Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of the College,

Welcome back to Term 4, I trust that the holiday was refreshing and energising for all. This Term is certainly an exciting one for the College, as we approach the end of the year. I would hope, however, it is not seen as a “wind down” to Christmas as some students have indicated. If this is a student’s attitude it should be discouraged. This term is as important as any other and deserves the same commitment and rigor as each of the other terms. A committed approach during this term will certainly enable students to “do their best” in all areas of College life.

Throughout last week the HSC began for our Year 12 students. Many were nervous as they approached the English examination on Monday. I have continued to assure each of them however, that our thoughts and prayers are with them, as they undertake their examinations and indeed their future lives. The HSC will continue at the College until mid November.

During the holidays the College received the news that one of our Year 12 Technology students, Julia Nikolic had her major work nominated for the Sydney “Working with Wood” Show, which will take place in early 2005. This is certainly a great honour and Julia is to be congratulated for this nomination. Knowing how dedicated Julia was in the production of her major work, I can state that she certainly deserves this nomination. Well done Julia.

In the first week of this term our Year 11 students attended the senior Retreat at Deer Park and Rathane. The Retreat allowed students to interact, reflect on their journey in life and their faith journey. This is an essential aspect of a young person’s development and the retreat is an experience that young people at Good Samaritan are fortunate to encounter. We often speak of educating the whole person at the College and Year 11 Retreat is certainly testament to that fact. I take this opportunity to thank those teachers, who spent 2 nights away from home in order to give students the wonderful Retreat opportunity. Thank you to Mr Griffiths, Br Colin, Mrs Eljed, Ms Williamson, Mrs Wilkins, Mrs Foldes, Mr Dominish, Miss Darmody, Miss Morabito, Miss Molloy, Miss Fiocco and Mr Costin for supporting students at the Retreat.

Last Tuesday evening, I had the opportunity to attend the Southern Region Performing Arts Festival at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. 54 students from the College appeared in the item “In Him, Through Him”. The students used their talents and performed admirably. Each one of them being a credit to themselves and the College. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of each student and especially their teachers, Miss Benjamin and Miss Schiller. I also thank the parents and teachers who supported students.

This week the College acknowledged another Gold Award winner. This award is presented to students who have achieved 3 Silver Awards over their time at the College. It is an acknowledgement of both commitment and a willingness to support the ethos of the College. Congratulations to Marten Jajou for this achievement. The award will be presented to Marten at our next Assembly.
At the beginning of Week 4 this term, we celebrate All Saints and All Souls Days. These are days when we pray for those who have gone to God. I offer the following prayer for reflection on those days

Let us pray:
We give back to you, Father, those whom you first gave to us.
You did not lose them in giving them to us and so we do not lose them in their return to you.

Your Son has taught us that life is eternal and love cannot die.
So death is only an horizon—the limits of our sight.

Open our eyes and lift us up, so that we may see more clearly.
Draw us closer to you so that we may know that we are nearer to our loved ones who are with you.

And while you prepare a place for us as you have promised, prepare us also for that happy place, that where you are, we may be also, with those we have loved, forever.
Amen.

God bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING
Our final P&F Meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th November. This meeting will provide the opportunity to review 2004 and make plans for 2005.

INSERVICES FOR PARENTS, CARERS & STAFF
The CEO is holding a number of In-services. If anyone is interested in attending please telephone the College Office on telephone 9825 9955 for further details.

PSYCHOLOGY & SPIRITUALITY: 26 October
DANCE & MOVEMENT AS PRAYER: 28 October
WALKING WITH OUR OWN & OTHERS’ GRIEF & BEREAVEMENT: 2 November
HELPING SCHOOL COMMUNITIES FIND MEANING & HEALING AFTER THE DEATH OF A STUDENT: 4 November
CHRISTIAN RESPONSES TO BURNOUT: 9 November
WAIT, WATCH, WONDER: THE ADVENTURE OF ADVENT: 11 November

These courses will take place at the Spirituality Centre, Cottage 4, 29-31 Broughton Road Homebush. (9.30 am - 2.30 pm) No charge - Morning Tea and Lunch provided.

JUNIOR GIRLS SOCCER PREMIERS 2004

Congratulations to the 2004 Junior Girls’ Soccer team for winning the premiership this year and to Jenny Saada, who was selected by her team mates as “Players Player” for the season.

Courtney Zappala
Hayley Ingle
Shannon Grant
Nicole Cabello
Samantha Criniti
Kate Gerrish
Jenny Saada
Rowena Barreira

The 2004 GSCC Junior Girls Soccer team were remarkable. They scored over 30 goals, with only one goal being scored against them and remained undefeated the entire season! This group of young ladies not only demonstrated skill, determination and perseverance but even more importantly, consistently displayed sportspersonship towards other teams and each other.

