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

Today the college celebrated a very significant event in our school year, Good Samaritan Day. A day like Good Samaritan Day is of considerable importance to our school for a number of reasons. Firstly, the day incorporates the celebration of the Eucharist. This celebration gives us the opportunity to praise and thank God for the gifts that we have received. As Catholics, this provides us with a wonderful opportunity for us to rejoice with each other and God by sharing in the Eucharist which is central to our lives and our very existence.

Secondly, as a college, it is essential for us to continue to promote and enjoy the community which includes those who are involved in our college. This was certainly evidenced by the willingness of each person to be involved in all aspects of the day; the Mass, the charity stalls and the talent quest either as a performer or member of the audience. The sharing of each other's company certainly added to the atmosphere of the day and the college.

The third aspect of Good Samaritan Day is best highlighted by quoting from the College Mission Statement. “The call to journey with compassion is a Gospel imperative which demands of each one of us a spirit of service, a sense of justice and a search for truth. It acknowledges the dignity of every member of our community and encourages each one of us to act with courage and integrity”.

Good Samaritan Day provides an opportunity to journey with compassion and to act with courage and integrity. It is an occasion to promote and live out our mission.

A major focus of our mission statement is a call to service. This was reflected during the day through the stalls and fund raising. It is something which we, as a college, would like to see as an ongoing aspect of our students’ lives that they will carry beyond life at Good Samaritan.

Our senior students will take the first step in carrying these sentiments beyond the college. They will be involved in our Annual Outreach Program next week which is their final act of reaching out with compassion at our college. It is certainly a fitting way to conclude their schooling at Good Samaritan. I take this opportunity to thank Mr Griffiths, Ms Foldes, Miss Benjamin, Miss Popovic, Mr Costin, the Year Co-ordinators, all staff, students and parents for their support and involvement in the day.

Throughout the last two weeks, Year 11 have been undertaking their Preliminary HSC exams. Again, many students have felt the pressure of preparation and study, due to the fact that they have not been in the practice of studying at regular intervals during the term. I stress the worth of regular review of work covered in class. I also emphasise the importance of understanding topics as each is covered rather than leaving it for another day, which may never eventuate. I ask parents to stress the importance of continual effort in this area. This will ensure that when students do reach the senior years this will be a positive habit which they have acquired.

At the end of this term Mr Camillos will leave our college to take up a position at Clare Catholic College. We wish him well in the future and thank him for his contribution to our college.
Finally, I take this opportunity to wish all staff, students and parents a safe holiday and thank all of those people who have supported the college throughout the term.

God Bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

Thank You for Uniform Helpers...

Over the last two Saturdays the college has conducted uniform measuring and ordering for Year 7 and 11 2006. We were supported by a number of very generous people who offered to help on the day. A sincere thank you to Jane Colley, Janelle Cassone, Lisa Smith, Sue Zappala, Chris Walker, Sharon Williams, Helen Zordon, Elizabeth Hobby, Maria Iaconis, Lia Newhouse, Julie Chapple and Karen Neeves for the wonderful support given on the day.

Any student who has not as yet ordered his/her uniform for 2006, should see Mrs Romeo in the uniform shop as soon as possible to place an order.

Good Samaritan Day

This year, as in past years, we commenced our celebrations for Good Samaritan Day with the celebration of the Eucharist. As Christians we are called, particularly this year as it is the year of the Eucharist, to come to the table and celebrate with each other the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

The Gospel reading we used in our liturgy used the metaphor of Jesus as the vine and we as the branches. Jesus calls us to become the link to all those people who are oppressed and marginalised, lonely and weak. As we become stronger in knowledge and understanding, we become the branches which link and nourish the faith of all believers.

We pray, today and always that through our community, the Good Samaritan Community, people will come to an understanding that Christ is at the heart of all that is good and we are the branches which spread this goodness to all people. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Mr K Griffiths
Religious Co-ordinator

School Fee Reminder

A reminder to all parents that Term 1 and Term 2 school fees are overdue and Term 3 fees are now due. Parents are asked to finalise accounts where possible, prior to end of this term. Any parents who may be facing difficulty meeting the payments, should telephone the office for an interview with Mr Lo Cascio to discuss alternate arrangements.

Curriculum

Preliminary Examinations

With Preliminary examinations completed, Year 11 students now need to start preparing for their HSC in 2006. The first consideration will be deciding which subjects they will be continuing with in Year 12. Students will be getting feedback regarding their results and final ranking from some of their teachers starting next week. They need to use this feedback wisely to guide them in their decision making.

