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

This week Catholic Schools Week was celebrated across the state. The theme for 2016 is ‘I Belong. You Belong. We Belong.’ It is an opportunity for each of us to recognise the fact that each member of our community whether students, staff, parents or friends forms an important part of our total community. Each person in our community is part of the total community and it is the responsibility of each one of us to reach out to others and include others in some way. The theme also aligns with the Catholic Church’s strong focus on supporting refugees and asylum seekers and the need for a compassionate global community.

During this Catholic School’s week it is good to reflect on our Catholic school. We are proud of the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms everyday, as well as the contribution our school has made to our local community, the Australian community, in particular the more vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our wider community.

Over Catholic School’s week there are always a number of activities, which highlight strengths. For us, at Magdalene, the school will showcase many positive aspects of school life, which will be celebrated at our Open Afternoon next Monday. This afternoon highlights the activities of our community but also allows our students to speak about their pride in their Catholic school. All parents and students are invited to attend.

Recently one of the students at Magdalene was involved in an accident in front of the school. The student suffered some significant injuries and was taken to hospital. Thankfully he will recover from his injuries. I wish to stress once again the importance of all people exercising caution around the school. All people whether pedestrian or driver need to be aware of the fact that there are always others in the area and caution will ensure safety. In the interests of the whole community I ask everyone to be mindful of the importance of caution at all times.

Congratulations to Alexandra Willis and Annicka Ciol of Year 11. Alexandra and Annicka have been chosen to be involved in Youth Parliament as Magdalene’s representatives. Youth Parliament is a 6-month program for students in Years 10-12, which aims to engage a diverse array of young people from across NSW in youth advocacy, active community leadership and personal development. Youth Parliament is an apolitical program whereby young people can speak up on issues they are passionate about and be given the opportunity to create and debate solutions at NSW Parliament House in front of current Members of Parliament and industry leaders. Alexandra and Annicka will be wonderful ambassadors for Magdalene. The program does involve some sponsorship so the students are able to be involved. If anyone would like to support the students in this venture please contact the school office.

Congratulations to Caitlin Fitzgerald our 2015 school captain. Caitlain received the Vice Chancellor’s Scholarship at Western Sydney University. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of leadership and community service following quite an exhaustive process of written application and interview. The scholarship also contains financial support for Caitlin in her studies. I am sure our community will join with me in acknowledging this wonderful achievement.

*Strong minds, gentle hearts*
As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week I encourage everyone to pray the following Catholic School’s Week prayer:

Lord Jesus you came among us
to reveal
the Father's endless love and mercy.
Our Catholic schools
continue to give witness
to your compassion and wisdom,
seeking always to ensure
that we are all welcome
no matter who we are.
May our Catholic schools continue to be places
of belonging
and sources of hope and enthusiasm
for our young people and their families
May the work of our Catholic schools always
be guided by the inspiration of your Spirit.

Amen

God Bless

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

### Student and Parent Portal

A letter was emailed and also sent home to all families this week advising that the Student and Parent Portal is now open through Sentral. This enables parents/carers to see their child’s timetable, their teachers, check their child’s attendance record, provide explanations for your child’s absence from school and review your child’s report. A sample letter is attached at the end of the newsletter. Please register your access as outlined in your letter.

### Magdalene Open Afternoon

On Monday 14 March the school will be conducting the annual “Open Afternoon and Information Evening” for prospective students for 2017. This evening is also an opportunity for current parents (especially Year 7 Parents) to visit the school and witness student learning in various areas. This is a follow on to Catholic School’s Week which will highlight our great school.

The afternoon will begin at 3pm and conclude with an information session at 7pm. I also remind parents and carers that the Parents and Friends Association conduct a barbecue during the afternoon and would appreciate any support to help with cooking. (anyone who can help with the barbecue please contact Mr David Cornett via the school office)

Phone: 4631 3300.
Visit to the Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Our proud tradition of using technology to benefit the community continued in 2015. Our work in raising funds for the Children’s Hospital at Westmead has continued with our Year 11 IPT class running both the very successful 80s/90s themed trivia night and the amazing Hospital Heroes Mufti Day. In 2015 the school community raised just on $10,000 for the Hospital – an outstanding effort. The students of the Year 11 IPT class in 2015 got to connect the dots and see where this money goes by visiting the hospital on the 8 December last year. The students visit included a full immersion experience where students dressed up and got to interact with patients and their families sharing a few bubbles, stickers, colouring in books and words; and in the process brightening their day.

