Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of the Magdalene Community,

This week we have been celebrating Catholic Schools Week across NSW. As part of Catholic Schools Week our school was open for review by both prospective and current parents and students. As part of that event Chloe Berenger (Year 8), Ben Brown (Year 10), Jessica Grech and Blake Harvey (Year 12) spoke about their Magdalene experiences. This week the students will have their say on Magdalene. Below is Chloe Berenger’s speech from the Information Evening.

“When Mr Elliot asked me to say a speech about my time so far in high school, 1001 memories flashed through my mind. Memories of all the fun times I’ve had at Magdalene so far and I’m only in Year 8.

So I’ll take you all back to my first day. I was so nervous and excited at the same time. I got to school and stuck like a penguin to my friends from primary. We were introduced to the way high school works, we got our timetables learnt how to read the map answered any questions that had to be asked and then by Period 3 we were into our first class.

I was so relieved when I was in the same class as one of my good friends from primary school. But it was in that first Technology class that I met my first best friend of high school, Peta. We then realised we were in all the same classes and from then on we became best friends and through her I have met my new group of high school friends, I’m still close with the St Paul’s girls but my friends I have made at Magdalene have been some of the most loyal, humorous, smartest and most amazing people I have met.

Magdalene has provided me with so many opportunities to express my talents. I have sung at our grade’s reflection day and Magdalene Twinkles and I am now taking up singing lessons with a truly fantastic singing teacher. In classes I have made, designed and learnt so much; from making a moneybox to drawing glass objects. I find it really cool how I have learnt how to use a bunsen burner (even though it scares me) or make an octopup out of clay or learnt keyboard, the skills I’ve learnt here are some I will definitely use in later life. And its not only me, our grade has some of the most talented people, who can express their talents here at Magdalene.

When I started high school I was and still am the biggest “stress head,” it was probably because of how much change there was, I guess I just wasn’t used to the assessments, the diary’s, the lockers and just everything. But I soon realised everyone is here to help you. My best friends were obviously the first people I would go to next would be my teachers. In Year 7 I wasn’t really used to having about 10 teachers. They were all different but I eventually got to know them and they all became a big help to me during high school. They all knew I tended to stress about things a fair bit but they were all there to lend a helping hand and good advice when I needed it and I got through all those assignments pretty well.

Your child will most likely go through the stress of all the change in high school as well, if they don’t they can be my new best friend. But what they can understand is that, everyone is here to help you. A little Year 7 person is more than welcome to come up to anyone and ask where the computer rooms are, we are all open to helping. That what I love so much about Magdalene, sure we aren’t perfect but Magdalene has a great sense of community we are all open to meeting new people and lending a helping hand.

Strong minds, gentle hearts
In Year 7 I was blessed enough to be voted SRC for my grade with two of my best friends Harry and Peta. We make a great team and are happy to tackle any issue our grade or anyone else has. After all we have me, the brains, Harry, the speaker and Peta, well she makes us look good so we work well. I love being SRC I like to lead and give creative ideas to our grade I love to talk and give a voice to the people in my grade who don’t really have the courage to say anything. Harry, Peta and I have had so many opportunities as SRC, just last week we visited some of your children’s primary schools to talk about Magdalene, we go to meetings with the other SRC members and we take our time out to do things for the school. Even though it can be really tiring sometimes, we love being in the SRC.

When you choose a high school for your child I really do recommend Magdalene. It truly is a great school and I’m not just saying that lightly. Our school gives a really good education; I’ve learnt some of the most interesting things here and with my teachers help, worked hard to keep those interesting things in my head. The teachers do push everyone to strive for their personal excellence and I personally believe most people in the school have reached their personal excellence. Not only does Magdalene give an amazing education but it’s a really fun school. I really have had a ton of fun here. From reflection days to Pancake Day, from activity day at the end of the year to the Magdalene feast day carnival, from camps to history excursions I have truly had so much fun with the most amazing people I have ever met. I have experienced some of the best things that I honestly believe I couldn’t experience anywhere else.

So consider Magdalene because I know I personally wouldn’t have chosen anywhere else.”

written by Chloe Berenger (8 Hogan)

I thank all the teachers students and parents in the Parents and Friends for their contribution to our open afternoon and information evening. A special thank you to the parents and students who attended the evening.

