House Swimming Carnival

Friday, 26 February 2016 was Ave Maria College’s Annual House Swimming Carnival. It was a day that saw many students and staff jump into the pool to earn House points. There was so much participation we had to open up another pool for competitors to use which saw the inclusion of new novelty events.

Year 12 students kick started the day’s festivities with their colourful parade with loud cheers and dances. After prayer, some words of encouragement and the National Anthem the starter gun sounded and competition began.

A special congratulations to the year level champions of 2016 who earned the most points for their Houses in their year level. They did this through their participation of many events throughout the day.

• Year 7: Madeline Langenbacher
• Year 8: Karsha Periera
• Year 9: Hannah Shaw
• Year 10: Alicia Walker
• Year 11: Brigitte Williams
• Year 12: Nicole Murraylee

Nicole Murraylee also received the Ave Sprint medal earning her bragging rights as the fastest freestyler at the College. Her winning time of 29.89 seconds is the fastest swim we have ever had. A fantastic achievement.

With the amazing talent at Ave Maria College, points were very close. Each division was won by a different House making the overall score a nail biter. Congratulations to the division winners.

Junior: Helene
Intermediate: Clare
Senior: Francis.

Unfortunately there can only be one overall winner, so a huge ‘Well Done’ to students and staff in Francis House who took out the 2016 House Swimming Competition.

Thank you to all students who participated on the day in one way or another and earned House points for your House. Thank you to all the parents who came and supported our swimmers and in particular their daughters. Finally a big thank you to the staff of the College for their ongoing support of the House program.

Next big event is the Athletics carnival which will be taking place in Term 2 at Moonee Valley Athletics Centre. Warm up the high jump and the hurdles over the holidays.

Melanie Zahra
Co-Curricular Leader

Year 8 Drama - Bollywood Dancing

On the Wednesday, 2 March, Year 8 Drama students got the privilege to participate in a Bollywood dance workshop. Dancers came and showed us one of their Bollywood routines, then dressed us up in a coloured sash, bindis and bangles to get us into the Bollywood spirit. They taught us one of their dances and we learned some of their moves. We all had so much fun learning how to dance Bollywood style.

The class was then split into two groups for a dance off. We were all extremely competitive and had such a great a time. Most enthusiastic dancers won prizes and everyone really enjoyed themselves. This was definitely the best incursion yet!

Alessia Massara and Tahlia Tassone 8A
The power of YET in Mathematics!

For our students, the start of a new year comes renewed enthusiasm, a good hard think about learning goals and hopefully, a fresh and positive attitude about learning. At the Year 7 Orientation Day last year, I spoke to parents of our new Year 7 students impressing upon them the importance that their own attitude and influences about maths and ‘well it’s OK for my daughter to not be good at Maths because I wasn’t!’ becoming the normal way of thinking about Maths. As a parent, while it’s crucial to show an interest in your daughter’s learning in Maths, it’s equally important to not allow your own experiences and feelings about Maths allow your daughter to think Maths is too hard. Yes, it can be challenging and yes, it can have you in the ‘zone of confusion’, but so can learning to drive and writing an essay. The real learning can come from picking yourself up, taking a breath, moving forward and embracing the power of YET. As her parent, you don’t have to be able to solve the problems yourself but instead ask her to explain what she learnt in Maths that day and engage with her about the power of YET. You can’t do that YET but you will get it!

Absolute Maximums

Absolute Maximums, a lunchtime get together for students of all year levels and teachers to work together on Maths. If a student needs a place to catch up on their Maths or they miss a class and need further explanation, Absolute Maximums is the place to be! Held every Monday lunchtime in F101 with two Maths teachers in attendance, students are encouraged to attend.

Years 7 to 9 Mathematics Pretesting

The Maths teachers put a great deal of time and thought into planning a differentiated and engaging Mathematics course to suit the needs of all students. In order to know more about what our students ‘don’t know, understand or can’t do’, the Maths Domain teachers will be conducting pre- and post-testing at various times throughout the year. The length of these tasks will vary depending on need and the upcoming topic. We’re convinced of their potential to inform our teaching practice and ultimately your daughter’s learning in Maths. Thank you for your support, in advance, in encouraging your daughter to do her best in these tasks.

Digital Technology in the Mathematics Classroom

All Year 9 to 12 students are required to have a Casio Class Pad FX-CP400 calculator as listed on the College Resource List. We consider the calculator to be an important tool and students are currently learning about its capability and how it can assist with the development and solution of more complex problems. Parents are asked to ensure their daughter has the calculator with them in class as soon as possible.

Debra Coyne
Domain Team Leader Mathematics/IT

Year 11 Drama ‘Picnic at Hanging Rock’

On the evening of Monday, 29 February 2016 eight Year 11 Drama students along with Mr. Ferrarese ventured to the Malthouse Theatre to watch the performance of ‘Picnic at Hanging Rock’.

Set in 1900, a group of schoolgirls and their teachers head to Hanging Rock for the day. They arrive, and in the midst of their exploration, three of the girls and a teacher vanish, never to be seen again. As the play continues certain spooky pieces of the puzzle are revealed as they try to solve the mystery of the disappearance. The twists and turns of the play made for a chilling performance, we were all on the edges of our seats! The performers were impeccably focused throughout the whole performance, flawlessly transitioning from one character to another using simply their voice. The performance was non-naturalistic, a term created by German practitioner Bertolt Brecht for all performance styles that are not depend of life-like representation of everyday life, with minimal use of props and costume.

The viewing of this performance was part of our assessment, as we will soon complete a detailed analysis of the performance and what we observed and learnt from it. From this experience not only have we had a great night out but also gained an educational resource, inspiration and motivation for our very own non-naturalistic ensembles.

Thank you Mr Ferrarese.

Catherine McCarthy 11C

Old Ave Maria College Uniforms

We are collecting old uniforms to send to Timor-Leste (East Timor). We need any pieces of the pre-2016 uniform that you no longer need. This includes: summer, winter and sports uniform, socks and shoes (if in good condition). Any queries feel free to contact Mary Calthorpe in the Canteen on 9331-9314 or drop uniform in to the Canteen during school