Mr Collins and Year 11, 2015 Information Processes and Technology (IPT)

Year 12 Construction Brick Laying

The Year 12 Construction class have been working on the Brick and Block laying unit of work. The boys have learned the basics of the trade through the completion of 2 projects.

In project one, the boys formed pairs and built a wall six courses high with a run of 6 bricks long with just their keen eye and a spirit level to guide them. In project two, we completed a much longer wall as a class using vertical poles called "profiles" at each end of the wall with a string line as a guide. This better replicates the practice on a real building site.

Bricks were laid using a lime and sand mortar mix only, which means they can easily be demolished and most bricks reused on future projects. This was a very satisfying project to work on which presented the students with an opportunity to simulate work on a real building project.

Andrew Cornett
VET Construction Teacher
Catholic Schools Week at Magdalene
Catholic Schools Week at Magdalene
Year 12 Business Studies Excursion to Perfection Fresh

Once again, students in Year 12 Business Studies classes had a successful excursion visiting the facilities and participating in Marketing activities and observing Operations processes at Perfection Fresh, Australia’s largest family owned fresh produce business, based in Homebush. The students were so attentive and asked some insightful questions of the executive and staff at Perfection Fresh to help add to their knowledge of Business Studies. Students were able to sample some of the newly developed products and created and presented their own marketing ideas to the Senior Executives of the business. Our heartfelt thanks go to Perfection Fresh for allowing us to visit and for providing an exciting and memorable learning opportunity.

Mrs Byrnes and Mrs Mamone
The Hour of Code is a World Wide initiative to increase participation in Computing Sciences and in particular in computer programming or coding. Computer Programming is an important aspect of our Technology Curriculum and has been embedded in our computing courses Information Software and Technology (IST) & Information Processes and Technology (IPT) and is the sole focus of our newest senior (Yr11 & 12) course Software Design and Development (SDD).

The growing popularity and importance of Computer Coding in society has seen many students take it up, but the need exists for more students to get involved, as it will form part of careers for many of our current students. In Week 10 Term 4, 2015 we held the Hour of Code across our TAS classes from Year 7 to Year 11 involving students in Technology Mandatory, IST, Engineering; and Software classes. The project was a great success and fun for all the students who participated. Our thanks to all the TAS teachers who facilitated the program in their classes.

Mr Collins & Mr Cornett

Below are some student reflections on the Hour of Code

On the 9/12/2015 we learnt how to code during the hour of coding, we got to choose what video clips / themes we wanted to use and we had to select the amount of pixels and the degree of the angle they were turning using code! I made Elsa from Frozen skate in patterns over snow flakes and run in circles it was really fun and I believe it helped me!

- Monique Madsen

On Wednesday 9 December, 8 Tech B learnt how to do coding. At first I thought it would be boring but once I saw a Frozen themed Hour of Code I got excited) We learnt how to utilise lots of tools that are useful for our future. Although it was very frustrating it developed my understanding of coding. Overall it was pretty awesome.

- Paulina Siewicz

To find out more about the hour of code visit: https://hourofcode.com/au

For anyone wishing to get started in coding / computer science visit

https://code.org/learn
On 17 February, Year 12 Geography travelled to Pyrmont, Sydney to undertake an urban dynamics study tour. We observed many, varied examples of urban consolidation, decay and renewal and discussed processes causing change in the area, including gentrification, adaptive reuse of buildings and the impact of government policy on Pyrmont.

By being able to observe Pyrmont first-hand, it has strengthened our understanding of the HSC topic, Urban Dynamics. We were able to return to class to write much improved answers to HSC questions by incorporating our observations from the day.

By Year 12 Geography Class
UWS DISCOVERY DAY

Last Thursday some Year 12 students were fortunate enough to go to the Discovery Day held at University of Wollongong so they could attend course seminars and experience a day in the life of a University student.

