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

Last week our Year 9 students and teachers went on camp to the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. The event was a huge success for both staff and students each of whom certainly gained immensely from the experience. On the day our students arrived back at the college we received a telephone call from the manager of the camp, Mr White, who felt he had to contact the college to inform us that our students’ behaviour was commendable. He also stated that teachers from other schools also had commented on how well behaved Good Samaritan students had been.

Obviously Year 9 students proved to be worthy ambassadors for our college. They showed a genuine willingness to be involved and displayed a positive attitude to each of the activities. It is certainly gratifying to witness these students displaying behaviour of which our whole community can be proud. Well done Year 9!

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the teachers who accompanied Year 9 on Camp. Mr Cloran, Mrs Treloar, Mr Galvin, Ms Williamson, Miss Dangca, Mr Brown, Miss Hayward, Miss Morrison, Mr Thomas, Mr Grech, Mr Reyes and Miss Samardzic. Each spent time away from their families to enhance the experience of Year 9 students and for this we are grateful.

This week marks the conclusion of the Higher School Certificate at the college. The Year 12 students now await their results which will be released to them on the 17th December.

Year 12 students will gather, together with their parents and staff, to engage in their Graduation dinner, this evening. This is the last time Year 12 2005 will come together at an organised function. I am sure the remainder of our community will join me in wishing them all the best as they await their results.

Last Monday and Tuesday our very nervous Year 10 cohort sat for their School Certificate Examinations in English Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship. They also attempted the School Certificate examination on-line today. We certainly wish each of them all the very best for their School Certificate and we eagerly await their results which will be available in early December.

Last Wednesday, the college conducted an assembly in which we acknowledged two major events in the life of Year 11. Firstly, our school leaders for 2006 were introduced to our community. Once again I congratulate and thank those individuals for accepting positions of responsibility. The college also recognised the students who have worked to their potential in order to achieve first place in their Preliminary HSC studies. The name of each of these students is included in this newsletter. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate these students on their efforts and for aspiring to be more in their academic studies.

At the same assembly, I also had the pleasure of presenting three more Gold Awards. These were presented to Marc Ghignone, Diana Lemos and Joshua Kamalaneson. These awards are a reflection of effort and commitment to all aspects of college life. These students certainly have made a tremendous effort to do their best at the college.

God Bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal
Today is Remembrance Day. A day for us to stop and reflect on the sacrifices made by men and women across the world, in the service of their countries, in order to bring about peace. As many parts of our world suffer from injustice and war I offer the following in the hope that continued prayer will bring about peace.

O Lord,
You love justice and You establish peace on earth.
We bring before you the disunity of today’s world;
The absurd violence and the many wars,
Which are breaking the courage of the peoples of the world;
Human greed and injustice, which bring hatred and strife
Send Your spirit and renew the face of the earth;
Teach us to be compassionate towards the whole human family,
Strengthen the will of all those who fight for justice and peace,
And give us that peace which the world cannot give. Amen

Any parents of students who are aware of plans for their child to leave the college at the end of 2005 should contact the college office as soon as possible. This will allow those on waiting lists to be contacted well before the beginning of 2006.

As we approach the end of the year I remind parents of the importance of finalising 2005 school fee accounts. There are a number of student fee accounts which are overdue. If any parents have concerns about meeting school fee commitments they should ring the college to make an appointment to discuss the matter as soon as possible. I remind parents that it is college policy to withhold reports if fees are well in arrears and arrangements have not been made in relation to payment.

Lately, I have been disappointed with the way a number of students have been wearing our college uniform. The college takes pride in our students and the way they present. The manner in which the uniform is worn can enhance or detract from the good name that the college has been able to develop. I often say to students that “our good name is your good name and each person has a responsibility to uphold this good name”. I now seek the assistance of parents in enforcing college uniform expectations, which are outlined in the student diary. If the little things are done well, then this attitude will permeate each aspect of college life.

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Over the last three weeks of October, our Year 7 students have been involved in learning about Our Lady, how they can become closer to the mother of Jesus and the importance of praying the Rosary.