Year 12 2006 Assessment Information Evening

An information evening is to be held on Monday October 17 at 7pm in the senior block of the college for students currently in Year 11. The purpose of the evening is to explain assessment in the Higher School Certificate year and provide guidelines for students for meeting HSC assessment requirements. Parents and students will have the opportunity to ask questions at the conclusion of the evening. It is expected all students and their parents attend this evening and each student will receive a copy of the HSC 2006 Assessment Handbook.

HSC 2005 Seminars

Students preparing for HSC 2005 will be able to attend seminars in Week 1 Term 4 to support their study in preparation for their HSC. The timetable will be available next week to enable students to organise attendance. It is strongly recommended that students make every effort to attend these seminars as they provide opportunities to consolidate their understanding of topics that they have been studying.

Year 10 Trial Examinations

Year 10 have now received their timetables for this examination and it is hoped that they are well prepared for each examination. As the students move towards their School Certificate they need to be able to sit under examination conditions for up to 2 hours and still remain mentally active. For many students this will be difficult if they are tired, distracted or unwell. It is hoped that all our Year 10 students have plenty of rest this weekend and are organised in order to perform to the best of their ability in these examinations.

Mrs C Peterson
Curriculum Co-ordinator

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Mr K Griffiths
Religious Co-ordinator
Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Silver Awards at our last College Assembly.

Rosalee Ferreri  Maryann Wright
Ashleigh Pontifex  James Iheakanwa
Maria Boulatsakos  Katrina Planes
Vince Garzaniti  Louise Doculara
Renee Cox  Stacey Sirol

The following means have been suggested as helpful:

- Help the child organise social outings.
- Ensure that the child has activities (planned with the family) to look forward to.
- Participate in activities with your child that the child has chosen.
- Be available to listen to the child’s worries and show empathy.
- Help the child to use problem solving strategies.
- Praise the child for effort and small achievements (avoid criticism).
- Create a calm and relaxed atmosphere in the home (reduce family conflicts).
- Monitor depressive symptoms (as listed in previous column) without being intrusive.
- Seek help from a counsellor, if behaviour does not change.

(Patricia Leung, Clinical Psychologist)

If we can assist the children in having fun again by increasing their involvement in social activity within and outside the family, we will go a long way towards meeting the problem of depression, head on. Learning how to communicate, how to relax, how to problem solve can all contribute to the well being of the child.

It goes without saying that full co-operation between the home and school can do much to support the child in this situation.

Keep up your great work with your family.

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**From the Assistant Principal**

**Attention**

**Current Year 11 Students / Parents**

Endeavour book orders for the HSC Course, beginning Term 4, were collected from the college last week and will be delivered during Week 1 of Term 4. It appears a number of students did not hand their orders in by the nominated date. It is essential that students have the set texts to begin the HSC courses and they will be severely disadvantaged without them. It will now be necessary for those students/parents to contact Endeavour directly to arrange their orders. If this is done immediately it may still be possible to have the books delivered on time.

**Uniform for Term 4**

All students are required to return to school for Term 4 in summer uniform. Parents are asked to check that their children have everything they require and, if necessary, arrange to purchase new items before next term. Parents are reminded that the uniform regulations are published in the college diary and to read these before purchasing items.

**Hairstyles Over the Holidays**

Parents are also reminded that the guidelines for hairstyles/colours etc are also found in the college diary. Students who return to the college with unacceptable hairstyles or colourings will be asked to rectify them before starting back.

**Parent Evening -Term 4**

Thanks to those parents who responded to our survey earlier in the year and indicated they would be interested in evenings on issues involved with raising teenagers, such as Managing Stress, Communication and Conflict Management. We plan to hold the first such evening on Wednesday 26th October, with the possibility of further evenings to follow. Please put the date on your calendars and read the first newsletter next term for additional information.

Mrs B Eljed
Assistant Principal

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**Parenting Corner**

Dear Parents,

In my last column I attempted to discuss depression in children and provided a checklist which might assist in identifying this problem in our children.

I emphasise that there is no magic formula in identifying or solving the problem, but research has pointed to a number of ways in which we can assist our children suffering from this problem.

The following means have been suggested as helpful:

- Help the child organise social outings.
- Ensure that the child has activities (planned with the family) to look forward to.
- Participate in activities with your child that the child has chosen.
- Be available to listen to the child’s worries and show empathy.
- Help the child to use problem solving strategies.
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It goes without saying that full co-operation between the home and school can do much to support the child in this situation.

Keep up your great work with your family.

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**School Buses**

There have been a number of reported incidents of unacceptable behaviour on morning and afternoon buses over the past weeks. Parents and students are reminded that all students travelling on buses are representing the college and their behaviour directly reflects the image of the college in the wider community. The college will not tolerate this behaviour and any student misbehaving will certainly be dealt with accordingly. Bus companies also have the right to refuse transport to any student who is not following the guidelines on bus travel as outlined by the State Government under the free travel scheme.