It has been an honour and privilege to coach such an enthusiastic and respectful group of students, who are true examples of the Good Samaritan spirit. Congratulations girls on an awesome effort and fantastic achievement!

Mrs J Chapman (Coach)

SUN SAFETY ON A THURSDAY
I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and students about the necessity of, any student taking part in an outdoor sport on a Thursday afternoon, wearing a College hat. This is a measure that has been introduced for student safety to combat the extreme exposure to sun that we often experience in terms 1 and 4 each year. Students have been told that anyone who participates in an outdoor activity for sport (all of year 10, Tennis, Outdoor Soccer, Table Tennis, Basketball and Walking groups) must have either a College cap or an alternate wide-brimmed hat. The College has ordered its own wide-brimmed surf hat that will be available within the next couple of weeks. Once available, this will be the only wide-brimmed hat permitted.

I would ask all parents and students to support this requirement and ensure that students arrive at school suitably attired on a Thursday. College caps can be purchased from the uniform shop for $11.00, and when available, wide-brimmed hat is also $11.00.

Mr D Cloran
### DATES TO REMEMBER

- **29 October**  Pupil Free Day
- **1 November**  All Saints Day
- **2 November**  All Souls Day
- **November 1 to 3**  Yr 9 Camp
- **8 November**  Yr 10, SC Tests: English & Science
- **9 November**  Yr 10, SC Tests: Maths, Australian History, Geography, Civics & Citizenship
- **12 November**  Yr 10 Retreat
- **15 November**  Yr 10, SC Tests: Computing Skills
- **19 November**  Yr 12 Formal
- **22 to 26 November**  Yr 10 Australian Business Week
- **HSC Finishes**
- **26 November**  Yr 10 Graduation Mass
- **30 November**  Yr 10 Dinner Dance

### UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

**THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN FROM 7.30 AM TO 8.30 AM EACH DAY.**

On Tuesdays the shop will also be available for students at lunchtime and for parents from 1.00 pm—3.45 pm

### CANTEEN ROSTER

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### REMINDERS

**Uniform**

In the event of unseasonably cold weather in Term 1 or 4 only, a College jumper is to be worn. If your child does not have a College jumper they may wear their College blazer. The sports jacket is only to be worn on Thursdays for sport.

**Traffic (Pick up of Students)**

As many of you would be aware, the traffic lights at the entrance have created problems with phasing. In the afternoon, if you are picking up your son/daughter, it would be advisable to leave it until after 3.05 pm after which time the majority of the buses have entered and exited the premises. Thank you for your assistance in relation to this matter.

Mr R Grech

### LOST PROPERTY

The ‘Lost Property’ box located in the student foyer has been moved to the Uniform Shop. (Open 7.30 am—8.30 am daily and Tuesday lunch).

Mrs A Ciampa
YEAR 12 OUTREACH

During their final week as students of our College, Year 12 students participated in an outreach program on Wednesday 22nd September. The purpose of this program was to enable students to “journey with compassion” in a very practical and active way, in reaching out to those who are disadvantaged or less fortunate than themselves in the local community. It was a last opportunity to “give back” to the community as students of Good Samaritan Catholic College.

Each of the House groups went to different charitable organisations within the community. Chisholm students went to work with the Sisters of Charity assisting in a refuge for women. De Paul visited the Scalabrinii Nursing Home in Chipping Norton and played games and did craft with the residents in the hostel. La Salle went to the San Miguel Centre. Polding got their gardening gear ready and went to work at the Berne Education Centre, shovelling soil. Mackillop and Merici went to the Mary Mackillop Centre and generously offered their assistance there.

Upon returning to school, one De Paul student was asked how there day at Outreach was. Their reply, “I didn’t do much. I just sat and chatted with an old lady at a nursing home”. This is what Outreach is all about. This small gesture of taking the time to have a chat with an elderly lady was a means of reaching out – it made a difference to brighten her day. The residents were really excited by the De Paul students visit – teaching students how to knit and play Italian cards. They even had the pleasure of meeting one lady who was 100 years old, and about to turn 101 shortly! Overall it was a very enjoyable day. The students gained a lot out of the day and were great ambassadors of the College. Below are some snapshots of the De Paul students participating in craft activities with some of the residents.

