Vol 15 Term: 1 Week 7
22 March 2013

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

Last Friday the school conducted a mufti day for the support of Caritas projects. The theme of the day was red, in keeping with the colour of love. The support of students was quite impressive with over $1804 raised for Caritas. I thank everyone for their commitment and ask that this continues for the remaining days of Lent.

Over the past two weeks we have received news of success stories of students from Magdalene. The most recent students to set the highest possible standards are Lauren Turner and Ayden Brown. Lauren continued her success in the Lions Youth of the Year competition with her performance in the Regional Final at Merimbula. Although Lauren was not the eventual winner by all accounts her performance was outstanding. Ayden on the other hand also used his talents to produce an outstanding performance. Ayden was recently selected to play for the Combined Catholic Colleges Cricket Team, which is a selection trial for the NSW School Boys’ Cricket Team. Ayden was successful and has been selected to play for NSW against Queensland in December. Congratulations to both students.

Since the beginning of 2013 the teachers at Magdalene have been involved in the development of Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s) in their subject areas. The PLC’s have as their aim the improvement of student learning. The PLC’s meet on a regular basis to focus solely on improving the learning of students in their focus area. At present teachers are sharing best practice approaches and looking at the most appropriate strategies to meet the needs of students in their classes and thus ensure essential learning is taking place. If students are not learning this is also addressed. We look forward to sharing strategies on a whole school level which will ensure continual improvement in student learning.

This week year 12 students begin their Half Yearly Examinations. One aim of the examinations is to assess what students know and are able to do. In addition to that the purpose is to enable students to develop valuable examination skills and to inform teachers if any deficits exist so that these may be addressed in the lead up to the HSC. In the last week Year 7 presented Year 12 prayer cards stating that they would be praying for their Year 12 partner as they complete their examinations. I ask everyone to keep Year 12 in their prayers during this time. I know the support will be most appreciated.

This evening the first Spark Retreat for 2013 will be conducted at the school. This is an opportunity for students to share their faith journey and to enjoy each other’s company in a relaxed yet focused atmosphere. I thank Mr Elliott and Mr Pannell for their organisation and look forward to this positive experience.

Last Sunday was St Patrick’s Day, which has special significance in the life of Magdalene. Our history is very much associated with the Patrician Brothers and thus their patron, St Patrick. Magdalene now occupies the site, which for many years was the Patrician Brothers novitiate. The Patrician Brothers have also taken an active and supportive interest in the Magdalene journey from the time the site was chosen until today. The following prayer, the shorter version of the Breastplate of St Patrick, is a guide for us in our lives. This is especially relevant during Lent which is an appropriate time for us to renew our commitment to inviting Jesus Christ into our lives.

Strong minds, gentle hearts
Breastplate of St Patrick

Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise today through a mighty strength
The invocation of the Trinity
Through the belief in threeness
Through the confession of oneness of the creator of creation.

God Bless

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

A Communication Reminder for parents

Parents are reminded that communication with teachers is encouraged. However in order to ensure efficient communication parents who wish to speak to a teacher in person or have an interview, should make an appointment. This will ensure the teacher’s availability and avoid unnecessary angst and confusion when a teacher is not available.
**Year 7 News**

On Wednesday the 6th of March, Year Seven 7-1 interviewed Mr Lo Cascio during our Religion class. The point of our interview was to find out more about Magdalene Catholic High School and how Mr Lo Cascio felt about our school. Mr Lo Cascio gave the students a greater understanding of their school and his vision for the future. Some of the information was useful for our religion assignment. This information helped the 7-1 students understand the reputation Magdalene Catholic High School and the importance of having high expectations.

Mr Lo Cascio shared his thoughts and had very interesting comments about the history of Magdalene and his past experience in life. One of the questions asked was; “What is your understanding of the Magdalene Catholic High School story so far?” His answer reflected on how much the Magdalene Community had grown and developed since its beginning. Starting with 90 students and 12 staff. Currently there are 1023 students and 90 staff. The reputation as a Catholic School is important for all students, staff and members of the Magdalene Community. One of our main purposes is to spread the message of Jesus Christ.

Written by: Dione Miller and Brittney McCrorey
Year 7-1 Students 2013

**Year 7 Guest Speaker**

On Thursday 14 March, Year 7 had a guest speaker Andrew who is a physiotherapist. He came and gave us information on how to care for our backs and how to properly wear our school backpacks.

He said to be smart with how we pack our bags and keep our straps tightened to make sure our bags don’t slump and cause us back pain.