Mr R Grech

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**Silver Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Silver Awards at our last College Assembly.

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Ashleigh Pontifex  James Iheakanwa
Maria Boulatsakos  Katrina Planes
Vince Garzaniti  Louise Doculara
Renee Cox  Stacey Sirol
On-time applications for 2006 university courses close on Friday, September 30th. After this time, late fees apply. You can still lodge an application until Thursday, February 2nd 2006 with a $114.00 late fee.

Non-Award Enrolment
Many universities offer courses for students who do not meet the UAI criteria to specific Bachelor degree programs. These courses may still have UAI requirements and involve fees rather than HECS-HELP being available. Students who gain a high enough grade-point average at the conclusion of their non-award courses may be able to apply for entry to degree programs and to have completed courses credited toward degree qualifications. Interested students should consult the university that they are interested in applying to for full details. Some useful sites are listed below:
Macquarie University
http://www.coe.mq.edu.au/nonawd.htm
UNSW
UWS
http://www.uws.edu.au/studyoptions/alternativeentry#3
Uni. of Sydney

Educational Access Schemes
Students who have suffered long-term educational disadvantage due to factors such as death or separation of parent(s), crowded living conditions, care of younger brothers and/or sisters or excessive work demands to earn money to support their education may be eligible for Educational Access Schemes. To apply, students should collect a copy of the booklet “Educational Access Schemes” and check their eligibility, obtain the necessary documentary evidence to support their case, submit Supplementary Form A from the UAC guide and apply to UAC, with all necessary documentation by September 30th. You can obtain a copy of the application form and eligibility rules at http://www.uac.edu.au/equity/eas.html.

Are you interested in finding an apprenticeship or traineeship?
August and September are traditionally the peak months when employers recruit apprentice and trainee staff for the next year. Many businesses close down over Christmas, so applying in December is generally less likely to bring success compared with making an application now.

Visit the following sites and search for your next career:
https://jobsearch.gov.au

Do you have an up-to-date resume?
Resumes or CVs are the way that job seekers can advertise their talents to prospective employers. With many employers screening between 30 and 200 applicants per job advertised, it is important that your CV is as appealing as it can be. Don’t forget that employers advertise to fill a job, not to meet a person. You can get some real resume help at the following sites:
http://www.therezwiz.com/
http://www.careers.unsw.edu.au/careerEd/jobApplications/resumes/

Mr S Berry, Careers Adviser

Good Samaritan Day
Good Samaritan Day opened with a Eucharistic celebration with the theme “I am the vine you are the branches”. This was used to reinforce 2005 school theme of “Aspire not to have more but to be more” and prepare both the students and staff for a day of not only fund raising for the six House sponsored charities but also for a day of celebration and excitement.

This year Chisholm is supporting the Sisters of Charity. De Paul is supporting the St Vincent De Paul Night Patrol, La Salle is supporting San Miguel, Mackillop is supporting the Mathew Talbot Hostel, Merici the St Ursula’s Kindergarten in Timor and finally Polding the Berne Education Centre.

The fete style of the day was made more successful by the outstanding effort of the Good Samaritan community. The following talent show, “Live 6” showcased the variety of amazing skills some of our students possess. It was hugely popular and in conjunction with the opening ceremony has created not only an event that the college community actively participated in but also a great memory that all members of the college community can take away with them.

S. Cosgrove Year 12
CBSA Chess Gala Day

On Thursday 8th September, the CBSA Chess Gala Day was held at the college. The competition brought boys from a total of 8 Catholic colleges. The GSCC team consisted of the following boys:

Year 7
Benjamin Rzyak, Daniel Sobiesiak, Mariano Salvati, Joel Whiteford

Year 8
Michael Sammut, Vincent Piccolo, Mitchell Wainwright, Jeremy Smith

Year 9
Michael Callisto, Gavin Role, Samuel Dalby, Anthony Giansante

Year 10
Kevin Latoure, Chris Sammut, Edward Llave, Adam Lasek

Senior
Chester Tactacan, Jose Mansilla, Derrick Ackhavong, Emmanuel Maciek

Congratulations to all these boys who competed gallantly all day. Unfortunately, GSCC was not a trophy winner on the day, however, it is all about participation.

A very big thank you for the following students who helped tirelessly all day:
Blake McGrath, Andrew El-Zakhem, Michael Ruzic, Matthew Alverne, Cassie Pignataro, Jake Zanetic, Leah Cullen, Taliesha Beaver, Kaitlin Land, Ben Piltz, Rachel Burge and Meagan Drennan.

