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

During the past week, representatives of the college have attended two significant celebrations at St Mary’s Cathedral. Last Tuesday I accompanied three Year 11 students Stephanie McPherson, Linda Boehene and Dane Petrin to the Cathedral, to be present at the Annual Archbishop’s Awards for Student Excellence. The recipient this year is Mario Morizzi of Year 12 La Salle. Mario’s citation, read by Bianca Ruzic of Year 11, is as follows:

“Mario is a committed and dedicated student who has served two years as a student representative at the college and is now one of Good Samaritan’s senior leaders. Mario has experienced personal success within the school, receiving many awards for service and for academic and cultural achievements. He has been an active member of the environment and social justice groups. Mario’s passion for service extends beyond the school community. This is evident in his help with the local parish, his assistance with community events such as the Italian festival and his extensive efforts in raising money for the Starlight Foundation.”

Congratulations and well done Mario on the receipt of this prestigious award.

As a college, we certainly have been fortunate to have had an association with the De La Salle Brothers since our inception in 1999. Brother Colin continues this association today, and we benefit from his presence and indeed our connection with the De La Salle Brothers. I thank them for their continued contribution to and support of our College.

Last Tuesday the annual college athletics carnival was conducted at Smithfield. It was definitely a day in which many students were prepared to be involved and to promote college spirit. I am very impressed by the willingness of so many students and staff to be involved and to support each other so readily. Congratulations and well done to all involved especially to our organiser Miss Morrison.

Over the last two weeks, the HSC students in the subjects of Drama, Industrial Technology, Music, Design and Technology and some Visual Arts have had their major works marked by HSC markers at the college. This was quite a nerve-racking time for these students and their teachers. I commend them on their approach to the works. For many students, the commitment and many hours of toil will certainly pay dividends.

An inclusion in the last newsletter made reference to the precautions students should take in order to ensure their safety when walking home from school. I must reinforce this once again as there have been two incidents of assault in relation to our students in the last month. I ask all parents to discuss the issue of safety with their sons and daughters, whether they are senior or junior students. All students should be aware of the need to be cautious, especially when alone in the street.
Next week, we welcome back Mrs Eljed from her leave. I take this opportunity to thank Mr Grech and Mr Lozelle for filling positions during Mrs Eljed’s absence.

At the end of last week Mr Dominish left the college for 12 months leave. He will spend the time teaching in England. We look forward to his return in 2006. His position will be taken by Mr Matthew White for the remainder of this term. Mrs Brown will take Mr Dominish’s classes next term.

Last Wednesday the local member for Werriwa, Mr Chris Hayes, was a welcome visitor to the college. Mr Hayes spoke to Year 11 in relation to leadership and explained the importance of leadership of service. He also spent time discussing the issues in our local area with me. He displayed a genuine concern for the needs of the local community and a real willingness to support the college.

Next Sunday is Father’s Day which provides us with one opportunity to be thankful to God for our fathers. It also presents one occasion for fathers to reflect on the very important role that each has in the lives of his children. I encourage all fathers to say the following prayer.

Lord God, author of all wisdom.
Teach me how to do my work as a father according to Your will.

Enlighten my mind that I may understand what to tell my children when it is necessary to give them direction or advice.

Give me good judgement to understand true spiritual values and to guide my family in your ways.

The world makes little of Your wisdom and is not instructed in Your ways.

Close contact with the world makes it easy to become dulled to things of solid spiritual worth.

Be my guide at all times, that I may be a true father, sensitive always to the divine wisdom that only You can impart.

God, by the light of the Holy Spirit You instruct the hearts of your faithful.

Grant that I may be truly wise and ever enjoy his consolation, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

God bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

Good Samaritan Day

Good Samaritan Day will be conducted at the college on Friday 16th September. Parents are invited to attend the Liturgy and activities on the day.

Congratulations
Terrence Fernandez
who competed in the Third Junior Asian Tai Kwon Do Championships held at Almaty in Kazakhstan.
Terrence achieved fourth place in the 14-17 years Division in the Feather Category 51-55 Kg.
He is now ranked fourth in Asia.

GSCC Athletics Carnival

The college athletics carnival was held at Gipps Road Sporting Complex last Tuesday. The venue itself was not perfect, but the day ran well. The participation of students was exceptional and students are to be congratulated on their efforts. Congratulations go to the following students for achieving Age Champion in their respective age group.

