Dear Year 7 and 8 Parents,

Welcome to an exciting term. We would especially like to welcome those students new to MECS and trust you are settling in well. For those who are in Year 7, we know it can be hard tackling the challenges of Secondary School, but we are all impressed with your determination and effort so far. Well done!

Key Dates
Please take note of the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 27 February</td>
<td>Years 7-10 Tribal Swimming Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3 - Friday 7 March</td>
<td>Middle School Camp Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21 March</td>
<td>Year 7 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25 March 4-6pm</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Thursday 27 March 4-9pm</td>
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<td>Friday 28 March 9am-1pm</td>
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<td>Friday 4 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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Core Studies Unit: Ancient Rome and China
Our focus in Core Studies this term is Ancient History. We will be looking at Ancient Rome and China and thinking about what ideas and influences shaped their world. We compare this with what shapes us in our modern world.

Core Studies Art
The art teachers for Cycle A would like to ask students to bring an art smock or old shirt to school. We suggest on the days that your child has art they don’t wear their ‘Sunday Best’!

Camp Week
There will be 3 camps happening during camp week (Week 5, March 3 – 7):

- Inspiring Girls camp (Year 8 girls)
- Man camp (Year 8 boys)
- Year 7 camp (entire year level)

Each student in Middle School will be attending one of these camps and will receive information relating to their camp closer to the date, including a medical information form. Please be aware that if the medical form is not returned to school your child will not be able to attend camp.

Diary Use
Diaries are extremely important in Middle School and are a valuable means of organisation and communication. It is important for students to make sure they are taking their diaries to every class and writing homework in it carefully. As this is new for some students, they will be guided through this process by their teachers.
**Homework**
We have had great class discussions with students about how to best manage their homework. Please let us know if your student is struggling in this area so we can help them plan their time well.
If students have no homework on a particular night, please encourage them to read their English novel, revise notes from class or start early on assignments that are coming up.
If your child is unable to complete the set work in reasonable time, please simply write a brief note of explanation in your child’s diary. We understand that sometimes circumstances are unavoidable.

**Community Service Representative (CSR)**
For a number of years Year 8 students have been rostered on to spend some time assisting in the main office. It’s valuable and important for students to understand what it takes to run a school, and to be part of providing assistance to the school community. Tasks undertaken by the CSR include such things as distribution of notices to classes, assisting with mail outs and other administrative tasks. This year the program will expand to include Year 7s. Each Year 7 student will help out once this year, while Year 8 students will have 2-3 times per year from 1.50pm (after lunch) to the end of the day.

We are looking forward to a great term! Please contact your class teacher if you have any issues or concerns.

Yours in Christ,

*Nicky Joiner, Alison Copeland & Sharon Witt*

*Cycle A Teachers*