Vision Statement

Mater Dei College believes in the dignity and the nurturing of the individual and seeks to follow, with courage, Mary’s example of faith.

From the Principal

WHAT DO WE DO AT HOME?
The leadership role of parents in their family situation is much more difficult than it appears to be. The degree of difficulty depends somewhat on the style of leadership we choose to use.

If we choose to use an autocratic style, to impose our will on our children, then, we will be in for a power struggle. Our children will probably feel unsafe, unloved and untrusting of us.

If we choose the opposite extreme and choose to use a permissive style and choose to be physically or emotionally absent, don’t set limits, be afraid to say “no” and never hold our children accountable, then, chaos will result. Our children will probably be perplexed by life, lack motivation to achieve because they have never known structure in their lives.

If we choose to be in the middle of these two styles, we will be choosing an Authoritative - democratic style. This style is based on respect, love and trust, where positive communication and cooperation are enjoyed on a daily basis. If we foresee problems before they can fully emerge, if we can welcome opinions and offer choices while not guaranteeing that our children will always get what they want, then, our children will be confident, able to think for themselves and able to make decisions that have a positive outcome.

The good news is that everyone has the capacity to develop good parenting skills. Our children will feel loved and secure, if the way we go about living our lives and engaging with our children is in a positive, friendly yet firm manner.

“Your actions speak so loudly, I can’t even hear what you are saying.”
Author unknown

COLLEGE OPENING MASS 2016
On Tuesday the College community gathered at St Anthony’s Parish in Wanneroo to celebrate our 2016 Opening Mass. This was the first time we came together as a College to celebrate the Eucharist and the commencement of a new school year. The occasion was also a chance to congratulate successful Year 12 students from last year and to acknowledge long-serving staff members in our College.

I would like to thank our Chaplain, Fr John Daly, for presiding over our Eucharistic celebration and for offering the hospitality of St Anthony’s Parish. As Chaplain, Fr John is available on Thursday each week should anyone wish to speak with him.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING
The Annual Community Meeting for the election of members to the College Board and Parents & Friends Committee is to be held on Tuesday 23 February. There is a separate note being distributed with this Newsletter asking for parents to consider nominating for either or both groups. Involvement of parents in the operation of the College is a vital element and I would encourage parents to serve on these groups.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE
It is imperative that students present themselves impeccably right from the start of the year.

There should be no reason why students are not properly attired in their correct summer uniform. Parents/guardians will be contacted to correct any problems that emerge.

Students should present themselves in a manner that complies with the College standards of dress, hair length and colour, make-up and jewellery. These standards are clearly outlined in the various documents provided to parents. Again, parents/guardians will be contacted to correct any issue that needs attention.

ROAD SAFETY
I am asking students and drivers to be very “road aware” when crossing roads outside the College campus. The presences of buses adds another level of problem when students emerge from in front or from behind the bus without looking for on-coming vehicles. Be aware and stay safe.

Barry Alfirevich
The Deans’ Message Board

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2016

NAPLAN is an annual national assessment of all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students are expected to participate in the testing. They will be assessed in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy.

The NAPLAN tests are designed to complement the regular assessments made by Teachers throughout the year.

The tests provide a snapshot of a student’s achievement in comparison to all students of the same year level across the country. They assist Teachers to better identify students who require additional support or enrichment. Students and parents can use individual results to discuss achievement with teachers. The tests allow the progress of each student to be monitored over time.

NAPLAN tests are conducted at the College, and are administered by classroom teachers and the Dean of students in the relevant Year group.

The tests are scheduled for Tuesday 10 May, Wednesday 11 May and Thursday 12 May. All schools in Australia must complete the tests on the same days. All students are expected to be at school to sit the tests on those days.

If your child is absent from school on test days, due to illness, the school will organise another time during the period of 10-12 May. Students are not permitted to sit tests before or after these dates.

Your son/daughter will bring home a brochure explaining more about NAPLAN, so please ask for that. More information on test schedules will be provided closer to the testing dates. If you have any questions regarding the tests, please contact Mrs Cosgrove (Dean of students) via email: teresa.cosgrove@mdc.wa.edu.au

Online Numeracy & Literacy Assessment (OLNA)

From 2016 and beyond students in Year 12 will be required to demonstrate a minimum literacy and numeracy standard to graduate from high school and achieve a WACE (Western Australian Certificate of Education).