Miss J Morrison, PDHPE Co-ordinator

Year 9 Retreat

On Monday and Tuesday of Week Six, Year 9 went on a retreat to The John Bosco Youth Centre at St Marys. We were able to get away from the usual setting of school, spend some quality time with God and work on our spirituality while having some fun with our friends and teachers.

When we arrived, we were shocked to see a large room full of sports equipment which was very different to our expectations. There were basket ball, tennis and soccer courts along with big trampolines, pool and other facilities. Once we tested out the equipment, we split up into groups and did some activities, focusing on the importance of patience and the acceptance of everyone for who they are. We had a tasty barbeque lunch and finished off with a relaxing liturgy. It was a fantastic day, I believe, for both the teachers and the students. We had a great time mixing Catholic Studies with sport; and on behalf of all of Year 9, I would like to thank all the teachers who came along and the crew at John Bosco for giving us a great, memorable experience.

Maryann Wright
Year 9

Italian HSC Oral Examinations

On Saturday 10th September, the Year 12 students of Italian Continuers completed their HSC oral examination. “Complimenti” on their efforts leading up to the examination. Also, “buona fortuna” to the students of Italian Beginners and Italian Extension who will complete their oral examinations this Saturday 17th September.

Mrs S Anastasio

Technology News

The Board of Studies has once again uploaded an internet-based examinations revision site for Year 10 and Year 12 students. The site contains multiple-choice based questions on selected School Certificate and HSC subjects, and Year 10 students may also test themselves on sample computer skills test questions.

The revision site is located at: www4.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

Mr J Reyes
IT Co-ordinator
**Funding of Catholic Schools**

How are Catholic schools held accountable?

Catholic schools are no different from government schools when it comes to accountability. Because they receive funding from governments and from the community, they are required to provide information on how those funds are spent and on the effectiveness of the school system.

Catholic schools are regularly inspected and approved for registration and accreditation by the NSW Board of Studies. The CEO, Sydney ensures that Catholic systemic schools comply with the registration and school standards criteria set by the NSW Board of Studies and the NSW Education Act (1990).

In 2004 the Catholic Education Office, Sydney was subject to an external review as part of its ten year strategic planning process. The Strategic Management Plan for the next decade of management of Sydney catholic systemic schools will be launched later this year.

Every year:
- Each Catholic school completes an Annual Financial Questionnaire for the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training. (These figures include Federal and State government grants received, other sources of income, and a detailed statement of expenditure).
- The CEO, Sydney audits all school internally
- An external agency audits the schools and the CEO. Currently the external auditor is Sothertons Chartered Accountants.
- All schools report to their local communities.

**Valuable Items at School**

Parents and students are reminded that items such as i-pods, Walkmans, etc should not be brought to school. The college can not accept responsibility for them if they go missing or get damaged. A reminder also, that if mobile phones are brought to school they must be turned off and secured in lockers during the school day.

**Solo Parent Ministry**

A support group for separated, divorced or widowed men and women is being established in the Good Shepherd Parish.

The group will meet on Wednesday 5th October at 5.30 pm in the Parish Office. For further enquiries contact Madeleine Pizzuti 9708 6896

**Dates to Remember**

- Monday September 19th to 20th
  - Trial Year 10 School Certificate Examinations
- Tuesday September 20th
  - Last Day - Formal Lessons Year 12
- Wednesday September 21st
  - Year 12 Outreach
- Thursday September 22nd
  - Year 12 Farewell Breakfast / Assembly
  - Year 12 Graduation Mass - Evening
- Monday September 19th to 23rd
  - Work Placements
- Friday September 23rd
  - End of Term 3

**Free Dental Care for children!**

Tooth tip of the month!

If you want free dental care for your children, please call the Sydney South West Area Service Oral Health Intake on 1300 55 9393

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**MONDAY 19.09.05**

- V Sgro
- S Fenato

**TUESDAY 20.09.05**

- G Gerrish
- L Duncombe
- R Critteni

**WEDNESDAY 21.09.05**

- M Romeo
- E Carrabs
- L Marongiu

**THURSDAY 22.09.05**

- K Cutler

**FRIDAY 23.09.05**

- S Orellana
- R Romeo
- End Term 3

**MONDAY 10.10.05**

- N Tummarello
- E Hobby
- J Colley

**TUESDAY 11.10.05**

- T Zanetic
- L Duris

**WEDNESDAY 12.10.05**

- A Morozoff
- M Lupica

**THURSDAY 13.10.05**

- E Gallulo
- T Debono

**FRIDAY 14.10.05**

- D Caruana
- D Segatto
- R Romeo