The Catholic Church recognises October as the month of the Rosary where we have the opportunity to meditate on the mysteries and pray through Mary to her son and our saviour Jesus.

As part of their studies, the students have undertaken assessment for learning by making their own Rosary beads and accompanying them with a special prayer devoted to Our Lady. It is timely indeed to acknowledge the care and reverence in which all the students in Year 7 went about their work and they are to be congratulated for this. It is hoped that they will continue to turn to the Rosary and their Rosary beads as a form of devotional prayer during times of difficulty or happiness.

Mr K Griffiths
(Religious Education Co-ordinator)
**Parenting Corner**

Dear Parents,

I was pleased to read in the weekend newspaper an article supporting the first of what I wrote in the last newsletter. According to the article, the government with the help of the technology giants, is putting into place provisions that will ensure that parents do not totally lose control. Thank heavens for that.

What CAN we do for our children? Through our own modelling we can assist them in developing the 12 positive Habits of the Mind"

**Accepting Myself** - making a mistake does not make you bad.

**Taking Risks** - It is good to try something new.

**Being Independent** - try new activities and do not be afraid to speak up (with respect).

**Giving Effort** - the harder you try the greater your success.

**Working Tough** - to be successful you sometimes have to do things that are not easy or fun

**Setting Goals** - plan the steps to realise your objective.

**Planning My Time** - plan enough time to get the task done.

**Being Tolerant of Others** - before reacting think of different ways to resolve setbacks or conflicts.

**Playing by the Rules** - by following family school rules, home/school will be better and safer places in which to live and learn.

**Social Responsibility** - good citizenship helps to build a world with fairness and justice for all. Be sensitive to the feelings of others, act honestly and SHOW RESPECT.

I am sure we all strive to develop these values in our children. I guess a reminder of our responsibilities does not hurt.

Happy parenting,

Br Colin

**Careers News**

MPAL Plumbing Apprenticeships

Master Plumbers Apprentices Limited (MPAL) employs over 200 apprentices in the greater Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong area. Full time positions are available for suitable Year 12 applicants. Applicants must be:

- Keen to learn the plumbing trade,
- Good at mathematics, and...
- Willing to learn.

MPAL recruitment is a six stage process including application, assessment test, two stage interview and medical assessment. To apply, contact Amanda Hawes on 8789 7000 and ask to be sent an application kit.

**AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS WEEK AT GOOD SAMARITAN**

During the week of November 21st to 25th, all Year 10 students will participate in our ABW program. This is a great opportunity for students to work co-operatively in teams, demonstrate their leadership potential, creativity and imagination and compete with their peers in a simulated business environment. If the Chaos Theory of Careers holds true, then the resourcefulness, lateral thinking and commitment required for a successful ABW campaign will stand our students in good stead for their futures.

**Parents….you can be part of ABW!**

Please consider being part of this great enterprise. As a mentor to a group of 12-13 students, you will gain insights into the wonderful talents and potential of our students as well as sharpening your own communication and leadership skills. We are also seeking sponsors who may be able to provide drinks, incentive prizes or materials that will help students to build displays or make videos. Please contact Mr. Berry at the college if you can help out.

**AUSTRALIAN CAREER DEVELOPMENT STUDIES** [www.career.edu.au](http://www.career.edu.au)

This new federal government initiative provides materials for people seeking some training and/or guidance in providing careers advice. The materials are provided free on-line or CD Rom, but assessment has a fee. There is a useful section for parents, as well as for those who hope to make a career of careers.

**Applications for 2006 TAFE High Demand Courses**

Applications for these courses officially closed on October 28th at all TAFE NSW Colleges. Students who have applied, or who intended to apply but missed out this year, may find their application is assisted if they contact the head teacher of the course applied for, to enquire about the criteria for successful applications. Often, just showing enough interest to go out of your way to ask can assist your application in being accepted. TAFE rules applying to applications must nonetheless be observed.