Miss A Darmody

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2005
COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE

The Catholic Education Office is offering a chance for current Year 10 students throughout all Catholic Schools to ‘follow in the footsteps of St Paul’ and be part of World Youth Day in 2005. This day will be held in Cologne, Germany and during this trip students will also have the opportunity to visit other places in Turkey and Greece. The pilgrimage to World Youth Day will take place from the 5-23 August. In assisting the College to determine which student could attend, a list of criteria is set out below. Any current Year 10 student who is interested in going and believes they meet the set criteria is asked to write a one page report outlining the reasons why they should be the representative for the College at World Youth Day in 2005. Both parents and students should keep in mind that the trip incurs a cost. A third of the cost will be subsidized by the Catholic Education Office, a third through fundraising at the College and a third will need to come from the student and or parents. The total cost of the trip is approximately $4,300. The one page typed report needs to be handed in to Mr. Griffiths on Monday, October 25 if you are to be considered for the trip. Below are the criteria for entering. Students should display:

- Active involvement in the life of their parish and show a commitment to their own faith development
- A strong commitment to their academic studies and have a willingness to articulate and respond to the mission statement proposed by the Pope at World Youth Day when returning to the College
- An appreciation for and commitment to the values portrayed at Good Samaritan Catholic College and be able to implement them within school life and abroad as the representative of this College.

Mr K Griffiths
(Religious Education Co-Ordinator)

PUPIL FREE DAY - Friday 29 October

The staff at Good Samaritan will be using Friday October 29 to consider Pedagogy. In particular, we will be looking at the model for Quality Teaching that the NSW Department of Education and Training has developed. This day is part of our program of professional development to ensure we are best meeting the needs of our students in the 21st Century.

PERTUSSIS (Whooping Cough)

This week we were informed that a student at the College may have Whooping Cough. Although students are not in immediate danger, a flyer has been included with this Newsletter to keep parents and students informed.
On Tuesday, 19th October, 54 students from Good Samaritan Catholic College performed at the Southern Region Performing Arts Festival at the Sydney Entertainment Centre with the other Catholic Schools in the Southern Region of Sydney.

Good Samaritan students danced, sang and acted in an item called "In Him, Through Him". All students performed beautifully and represented the College with pride.

Students experienced performing with other schools, as well as performing in such a large scale event.

Thank you to parents for their support with rehearsals and organising costumes and transport.

Finally, congratulations to the following students for their commitment, dedication and wonderful talent.

Natasha Perre  Maxine Krause
Paige Jeffrey  Stephanie Guevara
Samantha Short  Danielle Froio
Annalise Jarrett  Laura Donaldson
Melissa Pinto  Jenvicka Khoo
Natalie Genova  Monique Panetta
Melissa Monteleone  Angel Sombrino
Rowena Barreira  Christina Pecorella
Belinda Toro  Vanessa Pretila
Candy Cummings  Jennifer Granil
Brooke Nolan  Cristina Iaconis
Lisa Nguyen  Melissa Monteleone
Megan Brown  Olivia Genova
Amy Craig  Jessica Pagano
Jeanelle Bajada  Melissa Joseph
Amanda Keeble  Cassey Leigh
Emma Donaldson  Zac Zanetic
Laura Mulhall  Jodie Holmes
Jessica Neilson  Jasna Stjepic
Matthew Strang  Mitchel Neeves
Lauren Camden  Ale Marful
Nhu Tran  Ellie Daluz
Ainsley Robb Hulley  Jason Hunt
Alison Murphy  Joanne Sidoti
Joelle Dagher  Jana Tomka
Nicole Young  Kaine Zadro
Henry Swann  Kassandra Martinez

Miss T Benjamin

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**FUNDING OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

*Do school fees cover the cost of your child’s education?*

No. Your school fees are very important, but education in 2004 is an extremely expensive undertaking. Together the State and Federal governments provide about 80% of the funds for Catholic schools in NSW. For Catholic schools, the remaining 20% is made up by fees, building levies and other charges paid by parents, support from the parish (for Primary schools) and fundraising activities. Even when school fees are taken into account there is a significant gap in the resources available to Catholic systemic schools compared to government schools.

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**SATURDAY SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY LANGUAGES**

An opportunity exists for students to study their background language at various locations on Saturdays. The Saturday School of Community Languages was established in 1978 and is run by the Government. Students follow Board of Studies syllabuses in the 23 languages offered and are able to include their language as part of their School Certificate or Higher School Certificate courses.

If students are interested in enrolling at the School for 2005, they can obtain further information from www.curticulum Support.nsw.edu.au [go to Secondary/Languages/Saturday School] or

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**VACCINATIONS**

A reminder that the following vaccinations will take place on Tuesday 26th October.

- Year 7 - Hepatitis B (2nd injection) and Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough.
- Year 8,9 - Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough

Students from Years 10,11 who missed the vaccinations earlier in the year, can receive the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough injection. All students need to have signed consent forms before any vaccination can be administered.

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**Congratulations**

To Miss McLennan and fiancé Christopher on the announcement of their engagement.