‘The presentation from the current UOW student, Abdhul, to us was extremely helpful and provided me with all the info I needed to solidify my application into the Psychological Science/Law degree.” - Sidney

“Architecturally impressive!!!
* some fun practicals *
* personable lecturers *
* information a little dumbed down except for chemistry and the explanation of the ligands we used…” - Warwick

“There is such a welcoming vibe at the Uni and they have photography equipment used in Hollywood film making” - Crystal

“Helped me figure out what I really want to do, all while incorporating a fun side. The people were all kind and happy to help with anything, even bustin’ a move on the dance floor. Groovy!” - Hannah

“I didn’t expect the lectures to be so engaging and informative at the same time. It really got me excited for furthering my education at UOW.” - Bianca

“Very flexible in terms of courses. Impressive!!” - Jaidyn

“Discovery day was an entertaining, fun-filled and informative day that I thoroughly enjoyed. The experience of being a Uni student for a day has allowed me to have a clear path for my future endeavours.” - Jasmine
MISA RESULTS: Magdalene v John Therry 1/3/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>WINNING SCHOOL</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>MOST VALUED PLAYER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Boys Cricket</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>4/53-6/51</td>
<td>Excellent batting and fielding won the day. MVP: Lucas Pervan Coach: Mr Bubb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Girls Cricket</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>2/53-4/23</td>
<td>Great catches by Cassie (2), Bianca and Maighan. MVP: Elizabeth Potts with a maiden over and 8 not out. Coach: Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Boys Softball</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>The boys are moving forward and enjoying the game. Good game. Coach: Mr Donaldson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Girls Softball</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>6-3</td>
<td>Well done girls. Great energy and enthusiasm displayed out on the diamond today. Coach: Mrs Colella/Mrs Hort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/9 Boys Basketball</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>21-0</td>
<td>A tough match with the boys showing good improvement. Coach: Mr Gorrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/9 Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>12-10</td>
<td>Great game girls! A close game with an intense last minute to get the win. MVP: Emily Tyler. Coach: Mr Dowdell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Boys Oztag</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>13-0</td>
<td>The boys did not give up against a very good side. MVP: Ethan Elliott-Buckley with some great line breaks and tags. Coach: Mr Manns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Girls Oztag</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>5-2</td>
<td>Not our best game although Taylah Parker played a great game moving forward with the ball. Coach: Mrs McAlister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Boys Volleyball</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>MVP: Zachary Ponting. Coach: Mr Hewitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Girls Volleyball</td>
<td>John Therry</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>The score does not reflect the great effort by the girls. MVP: Olympia Plummer. Coach: Miss J Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The School Cross Country is on Friday in Week 8 of this Term. It is a whole school community event that all students are expected to attend.

**When:** Friday 18th March  **Who:** Years 7-12  **Venue:** Magdalene

**Timing:** Students require their equipment for Periods 1-4. If weather is inclement students should have their equipment for all six periods. Carnival will start at 12.18pm and conclude at 2.35pm

**What to wear:** Full school sports uniform, including hat and sunscreen.

**What to bring:** Drink bottle (cold water – good idea to freeze one bottle as well as bring another with cold water), hat and additional food.

**Events:** 12.28 – 1.00pm Junior Girls Cross Country (12, 13, 14)
2 laps (approx. 3kms)
1.00pm – 1.30pm Junior Boys Cross Country (12, 13, 14)
2 laps (approx. 3kms)
1.30pm – 2.00pm Senior Girls Cross Country (15, 16, 17/18)
3 laps (approx. 4.5kms)
2.00pm – 2.25pm Senior Boys Cross Country (15, 16, 17/18)
3 laps (approx. 4.5kms)
**MISA RESULTS : Magdalene v Broughton Anglican** 8/3/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>SCORE</th>
<th>MOST VALUED PLAYER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Boys Cricket</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>3/81-7/53</td>
<td>MVP: Laétin Perrin-Russo with 1/1 wickets and 8 runs. Coach: Mr Bubb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Girls Cricket</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>2/124-3/57</td>
<td>A great comeback girls! We smashed it in the batting. MVP: Christina Coach: Mr Wright/Mrs Parkes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Boys Softball</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>The boys tried hard but lost due to some costly errors between bases. MVP: Tyrone Fergie. Coach: Mr Donaldson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Girls Softball</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>5-0</td>
<td>The girls are continuing to improve each week. Their communication on field was a real strength this week. MVP - Jemma Whitfield great catching on first base! Mrs Colella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/9 Boys Basketball</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>26-6</td>
<td>Some tough games for the boys who are developing their skills. Coach: Mr Gorrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/9 Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>16-4</td>
<td>Great work girls, securing a strong win! Congratulations to our MVP: Olivia Grabowski. Coach: Mr Dowdell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Boys Oztag</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>7-3</td>
<td>McGookin on fire with a length of the field try. MVP: Jarrad Choi. Coach: Mr Manns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12 Girls Oztag</td>
<td>Magdalene</td>
<td>7-0</td>
<td>Great game girls! Awesome running from Brittany Rasmussen with 4 tries and Charlie who set up multiple tries. Great all round play by Isabel. Coach: Mrs McAlister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Boys Volleyball</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>MVP: Billy Brown. Coach: Mr Hewitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Girls Volleyball</td>
<td>Broughton</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Teamwork is improving every week. Great sportsmanship. MVP: Olympia Plummer. Coach: Miss J.Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPORTS NEWS**

