



# MAGDALENE NEWS

Vol 19 Term: 2 Week 1  
28 April 2017

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

This week was an important one as Magdalene students and staff commemorated ANZAC Day on Tuesday and Wednesday.

On Tuesday many Magdalene students and their families were able to attend the ANZAC Services in Campbelltown and particularly Camden. I thank these students, their families, Mrs Forner and Mr Whicker for supporting this most important of days.

On Wednesday the School then commemorated ANZAC Day with our own students taking part in a moving service. This service included our own Cadets marching and serving as our flag party and our student leaders playing an important role leading the Service. Amongst other things, students heard a powerful lament from our student leaders, wreaths were laid and the typical (and important) formalities of the Last Post, Reveille, The Ode and the Australian Anthem occurred. A vital part of the School Service was also the reading of the School Honour Roll by Ms Nancy Russo. In recent years there has been the development of this Honour Roll which lists family members of current students and staff who did and do serve in Australia's National Forces. Such a list is a wonderful way for students to recognise their own connections to Australian war and peace-keeping efforts – going back to the late 1800s. I thank Ms Denise Phillips for her organisation of this service.

ANZAC Day is not a time to celebrate war but rather a time to commemorate the brave and defining actions of Australians who have made sacrifices (sometimes the ultimate sacrifice) to protect others', and Australian rights and freedoms. Due to the carnage and savagery of war and conflict, ANZAC Day reminds us that peace is the ultimate goal.

2017 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a number of memorable battles fought in World War One by Australians.

**The Battle of Bullecourt** is well known for being one in which early models of British tanks failed to support Australian infantry. Despite breaking into German defences, Australian troops were unable to hold this territory without support. As such, two brigades of the Australian 4<sup>th</sup> Division suffered greatly with over 3,300 casualties and 1,170 Australians being taken prisoner - the largest number captured in a single engagement during the war.

**The Battle of Polygon Wood** was one of five battles in which Australians were involved as part of the larger British and dominion offensive known as the Third Battle of Passchendaele. As the military record outlines, the struggle that followed was one of the bloodiest and muddiest of the First World War. Indeed, Passchendaele is often referred to as the 'Battle of the Mud' and Australians fought against incredible odds to take out numerous German pill boxes to make a significant advance (for Western Front standards).

While not diminishing the important role of the Gallipoli Landing and Campaign (Gallipoli demonstrated impressive Australian qualities and played a significant role in bringing Australians together at a time when we were only a fledgling new country), battles right across World War One and other eras show Australian soldiers and personnel demonstrating their presence, their resistance to injustice and their willingness to demonstrate self-sacrifice, integrity and compassion. This is what the ANZAC spirit is about - it is the heart, the very essence of our nation.

Please note: Uniform Update on  
Page 3 of this newsletter

*"Because I have seen the Lord"*



It is wonderful to see young people demonstrating pride in Australian soldiers and military staff who show (and showed) such amazing courage in battle, emergency relief and/or peace-keeping efforts over the past 100 years. I would encourage families to contact the School if you would like your family members added to our Honour Roll and I would pray that our World Leaders can look beyond their own self-interests to protect the safety and human rights of citizens across the globe.

*Adapted from an Ignatian Prayer to end violence, war and death*

O Loving God,

We so often, and for so long, hear the guns and rockets, drones and bombs.

We see the pictures of death in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, the Congo, Nigeria, Sudan and South Sudan, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, Central African Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and so on.

In so many parts of the world today, the air is tense with waiting, uncertainty, insecurity.

From ravaged lands, destroyed by war, Your peoples lift their hands to You.

We pray for stillness, for justice, and for peace to come and to last.

O God, our maker, we pray for peaceful existence between Israelis and Palestinians, Sunnis and Shiites, Muslims, Jews and Christians.

We pray negotiations can reach at the roots of historical conflicts and that countries like the United States, Russia, China and North Korea can use words of kindness rather than postulate threats and fear monger.

We pray for a commitment to human rights by all sides and the protection of all lives.

We pray for effective international intervention to ensure justice for all sides.

We pray for humanitarian aid and rebuilding where destruction has occurred.

We pray for peace and for justice in our homes and on our city streets.



On Tuesday Magdalene students attended the morning Anzac March and Ceremony in Camden. The School Captains laid a wreath in Memory of the fallen soldiers at the Ceremony.

## **P & F Meeting**

*The next P&F meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 May at 7pm in the Learning Resource Centre. At the meeting we will be reviewing our funding priorities for the year, including the installation of air conditioning, the purchase of new library furniture, sponsorships for sporting, academic, cultural, and leadership pursuits, and how much we put aside for future projects such as the School hall and equipment purchases and replacements.*

*We will also cover those standard agenda items including the financial report, a report from the Principal, and any recent correspondence to the P&F. The minutes of the last meeting are available in the P&F section on the School website.*

*If you have any questions about participating in the P&F, please contact us at [MCHS.pandf@gmail.com](mailto:MCHS.pandf@gmail.com)*

## **SCHOOL FEES**

In line with the Wollongong Diocesan School fee policy, all accounts are on a 30 day basis. Families wishing to pay fees over the duration of the school year, regardless of the payment method, should by now have completed and returned to the School a School Fee Agreement Form. These forms are available on the school website [www.mchsdown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mchsdown.catholic.edu.au). Go to the Enrolment tab, Fees tab and then select the Diocesan School Fee Agreement Form.

If we have not received a fee agreement form, regardless of payment method, your account would be considered overdue.



The following students were awarded a Peer Acknowledgment award at the end of Term 1. I congratulate these students on being acknowledged by their peers.

Year 7 Mackenzie Young - Assisting others in their learning

Year 8 Madison Lopez - Assisting others in their learning

Year 9 Damon Elias - Improvement in Assessment

Year 10 Emily Said - Commitment to learning

Year 11 Charlotte Maxfield - Commitment to learning and assisting others in their learning

Year 12 Jason Colley - Commitment to learning and assisting others in their learning

God Bless

Mr Matthew McMahon  
**Principal**

## UNIFORM

Given the current cool change to the weather, students will have the option of wearing their full school winter uniform from next Monday 1st May. All students must be in their full winter uniform from Monday 15th May.

**Please note that during this transition time the uniform must be EITHER full winter OR full summer uniform and not a blend of the two.**

The importance of wearing the uniform well, and with pride, is indicative of the high expectations we have in regards to appearance, dress and attitude. We, therefore, appreciate your support in this matter.

Please refer to page 14 and 15 in the student diary for details of the winter uniform.

## CARPARK

**Have you noticed the new signs in our carpark?**

A reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to Magdalene, that the main car park is reserved for staff access only, including before and after school. Please use the drop off and pick up facility via the turning circle in front of the school Administration building as students should not be dropped off or picked up in the staff carpark, outside the school gates or in the bus bay area. Visitor parking is limited to the spaces allocated near the turning circle.

Please take care when entering and exiting the school and ensure that the 10km/h speed limit is followed at all times when driving on school grounds. The carpark on the grassed area adjacent to the main carpark is strictly limited to senior school students and is not for general parking. Thank you for your cooperation in working with us to ensure that the safety of everyone is of paramount importance.



# ANZAC DAY CEREMONY



**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**



## YEAR 7 CAMP - TEEN RANCH REPORT

The Year 7 camp was at Teen Ranch, Cobbitty. We went there on Monday 27 March to Wednesday 29 March. Our camp provided us with the opportunity to step out of our comfort zone and try new things.

Our experience at Teen Ranch made us closer together as friends and classmates because we all had to participate in many different team-building exercises. Camp was a great bonding experience for everyone who went. A major thing we found from going to Teen Ranch was that everyone in Year 7 would have made a new friend. Also, we realised that even when things look a bit scary, as a Year 7 student we should always challenge ourselves to try things we have not done before.

### Activities

When we arrived at Teen Ranch we had time to play games and find all our friends. We then had to have a year group meeting to explain how the camp will work. There were a total of eight activity groups. We rotated through activities across the three days. During the evening the girls had dinner with the girls, and the boys had dinner with the boys. After dinner, groups 1-4 went on a night hike and groups 5-8 did night activities. This then switched on the second night. During the night activities we played lots of games in which the four activity groups were versing each other, such as the 'Pizza' game. Once we finished that we all went to bed.

The next day started our activities. Our first one was canoeing, which was really fun. We were in a canoe with Carmen and it was enjoyable. The next activity was the Challenge Course. In this activity we had to get split up because of the group size, so we ended up with different instructors. Our favourite activity in the Challenge Course was a game called 'Camouflage'. In this game we had to hide in the bushes and it was so much fun and you got so dirty. After that we did Crate Climbing. We got hooked into a harness and stacked crates allowing us to climb to the top of the room. We both made it all the way to the top. We then had hamburgers for lunch.

The next activity was the Giant Swing. Jemma was the first one on it and Charlotte went after. We are pleased to report we made it all the way to the top. Our last activity for the day was Horse Riding. We had to get split up into two groups, with one group riding the horses and the other grooming the horses. Charlotte was grooming a cute horse called 'Fancy' while Jemma was riding the biggest horse there named 'Cruise'. Soon we swapped and Jemma was grooming a horse named 'Jaz' while Charlotte was riding a horse named 'Bella'. After activities we then had dinner and went to bed.

The next day was the last day of camp. Our last activity was Pool Games. In our group we played multiple games but our favourite was 'Marco Polo'. Then we all went to get ready to go home but before we left we were allowed to play with our friends.

The major benefit we got out of Teen Ranch was that we made new relationships, and we now know more about other students in Year 7. It was great to learn about someone we didn't know before camp and we should all now have a new friend to play with in the playground.

On behalf of all the Year 7 students, we would like to say thank you to Teen Ranch and all Magdalene staff that helped us have such an exciting time.

*Jemma Elliott-Ollerton and Charlotte McKay – 7M*



## YEAR 9 CAMP - GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP

Early on a cold Monday morning, Year 9 got ready for three days of adventure. Our grade headed to the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens, NSW, which is a recreational camp for young people. During the three days at camp, Year 9 did lots of challenging but fun activities which allowed us to get out of our comfort zone and uncover new skills which we didn't know we had. The activities we participated in were: canoeing, high ropes, giant swing, dual flying fox, Survivor challenge, mud course, and archery. Lots of these activities were new to us, but most people were brave and ready to try something new. On the first night, we played a game in the bush called 'Commando' which allowed us to work in groups to locate missing students that the teachers had hidden. This game was fun and required stealth to be able to not be found by the teachers. The second night, our grade did a girls versus boys challenge night in the dining hall, where people volunteered to do challenges to win points for their team. The grade got behind the people in their team, and everyone was very competitive. Camp pushed people out of their comfort zone, and required stamina, a positive attitude and resilience. The most important lesson we learnt at camp was about how important team work and communication is. Team work and communicating with one another was essential for the Survivor challenge, otherwise the whole team would fall into the mud, and the mud wasn't nice! Overall, camp was an exciting experience and we gained many fun memories for the years to come.



By Larrissa Hooper 9D

Year 9 recently went to The Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens from March 27 - March 29. Over 3 days, the students participated in many activities such as; kayaking, group challenges, high ropes, the giant swing, archery, the mud challenge, flying fox and crate climbing. These activities were a new experience to many students and pushed them out of their comfort zone. Year 9 were educated and learnt how to work in a team, whilst many new friendships were made between students. Overall, the camp was a very fun and worthwhile experience and many memories were made by the students.

By Natalie Potocki 9B





**2017  
CROSS COUNTRY REPORT**

On Tuesday 4 April the School Cross Country was held on the school grounds. Unfortunately, the weather posed an issue, resulting in the event being held for competitors only. It was disappointing the carnival could not involve the whole school community but despite some showers coming through the event proved to be a good occasion.

Congratulations to **Sedgwick** who backed up from last year to win another cross country carnival.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sedgwick 250
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wilson 203
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Hogan 200
- 4<sup>th</sup> Moore 115
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dunne 112
- 6<sup>th</sup> Bruchhauser 83

Congratulations to our age champions and runners-up:

Age	Girls Champion	Girls Runner-Up	Boys Champion	Boys Runners-Up
12	Charlotte-Emily Watson (7 Hogan)	Christina Young (7 Dunne)	Ryan Grillis (7 Hogan)	Lincoln Miners (7 Moore)
13	Amalia Plummer (8 Sedgwick)	Jaimee Kitchener (8 Bruchhauser)	Michael Newton (7 Moore)	Liam Gottaas (7 Wilson)
14	Jessica Kourembes (8 Bruchhauser)	Olivia de Pourbaix (8 Wilson)	Tyrone Fergie (8 Bruchhauser)	Vince Arcadi (8 Moore)
15	Aleesha Austin (10 Sedgwick)	Alex Honan (9 Sedgwick)	Adam Farkas (9 Sedgwick)	Patrick Staunton (9 Dunne)
16	Elisabeth Kelly (11 Dunne)	Karley McVittie (10 Hogan)	Rhys Miller (10 Wilson)	Nicholas Ciappara (11 Moore)
17	Anastasia de Pourbaix (12 Wilson)	Nil	Timothy Stewart (11 Hogan)	Connor McFarlane (11 Hogan)
18	Nil	Nil	Albert Haidar (11 Wilson)	Dylan Haslam (11 Wilson)

**DIOCESAN BOYS SOCCER Under 15's  
Thursday 27 April**

We were unbeaten in our pool but ended up equal points with Corpus Christi and lost a penalty shoot out. We then lost in the play-offs to Holy Spirit. Our best players were Adam Farkas, Chris Pernia and our goalie, Aiden Kumutat.



