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

Last Tuesday, the college held the major fundraiser for the year. This was the walkathon, which was conducted at Western Sydney Regional Park. The walkathon certainly proved to be a positive community day and a worthwhile fundraising venture. Students, staff and parents entered into the spirit of the event and appeared to very much enjoy each other's company.

One noteworthy aspect of the walkathon, for me, was the number of parents who volunteered their time or made donations to support the college and without a doubt their daughters and sons. I am thankful for the wonderful contribution that we often receive from parents who quietly go about helping the college in very significant and practical ways. The walkathon is one major example of this, however, there are many others. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank parents who so often take the opportunity to support the college in order to provide the best possible education and environment for their children.

At present students have gained walkathon sponsorship pledges to the value of around $20,000. This will certainly go a long way to aid the construction of a shade cloth structure at the college. All students are now encouraged to collect what was promised in order to get the collection process completed.

At the end of this term, parents of Year 7 to 10 students will receive a Semester One Report as they have in the past. The difference this semester will be that the reports will not include subject comments. The only comments on the reports will be those of the students' pastoral care teachers.

The reports are an indicator of a student's performance and the comment can often clarify the grades. In this instance however, as a college, we believe that the grades will be more clearly explained at parent/teacher evenings, which will give parents the opportunity to ask questions. With this in mind, it is felt that comments on these mid-year reports are not necessary.

It is important to note, however, that the end of year reports will include subject comments for every subject. This will ensure that grades are explained in the absence of interviews.

I ask parents to consider this new approach carefully. If there is a need to offer suggestions in relation to the adequacy of the report, I request that this is done after each of the parent/teacher interview evenings. The parent/teacher evenings will be conducted late this term for Year 10 and early next term for Years 7 to 9.

As we approach the end of term and students begin to reflect on all they have done, I offer the following prayer for consideration and use.

Teach us, Lord,
To do the little things
As though they were great,
Because of the majesty of Christ
Who does them in us
And who lives our life.

Teach us to do the greatest things
As though they were little and easy
Because of His great power.
Amen.
I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and hope that all students come back to the college refreshed and enthusiastic about the challenges ahead in Semester 2. I also thank those people who have made a contribution to the college throughout Semester 1.

God bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

Walkathon Support

Thank you to those businesses, parents and families who supported the walkathon either through participation or donations.

Thank you to:
Sydney Cancer Council
Retravision Fairfield, Good Guys Casula
Joes Fruit World
The Pirotta, Smith, Perre, Tacca, Russell, Avati, Fagan, Marasco, Divola, Papallo, Arcuri, Barriera, Campisi, Piccolo, Malsem, Smith and other families for donations made to support the walkathon.

From the Curriculum Co-ordinator

Is your HSC student considering teaching?

The Sydney Catholic Schools Scholarship
This scholarship is open to any student of Year 12 currently attending a Sydney systemic Catholic school. The 12 scholarships for male students are for those wishing to study a Primary Education degree at Australian Catholic University. The 12 scholarships for female students are for either a Primary or Secondary Education degree at Australian Catholic University with preference given to those choosing to study Mathematics, Science, TAS or RE, as well as to applicants who can speak a South-East Asian language. To be eligible, students must

• nominate a teaching degree at ACU as their first UAC choice
• have demonstrated the personal and academic qualities that would identify them as a prospective teacher of quality
• expect to receive a UAI close to the previous year’s cut-off mark for the nominated course

For further information around scholarship criteria and application details, go to the Catholic Education Office (Sydney) website: http://ceo.syd.catholic.edu.au/employment/scholarships.html

Parents and Students seeking help for HSC examination preparation:
The following site offers advice to parents on how to support their child during this important part of their HSC year. It also provides advice to students on examinations with sample questions and an overview of some examination papers. A worthwhile site to visit. http://hsc.csu.edu.au

Want to know more about the 7–10 syllabuses to be fully implemented in 2006?
The implementation of the revised Years 7–10 syllabuses commenced in 2004 with Years 7 and 8 English and Mathematics. By 2006 all Board developed courses will be based on the new syllabuses. If you would like to view outlines of the topics covered in each of the subjects your child is or will be doing at school, then visit this Board of Studies site.