Andrew’s tips.
Stay healthy and active
Plan your day take what you need
Use your locker

Thank you Mr Andrew Hreszczuk.
From Lifestyle & Sports Physiotherapy

By Max Versteeg (7W)
Parliamentary Education Day

On Wednesday this week, the four captains, Louie, Blake, Jess and Alex joined with other Catholic Schools from around the state for a Parliamentary Education Day in Sydney. The day was spent listening to many members of parliament, having a tour of State Parliament and Government House, where we listened to and spoke with Her Excellency Marie Bashir AC, CVO (The Governor of NSW) along with many other Members for Parliament. We had the amazing opportunity to spend time with our local Member for Parliament, the Honourable Chris Patterson, with whom we had the privilege of meeting the NSW Education Minister, Adrian Piccoli. In our meetings we learnt some valuable lessons about how to discover our world values and how to make a change with these values. As parliament was sitting when we were there, we were able to watch both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council in action, where Mr Chris Patterson mentioned us and our school:

Mr CHRISt PATTERSON (Camden) [11.23 a.m.]: “I support the Independent Commission Against Corruption Amendment (Disciplinary Proceedings) Bill 2013. Madam Acting-Speaker, before I comment in detail on the bill, I seek your indulgence. As you may be aware, today is Parliamentary Education Day and wonderful school leaders from Catholic high schools across the State are visiting Parliament. I state for the record and single out four outstanding young leaders who are present in the gallery: Louis Bendtsen, Alex Fitzpatrick, Blake Harvey and Jess Grech. They are all from the Magdalene Catholic High School in my electorate. Knowing them first hand as I do, I can attest to their wonderful leadership qualities. I am certain they will be the future leaders of our community. It is wonderful to welcome them to this House. For the information of member for Keira, I add that they are not on my pre selection panel; they are just wonderful young school leaders of whom I am very proud. The other point I mention is that the member for Wollondilly, who is present in the Chamber, is very supportive of the Magdalene Catholic High School in my electorate. Many of his constituents attend Magdalene Catholic High School because it is such a fine Catholic educational institution in our district. I welcome those young leaders to the gallery. I hope they enjoy their day. It is a privilege to have them with us.”

We are very grateful for this opportunity and think, as a result, we can give back more to our school and community.

By Blake Harvey, Jessica Grech, Louis Bendtsen and Alex Fitzpatrick (School and Vice Captains)

Alex Fitzpatrick
Magdalene Catholic High School
School Captain

School Vice Captain: Jessica Grech, School Captain: Louis Bendtsen
School Captain: Alex Fitzpatrick and School Vice Captain: Blake Harvey.
Year 10 HSIE Excursion - Cronulla
MISA SPORT

This week Magdalene played Round 6 of the Term 1 MISA competition against Macarthur Anglican College with a great overall result. Next week our teams play Wollondilly Anglican College.

This weeks results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cricket – Boys Senior</td>
<td>53-55 Loss</td>
<td>Very good match. Everybody contributed with either bat, ball or in the field. Highlights were James: 15 runs, Jake: 2 catches, Matt: only 2 runs off his over and Reece 11 runs and 4 wickets off 4 balls. Mr Vannan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket – Girls Open</td>
<td>60-32 Win</td>
<td>Well done for making the final. Good bowling. Good hitting from Jacqui and Celene supported by Abbie, Bianca and Melissa. Taylah Earnshaw is player of the day for her great enthusiasm. Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball – Boys 8/9</td>
<td>17-11 Win</td>
<td>Our first win! Well done boys! Miss McCallum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball – Girls 8/9</td>
<td>16-6 Win</td>
<td>A brilliant win on the back of some hard unified defence. Great result. Mr Dowdell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oztag – Boys Senior</td>
<td>8-2 Win</td>
<td>The winning form continued from the intra-club with a solid win. Ricardo, Dankers and Anthony Simonetta all crossed for 2 tries each with Daniel Lagudi setting up many attacking plays. Mr Lipscombe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oztag – Girls Senior</td>
<td>7-3 Win</td>
<td>Much better game today. We had some excellent passages of play. MVP: Jenaye Collins and Georgia Fitzpatrick. Mrs McAlister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball – Boys 7-9</td>
<td>3-2 Win</td>
<td>A very close victory! The boys were guilty of losing focus but to their credit they stuck to a game plan and executed it when it mattered, to continue in the competition undefeated. The team is concentrating on the next match against Wollondilly. Mr Hewitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball – Girls 7-9</td>
<td>3-0 Win</td>
<td>The girls were very productive and settled to win all 3 games. Well done girls! Miss J Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball – Boys 7-9</td>
<td>14-3 Loss</td>
<td>Despite the score this was our BEST performance. We hit well and fielded well. Great effort boys. Mr Donaldson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball – Girls 7-9</td>
<td>10-2 Win</td>
<td>Another great performance girls. Everyone contributed. The batting was exceptional. Well done. Mr Zakris</td>
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Diocesan Tennis Teams Report

The girls team won convincingly against St John’s Nowra first round but then lost against a very strong John Therry team.

The boys lost their first round in a very close match against Mount Carmel (3 sets all, we lost on games) but then the boys went onto defeat St John’s in the consolation semi-final and were able to defeat Corpus Christi in a very close final (2 sets all, we won by one game).

Thanks to all the students who competed so well on the day and to Mrs Gallagher for managing the team.