**8/3/2016**

**Congratulations to Tom Gallagher and Alison Rivet-NSWCCC Tennis Trials**

Alison Rivet (Year 8) was one of 32 girls who made the NSWCCC Tennis Trials based on their Australian tennis rank and only 8 of those girls were selected for the NSW CCC tennis team.

In the first round, everyone was spilt into 8 groups of 4 for a round robin. Only the winner and runner up from each group made it through to the second (and final) round. The final round determined who the CCC team would be.

Alison was runner up within her group in the first round robin which put her into the final 16. She made it to the final round before being knocked out. This was a great effort by Alison who is showing consistent improvement in her tennis game.

Congratulations to Tom Gallagher in (Year 11) for making it into the NSWCCC Tennis Team. Tom was selected after winning his three pool matches in the morning. At this point the field was halved to 16 boys. He then won all his three pool matches in the afternoon to gain one of the eight spots in the team.

Tom is ranked 4th in the NSWCCC team. He will now travel to Bathurst for the NSW All Schools Selection Tournament in two weeks where he will compete against both Independent schools and Combined High schools (State school) players.

An outstanding effort by Tom who has a bright future in Tennis.
**NOTECEBOARD**

**YEAR 7 - 10 MATHLETICS RECOGNITION**

Congratulations to the following students for achieving a Bronze Certificate in Mathletics.

Year 7:
- Ben Searle;
- Alyssa Greenhalgh;
- Rianna-Mae Kantor;
- Kaila Shaw;
- Joseph Bampton;
- Monique Downes;
- Lachlan Johnstone;
- Lauren Scullino;
- Marcus Thephavong;
- Nicholas Vancovski;
- Emma Piefke;
- Andrew Rixon;
- Kevin Maldonado;
- Beau Severin;
- Christina David;
- Olivia Hall;
- Jacob Simpson;
- Chanelle Wales;

Year 8:
- Monique Fenech;
- Nathan Vassallo;
- Flora Mo;
- Brooke Smith

Year 9:
- Tiahna Whitley;
- Lucas Barreto;
- Travis Clark;
- Emily Kitchener;
- Harrison Liddle;
- Patrick Sapiatzer;
- Blake Muchmore;
- Jye Gearsdie;
- Karley McVittie;
- Brianna Hyland;
- Peter Cornett;
- Paulina Siewicz;
- James S Vassallo;
- Isaiah Osman;
- Henry Zhang;
- Brandon Smith

Year 10:
- Bethany Cooper;
- Annalise Smalley;
- Brianna Voulgaris;
- Stephanie Robinson;
- Caitlin Suptut

Congratulations to 9MAT2 for currently achieving the best class results in Mathletics.

**MATHS PUZZLE**

Maths Puzzle #2
What is unique about 8549176320?

Solution Maths Puzzle #2
It is the digits 0 to 9 in alphabetical order.

Maths Puzzle #3
Find three positive whole numbers that have the same answer added together or when multiplied together.

**Congratulations to Daniel Zammit – Touch Football**

Congratulations to Daniel Zammit for being selected into the Diocesan Touch Football squad.

Daniel was selected after his great performance at the Diocesan touch Football Carnival.

Well done.

