

PLAYGROUND FUN



Lunchtime has got more interesting for Mater Dei students from Year 5 to Year 12. A new initiative called "Secondary Playground Groups" is offering activities like bike riding, dance and soccer with the latter attracting 25 players at a time. Teacher, Gayle Roberts, says competition is rife and enthusiasm high as the girls battle the boys for supremacy on the field. "Sport is not male dominated at Mater Dei. The girls are equal participants ... often it's the girls who win!"

A long queue also forms each day for dance. The club runs like a disco with most sessions based around free expression.

Sometimes students learn specific steps or synchronise their moves in a line dance like the "Macarena" or the "Time Warp". Teachers are considering expanding the list of lunchtime options to include meditation, gym, library and board games. Computers, drama and gardening could also be added to the list... we could even have an archaeological "dig" to cater to our students' high interest in dinosaurs, rocks and fossils! So far the program has resulted in more student interaction and fewer behavioral incidents due to boredom.