12 years Girl Tara Eastaugh
12 years Boy Sam Garzaniti
13 years Girl Shannon Grant
13 years Boy Carlos Hafed
14 years Girl Paige Jeffrey
14 years Boy Patrick Scullino
15 years Girl Alex Pauk
15 years Boy Benjamin Piltz
16 years Girl Kayla Bittman
16 years Boy Nato Foti
17+ years Girl Sheree Vella
17+ years Boy Jimmy Bellavia

Congratulations to the winning house La Salle.

Thank you to all students, teachers and parents for a great day.

Also, thank you to Mr Reyes, Ms Hayward, Mr Brown, Mr Cloran and Mr Lozelle for all their help in preparation and all their help on the day.

Ms J Morrison
Sports Co-ordinator
Every year, during Engineering Week, an engineering competition is held for schools. This year’s theme was “disaster relief”. This competition was held at the University of NSW and comprised two challenges focusing on the involvement of engineers in society, and relating to the theme of disaster relief. Our students built a device to absorb impact for goods dropped from a plane, and a device to raise a fallen communication tower.

The day was enjoyable, motivating, interactive and taught all involved many valuable lessons. A big thank you to Mr Fairbank who organised the day for us and we hope that the success of the event can be mirrored in future.

Congratulations to students involved:
Charbel Moussa  Marc Ghignone
Adrian Cavallaro  Maurizio Marasco
Jose Mansilla.

SSCCC Athletics Carnival

On Friday 19th August, a busload of eager athletes left the college at 6.45 am to go to the Southern Sydney Athletics Carnival at Sylvania Waters. The students participated all day, with some success.

Congratulations to the following students on their success.

Ben Ryzak  1st 1500m & 4th Discuss
Joseph Campanelli  2nd 200m
Shady Kfoury  3rd 1500m
Michael Romeo  3rd 1500m
Blake McGrath  2nd High Jump
Anthony Vella  2nd Discuss & 2nd Javelin
Nato Foti  1st Long Jump
Justin Nesci  2nd 200m
Carmelo Ussia  1st 100m
Shannon Grant  2nd 1500m

Congratulations to Ben Ryzak, Carmelo Ussia, Nato Foti, Justin Nesci who will go to the NSW CCC Athletics Carnival on Friday 16th September. We wish them good luck.

Thank you to Ms Hayward and Mr Brown for all their help and to Bianca McGrath and Olivia Genova who worked tirelessly all day as judges.

Ms J Morrison, Sports Co-ordinator

Sports Uniform Reminder

On Sports day the college pullover is only to be worn under the tracksuit top. If the tracksuit top is removed the pullover is also to be removed. The sports uniform includes the tracksuit top not the college pullover.

Students only wearing the college pullover on sports days will be asked to remove it.
Funding of Catholic Schools

Political support for Catholic Schools

In Australia there is unwavering support from the major political parties for the funding of non-government schools and for parental choice in education. This is greatly appreciated.

This support for Catholic schools recognises the right of parents to choose how their children are educated. Parents, as taxpayers, are clearly entitled to this funding.

Providing quality education is an extremely expensive exercise - but also a crucial investment in Australia’s future.

CEO Spirituality Reflection Days

The following courses will take place at the
Spirituality Centre Cottage 4
29-31 Broughton Road
Homebush 9.30 am to 2.30 pm.
(No charge—morning tea and lunch provided)

PRAYING WITH VISIONARY WOMEN
Tuesday September 6 (Judith Keller & Patricia Thomas) An opportunity to join in a reflective and imaginative space in which to consider the life and spirituality of one or more visionary women on the Catholic tradition.

COME AWAY AND REST AWHILE
Thursday September 8 (Patricia Thomas) Come away to a day of stillness and quite. Introduction to sitting and walking meditation.

I WILL ARISE: A CELTIC RETREAT DAY
Tuesday September 13 (Judith Keller & Patricia Thomas) An introduction to Celtic Christianity, including Celtic prayer, dance, meditation and music.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN FROM
7.30 AM TO 8.30 AM EACH DAY.
Every second Tuesday the shop will also be available for students at lunchtime and for parents from
12.20 pm - 3.45 pm

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