There are two ways to demonstrate the standard:

• prequalification through Year 9 NAPLAN, or
• demonstrating the minimum standard through the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).

Students who achieved Band 8 or higher in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing or Numeracy assessments last year will be prequalified for that component and deemed to have achieved the minimum standard.

Students who did not reach this level in the NAPLAN will have to sit Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessments. These students have been informed this week. Those students who will be required to sit the OLNA will have an opportunity to sit a practice test at school before the actual test.

However students can try the practice test as often as they like at home, log-on details are:

URL: https://assess.scsa.wa.edu.au/
Username: 1383
Password: prac14

A schedule of dates for the OLNA is:

• Writing: March 8, 9 in Period 1&2 (or March 10 if absent these two days)
• Numeracy: March 14, 15 in Period 1
• Reading: March 14,15 in Period 4
• (or March 16, 17, 18 if absent these two days)

Parents are asked to avoid scheduling any appointments for their sons/daughters when he/she is scheduled to sit the OLNA.

For more information please click on the following link.
“The Universe has spoken” – Mater Dei Staff at World Wide Physics Announcement.

Last Friday one of our Science teachers, Mr Stuart was invited with others to attend the most significant announcement in Physics for the last one hundred years at the University of W.A.

You might recall the national and international news last week when it was announced that Gravitational Waves had finally been detected, as predicted by Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity an hundred years ago. Many of the scientists involved with the project wore T-shirts with the words; “The Universe has spoken” underneath an image of the first recorded gravitational wave. Mater Dei College was represented at this historic announcement as Mr Stuart, a member of the ‘Einstein First Education Experts Group’, was one of the specially invited guests at the University for the formal announcement.

Mater Dei College has long been associated with World Class Physics in general and Best Practice Physics Education in particular. This association continues as the Dux of Mater Dei College last year, Alexandra Moroianu, has been accepted at U.W.A. to study Astrophysics.

According to Mr Stuart, “It is always a good time to study Science, but there has never been a better time.”

Lochie Leonard - the human torpedo

Drama Production for 2016
Our Year 12 Drama students will be producing the play Lochie Leonard - the Human Torpedo. It promises to be an exciting event, so please reserve some time in your diary to come to one of the performances. The dates are:

- 2 pm Sunday 3 April
- 7 pm Tuesday 5 April
- 7 pm Wednesday 6 April
- 7 pm Thursday 7 April.

Before each performance and during the interval the Hospitality students will be catering for their ‘pop-up’ 80’s style Diner Angelus. So make sure you allow plenty of time to taste some of the fare.
Year 10 Parent Information Evening

Date: Wednesday 24 February
Time and Place: 7.00pm sharp in the Bernie Boss Hall
Parking Available on the Oval

Mr Adam Camuglia – Year Coordinator

No Hat No Play

A reminder to all students that COLLEGE HATS ARE COMPULSORY when participating in Physical Education lessons during Term 1. NO HAT NO PLAY.

Students are also encouraged to bring water bottles to all lessons to ensure they remain hydrated.

Mr Mark Golding
Head of Learning Area - Health & Physical Education

Before and After School Sport Activities

TERM 1 - MATER DEI COLLEGE
SPORTS

BEFORE SCHOOL SPORT ACTIVITIES

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AFTER SCHOOL SPORT ACTIVITIES

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<td>Senior Girls Basketball</td>
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<td>Miss Jaggard</td>
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<td>Mr Camuglia</td>
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Mr T Wynne - SPORT COORDINATOR: email - troy.wynne@mdc.wa.edu.au
P&F Event: RAC Night

Time: 6 - 7 pm
Monday 21 March
Held at Mater Dei College in the Catherine Breakout Area

Sponsored by the Mater Dei P&F the RAC evening is suitable for Year 9, 10, 11 students and their families. It will provide an overview of the driving requirements for all learner drivers.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes for High School students

The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 6.30 - 7.30pm commencing Tuesday 1 March. at Our Lady of the Mission Parish in Craigie. For further details they can call Donna Moxey on 0434 637 355, the Parish Sacrament Co-ordinator

Careers Information

SAE Perth Campus Open Day
Saturday 21 May, 10am - 1pm @ Level 1, 3-5 Bennett Street, East Perth
Find out what it’s like to study a course in Animation, Audio, Design, Film, or Games Design. The day will feature information sessions and creative demonstrations and the opportunity to get questions answered by staff.