Last Friday night Hannah Clancy competed in the final of the CSDA Public Speaking Competition. Hannah competed against 12 other students who were the finalists from 80 Catholic High Schools across Sydney. The competition began with 160 students. To compete is certainly a great accomplishment. To make the final is certainly an outstanding achievement. Although Hannah did not win she was certainly an outstanding participant in an outstanding competition. Congratulations to Hannah and all the public speakers on their performances. A special thank you to the coaches Mrs Baretto and Mrs Jones for their support of the students.

As Lent continues I urge everyone to reflect on the journey to Easter.

Lenten Prayer

Loving Father of mine,
I feel the pace quicken, the time draw near.
I am filled with joy as I move toward Easter
and the promised reconciliation with you.
Teach me to follow the example of your Son,
to be worthy of being called one his people: a Christ-ian.
Help me to live each day as he did
turning hatred to love and conflict to peace.
I await the new life with eagerness, faith
and a deep gratitude.

May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

Finally this week we received the news of the election of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio SJ as new Pope. Cardinal Bergoglio has taken the name Francis and will be known as Pope Francis 1. I ask everyone to pray that the Holy Spirit guides our Pope in his decision making and the future direction and care of our Church. Bishop Peter Ingham’s statement on the election of the Pope is included in this newsletter.

God Bless

Mr John Lo Cascio

Principal
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday 14 March 2013

Bishop Peter Ingham welcomes the election of Pope Francis I

Bishop Peter Ingham today warmly welcomed the election of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio SJ as the new Pope. Taking the name Francis, the new pontiff was elected on the second day of the Conclave of Cardinals.

Bishop Ingham said he joined with all Catholics in praying for the new Pope as he took on the awesome responsibility of leading the world’s 1.2 billion Catholics.

Bishop Ingham said, “I am very excited! The election of a new Pope is always a joyous time for the Church as was witnessed by the massive crowds gathered in St Peter’s Square braving the rain. He looked so calm and humble during what would have been a very daunting moment in his life. I liked how he asked the people to pray for him.

“Although a somewhat unexpected candidate, I am thrilled with the decision and I think it shows that the Cardinals really have listened to the Holy Spirit. Being from Latin America, the new Pope brings with him the perspective of the Southern Hemisphere to the Northern Hemisphere. He also brings with him a great social conscience. He is a champion of the poor, which is clearly evident in the simple spartan lifestyle that he has lived.

“As a member of the international Jesuit order, which means the Society of Jesus, the new Pope comes from a great legacy of spiritual leadership, prayer, and a strong focus on education and social justice – being a voice for the voiceless. As Archbishop Denis Hart said, he focuses us on following Jesus closely.

“The name he has chosen is also a very important sign to us. St Francis Xavier (from whom our Wollongong Cathedral takes its name), was a great Jesuit missionary. Another great Saint in our Church was Saint Francis of Assisi; a man of poverty, humility and simplicity who gave up everything in the world to respond to Christ’s call to rebuild his Church. The Church’s nature is missionary and is always in need of reform and rebuilding.

“I see this as an opportunity for the Church to start afresh and renew its allegiance to our Lord Jesus Christ through our pledge of allegiance to our new Holy Father. Pope Francis cannot be expected to solve every problem. The challenges that face the Church at present, especially in Australia, cannot be understated. However, it is my hope that the election of Pope Francis will give us fresh heart and encourage us to persevere in the faith (cf Acts 14:22) and to meet the challenges ahead in a spirit of truth, justice and healing.
“Just as Jesus selected Peter from among the Apostles because of his strong faith, this new Successor of Saint Peter is a gifted man chosen under the influence of the Holy Spirit and affirmed by the Church. We pray for our new Holy Father, Francis, as he begins his journey in the footsteps of St Peter as an Apostle for peace and goodness for the whole world.”

Bishop Peter Ingham will be celebrating a special Mass of thanksgiving for Pope Francis I tomorrow (Friday 15 March) at 12.10pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong (16 Harbour Street). Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

- ends -

Bishop Peter Ingham is in Sydney today in meetings with the NSW Bishops but will be available for phone interviews between 12:45pm and 1.30pm.

For further media information contact:
Daniel Hopper
Diocesan Communications Coordinator
02 4222 2461 | 0418 667 517
daniel.hopper@dow.org.au

Vinnies Kitchen Returns

After a long time of lacking a night-time co-ordinator, Vinnies Kitchen has started up again.