Diocesan Tennis Team: Teagan McConchie, Thomas Gallagher, Maighan Duck, Jack Davenport, Samuel Gallagher, Sam McConchie, Isabella Tenaglia, Megan Casey, Emma Potocki and Nathan Mifsud.
SPORTS NEWS 19/3/2013

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: Jarrad Choi, Nicholas Kotevski, Matthew Geering, Isabelle Stone, Elyse Walker, Keira Davidson, Tyler Simpson, Bianca Suraci, Bethany Chesney.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>Win</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchhauser</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunne</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedgwick</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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U/13s Girls Diocesan Soccer

On Thursday 7 March, 13 girls from Year 7 participated in a gala day of soccer in Nowra. We left school just after 6.00am and drove in our luxury bus to Nowra. The girls played 4 matches during the day, winning two, drawing one and losing the last. The girls all represented Magdalene with pride and passion throughout the day. The members of the team were: Julienne Chevalier, Jamie Dallas, Natalia Lapa, Kristina Markovic, Monica Porteiro, Antonia Romeo. Goal scorers were Kaitlin Leonard (5), Bethany Jenkins, Tarez Elias, Tahlia Daw, Abby Britt. The players of the day were the two central defenders; Amanda Geary and Natasha Teeling. Well done to all players. Thank you as well to the parents who came to watch us play.

Diocesan U/15 Girls Soccer Report

On Thursday 7 March the U/15 Girls Soccer team represented the school at the Diocesan carnival. All of the girls had a great day with the team suffering only one loss from our four pool games. Unfortunately this was not enough to allow the team to make it through to the final. I was extremely impressed with the attitude the girls displayed and the “never give up” approach that they showed in the very hot and humid conditions. It is very difficult to single out any one player as everyone played a great role every time they went on the field. This is one of the best teams that I have had the pleasure of coaching over my many years of teaching. Well done girls. Mr Hatton - Coach

Team: Jasmine Bajada, Annicka Ciol, Bethany Perkins, Lauren Wright, Shannan Wright, Laura Barillaro, Bethany Chesney, Taylor Fenech, Tiahna Profillio, Brittany Rasmussen, Josephine Rudisi, Isabel Staunton, Giorgia Stikovic and Elyse Walker.

Diocesan U/15 Boys Touch Football Report

We made it to Wollongong on a beautiful sunny day to take on the Wollongong Diocese in the Touch Football day. With no time to prepare the boys did an admirable job on the day, many having played rugby league before but needing to learn the specifics of Touch Football as we went. The Wollongong teams we played were amazing, yet we kept very steady along the way. The important point to note, however, is that we won the most important game of the day, the local derby against St Benedict’s. Whilst we didn’t win too many games, the boy’s support of each other, sportsmanship and team cohesion were very impressive throughout. It is too hard to single out players for most valuable, however, the most improved players throughout the day were Damon Koulouris and Brendan Maher. The boys were a pleasure to coach, from warming themselves up before the day started without being asked, their positivity towards the team and their willingness to take on feedback. A big thank you to former school Vice Captain Matthew Watson who came down and refereed both the Open’s and Under 15’s games all day (18 games in total). Also, a big thank you to Emily Sutherland for being the manager of the team and making sure that the boys knew where they were playing and that scores were kept!

Mrs McAllister - Coach


Please look forward to other Diocesan reports from Term 1 in future newsletters.
NOTICEBOARD

March

22 Fri Spark Retreat
22-25 Fri-Mon Year 12 Exams continue
29 Fri Good Friday - School Closed

April

1 Mon Easter Monday - School Closed
2 Tue Yr 12 Textiles Excursion
3 Wed Yr 9 History Excursion
4-5 Thu - Fri Duke of Edinburgh School Cross Country
12 Fri Year 7 Vaccinations
Year 9 Boys Vaccinations
Interim Reports issued
LAST DAY OF TERM 1
27 Wed Year 7 History Excursion
29 Fri Term 2 Commences

Premier's Reading Challenge 2013
Reading for all ages
This year students are invited 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. NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge: https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html
Enjoy the opportunity to read!

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.

School Socks
The school sports socks have now arrived, all sizes are available from the front office at a $6 pair.

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<tr>
<th>CANTEEN</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1 Week 9A 25 March - 29 March</td>
<td>25 Johan Versteeg Chantel Fenech Tanya Harvey Lisa Burke</td>
<td>26 Frances Lapa Carol Miskell</td>
<td>27 Helen Dillon Kelly Saysanavongpheth</td>
<td>28 Petina McDonnell Angela Rao Michelle Ustariz</td>
<td>29 Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANTEEN</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1 Week 10B 1 April - 5 April</td>
<td>1 Easter Monday</td>
<td>2 Isabela Riservato Christine Montafia-Brown</td>
<td>3 Francois Moutia Alison Gerada</td>
<td>4 Ann Hyeronimus Marlene Whitelaw</td>
<td>5 Toni Johnson Rachel Miller Megan Gibson</td>
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