**Congratulations** to Ben Lyons who received an award from Southern Sydney Catholic Colleges Business Education Partnership for excellent participation in Work Placement earlier this year.

Mr S Berry

Careers Co-ordinator
HSC Assessment Rank Order Notices

Students who have completed their HSC examinations will be able to view and print their Rank Order Notice through “Students online” on the Board of Studies website from 4pm on November 11. The printed version can be collected from my office at the conclusion of the HSC period if requested. Actual marks are not given, only the rank gained for each course a student has studied.

Examination dates for 2006

Parents and students may access the examination dates for the School Certificate and HSC from the Board of Studies website through the function “Dates and Events”.

Year 9 Assessment Week (Week 6)

This week has been set aside for assessment in some subjects that require extended periods for tests or practical tasks. Students have been advised of the classes in which an assessment is to take place. A variation to the normal timetable will be provided this week. Classes where assessment is not being conducted, will continue as normal.

Year 11 Assessment Week (Week 9)

Week 9 is the start of formal HSC assessment for many of our current Year 11 students. As the marks contribute towards their final HSC assessment it is strongly recommended that each student begin preparations early for this assessment period.

Mrs C Peterson
Curriculum Coordinator

Year 11 Drama Excursion

On Tuesday 1st November, the Year 11 Drama class and Miss Schiller travelled to NIDA for an Individual Project Workshop day. We started off with a brief lecture on how to approach the Individual Project and what each area is about. Then we divided into areas of: performance, costume design, promotion and program, and scriptwriting. Time was spent the rest of the day with industry professionals who helped us with the direction of our projects and also gave us tips on how to achieve top marks.

Overall, the day was extremely useful in helping our progress for the Individual Project as well as the privilege of mingling with industry professionals.

(Written by Year 11 Drama)

Australian Mathematics Competition
Westpac Awards 2005

This was a very successful year for Good Samaritan. Eleven students achieved distinctions and seventy-eight students achieved credits. This is the greatest number of distinctions and credits the school has ever achieved.

The following students received Distinctions:
Year 12 Joe Virtu
Year 10 Derrick Ackhavong
Year 9 Simon Sultana, Elie Badran, Juan Savady
Year 8 Zachary Zanetic, Elizabeth Camilleri, Daniel Arcuri
Year 7 Anthony Dalger, Denise Hoang, Natalia Jozwik

Special congratulations to Zachary Zanetic, Daniel Arcuri, Zoe Martin and all Year 8 who received the Prudence Award for gaining the greatest number of consecutive correct answers. Congratulations to all students who were selected to participate in the competition.

Thanks to Mrs Cook and Mr Grech for organising the competition this year.

Mr A Laming
Mathematics Co-ordinator

Catholic education comes at a cost for parents: Sydney

Many parents make a continuing sacrifice. Last year, parents with children in Catholic systemic schools (Parish Primary and Regional Secondary) in the Archdiocese of Sydney contributed more than $96.6m in school fees, building levies and other charges. Parents who choose a Catholic school, having paid their taxes to assist the education of all children, are entitled to government support for their children’s education.
On Monday 31st October at 7 am, Year 9 left for the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. The trip was long but it was worth it in the end. On the way, we hit a kangaroo.

When we arrived, the instructors showed us around the whole camp. Then we had time to unpack and settle into our cabins, which were our new homes for 3 days. We were lucky enough to be upgraded from tents to cabins.

To begin our first day of camp we had lunch at the cafeteria. We then moved off to our first activity. Students were divided into PC groups for the activities we were to take on board for the 3 days. Each PC class had a different activity. The activities were archery, rock climbing, high ropes, canoeing, giant swing and the leap of faith. Everyday, in between each activity, each student received a snow cone, which consisted of crushed ice and cordial. For dinner we had a BBQ at the park. To end our first night at camp we had a raging disco and Tommy the instructor was our DJ.

