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

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope everyone had a Holy Easter and was able to spend some valuable time re-energising and preparing for the term ahead. This term certainly has challenges for students as we move to the second half of first semester. Students in Years 9 – 11 will undertake Half Yearly Examinations in the coming weeks and should take every opportunity to fully prepare for these examinations, with a study plan and study regime, to ensure they are familiar with all that needs to be studied.

All students need to be fully aware that all assessment adds to their overall result and enhances their learning. With this in mind it is essential that application to all learning experiences whether, homework, class work assessment tasks or examinations is approached with the same dedication and commitment throughout the semester. This will allow students to improve their learning and gain a result that is reflective of their true potential.

I remind parents that the school will conduct two staff development days this term. The days will be conducted by experts in their field and have been subject to the availability of these persons. The first will be conducted on Friday 1 May and will be facilitated by Bronwyn MacLeod (Director of Gateways Education) from UNSW, who has done much work in the area of Gifted Education. Brownyn will be leading the staff in a day focused on Curriculum Differentiation. Participation in the day will expose staff to strategies to allow greater differentiation and enhance student learning growth.

The second staff development day will be conducted on Friday 29 May and will be facilitated by Jesuit priest, Fr Richard Leonard. Fr Richard will be working with staff on “How Catholic Education can form believers in a media saturated culture” This will allow a greater understanding of the students’ world and help us to promote their faith development.

I apologise for any inconvenience created by these dates, however, as stated the dates were dependant on the availability of presenters.

Congratulations to Miss Lauren Miller and Russell Agland who were married over the holidays. We wish them all the best for their future lives together.

Today the community came together to commemorate ANZAC Day. The ceremony was a most significant one as we reflect on 100 years since the display of such bravery and valour at Gallipoli. Mrs Phillips organised a service in which students from all year groups participated. The ceremony was both moving and memorable. We were very fortunate to have guest speaker Mr Peter Phillips who spoke to us about his experiences as a soldier in Afghanistan. The ceremony concluded with the planting of our own ‘Lone Pine’ the seedling propagated from the original ‘Lone Pine’ at Gallipoli. The significance of the ‘Lone Pine’ was explained beautifully by Caitlin Fitzgerald. (This explanation is included in this newsletter).

The ceremony was conducted at the foot of the school’s new Anzac Memorial garden. This garden was constructed by Mr Joe Trimarchi, Jo Gibbs (Bunnings Coordinator), Mr Peter Sherlock (Bunnings) and Year 12 students. The construction was made possible via a donation from Bunnings and a contribution from Year 12, 2015 as part of the Year 12 gift to the school and school funds. I thank all involved in the creation of the structure, which will be an ongoing reminder of the sacrifices of brave men and women who ensured the freedom of our country and their willingness to pursue peace.
Tomorrow is ANZAC Day. This year the day commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. It is also a day when all Australians have the opportunity to recognise the enormous sacrifices made by so many but in this instance more so, Australians and New Zealanders. Due to these sacrifices we are free and safe in a country where citizens have privileges, which are protected. We also have boundless opportunities and democratic rights and a very real sense of hope in the future. In many ways our good fortune is a result of the sacrifices of those who fought for and in numerous instances died for this country. As a nation let us not forget that we are forever indebted to these selfless people.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. 
At the going down of the sun and in the morning 
We will remember them.

Lest we forget

God Bless

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

Parents and Friends Association and Parent Consultation Committee Meeting

A reminder that the Parents and Friends Association and the Consultation Committee will meet on Tuesday 5 May at 7pm. 
The meeting will be conducted in the Patrician Learning Resource Centre. 

ALL WELCOME

Staff Development Days Term II

During Term 2 there will be 2 staff development days for staff professional development. 
These will be conducted on Friday 1 May and Friday 29 May.  
Students ARE NOT required to attend school on the above dates.
ANZAC MEMORIAL COMMEMERATION SERVICE  
100th Anniversary GALLIPOLLI

Onto the beach the great diggers rode  
Scared and afraid but still on the go.  
The young diggers run and duck for cover  
Whilst the Turks shoot them with heavy machine gun fire.