HSC Dates
Languages Speaking: commence August 13
Drama and Industrial Technology Projects: completed August 21
Music Performance: commence September 5
Design and Technology and Visual Arts: completed August 28
English Extension 2 Project: completed August 23

Mrs Christine Peterson

Year 7 Hepatitis B Vaccinations

The second stage of the vaccination program will take place on July 28th. We expect to receive information packs and consent forms from the Health Department soon and will send them home with students. Consent forms are to be signed and returned by the nominated date as students cannot be vaccinated otherwise.

Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews
As advertised earlier, the Year 10 parent/teacher/student interviews will take place next week on Wednesday 29th June from 3.30 to 7.00 pm.

Year 10 reports will be distributed from the office during that time, and should be collected prior to interviews.

Year 7, 8 & 9 reports will be sent home with students next week, and their parent/teacher/student interviews will be held early next term.

MacKillop/Merici/Polding interviews:
Thursday 28th July from 1.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Chisholm/La Salle/De Paul interviews:
Thursday 4th August from 1.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Congratulations to our Year 11 Hospitality students who demonstrated some great skills and provided tasty evidence of their abilities - recently at a staff morning tea.

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Students interested in taking up trades as apprentices or trainees may consider applying before the end of the year to avoid the rush and the Christmas holidays when many employers wind up operations for a time. Among the largest employers of apprentices and trainees are group training companies. These not-for-profit businesses are aimed at providing opportunities to find trade careers.

Go to Group Training Australia’s web site www.grouptraining.org.au to find a list of group training companies by industry or locality. Some group training companies by industry;


Students interested in finding out about courses at TAFE can find the current list of courses at www.tafensw.edu.au.

Careersearch

Year 10 students will attend Careersearch at University of Western Sydney Milperra Campus on Wednesday, June 29th as part of their Careers program being conducted through PC classes this term. Careersearch provides opportunities for students to ask questions and receive first hand feedback about jobs, training and further education from hundreds of stall holders. Students will be able to attend brief seminars.

To make the most of the day, it is important that all Year 10 students do some preparation by reading the materials provided and following the Exploring Your Career Options Program.

More Scholarships

Rural Medical and Allied Health Scholarships www.nswrdn.com.au/

Careers in the library

The collection of careers material in the library has recently been updated. Students are invited to use these materials at any time that the library is available, but please be considerate of others by not removing single copies of materials.

Mr S Berry
Careers Adviser
Debating Report

This is our final debating report for the 2005 season. It has certainly been the most successful year in the history of debating at the College. Both Year 11 and 12 teams made it to the first Elimination Round, which is an effort unmatched by many more established schools.

The Year 11 and 12 teams travelled to Cerdon College, Merrylands and faced teams from Cerdon and Santa Sabina College, Strathfield. Considering the experience and debating heritage of those schools, it was a tough challenge. Our debaters however, debated well and, in the case of Year 12, almost succeeded in defeating the team from Santa Sabina.

As the debating season has now ended, I would like to thank all of those involved this year, debaters, parents, coaches, adjudicators and teachers who attended the debates. Below is a list of those people who have contributed to the debating program:

Year 7 Mrs Treloar, Ms Fegatilli, Anthony El-Zakhem, Natasha Ishac, Kayla Arndell, Rebecca Hunt, Natalia Jozwik, Mariano Salvati, Domenic Dimanche

Year 8 Mr Dominish, Elizabeth Camilleri, Natasha Perre, Jeremy Smith, Daniel Bartolo, Zac Zanetic, Robert Divola

Year 9 Miss Samardzic, Maryann Wright, Jess Labuguen, Vivian Phantharangsi, Abraham Ishac, Meagan Debono

Year 10 Miss Dangca, Joshua Kamalaneson, Chris Sammut, Dino Romeo

Year 11 Mr O’Sullivan, Keith Debono, Van Nguyen, Diana Lemos

Year 12 Jason Hunt, Sean Cosgrove, Alyssa Inocencio, Catherine Casuscelli, Ashlee Chambers, Cassy Leigh

Thanking all, and hoping for a great 2006.

Mr O’Sullivan
Debating Co-ordinator

Technology News

College web-site

A reminder that upcoming events and other college information can be seen on the college web site. The web site address is:
www.goodsamaritan.nsw.edu.au

Files Box

All students have been given a special ‘files box’ on their myDesktop system to help transfer school files between home and school. Simply log in to myDesktop and select ‘tools’ from the menu. Select ‘Personal Files Box’ and select the files that need to be uploaded. All files that are uploaded are automatically scanned for viruses.

Mr J Reyes
IT Co-ordinator

Year 8 Design & Technology

Congratulations to Year 8.1 and 8.8 Design and Technology classes. Each student’s enthusiasm and willingness to learn has proven a success for their practical assessment. Classes 8.1 and 8.8 were involved in the assessment of designing and making a muffin, all students achieved great results, well done to all!

Mrs Raco

CEO, Sydney

Attention Parents/Carers Free Computer Training
For “Parents Program” for parents and carers starting work for the first time or returning to work after an absence of two years.
Please call The Learning Lab on Tele: 9211 5822
The following courses will take place at the Spirituality Centre, Cottage 4, 29-31 Broughton Road, Homebush at 9.30 am to 2.30 pm.
Phone: 9752 9678 Fax: 9752 9680
(No charge—morning tea and lunch provided)

DON’T SEPARATE YOUR LIFE STORY AND YOUR FAITH STORY
(Robyn Gallagher) Tuesday June 21

TO BECOME WHAT WE RECEIVE
(Patricia Thomas) June 23

REIGNITING YOUR PASSION FOR TEACHING
(Robyn Gallagher) Tuesday June 28

Centacare

Centacare’s latest initiatives as part of the their Post Separation Program are offering the following information evening and courses:

Crossroads - Tuesday August 2
Back on Track - commences Monday August 15
Milestone - commences Wednesday August 3
Rollercoasters - commences Wednesday August 3

For further information call 9390 5366.
**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.

**Retrouvaille is a program for marriages in difficulty.**
The program concentrates on couples who are:
- Frustrated, hurt or angry with each other
- Constantly arguing or fighting
- Have given up on talking their problems out
- Feel cold, alone or distant
- Thinking about separation or divorce

If you do not know how to change or where to turn, **Retrouvaille** can help. Next Program commences 5-7 August 2005. For confidential enquiries or information please call 9520 1496.

**Sydney South West Area Health Service**

**Free Dental Care for children!**

Tooth tip of the month…

*Water is the only drink that will not cause tooth decay!*

If you want free dental care for your child/ren, please call the Sydney South West area Service Oral Health Intake on 1300 55 9393

**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

**LOST PROPERTY**

There appears to be a large amount of lost property at the college at present. If students have lost items they should check the Lost Property Box for the item.

The Lost Property Box is located in the Uniform Shop.

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**Dates to Remember**

- 27th June—1st July
  Work Placements
- 29th June
  Year 10 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- 1st July
  End Term 2
  Years 7, 8, 9 Semester 1 Reports Distributed
- 18th July
  Term 3 Begins
- 28th July (1 pm - 8 pm)
  Years 7, 8 & 9 Parent / Teacher Evening
  MacKillop / Merici / Polding
- 29th July
  Staff Spirituality Day
- 4th August (1 pm-8 pm)
  Years 7, 8 & 9 Parent / Teacher Evening
  Chisholm / La Salle / De Paul