



February 2017  
**Welcome Message**



## Welcome to the MCSS 2017 School Year

We have had a great start to the school year with students across both campuses now settling in to the busy school routine. The summer break over, students and staff are now looking to the semester 1 activities and a build-up of school work and a range of extra-curricular enrichment activities.

The graduating class of Year 12, 2016 set the bar very high for future students attaining impressive measures of ATAR performances above 90 with a significant proportion of students eligible for a local university first round offers. Add to this, high levels of students achieving Vocational qualifications across the year, the expectation for all current Year 12 Certificate candidates continues to be high.

As the only north Canberra public school offering the **International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program and IB World School for the Diploma Program**, as a community of learners we have accepted the challenge to be the best that we can be. This includes striving for national and international standards of educational practice. As the media reminds us every minute it seems at times, students at MCSS are preparing for a complex world ahead. As educators and a community it is our collective responsibility to prepare our young people well.

Later this month a comprehensive newsletter full of celebrations and students experiences will be distributed. It is now timely to share key information that is important for parents and carers, as well as students. Please note the schedule of **Important Term 1 Dates** on the reverse page of this message.

Our thanks go out to all families of high school campus students for their special efforts in preparing students with the new uniforms this year. This reflects strongly the pride and commitment they too have for MCSS. **Student photos occur on Thursday 23 February for all year levels.**

In welcoming new and continuing students for 2017 we take the opportunity to promote that they set goals and seek to succeed in all that they do. With the support of parents and carers in the home environment, students will be in the best position to achieve these goals.

Involving parents and carers is important, including participation in special events on each campus for our new **Year 7 (5.00pm Tuesday 21 February – Meet the Teacher Evening)** and our College level students in **Year 11 and 12 (6.15pm Tuesday 21 February – College Pastoral Care & Assessment Evening)**. Both events are on the same evening for the convenience of parents with students across campuses. If you are unable to attend please contact the school if you have information that will assist the school in supporting the performance and success of your student at MCSS.

The **MCSS Swimming Carnival at Big Splash on Thursday 9 February** is an opportunity for both campuses to contribute to the positive culture of our school. Through participation each student will build on their pride in our school. The House points competition will be determined by participation alone, so everyone attending this year will be a winner. **(Permission Notes to be distributed in week 1)**

**We welcome a number of new staff** to the school for 2017 in both teaching and school support roles. Across the two campuses they join a team of close to a 90 staff who work in a dynamic and rewarding school environment.

Finally, if the **contact details** for parents/carers and **student medical information** need to be updated, please contact the school. This information is extremely important for ensuring communication to support all students at MCSS.

**On behalf of all staff at the school, best wishes for a successful 2017.**

*Michael Battenally*  
Principal

*Mary Arnold*  
Associate Principal

*Jesse Sidhu*  
Associate Principal

*Gary Lawson*  
Associate Principal

**MCSS  
Mission**

***“MCSS fosters a supportive environment of respect, trust and intercultural understanding. Each student is encouraged and challenged to earn, grow and accomplish personal, academic, social and vocational excellence.”***

## MCSS Term 1 2017 ~ Important Dates

Date	Event	Details
9 February - Thursday	MCSS Swimming Carnival (7-12)	All day at Jamison Pool (Big Splash, Macquarie)
14 February – Tuesday	AST Preparation (QCS test)	9.00am College – Year 12 (Tertiary)
15 February – Wednesday	Board Meeting P&C Meeting	5.30-7.00pm @ College Campus 7.00pm @ College Campus
21 February – Tuesday	Meet The Teacher Evening (Year 7)  College Pastoral Care & Assessment Evening (Year 11/12)	5.00pm for Parents & Carers at High School Campus Library  6.15pm for Year 11/12 Parents & Carers at College Campus Library
23 February - Thursday	Student Photos (7-12)	Student ID and Photo Pack's
7 March - Tuesday	College Moderation Day	No classes for Year 11/12
13 March - Monday	Canberra Day Holiday	Public Holiday
15 March - Wednesday	MCSS Pasifika Community Evening	5.00-7.30pm College Café/Courtyard
22 March – Wednesday	Board Meeting P&C Meeting (AGM)	5.30-7.00pm @ College Campus 7.00pm @ College Campus
22-24 March – Wed, Thu, Fri	Year 7 Camp	NSW South Coast
22-24 March – Wed, Thu, Fri	Year 6 Transition Program	Local Primary Year 6 students experience MCSS on scheduled days
23 March – Thursday	Harmony Day Assembly (7-12)	High School Campus Gym
4 April – Tuesday	Parent Teacher Interviews (7-12)	4.30-7.00pm at College Campus
6 April – Thursday	Year 10 College Transition “Taster”	9.00am at College Campus – Year 10
7 April – Friday	MCSS School Cluster ANZAC 102 Year Commemoration Ceremony	10.00-11.00am High School Campus Gym
8-25 April	Autumn Break	Relax and Recharge for Term 2
14 April - Friday	Easter Good Friday	Public Holiday
17 April - Monday	Easter Monday	Public Holiday
25 April - Tuesday	ANZAC DAY	Public Holiday
26 April – Wednesday	Term 2 Commencement	All students Year 7-12