**Girls Opens Touch Football**

Congratulations to the girls Opens Touch Football team for their tremendous efforts in the Diocesan Touch Football Carnival on Monday 7/3/16. After a hard fought day of football, the girls managed to finish second only one point behind Holy Spirit Bellambi. This is a huge achievement as there were ten highly competitive schools vying for the trophy.

The day was full of try scoring and fantastic defense with most girls scoring a try themselves or being a part of a play resulting in a try. Our speedy wingers and quick plays were responsible for most of our scoring opportunities and every student played their part. The girls only had one loss for the entire day going down to the eventual winners, Holy Spirit, in a very close game. I am extremely proud of the sportsmanship and camaraderie of our students and the way our girls represented Magdalene.

We were extremely fortunate to have the experience of Isabelle Maarseveen and Charlotte O’Flynn who were our main playmakers and produced some wonderful football together. We also farewell our two Year 12 students Bianca Caruso and Isabel Staunton and thank them for their great determination and leadership throughout the day.

A special congratulations to Isabelle Maarseveen who was named in the Diocesan Opens Touch Football team and Charlie O’Flynn as a shadow player. In the U/15s, Olympia Plummer was named in the team and Tess Tyquin was also selected as a shadow player. Well done girls! - Mrs Colella
NOTICEBOARD

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP
If you require second hand uniforms please call Kelly O’Keeffe on 0410 553812

SCHOOL FEES
The 1st statement of School Fees was sent home on the week of Monday 29 February. The due date is Thursday 24 March.

If you have any difficulties with making payments please contact the Finance Office at the school to make suitable arrangements. Phone: 4631 3300 Mrs Geraldine Spencer or Mrs Michelle Gibbons - Finance

MAGDALENE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
“Because I have seen the Lord”
Smeaton Grange Road, Narellan NSW 2567
Phone: 02 4631 3300 Fax: 02 4631 3398
email: info@mchsdow.catholic.edu.au www.mchsdow.catholic.edu.au

Term 1
Week 8B
14 Mar - 18 Mar
14 Mar
Heidi Reynolds
Mara Severin
Cathy Burke

15 Mar
Nicole Mortimer
Karen Ryan

16 Mar
Jerry Berenger
Eve Farkas
Agatha Lim

17 Mar
Belinda Colusso
Hilary Nguyen

18 Mar
D Sapiatzer
J Poole
Nicole Speakman

Term 1
Week 9A
21 Mar - 23 Mar
21 Mar
Megan Tyler
Veronique Smith
Wendy Yan Fang Li

22 Mar
Jason Wiltshire
Clairemarie Garvie

23 Mar
Julie Smith
Rachel McVittie

24 Mar
Gabriela Varela
Josette Maurymothoo

25 Mar
GOOD FRIDAY

GOOD FRIDAY

Term 1
Week 7A
28 Mar - 1 Apr
28 Mar
EASTER MONDAY

29 Mar
Vanessa Crowe
Karen Tekely

30 Mar
Isabel Riservato
Rebecca Celan

31 Mar
Raelene Joyce
Sam Sanchez

1 Apr
L McGuire
L Miller
Lee Street
29 February 2016

Dear

Our school has undertaken the first steps setting up a new initiative through the current student management system - Sentral. This initiative will involve the setting up of a student and parent portal and will provide both parents and students discreet information about their child's/own individual progress in our school.

Magdalene Sentral allows you to:
• see your child's timetable
• see who is teaching your child
• check your child's attendance record
• provide explanations for your child's absence from school
• review your child's report

This portal will, in time, allow you to communicate with staff, book parent teacher interviews, view NAPLAN results and review interim reports.

In order to access this portal parents will need to register their details as follows;
1. Please log on to the Internet and register for access to our Parent Portal here:
http://sent.mchsdow.catholic.edu.au/portal/register
2. You must use a valid email address to create your username.
3. Once successfully registered you will be prompted to enter your username (email address) and the password you created.
4. To see information from the school and to link to your enrolled children, enter the access key provided. The access key for your parent portal is:

Please note that the access key is case sensitive so copy it into the box provided on screen, exactly as it appears in this letter.

The URL for continued access to the portal is: http://sent.mchsdow.catholic.edu.au/portal please book mark this link.

I am confident that you will see the benefits of your registration immediately and be part of our journey in providing this facility to you.

Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact the school for assistance.

Yours faithfully

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal