

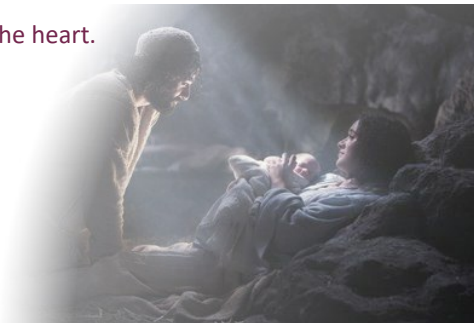


Christmas prayer

When the song of the angels is stilled,
 When the star in the sky is gone,
 When the kings and princes are home,
 When the shepherds are back with their flock,
 The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,
 To heal the broken,
 To feed the hungry,
 To release the prisoner,
 To rebuild the nations,
 To bring peace among others,
 To make music in the heart.

AMEN

(Howard Thurman)



Principal's Report

Thank You

As we come to the end of the year I'd like to thank you for your support and hard work throughout 2016. As we look back over the year, we can be well pleased with all that has been achieved. Our school community is indeed blessed; blessed in the young people with whom we work, blessed in the staff who choose to work here; blessed in the loving and faith filled families who give us such support. It's been a terrific year. Thank you.

In the mad rush that sometimes marks this time of the year, I hope that all families find moments of stillness to reflect on why we celebrate Christmas. Christmas is a beginning not an end in itself. Christmas calls us to be people who bring hope and mercy to our world.

May you all enjoy the joy, peace and hope of Christ this Christmas and may the New Year be filled with happiness, good health and many graced moments.

I wish everyone in the school community a safe, restful and enjoyable break.

Farewell

With the end of the school year we farewell a number of staff and thank them for all they've contributed to the school. Each has been an exceptional staff member and a fine teacher. Thank you to Ms Belinda Moss who moves to Cranbourne East Secondary College and Mr Chris Torok who will taking up a position at Marcellin College. I thank each of them for all that they've brought to our community.

We also farewell Ms Mary Pham, Mr Neil Dorney and Ms Deb Bohan who have replaced teachers on leave during Term 4. I thank each of them for all that they've brought to our community. The transition has been seamless due to their skill and professionalism.

Lastly, we farewell our Speech Pathologist, Ms Stephanie Andrade, and Mr James Nardella, one of our Learning Support Officers. Their work has been much appreciated by students, staff and families. We wish them well as they pursue their careers in other settings.

Well Done

I'd like to congratulate and thank all students for the way that they finished the school year. Year 10 students and staff had a terrific final day at Luna Park and the Catani Gardens in St Kilda. It was a great chance to have some fun and to reminisce about the year.

Similarly, Years 7 – 9 students enjoyed their final day which included an end of year mass and pastoral care activities. Many thanks to all families for your support in ensuring that students finished so well.

Semester 2 Reports

These are now available to students and families through the Parent Access Module (PAM). Printed copies of the report have been forwarded to families who have requested the report in this format.

The Spirit of Christmas in Action

At the final Year 7 assembly students presented representatives from St Vincent de Paul with food and gifts that they have collected during Term 4 as part of their Giving Tree project. Congratulations to all Year 7 students and families for your incredible support of this project, and for seeing Christmas as time where we think of others who are not as lucky as we are. Thank you.

SRC 2017

On behalf of the school community I would also like to congratulate the following students on their election to the SRC for 2017:

- Year 8:** Vivian Dang, Patrick Mendoza, Karen Nguyen
- Year 9:** Ronald Khuu, Cindy Vo, Sharelle Lynch
- Year 10:** Louisa Gjergaj, Bolis Nyok, Peter Phan

We trust that each of them will contribute much to our community next year and will learn a great deal from the experience.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

Thank you to all the students across the school who nominated for leadership roles. We are very lucky to have so many people interested in putting themselves forward. It seems that the SRC will have many willing helpers throughout the year.

House Captains 2017

Congratulations to the following students on being selected as House Captains for 2017:

Corbett:	Tina Bui, Donovan Hughes, Fayelene Reyes
Guelen:	Princess Dorbor, Deng Shan
O'Reilly:	Rayvia McIntosh, Selena Paras
Reis:	Justin Callos, Isabella Collier

Social Justice Captains 2017

Congratulations to **Thuong Nguyen** and **Nathan Taylor** for being selected as Social Justice Captains for 2017.

Start of the 2017 School Year

Thursday 02 February 2017:
Years 7 students only (9am – 2.15pm)

Friday 03 February 2017:
All students return (8.40am – 3.05pm)

The first day for the whole school on Friday 03 February will be **Day 10** of the school timetable. Students should be able to access their timetable on SIMON from Wednesday 01 February.

Book Collection Day

Books purchased through the College supplier can be collected from the College library on **Friday 27 January, 2017**. It would be great if families could attend at the following times:

A – G:	8.30 – 11am
H – M:	11am – 1pm
N – Z:	1 – 2.30pm
All:	2.30 – 3.30pm

Payment can be made by cash, EFTPOS or credit card. No cheques are accepted. Families paying in cash are asked to bring an extra \$10.00 in case of price increases.

A small number of second hand books are still available from the library.

Uniform

The CRC Uniform shop at Sydenham will be open extra hours in January. Extended hours are as follows:

- Friday 27th January 2017
- Monday 30th January 2017
- Tuesday 31st January 2017
- Wednesday 1st February 2017

- Thursday 28th January (returning to normal hours)

Hours are 10am - 4pm on the weekdays and 9am - 12midday on the Saturday.

I ask that all families ensure that students arrive at school on Friday 03 February with all their books and in full uniform.

Classes 2017

Classes for Years 8, 9 and 10 2017 will be displayed around the school on the Book sale Day: Friday 27 January 2017. Alternatively, students can access their timetable on SIMON the day before school starts.

Save the Date

The Year 9 Family Night is in the first full week of Term 1 2017 on **Thursday 09 February**. Further details will be sent home on the first day next year. This evening is held early in the year to give families information about the Trinity program which begins the following week.

I'd ask that all Year 9 families mark this date in their calendar.

Getting ready for Day 1

It's important that students name all belongings; including books, folders, pens, schoolbag, other equipment and all items of uniform before the beginning of the school year. This assists us in returning lost items to their owners.

Year 7 2018

Enrolments are now being taken for Year 7 2018. Application forms and College Information packs can be obtained from the front office at any time. The application form can also be downloaded from the College website at www.crcstalbans.catholic.edu.au.

Since our last newsletter.....

Over and above the day to day activities of the school since our last newsletter students, families and staff have participated in the following:

- Peer Support Training (Year 9)
- Trinity Ice Skating
- 9 Live
- VCE / VET Orientation (Year 10 2017)
- Year 7 Assembly
- Ball Sports Day
- End of Year mass
- Student Leaders end of year dinner.
- Orientation Day (Year 7 2017)

I am sure that students and their families are very appreciative of all these opportunities and the time and energy that staff put into organising and offering these experiences.

Term Dates 2017

Term 1: Friday 03 February – Friday 31 March

Term 2: Tuesday 18 April – Friday 30 June
(Monday 17 April is Easter Monday)

Term 3: Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September

Term 4: Monday 09 October – Friday 08 December
(Years 7 – 9)

Please Note:

Year 10 students finish at the College on Thursday 30 November but have an Orientation program at CRC Sydenham from Monday 04 December to the Friday 08 December.

Years 9 and 10 end of year exams will be held from **Wednesday 22 to Wednesday 29 November, 2017.**

Families planning to travel at the end of 2017 are asked to note that exams and the Orientation program at Sydenham are compulsory. Exams must be taken within the exam timetable. They cannot be taken before or after the exam week. Please do not book travel before 08 December for Year 11 2018 students or 01 December for students in Years 7 – 9.



CHRISTINA UTRI
PRINCIPAL



Year 7 Prayer and Liturgy Unit – Mandalas

In term 4, Year 7 students explored the many different styles of Prayer. One main focus was on the ancient form of Mandalas. Mandalas are a Buddhist Tradition and a meditative style of prayer. 7 Yarra, students designed their own Mandalas and then created a class Mandala made of coloured sand. The pictured Mandala has been dedicated to help all those in need around the world.

Student Reflections :

We made a mandala in our school garden and it was for us to put sand on it. Every time you put the sand in its place you prayed for yourself, people around the world and to love one another.

I found the Mandala to be amazing because we made it as a class and we prayed from the start to the finish. It was also beautiful because as we prayed it was silent.

*Dear lord,
Thank you for keeping 7 Yarra safe and happy this year. It was amazing and funny because we all meet new people in our lives and now they are our friends. Thank you lord Amen. Anyier Akol*

Last week we did the sand Mandala as a class. We had a Mandala drawn for us onto the floor and we filled it in with sand. The experience was very

"unique" as I have never done anything like it before. The colours of the sand were Blue, Black, Purple, Yellow, Red and Green. We all had to fill in a "section" of the mandala and say a prayer for our class and our own personal prayer. Liam Nguyen

It was fun and peaceful just filling in the spaces with sand. I enjoyed watching it fall down into the spaces and I enjoyed how I could pray and keep people in my thoughts. I prayed for the poor and homeless, my friends and family, and my class; so that everyone stays safe and happy with no negativity in their hearts. I prayed that God watches over them especially during this Christmas Season. Karen Nguyen

This mandala means the spirit of 7 Yarra's life in 2016. The pattern of our Mandala is pattern of 7 Yarra: everyone is different (just

Key Dates Term 1, 2017

A full calendar for Term 1 will be sent home to families in the first week of 2017. However, key dates for Term 1 2017 are listed below:

Wednesday 25 January:
School office re-opens

Friday 27 January:
Booksale Day
2017 classes published

Wednesday 01 February:
Student Leaders' Camp

Thursday 02 February:
Year 7 2017 start school

Friday 03 February:
All students return
(Day 10 of the Timetable)

Thursday 09 February:
Year 9 Family Night

Wednesday 15 February:
MacKillop Awards Assembly

Thursday 23 February:
Opening Mass

Wednesday 01 March:
Ash Wednesday

Thursday 02 March:
Inter-house Swimming Carnival

Monday 13 March:
Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 14 March:
Staff Planning Day
(Students not required at school)

Wed 15/3 – Fri 17/3:
Year 8 Camp

Tuesday 28 March:
SACSS Interschool Swimming

Friday 30 March:
Final Day Term 1



like the colours that we chose) on the outside but we all have something in common.

7 Yarra had a great year with all these smart, creative students who will be remembered.

Our classroom, room 37, is a place where students learn together, enjoy finding out and exploring new things. It is a place where we all live in harmony. David Do

*Mandala Reflection
Creating our sand mandalas was a really nice experience with the class, a good time to reflect and pray for ourselves, people around us and world needs. As each person sprinkled the sand onto the mandala, a sense of peace and serenity was felt. Praying before and after making the mandala created unity within the class, having the opportunity to pray for personal intentions. Arabella Julia*

CHRISTMAS IN OUR PARISH

Saturday 24th December

Christmas Eve

EMMAUS

FAMILY MASS 7.00PM

HOLY EUCHARIST

* (Filipino) DAWN MASS 5.00AM

FAMILY MASS 7.00PM (English)
9.00pm (Vietnamese)

MIDNIGHT MASS 12.00AM (English)
Carols from 11.30pm

RESURRECTION

CHILDREN'S MASS

4.00PM

5.30PM

FAMILY MASS 7.30PM

MID EVENING MASS 8.30PM

MIDNIGHT MASS 12.00AM

Carols from 11.30pm

SACRED HEART

FAMILY MASS

5.00PM

9.00PM

MIDNIGHT MASS 12.00AM

Carols from 11.45pm

Sunday 25th December

Christmas Day

EMMAUS

9.00AM

HOLY EUCHARIST

9.00AM (English)

FAMILY MASS 10.30AM (English)

12.00 MIDDAY (Vietnamese)

2.00PM (Sudanese)

3.30PM (Filipino)

6.00PM (English)

RESURRECTION

10.00am

SACRED HEART

8.00AM

9.00AM (Polish)

10.15AM

11.30AM

Monday 26th December

Boxing Day

EMMAUS

10.00AM

SACRED HEART

9.00AM (English)

10.00AM (German)

11.00AM (Polish)

Sunday 1st January

New Year's Day

EMMAUS

9.00AM

SACRED HEART

8.00AM

10.15AM

11.30AM

9.00AM (Polish)

Year 10 Farewell Speech 2016

Good Morning Staff, Teachers, Parents and Students of Catholic Regional College St. Albans,

We come to the conclusion of our annual McAuley Assembly, and I, Nam Nguyen, along with Glydel Lawang, would like to take this time to say a farewell on behalf of the 2016 Year 10's of Catholic Regional College St. Albans.

As the year approaches to an end, so does our long unforgettable journey at CRC. Looking back, as we begin to part ways, the experiences, values and mind-set gained at CRC will forever assist us in our strive for success.

I hope, that by the end of this speech, younger year levels will take in our wisdom as Year 10's and use it as motivation to flourish themselves and continue our legacy.

Like many here today, we began high school as children; seeking new experiences, wanting to build meaningful memories and relationships with others, young individuals who are full of hope and eager to explore the years to come...yet totally directionless. Through the guidance of CRC's incredible staff and teachers, unified and caring school community and most of all the support from our peers. It has allowed us to exit CRC as developed, matured and determined young adult, who are ready to tackle the challenges to come in the future.

The most important and valuable lesson that this college has taught us is to appreciate our own individual story. A story made up of significant experiences and memories due to our talents, characteristics and values.

Our peers combined with our experiences at Catholic Regional College St. Albans have definitely given us the gift of memories that we shall always cherish and bring with us. These memories make up stories that we have made for ourselves and for our school; stories that embody who we are as individuals, our triumphs and defeats, our joys and sadness, but most of all our hopes and dreams for the future...

These stories would not have been possible without Ms. Utri, Ms. Cini, Mr. Quinn, the teachers and staff of CRC for guiding us throughout-what I would say our- 'messy four years', and assisting us in building strong relationships with each other, nurturing us and enabling us to grow, preparing us for the real world, encouraging us and helping us to pursue our dreams, and most of all allowing us to create and express our own story here at this school, and so I would like to specially thank you all.

And so, for the Year 10's our stories end here, yet we still possess the potential to create even more throughout our lives.

For the rest of the students here, I would like to encourage you all to continue in crafting your own exceptional and unique stories here at this school.

Thank you once again and God Bless.

Nam Nguyen and Glydel Lawang

McAuley Awards 2016



Recipients of the McAuley Award 2016 are ...

Each year we recognise students who've made an outstanding contribution to the school and broader community with a Catherine McAuley pin. This is achieved through learning beyond the classroom and contributions to the community through service, leadership, fundraising, sport, the Arts, extension programs and clubs. Points towards this award are accumulated throughout the year and about 10 students at each year level receive a pin at the final school assembly. Congratulations to all recipients of the 2016 Catherine McAuley pin:

Kathleene Mendoza, Alyssa Mae Martinez, Glydel Lawang, Emily Aguila, Danika Alwyn, Destiny Eustace, Julie Le, Janaya Nheu, Danny Pham, Madelyn Ruel, Ilyssa Mendoza, Patricia Rianne Dabu, Tina Le, Sharelle Lynch, Roshith Thanthulage, Xuan Dien Vo, Isabella Vanegas Caicedo, Brianna Flores, Cyril Vallescas, Carl Mikhail Sevillano, Arabella Celine Julian, Patrick Mendoza, Caitlyn Gonsalves, Piath Monoah, Louisa Zhang, Jocelyn Cuzcano, Tran Lu, Lynda The Le, Tam Le, Augustine Morris, Helen Nguyen, Julie Pham, Xavier Ryam Bondoc, Tina Bui, Bolis Nyok, Lynda Vu, Delvana Dorbor, Lisa Pham, Ethan Binny and Kira Jansen.