Further and further the diggers go  
Into the beast from which they rode.  
With guns in their hands and a tune from their heart  
They kept on marching into the dark.

Now old and frail the men and women who served  
Their memory lives on.

**LEST WE FORGET**

*Written by Jakob Harrison*
Reflection on Lone Pine

Planting at Magdalene

This “fast-growing, heat and drought tolerant tree” is a 3rd generation Aleppo Pine. Today we plant it as a poignant symbol of the ANZAC spirit. A living war memorial of the tenacity and courage of our Australian and New Zealand troops.

In April 1915, ANZAC troops began arriving on the Gallipoli peninsula. On a distant ridge, a single, solitary Pine stood, a sole survivor of a group of trees which had been felled by Turkish troops to secure their trenches. This Pine came to mark the site of the Battle of the Lone Pine.

The afternoon of August the 6th 1915 marked the beginning of one of the most barbaric and violent actions of the Gallipoli campaign. The Battle of the Lone Pine, saw over 2000 ANZAC soldiers killed, along with 7000 Turkish soldiers. Moreover, the cross fire from this battle destroyed the distinguished Lone Pine that marked the site. Among those soldiers lost was the brother of Lance Corporal Benjamin Smith of the 3rd Battalion. In memory of his brother, Lance corporal Benjamin Smith collected cones from the branches of the Lone Pine that were “used by the Turks as overhead cover for their trenches”, and sent them home to his mother, Mrs McMullin, who resided in Inverell, NSW.

After 13 years of securing the cones in her drawer, Mrs McMullin planted them in 1928, and produced 2 seedlings from seed shed. One was planted by Mrs McMullin in Inverell “in honor of her own and other sons who fell at Lone Pine” and the other by the Duke of Gloucester in the foundational grounds of the Australian War Memorial on the 24th of October, 1934. It stood in an empty paddock, surrounded by a wreath of poppies, retaining its title as “the Lone Pine”.

Nonetheless, from its tiny beginnings it has grown into anything but a lonesome pine. Thousands of trees have been propagated from the Australian War Memorial’s Lone Pine and planted all over Australia and New Zealand in Returned Services League branches, schools and other organizations to form a national commemoration.

In 1990, a group of WW1 veterans travelled to Gallipoli and planted two Aleppo Pines to mark 75 years since the landing at Anzac Cove. 25 years later, we continue to plant the Lone Pine seedlings as a commemoration of the altruistic actions of our fallen soldiers, our retired soldiers and our active combat soldiers in any theatre of war. We plant the Aleppo Pine today in the hope it will grow from the “barren waste of war… to become the seed of a new life”.

The dividend of the bravery and sacrifice of those soldiers all those years ago is, for us, freedom and opportunity: the freedoms of speech, of association and of conscience that we enjoy in our lives today. And the opportunity to forge a better world because of those freedoms and the way in which we give life to them in our community, through the values we prize and the things we prioritise. For all of us, at Magdalene, we need not have served in a theatre of war to honour the memory of those who did. But we do, rather, have a responsibility to honour their memory by building a better world; a more tolerant, just, peaceful, and forgiving world and THAT, more than anything, will honour the legacy of those young men who sacrificed their lives on the Gallipoli peninsula in 1915.

We plant this Pine today in memory and in gratitude. May it be a constant reminder, of the sacrifices made, by those who did not know us, to ensure our freedom.

Caitlin Fitzgerald
ANZAC MEMORIAL COMMEMERATION SERVICE
100th Anniversary GALLIPOLLI

The Ode

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them.

1915 - 2015
**BYOD iPad & MacBook Repairs**

Magdalene Catholic High School offers IT support to all students. If students are experiencing problems with their iPad/MacBook or the device has been damaged (warranty and non-warranty) families now have two options to access support.

1. Complete the online IT Support form (student Sentral or Intranet page) and the school IT staff will contact them with a solution or make an appointment for them to visit the IT office.