Skills One
Skills one is a video platform with over 1500 short video stories about getting a trade or skill. Videos are intended for career counselors, parents and students. Check it out by visiting the website:

Hospitality School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships
Hospitality Group Training WA has a number of school based traineeships in hospitality advertised on their website. If a career in hospitality interests you, check them out on the jobs board:

Murdoch University: Science Careers Evening
Wednesday 9 March, 6pm - 7.30pm @ Murdoch University - South Street Campus, Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre
Meet our Academics and learn about undergraduate course opportunities and careers in science, from working with animals to protecting and managing the environment.
For more information and to register email engage@murdoch.edu.au

University of Notre Dame: Medicine Information Session
Sunday 20 March, 11am @ Tannock Hall of Education (ND4), The University of Notre Dame, Cnr of Croke and Cliff Streets, Fremantle
Information about the Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Pre-Medicine Certificate (PMC) will be discussed including the application and selection process, course structure, and important dates and deadlines.
For more information email future@nd.edu.au or call 08 9433 0533
http://www.nd.edu.au/events/2016/med-information-session

Curtin University: Pharmacy Information Evening
Tuesday 3 May, 6pm - 8pm @ Curtin University
At this information evening prospective students can gain a unique insight into Curtin’s accredited courses and the many rewarding career paths they can lead to.
Register now:
http://news.curtin.edu.au/events/pharmacy-information-evening/

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Mater Dei College Cafeteria

**Breakfast**
The Cafeteria is open at **7am** and offers 2 slices of buttered toast for $1.00 along with a special if they buy toast and hot milo for $2.50.

Please Help!!! The canteen needs some helpers, if you can spare a little of your time we would really appreciate it.

To put your name down on the Cafeteria roster, please contact:

**Lea Ivulich Volunteer Coordinator, Cafeteria contact: 9405 0528.**

Mater Dei College Uniform Shop

**Term 1: Trading Hours**

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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.00 am - 12.00 pm &amp; 12.30 pm - 4.30 pm</td>
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Telephone: Mrs Linda Caporn on 9405 0539
Email - linda.caporn@mdc.wa.edu.au

Extra Curricular Clubs & Activities 2016

A list of extra-curricular activities is on our website. Please click on the link below for details about Clubs and activities that are happening around the College in 2016.


Thursday Morning Mass

Each Thursday at **8.00 am** Mass is held at Mater Dei College Chapel, located in the Administration Building. Occasionally the time may change if it coincides with a House day.

**STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND STAFF ARE WELCOME.**

Latest Recipients of Merit Certificates

**Romero House**
Kiara Czerwionka (Year 8), 1 merit certificate
Mater Dei College Annual General Meeting for the Board and P&F

7.30 pm on 23 February 2016
Administration Building at Mater Dei College

This is a great opportunity to become involved in the College Community and contribute to your experience at Mater Dei College. Studies have shown that children who have parents who are actively involved in the school community perform better!

To download a form to nominate for the College Board, [please follow this link.]

To download a form to nominate for the P&F Committee, [please follow this link.]

Save the Date

P&F High Tea
Sunday 15 May 2016

Due to a clash with the use to the facilities the date of the High Tea must be changed. Please reserve Sunday 15 May for our HIGH TEA. Details will be published in further newsletters.

LENT 2016: Week Two Reflection

With gratitude we trust in the mercy of God, he is our water of life.

REFLECTION SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – 21 February

Today’s collect prayer asks God to ‘nourish us inwardly with your word.’ The transformation of our lives, the times we will ‘see God’ will come if we are open to hearing God’s word in our lives, not just with our ears but also with our hearts.

The disciples had first to climb the mountain with Jesus in order to encounter God’s presence. What mountains are we invited to climb? Our learning and growing towards better relationships, patience with ourselves and with others can become our Lenten observance, and indeed, the gift we offer with bread and wine at Mass. In this way we too will come to ‘see God’ in our daily lives. Today our community extends beyond those from our local worshipping community. We are urged to reach out to all people and today we remember especially the people of Laos featured in Project Compassion who need us to walk with them to enable all in their country to live with dignity and respect. These too are our sisters and brothers in Christ. It is fitting that our Project Compassion contributions form part of our gifts procession each Sunday.

God’s word can be revealed to us in times of challenge if we open our hearts. God’s word is also revealed to us in those around us. Seeing the face of God on the mountain calls us to see the face of God in our neighbour.