Vinnies Kitchen provides meals for the needy in the mornings and at lunchtime. It has re-opened the Wednesday night meal and is planning to do the same on Fridays. Last Wednesday seven of our students were trained in safe food handling practice and are now qualified to go on the roster. They are Clare Dowswell, Kate Moran, Carly Reynolds, Sarah Coss, Tanisha Lo, Jaqueline Marshall and Tiarne Britt.

They join a group of students who were trained last year along with a large number of staff. Our photo shows Alex Fitzpatrick and Caroline O’Sullivan working in the kitchen with teachers, Mrs Cuomo and Mrs Said. They did preparation duty on Wednesday and were followed by Kayla Acorn and teacher, Mr Whicker, who served the meals.

Lent
Way of the Cross “Maryfields”
All Welcome

Way of the Cross
Good Friday - March 29th 2013
Commencing 8.45 am sharp

All Welcome

Come and join in a tradition at Maryfields since 1536.
Pray and walk with hundreds of others as we recall together the journey of Jesus to Calvary.

Where?
‘Maryfields’ - Franciscan Friars
Narellan Road, Campbelltown
Opposite the University of Western Sydney Campus
Look for the banner and electronic sign

For more information:
Franciscan Friars
Tel: 02-465 3000

Maryfields Catholic College
Year 11 News

Lauren Turner has selected to represent the Narellan region in the Districts Lions Youth of the Year at Merimbula this coming Saturday. It has been a huge achievement for her to get this far and we wish her all the best.

Year 11 teachers have completed a Progress report on their classes to assist/identify any students that may be having difficulty adjusting to the Preliminary course. Students and parents will be contacted in regard to these concerns shortly.

This coming Tuesday, students will also experience the opportunity to enhance their study skills and overall organisation with the assistance of the Elevate program. The young Elevate presenters will reflect on techniques proven to assist students throughout their HSC and beyond. They will also return in August to assist with Examination preparation.

Registrations are now open for students to who wish to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award at Magdalene. Please visit the Duke of Ed website [http://www.dukeofed.com.au](http://www.dukeofed.com.au) for more information on the program requirements. REGISTRATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 22 MARCH.

Dates for expedition hikes are:

Bronze: May 10-11 and Aug 9-10  Silver: May 30-June1, Aug 9-10 and Sep 12-14
MISA SPORT

This week Magdalene’s girls’ teams played Round 5 of the Term 1 MISA competition against St Patrick’s College. Next week our teams play Macarthur Anglican College.

This week’s results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cricket – Boys Senior</td>
<td>No Game</td>
<td>Mr Vannan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket – Girls Open</td>
<td>Win</td>
<td>Great win and all round performance, our best of the season. Good fielding and positioning saved a lot of runs and our bowling was consistent. Jess and Jacqui scored most of the runs and Isabel was player of the day due to her bowling and batting performance. Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball – Boys 8/9</td>
<td>No Game</td>
<td>Miss McCallum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball – Girls 8/9</td>
<td>18-13 Win</td>
<td>Great game by all the girls!! Started off very strong, opening up by a good lead. A late comeback from St Patrick’s meant the girls had to lift another gear and close the game. Mr Arzapitian/Mr Dowdell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oztag – Boys Senior</td>
<td>Intra-school match Yr10 v Yr11</td>
<td>Some positive news from Boys Oztag with the Year 10 boys defeating Year 11 by 5 to 4. A positive sign for the future. Mr Lipscombe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oztag – Girls Senior</td>
<td>3-1 Loss</td>
<td>Emily Shanahan and Emily Sutherland were players of the day. We are still struggling with team cohesion. Mrs McAlister</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volleyball – Boys 7-9</td>
<td>No Game</td>
<td>Mr Hewitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volleyball – Girls 7-9</td>
<td>3-0 Loss</td>
<td>Most valuable player: Laura. Although we lost the game the team worked hard to improve. Miss J Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Softball – Boys 7-9</td>
<td>No Game</td>
<td>Mr Donaldson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball – Girls 7-9</td>
<td>7-1 Win</td>
<td>What a great result girls. Fantastic batting and pitching by Madison. Everyone contributed to a fantastic win. Must be the secret training. Mr Zakris</td>
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YEAR 9 SCHOOL SPORT

