liturgies, our classrooms, our Spirit Day and our Swimming Carnival.

Our Mass to bless the school year was an engaging and welcoming celebration. We thank Monsignor Meneely for presiding; Mrs Brandenburg, Mrs Holmes and the Liturgy committee for their vision and organisation; and our choir led by Mrs Johnston for the beautiful music.

We were delighted to welcome Year 12 parents to our Commissioning of Leaders Ceremony. At Our Lady's, our Year 12s take on leadership of the school community through committee membership. The girls developed a Pledge for their year that focuses on the four College values.

*"We will exemplify:*

*Compassion by offering help when we see a need;  
 Integrity by showing sincerity in our words and actions;  
 Service by taking on responsibility readily and eagerly, and  
 Justice by advocating and acting for those most need."*

Our six elected leaders were also commissioned during this ceremony. Congratulations to:

Position	Name
College Captain	Mimi Le Nguyen
College Captain	Ngan Nguyen

Liturgy and Kelly Community Leader

Mae  
Williamson

Social Justice and Lambert Community Leader

Ellie Anderson

Cultural and MacKillop Community Leader

Charmi Cortez

Sport and Woods Community Leader

Charlotte  
O'Shea

We congratulate all of the Senior Class of 2021 on their leadership and commitment, as we look forward to an exciting year.

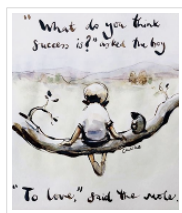
There are literally thousands of authors who have proffered insight into what constitutes good leadership. We have also seen, throughout history, and in recent political scenes internationally, that leaders are not always humble or people focused.

Servant Leadership is the model of leadership that we aspire to at Our Lady's College. Jesus provides the inspiration for us – particularly in his actions at the Last Supper when he took off His robe, picked up a towel, and bowing down – washed the feet of his followers. This is servant leadership. It requires us to do the often unseen and not so glamorous jobs – and to be unfailingly people focused.



Mary MacKillop provides a particular focus for us as the co-founder of the Josephite Sisters who opened our College. Mary was counter cultural for her time – with friendships that were inter-denominational. Two of Mary's strongest supporters were Abraham Solomon, a Jewish man, and Johanna Barr-Smith, an agnostic. Johanna and her husband often supported Mary's growing order of nuns financially – amazed by her dedication to educating young people. Abraham Solomon collected Mary in his carriage following her excommunication and, with Johanna, ensured that she was housed and cared for during that incredibly difficult time. Mary's unfailing kindness to others saw generosity and kindness also extended to her.

Children's stories, too, often help us to understand what is important by stating things simply. The book, "The Boy, the Mole, the Horse and the Fox" by Charlie Mackesy, is a story of four unlikely travellers. There are many insightful conversations that give an understanding of what it means to be a good person - and leader of ourselves first of all ....



Our Seniors quickly moved into action with Spirit Day fun ahead of our Interhouse Swimming Carnival held, this year, at Centenary Pool, Spring Hill. Adorned in their House colours, war cries were chanted as teams united. Thank you to Mr John Boumford for his organisation of the Swimming Carnival, our Year 12 Community Leaders for the lively engagement in competition and spirit, our teaching staff for their energy and support of the days, and our parents who were able to celebrate with us this week.

Shalom,

**Paula Goodwin**  
**Principal**

## Teaching and Learning

On Thursday this week, our Inter-School Swimming Carnival was held at Centenary Pool using the carnival management database designed and coded by current Year 12 students while they were in Year 10 completing an information technology subject. Congratulations to Justine Reyes, Natasha Brahne and Charlotte O'Shea for their excellent work in this project ensuring that our carnival ran well from the House nominations, through to the scoring and tracking of broken records and Age Champions.



Our College Diary mentions briefly the types of homework, but it is important to see how students view homework. In Mathematics particularly, it is essential that students see homework as a means to absolutely master a required skill so that progress beyond the skill can happen in the subsequent lessons. Students who tell parents how long they've been working, rather than what they've achieved, risk doing "time" rather than meaningful "learning". The object of the homework is the learning, not the spaces filled with ink. Ask your daughter to explain her work to you when checking homework and you can quickly determine how successful their efforts are in this area. Rather than just remembering facts, they should be

looking more deeply at the work to determine patterns and styles so that this can add more meaning to their learning.

