



## Mr Jim Ford | Principal

### Putting The Genie Back In The Bottle

Professor Jonathan Haidt in his bestselling book titled “The Anxious Generation” outlines what he considers to be a revolution in parenting and the child development process. Sub-titled “How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness”, the author identifies a fundamental change to the way many children are brought up. In an age of anxious parenting and perceived risk those same parents will unwittingly give their children unfettered access to the world wide web. Young girls stymied by inappropriate social comparison and young boys potentially educated in the world of misogyny and ‘physical theatre’. The author implores parents and schools to reintroduce ‘play based childhood’ and restrict or eliminate ‘phone-based childhood’ until age sixteen. Unstructured imagination-based play in the real world. Let them take risks and build confidence. Keep them in social interaction with real people to learn societies norms. Statistics from the United States indicate that eighteen to twenty-fives are the loneliest generation ever. Chief cause is likely to be the isolating and distancing effect of social media. Last week we had two school camps and a special program for Year 8’s. No phones. Staff mentioned to me the changes in the children after three days being phone free all day. Some say the genie is out of the bottle and you can’t put it back. To graduate versatile, socially competent young adults we need to deny social media companies any more wishes.

### Change To Wearing Of School Uniform



A reminder that commencing this term, the College sports jacket is only to be worn with the sports uniform. The formal uniform requires the College jumper (available from Uniform Solutions). This applies to all students.



## Mrs Jeanette Refalo |Assistant Principal Mission

### All Are Connected

*A true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. - Pope Francis, Laudato Si’ n49*

*Laudato Si’* is an encyclical written by Pope Francis in May 2015. Translated as ‘praise be to you’, the letter addresses the Catholic Social Teaching and Care for Our Common Home. Pope Francis reminds us that **everything** is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This belief of integral ecology calls us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action.

Pope Francis focuses on the social and ecological crisis that exists in our world today and even though every week should be Laudato Si’ Week we acknowledge this event as a global celebration that unites all people in the spirit of Pope Francis’ encyclical letter. The events taking place this term, are an opportunity for us to reflect on and promote the message of Laudato Si’, focusing on working to bring all of humanity together to protect our common home. It is a time for communal ecological conversion and a recommitment to caring for our planet. These events will involve prayer, learning and awareness raising, and taking action to ensure we preserve our planet for future generations.

## Mr Christ Apelt | Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning

### Student Led Conferences

Bookings are now open through Parent Orbit App and Parent Lounge. Please Note:

- Only one booking per teacher (regardless of timetable)
- If you wish to make an extra appointment with a teacher, please contact them directly via email
- Thursday 2 May and Thursday 9 May
- Bookings close Tuesday 30 April at 11:00pm

## Mr David Paul |Assistant Principal Wellbeing

### Words and Actions

The choices you make about your words and your actions (positive and negative) can affect people for many years. What choices do you make to positively affect the people around you?

**EVERYTHING YOU DO AND SAY  
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.**

**YOU JUST NEED TO DECIDE  
WHAT KIND OF A DIFFERENCE  
YOU WANT TO MAKE.**



## Kathy Parrish | Board Chair

### April Board Report

We welcomed new parent members, Shirlz Russell and Kylie Anthes who join the CMC board in 2024.

### **Board Member Inservice**

Mr David Paul – Assistant Principal Wellbeing, spoke about ‘The Resilience Project’ and the benefits of integrating this project into everyday life at CMC.

### **Prayer and Formation Session**

Mr Jim Ford walked us through prayer with “come walk with me” from Catholic Schools in conversation. A reflective session where each board member participated in a reading.

**Principals report**

- Term 1 student Academic reporting showing very strong results
- Wrap up of Term 1 sporting activities with strong participation at both cross country and swimming carnivals.
- CMC Sponsorship opportunities for Sip and Paint and Trivia Nights – see email circulated earlier this week.
- Don’t forget to book in for Sip and Paint to be held on Friday 17th May. If painting isn’t for you, come along and watch some of the NRL Magic Round games on the big screen for a social evening.

**Mrs Leila Vernalls | Year 7 HoY**

**Year 7 Camp**

Camp Kanga was a massive success with positive feedback from students and staff. Students had an amazing day exploring our Great Barrier Reef and made everlasting friendships through the many team building activities we undertook. Hopefully students are now fully rested and ready for an action packed Term two!



**Parent Orbit App**

Have you downloaded the Parent Orbit App yet? Just scan the QR code and enter your Username and Password. (Parent Lounge and the Parent Orbit App use the same login credentials). Use the “Forgot Password” button if you cannot remember your login details.



**Ms Stacey Austin | Year 9 HoY**

**Year 9 Camp**

Year 9 students had an unforgettable four-day adventure at Apex Camp on Magnetic Island last week, where they engaged in a range of outdoor activities and team-building exercises. The trip offered a fantastic opportunity for students to continue to build relationships, develop leadership skills, and create lasting memories.



**Date Claimers Term 2**

- Thursday 2 May – Student Led Conferencing 3:15pm **Bookings now open**
- Monday 6 May – Labor Day Holiday
- Thursday 9 May – Student Led Conferencing 3:15pm **Bookings now open**
- Wednesday 8 May – Uniform Committee Meeting 4:00pm
- Wednesday 8 May – PEG Meeting 5:30pm
- Wednesday 15 May – Board Meeting 7:00pm
- Friday 17 May – CMC Sip & Paint
- Saturday 18 May – Gospel Group singing at St Francis Church 6:00pm
- Friday 31 May – Athletics Carnival (TBC) (Whole School Event)
- Saturday 15 June – Gospel Group singing at St Francis Church 6:00pm
- Thursday 20 June – Show Day Holiday
- Friday 21 June – Student Free Day

**Mrs Paula Bell | Business Manager**

**Finance Information**

**College Fees**

Easypay payment schedules are our preferred payment method and can be set up in the Parent Lounge. It can be stressful to figure out how to best pay these fees, however payment plans are designed to assist you to meet your financial obligations. Families who have not made a financial contribution to date, will be contacted in the next couple of weeks to discuss a plan. All fees must be paid by Friday 25 October 2024.

*Camp Lost Property*

Lost camp items can be claimed from Student Reception, any unclaimed items will be donated at the end of Week 4.

### Camp

Final camp payments are past due and need to be settled as soon as possible.

### Instrumental Lessons

Term 1 Invoices were emailed to families on Friday 5 April and were due for payment by Friday 19 April. These need to be paid to commence Term 2 lessons.

### Cultural Ensemble

The one-time payment of \$250.00 is due by Friday 5 July. Payments can be made via Events & Payments in the Parent Lounge.

### Events & Payments

Instead of completing permission forms by hand, parents are now able to login to parent lounge to accept/decline attendance for various events including excursions, camps and sporting activities. You will receive an email inviting you to the suggested event.

Another awesome feature of this new system is the ability to make card payments for excursions, camps and sporting activities if required. No more having to come into the office or send cash in with your child.

To find Events & Payments, simply log into your Parent Lounge via the App or Website and click on Events & Payments on the left side of the screen. This will bring up a list of your events.

Please contact me if you have any questions or maybe experiencing financial hardship.

### PEG Fundraising Event

CATHERINE MCAULEY COLLEGE  
**SIP N PAINT Night**  
FRI MAY 17  
MAGIC ROUND BRISBANE  
NON PAINTERS WELCOME!  
Watch the NRL Magic Round live with your mates

Please click on the link to purchase a ticket.

<https://events.humanitix.com/catherine-mcauley-college-sip-and-paint-night>

## ANZAC DAY



\*Some photos sourced from the Mackay Regional Council Facebook page