This week Year 9 School Sport continued with students playing opposing Homerooms in soccer, touch football, netball, volleyball and basketball. Homeroom teams score 3 points for a win, 2 points for a draw and 1 point for a loss. Players of the match: Tyler Simpson, Yvette Awad, Briana Varela, Madison Moser, Sophie Cornett, Natalie Bishop, Joel Upfill and Tyler Bosco.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
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<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>Win</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruchhauser</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dunne</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Hogan</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Moore</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sedgwick</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td>3</td>
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SPORTS NEWS 5/3/2013

U/13s Diocesan Touch Football Report

On Thursday 7 March, three boys touch football teams travelled to Fairy Meadow to compete in the Diocesan Boys’ Touch Football Carnival. The U/13’s boys team had a great day and played extremely well. We had a mix of results during the day - some wins, some losses and a draw. Overall the boys had a fantastic day and had lots of fun! Well done!

Miss McCallum

Sheree Farrell (8W) will be attending the Australian National Open swimming competition in Adelaide later on this term. Sheree came 5th in the NSW Open Swimming earlier this term)

Congratulations Sheree

Nicholas Appleton (8S) has been selected to go to the final trial for the 2013/14 Cricket NSW Academy U/14’s squad.

Well done Nicholas

Under 13’s Diocesan Boys Touch Team 2013
Bradley Bishop, Khyle Davidson, Ethan Elliott-Buckley, Mark Golding, Connor Henderson, Oliver Ireland, Jake Irvine, Blayne McCarthy, Connor McFarlane, Cooper Rodwell, Bailey Smith and Lachlan Stone. Assistant Coaches: Madeline Kenny and Emily Sutherland.

Important Diocesan representative information

When school representatives for Diocesan events are selected students are given a permission note that needs to be returned to the office, with payment, by the due date. If students fail to return the Diocesan representative note within the allocated time-frame teams may have to be withdrawn from the competition. If exceptional circumstances exist students may see Mr Kennedy, before the due date, to arrange later payment. In the case of students who are substitutes or late additions an extended due date may be given where appropriate.
**Magdalene Catholic High School**

**Year 7, 2014 Enrolment Applications**

The Enrolment period for Year 7, 2014 is now open.

Enrolment packages are available from the school Administration office from 7.30am - 3.30pm.

For further information please contact the school office 4647 7055.

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**Premier’s Reading Challenge 2013**

Reading for all ages

This year we would like to invite all students to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2013. This invitation is open to all students in Years 7 – 12; younger children may participate through their Primary Schools. Further registration details will be distributed to students next week however, with 600 books to choose from you might like to go to the website for a browse.


Enjoy the opportunity to read!

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**Be Active. Be Happy. Be You**

Are you between the ages of 12 and 25? If so, come and celebrate National Youth Week from Friday 5 to Sunday 14 April in the Camden Local Government Area with a range of fun activities and events. No matter where you live or what you’re interested in there are plenty of opportunities to join in the fun!

Youth Week is Australia’s largest celebration of young people. This year the theme is “Be Active. Be Happy. Be You” and Camden Council, together with 10 different youth and community services, are going to reflect on this theme and make this the best Youth Week with 16 events spread across the week.


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**Second Hand Uniform Shop Term 1**

The Second Hand Uniform shop will be open on Mondays during Term 1 from 7.50am - 8.20am.

To arrange appointments please call Kelly O’Keeffe on 0410 553812.

Donations of small size blazers are required urgently.

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**NOTICEBOARD**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 8B</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
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<td>18 March - 22 March</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Cleary</td>
<td>Jeremy Berenger</td>
<td>Joanne Britt</td>
<td>Michelle Crowe</td>
<td>Katie Wilson</td>
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<td>Nicole Hamilton</td>
<td>Marg Ryan</td>
<td>Coralie Kelly</td>
<td>Kathy Foden</td>
<td>Alison Glohe</td>
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<td>Donna Duck</td>
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<td>Eve Farkas</td>
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<td>Kerry Bolwell</td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 9A</th>
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<tr>
<td>Johan Versteeg</td>
<td>Frances Lapa</td>
<td>Helen Dillon</td>
<td>Petina McDonnell</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chantel Fenech</td>
<td>Carol Miskell</td>
<td>Kelly</td>
<td>Angela Rao</td>
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<td>Tanya Harvey</td>
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<td>Saysanavongpheth</td>
<td>Michelle Ustariz</td>
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