In classes, teachers are outlining the Learning Intention and, with the students, determining the Success Criteria. This means that your daughter should be able to tell you WHAT they have been learning in each of their classes and HOW WELL they are going in achieving the expected learnings. Ask them - frequently.

Year 11 students will soon start working on their iSMART goals to inform their study behaviours this term. Essentially, they must identify an area (or two) of priority and determine strategies to assist with achieving success in this area. After identifying the strategies to success and listing the support people to who can assist, students set about making steps toward achieving their goals. The place of homework and revision can also play an important part in this discussion. Academic Mentors are crucial in the conversation between students, parents and your daughter's teachers.

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has made provisions for students to "bank" credits for external courses so that they can be included in the count for Ranks and QCE's in Year 12. This means that students who privately study music, languages or other approved subjects with exams can apply to have them added to their official results from QCAA. Students are directed to negotiate with their private teachers about the entry of qualifications, as schools have no authority to act on any external provider's certification. As well, some students choose to sit for the External Examinations held for the QCAA at the end of their final year. Over the past number of years, we have had students who sit for language exams to take advantage of the extra BONUS RANK points offered by various universities and to boost their ATAR results. Students in Year 12 wishing to complete this exam must make contact with me directly to apply for this opportunity. Exams are available in a number of languages covered by Saturday school classes in many parent communities. Many of our highest achieving students from past years have used bonus rank points to enhance their rankings which, in turn, guaranteed their first choice TAFE options.

The curriculum at Our Lady's College is designed to be flexible – allowing students the time to "add-on" components to their learning. We have an impressive number of senior students who are able to take advantage of this flexibility to include School Based Traineeships and TAFE qualifications. Again, in 2021, we are partnering with external providers to increase the resources available to students. Currently, in Year 12, we have an external provider (Binnacle) offering the Certificate III in Business being delivered onsite during class time. Later in the year, when the registrations for the enhanced studies programs (and other similar programs) become available, more of our students will be able to avail themselves of this opportunity.

## Alternative Learning Programs

Some of the options mentioned above result in a variation to a student's timetable. Some students are involved in alternative programs, both within and outside the College, and this results in extra study lessons throughout the week. Students are provided study periods in Ad Altiora Place to support this alternative program.

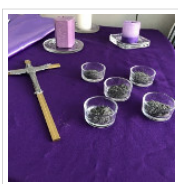
## Assessment Schedules

Assessment schedules for all years are available to students in electronic form via the College's Student Portal and this information is available to parents in the Parent Portal. When these have been checked, they will remain as the final version as reference for parents and students. If you note any variation or discrepancies, please make contact with your daughter's teacher and Curriculum Leader for the subject. At all times, the dates provided on the actual Assessment Items are the official dates for draft and submission of assessments

Have a great week.

**Anthony Stevens**  
**Deputy Principal**

## In the Tradition and Campus Minister



### Lent Begins

Next week the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 17 February, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow

Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice.

We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving by supporting Project Compassion. Each Pastoral Care class has received a Project Compassion box for their donations which will be taken until Week 9.

Saint Oscar Romero is our inspiration for Project Compassion 2021, so in his words let's "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

### Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Next Wednesday there will be an Ash Wednesday liturgy held in each pastoral care group to mark the beginning of Lent. In consideration of the coronavirus, ashes will be lightly sprinkled on the head rather than crossed on the forehead. During the service, students will have the opportunity to consider their commitment to growing as a person during the six weeks leading to Easter.

### Tricare

Thank you to the generous Year 11 and 12 students who have registered their interest in outreach service at the Tricare Aged care Centre. Parent slips have been sent to the parents of those girls.

In God's love,

**Linda Brandenburg**  
**Assistant Principal**  
**Faith & Mission**

**Kay Holmes**  
**Campus Minister**

## Guidance Counsellor

### The Online World of Teenagers

Adolescents today are the first generation to be around the Internet from birth. Teaching young people how to use the Internet safely can be a challenging task for parents when social media platforms change relatively quickly and when we didn't grow up with the technology ourselves.