On the second day at camp, we went on a long and tiring beach walk. We stopped to watch some dolphins on the way. After this, everyone was eager to go for a cool swim in the calm ocean. Everyone was even happier to eat lunch and go back to camp. For our last night, we had a trivia night, “the blokes v’s the sheilas”. Without a doubt, the sheilas won.

On the last day we packed our bags and then went to our two last activities. After that we had lunch, loaded the buses and left for school. The trip home was quicker than the trip there. We were all glad to be back home after a tiring trip. Year 9 camp was a great experience which will always stay as a thrilling memorable 3 days away from home.

By Dominkia Duris & Stephanie Bell (Year 9)

Year 9 went to the Great Aussie Bush Camp located at Tea Gardens (mid north coast) on the 31st October to 2nd November. It was an unforgettable experience, with many challenges we all managed to endure.

The variety of activities gave us all an opportunity to step outside our comfort zones. They included, high ropes course, rock climbing, leap of faith, canoeing, archery and the giant swing. The disco on the first night was awesome considering the heat and the fact we were all told we were going to line dance.

The days were long and humid. The nights were short and quiet, only after the many attempts of the nagging teachers to make us sleep.

The girls smashed the guys in a game of Battle of the Sexes and after a long night of cheering and screaming we all lost our voices, which was a luxury for the teachers. We had a liturgy which included a reflection where we took our minds off all the excitement of the camp. Our long walk on the beach with the sun burning strong caused us all to look like lobsters, although some of us were lucky enough to get a nice tan.

I am sure that when I say we all got something different, challenging and exhilarating out of the camp, that I speak for everyone.

A three hour trip to get to camp was definitely worth it. Even though we were in the bush for three days with flies everywhere and the trip back was lengthy. In the end we all needed to catch up on our sleep.

On behalf of Year 9 I would just like to thank all the teachers who made the camp possible by giving up their own time to be with us and share the experience. Also, thanks to Mr Cloran our Year Co-ordinator, without him this camp definitely would not have been possible.

Juliette Iaconis (Year 9)

Congratulations
Silver Awards Recipients

Georgina Agostino
Jessica Bugeja
Cynthia El Zakhem
Joshua Kamalaneson
Paola Marcocci
Justine McPherson
Jade O’Brien
Chris Sammut (2)
Nora Yousif
Chris Vella
Dates to Remember

Monday 14th to 18th November
- Year 9 Assessments
- Tuesday 22nd November
- Parent Helpers’ Dinner
- Friday 25th November
- Orientation Year 7 2006
- Year 10 Liturgy Evening

Wednesday 16th November
- Year 10 Retreat
- Wednesday 30th November
- Year 10 Dinner Dance
- Monday 21st November to 25th November
- Year 10 Australian Business Week

Friday 18th November
- Last Day Formal Lessons Year 10
- Year 9 & 10 Drama Excursion
- Monday 21st November to 25th November
- Year 10 Australian Business Week

Carols by Candlelight Liverpool Catholic Club
Sunday, 4th December 2005
at 7 pm
An invitation to all parents and staff to join in the Christmas celebrations, and support Good Samaritan Students who are performing an item from Sister Act II, entitled “Joyful Joyful”.

Free Workshop of Parents of Learner Drivers
Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That is why the RTA has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents in supervising learner drivers, the RTA has set up FREE 2 hour workshop for parents offering practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

A FREE RTA parent’s workshop will be conducted by David Riches and hosted by Liverpool City Council on Monday 5th December at Council’s Administrative Centre on Hoxton Park Road from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm.

Early bookings are essential, so telephone David Riches on 0438 215 323 now to reserve your place, or email parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au

Library Request

We have a quite a number of books in the library that require covering. If any parent/s could spare some time to help in covering these books, we would be most grateful.

Mr G Lozelle
Librarian

Chewing Gum

Chewing gum (is banned) on the school premises. Students found chewing gum will be issued with a letter outlining the two options of: 3 cleaning detentions or a $25 cleaning fine.

We are asking for your continued support on this matter by ensuring that your sons and daughters do not bring chewing gum to school.

Mr Grech

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