

SWIMMING CARNIVAL & INFANTS WATER FUN DAY

The annual Mater Dei Swimming Carnival was held on Friday March 18 at Mount Annan YMCA Leisure Centre. Students in Years 3—12 had been preparing via their weekly in-school sessions, so excitement was running high. There were house-coloured posters, outfits, streamers, banners and LOTS of cheering, even before the buses departed!

The day was a success thanks to the support from the many parents and friends who came to cheer for all students, and the individualised challenges set by our wonderful swimming staff – Jodie, Mark, Donna and Tanya. We are also thankful for the assistance of some remarkable Year 10 and 12 students from Magdalene Catholic High School, who helped out with marshalling and place-getting.

Students competed in age races in freestyle and backstroke, and, following from the initiative established last year by our late friend, teacher and colleague, Gillian O’Riordan, selected students competed in two open-age 100m Individual Medley events. Younger students were inspired to see their older peers racing the different strokes. Staff members found great comfort in seeing the effort, the encouragement, and the stepping outside of comfort zones demonstrated by our students. Gill would have been very proud of everyone.



Not to miss out on the fun, our Infants students had their own special day back at school! Students in Years K—2 engaged in many water-themed activities, including sensory exploration, art & craft, experimental ‘painting’ with different tools and brushes, building sand sculptures, and creating a variety of bubbles. A fantastic time was had by all.