The eSafety Commissioner website promotes safer and more positive Internet experiences. An event promoted by the eSafety Commissioner was Safer Internet Day on the 9th February. This week at school students engaged in conversations and activities during their morning PC classes aimed at promoting positive online experiences.

The eSafety Commissioner supports research about online safety. Last year 12-17 year old's completed an eSafety questionnaire about their Internet usage. Some key findings included:

- Teenagers spend on average 14.4 hours a week of their free time on the Internet.
- Most teenagers use 4 different social media apps with the most popular being YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat.
- Tik Tok is increasingly used by teenagers with 38% using the platform in 2020 (compared to 17% in 2017). It is most popular amongst the 13-15 year old age group.
- 44% of teenagers had a negative online experience in the 6 months prior to completing the eSafety survey. The most common negative online experience was being contacted by a stranger or someone not known to them.
- Most teenagers (80%) took action after having a negative online experience. Actions included blocking the person or account, speaking to family/friends, and reporting the online behaviour

Finally, the website offers webinars to help parents to support their child's safe Internet usage. For a description of upcoming webinars check the website here.

**Anna Wallace**  
**Guidance Counsellor**

## Swimming Carnival Success

The weather was excellent for our recent Inter-House Swimming Carnival held on Thursday 11th February. Our new venue, The Centenary Pool, Spring Hill, proved to be a good addition to the sporting calendar with lots of shade for swimmers and staff. The proximity of the stands to the pool was particularly noticeable in our balloon novelty event, making for an exciting relay in which everyone was audibly involved!

Our championship races were well fought and records were broken at Under 13 level as well as new records for our new Under 18-year category. Congratulations to Grace Hill who set all of the Under 18 A Grade records in her races.



More information about records, age group champions, and of course which House won will feature later once awards have been awarded at our upcoming assembly.

A spectacular and fun day was had by all. Our swimmers are now looking forward to the Inter School Carnival on March 4.

**John Boumford**  
**Head of Sport**

## Lord Mayor's Youth Advisory Council



The Lord Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (LMYAC) provides an opportunity for students in Brisbane to raise issues, engage with each other in a public forum, and have a say in Brisbane City Council policies, local laws, services and programs that affect young people, all while developing leadership, communication and problem solving-skills.

Last year in LMYAC, I participated in many memorable activities including: discussing issues impacting young people of Brisbane, sharing stories about discrimination and its impacts, and most notably, developing a project to enhance the inclusivity of Brisbane. I chose to work on a project revolving around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture along with two other students. At the end of the year, we presented our finished project idea to the Lord Mayor, and he received it positively; there is a high chance it might be put into action!

Taking part in LMYAC ultimately helped me as a young person by broadening my perspectives on issues affecting youths, educating me on Brisbane City Council and government affairs, and allowing me to connect with like-minded youths.

**Hannah Blain**  
**Year 11 student**

## Girls' rugby season to begin

**GIRLS RUGBY SEASON INFORMATION**

Training commences Monday 1st February from 5:30pm  
Players will train on a Monday & Wednesday throughout February

**Girls 10s/ XVs Term 1**  
6-Week Competition  
Round 1 - Sunday 21 February  
Round 6 - Sunday 28 March

**Girls 7s Term 2**  
6-Week Competition  
Grading Rounds: Sunday 2 & 9 May  
Round 1 - Sunday 16 May  
Round 6 - Sunday 20 June

**Girls 7s Term 3**  
6-Week Competition  
Grading Rounds: Sunday 18 & 25 July  
Round 1 - Sunday 1 August  
Round 6 - Sunday 5 September

**Girls 7s Term 4**  
BJRU Summer 7s (TBC)

## College Newsletter and 2021 Calendar

Access our College Newsletter and 2021 College Calendar via the College website

<http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au/>

## Important Dates and Deadlines

16 February – Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday Excellence Awards
17 February – Wednesday	Ash Wednesday P & F Meeting
19 February – Friday	Red for Rosies Day
4 March – Thursday	CaSSA Swimming Carnival

## Absentees

**Please Phone: 07 3426 8095 prior to 9.00 am daily**  
**Email Link: [www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au](http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au)**  
**Absentee Email: [absenteeOLC@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:absenteeOLC@bne.catholic.edu.au)**  
**Or via the Parent Portal**