   The school will can make arrangements to have equipment transported to Mac1 for warranty repairs and quotes on non-warranty repairs. The school will issue students with a spare iPad/MacBook for a maximum of two weeks while any BYOD personal device is away being repaired or replaced.

   **Note:** Any damage caused to the school issued spare iPad/MacBook must be paid for.

   *BYOD Repairs:* This arrangement is offered to assist families. Magdalene Catholic High School is only acting as a collection point. The repair is a commercial arrangement between the family and the repair agent; no responsibility is accepted by Magdalene Catholic High School. *Magdalene Catholic High School is not associated with Mac1.*

2. There is now a new Apple Authorised Service Centre open in Macarthur Square Shopping Centre.

   Specialist Apple Technicians from MAC1 are now available in-store at Dick Smith. The school will issue students with a spare iPad/MacBook for a maximum of two weeks while any BYOD personal device is away being repaired or replaced.

   The in-store technicians can provide service and training for Apple products including:
   - iPhone Repairs
   - iPad Repairs
   - iPod Repairs
   - Mac Computer Repairs
   - iOS Restore Service
   - Mac Checkup Service
   - Data Backup Service
   - Data Transfer Service
   - Dual Platform Setup
   - Get Started With iOS
   - Set Up Your New Mac

   It does not matter where you purchased your Apple products MAC1 can assist you with warranty and non-warranty repairs. You do not need an appointment so call in to the store for advice or a quote on Apple repairs and training.

   For more information call the MAC1 Service Centre on 02 4620 7922.

   Mr Danny Avalos
   Learning Technologies Coordinator
NAPLAN 2015

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May (Term 2, Week 4) for students in Year 7 and Year 9. The timetable is outlined below:

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<tr>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Language conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (calculator)</td>
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<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>65 minutes</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
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<td>Numeracy (non-calculator)</td>
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<td><strong>Year 9</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Language conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (calculator)</td>
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<td>40 minutes</td>
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On Friday 15th May there will be a ‘catch-up’ day for any students who missed a test or were absent on a particular test day.

There will be two Numeracy tests i.e. one where students may use a calculator and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the students should use the calculator that they currently use at school. Students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors in either of the Numeracy tests.

Students will receive some preparation for NAPLAN in the lead up to the tests in various classes and they are also encouraged to familiarise themselves with the format of the tests at: [http://www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

On the testing days students will need to bring the following equipment:
- HB pencil
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Calculator

Students will also need to bring their school bag, school diary and books for the classes that they will be attending on these days.

Linda Maher
LITERACY TEACHER
Career Conversations - why you need to be talking careers to your children

Research shows consistently that parents are some of the most important influences of young people’s career decisions. Too often I see young people who have made poor career decisions because they have made choices without thinking them through. Sometimes they make choices because they think they are following their parents’ wishes. Often when I get parents and their children together, it is obvious that there has been little focused conversation about careers.

You can greatly support your son or daughter by putting aside some regular time to discuss careers. Encouraging your children to share their ideas and dreams without crushing them prematurely is an important first step. There is nothing wrong with thinking big or unrealistically - we all do it. It can provide a sense of hope, optimism and motivation. Acting on unrealistic ideas is another matter. While dreams of being an international megastar might seem clearly to be unlikely, deciding to be a plumber, a doctor, a lawyer or a caterer might also be unrealistic given your child’s interests, skills, and local opportunities.

Remember your role is to encourage deeper thinking about how your child might take a productive and rewarding place in society, it is not about finding definitive answers. The reality is that people change careers regularly, retrain regularly and far less often find jobs for life. Remember what worked (or didn’t work) for you may be almost irrelevant in this new employment era. It is good to dream, it is ok to change your mind, they do not need to know exactly what they will do with the rest of their lives. But they do need to be able to discuss ideas, explore, learn and get feedback about careers and career decisions.

This article has been written by Dr Jim Bright, Professor of Career Development at Australian Catholic University and international career development expert. Dr Bright writes exclusively for MWLP Linking Youth and for local Catholic High Schools.

St John the Evangelist Catholic High School, Nowra will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary on Saturday 23 May. Please see the flyer below.