# NOTICEBOARD

## May

1	Monday	Diocesan Cross Country Year 7, 2018 Interviews 3pm–6pm
2	Tuesday	Year 7, 2018 Interviews 3pm–6pm
4	Thursday	Year 7, 2018 Interviews 1pm - 6pm
8	Monday	Year 7, 2018 Interviews 3pm–6pm
9	TUESDAY	Year 7, 2018 Interviews 3pm–6pm P & F Meeting 7pm-8pm
9 10 11	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	NAPLAN Years 7 & 9
12	Friday	Year 11 and Year 12 Vaccinations
14	Sunday	Mothers Day
15	Monday	Winter Uniform Now Year 11, 2018 Subject selection 6pm start

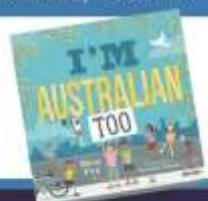
### SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Students will go into winter uniform on Monday 15 May. It will be optional from 1 May.

The Second Hand Uniform shop will be open from 8.00am - 8.20am on the following dates.

- ◆ Wednesday 3 May
- ◆ Thursday 4 May
- ◆ Friday 5 May
  
- ◆ Wednesday 10 May
- ◆ Thursday 11 May
- ◆ Friday 12 May

**FREE COMMUNITY FORUM**  
WHY READING TO YOUR CHILDREN WILL CHANGE THEIR LIVES, FOREVER





EDUCATING FUTURE

## MEET MEM FOX

AUSTRALIA'S BEST-SELLING PICTURE BOOK AUTHOR

Mem Fox is one of Australia's most prolific and best-loved children's authors. She has written over 40 books, including *Possum Magic*, and will provide an informative and entertaining presentation especially for parents of primary aged children.

To celebrate the release of *I'm Australian Too*, Mem is thrilled to visit South West Sydney to share her wisdom and her latest picture book which is a proud celebration of Australia's amazing cultural diversity and migration. Combined with delightfully sensitive illustrations from Ranajoy Ghosh, this beautiful book for children aged 7+ provides parents with a lovely way to discuss multiculturalism and equality. This book, along with *Ducks Away!*, suitable for the younger children 3+, will be available for pre-purchase and signing at the forum.

When: Thursday 11 May 2017  
 Time: 10am  
 Where: Thomas Hassall Anglican College  
 125 Kingsford Smith Ave, Middleton Grange  
 Cost: No charge for the forum, book: \$19.99 each  
 Booking essential: [trybooking.com/PNZY](http://trybooking.com/PNZY)

All welcome – mums, dads, grandparents and friends.  
 Tours of the College (Prep and Kindergarten classrooms) available on the day from 10.30am  
 \*Depending on audience numbers and time, following the Forum



CANTEEN	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Term 2</b> Week 2B 1 May - 5 May	<b>1 May</b> Kim Phillips Linsey Hall	<b>2 May</b> Kylie Greffenius Angela Young	<b>3 May</b> Veronique Smith	<b>4 May</b> Jenny Davies	<b>5 May</b> Linda McGuire
<b>Term 2</b> Week 3A 8 May - 12 May	<b>8 May</b> Megan Tyler	<b>9 May</b> Janeen Brady	<b>10 May</b> Nicole Garner Donna Duck	<b>11 May</b> Narelle Ollerton	<b>12 May</b> Donna Sapiatzer
<b>Term 2</b> Week 4B 15 May - 19 May	<b>15 May</b> Grace Versace Connie Iacano	<b>16 May</b> Sharon Draper Anna Geering	<b>17 May</b> Veronique Smith	<b>18 May</b> Isabella Cantrella Raylene Joyce	<b>19 May</b> Lyn Kelly Lee Street

## 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](mailto:info@mchsdow.catholic.edu.au)

P.O. Box 222, Narellan NSW 2567  
[www.mchsdow.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mchsdow.catholic.edu.au)