Father Patrick Faherty will be celebrating the Mass and it will be followed with a complimentary supper. All welcome to attend and visit with old and new friends. Please confirm numbers as soon as possible.

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**Invitation to Love, Life & Sacred Moments Program**

**FRIDAY 1ST MAY**
St Anthony’s School Hall,
Mary MacKillop Lane, Picton

7.00pm  Fr Elio Capra will introduce us to his ideals of Love, Life and Sacred Moments

8.30pm  Tea/Coffee

**SATURDAY 2ND MAY**
St Anthony of Padua Church, Stratford Road Tahmoor

**Morning Session**
10.30am  Mass of Healing - for everyone facing life’s challenges

**Afternoon Session**
2.30pm  Under the Dome with Fr Elio

‘Want more from life and love? Join us and you won’t ever look at your life in the same way again!’ Fr Elio will talk about the sacraments but with a much wider context: the beauty and sacramentality of creation of our daily lives.

5.00pm  The day will end with the Celebration of the Eucharist.

**SUNDAY 3RD MAY**
St Anthony’s School grounds,
Under the COLA, Menangle Street, Picton

(Enter via the rear play ground gate near the creek, or through the car park beside the Picton Church. There is over-flow parking available at Coles.)

9.30am  Gathering
10.00am  Special Parish family Mass for everyone
11.00am  Morning Tea
11.30am  Final Session with Fr Elio on ‘Marriage and Family’ in the School Hall.
11.30am  Special event for older studnets (6th Class/High School).
1.00pm  Free Sausage Sizzle lunch

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**
Margaret  (02) 4681 8321
Lesley  (02) 4681 8944 or Lesley.wyatt@iinet.net.au

Parish Office (02) 4683 2230 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

**Cost:** Free - Tea and coffee provided throughout all sessions. Donation Box available to help with costs.
NOTICEBOARD

April
27 Mon Yr 7, 2016 Interviews
28 Tues Yr 7, 2016 Interviews
29 Wed Diocesan Cross Country

May
1 Fri Staff Development Day
4–12 Mon Mon–Tues Yr 7, 2016 Interviews Yr 11 Pre-Liminary Examinations
5 Tues Yr 7, 2016 Interviews Parents & Friends Meeting 7.00pm
11 Mon Yr 12 Parent, Teacher, Student Interviews
12–14 Tues–Thurs NAPLAN TESTS
18–22 Mon–FriYr 9 & 10 Exams Yr 7 Vaccinations
28 Thurs School Photograph Day
29 Fri Staff Spirituality Day

2015 Australian Age Swimming Championships (13 - 18 April)
The following Magdalene Students participated in the 2015 Australian Age Swimming Championship in Sydney during the holiday period.
Jemma Simpson (8H) 100 metres Breaststroke and 100 metres Butterfly
Matthew Burke (10B) 100 and 200 metres Butterfly
Sheree Farrell (10W) - 200 metres Butterfly

Congratulations and Well done!

WINTER UNIFORM
A reminder that students will return to school in summer uniform.
Students will change to winter uniform on the first Monday after Mother’s Day (11 May).
Students will continue to wear winter uniform until the First Monday after Father’s Day (6 September).

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP
The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open between 8.00am - 8.20am on the following dates.
Monday 27 April
Monday 4 May and Friday 8 May

If you require second hand uniforms outside of these hours please call Kelly O’Keeffe on 0410 553812

CALLING ALL CREATIVE MINDS AND BUDDING FILMMAKERS!
Calling all creative minds and budding filmmakers!
The 2015 Focus On Ability short film festival has arrived! With over $100,000 worth of cash and prizes to be won you’d be crazy not to have a go. How do I enter? I hear you say…

Simply make a short film, entries must be under 5mins and the underlying theme of your entry should Focus on Ability. Entries close July 10.

Details are available in the Art Foyer, see the competition board for details or for full details on terms and conditions, entry forms and to view previous year’s entries visit: www.focusonability.com.au.

MAGDALENE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
“Because I have seen the Lord”
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