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

Last Tuesday I was privileged to attend an evening organised to thank our parents who offered help throughout 2005. It is wonderful to see the large number of parents who take time to offer the college practical support in various ways. A college such as Good Samaritan is not able to function efficiently without this parent support, which is practical and adds to the climate of the college. The involvement of parents provides another avenue for them to be involved in their children’s education. I continue to encourage parents to be involved in supporting the college and suggest that any help is of great value to us. Any time parents are able to help, even in a modest way, is certainly appreciated by our community.

I sincerely thank all parents who have offered support throughout 2005. Their efforts have certainly been appreciated.

I also acknowledge the Year 11 Hospitality Class and Mrs McInerney, who provided finger food for the Parent Helpers Evening. The generous support and the variety of food were impressive.

This week the students of Year 10 have been involved in Australian Business Week. This provides the Year 10 students with insights into teamwork and business operations that they would not otherwise be able to experience. I thank our special Guest Presenters and Judges for making themselves available to support Year 10. We certainly are fortunate to have these people who are so willing to support our students. I also thank Mr Berry, Miss Walker and the teachers involved for the organisation of the event.

Tonight the staff will join students and parents of Year 10 to celebrate the conclusion of the students’ compulsory education. The event is an important one as we reflect on each student’s time at the college. As a college, we are certainly grateful for the contribution that Year 10 has made over the last four years. This group of young people joined the college in its infancy and helped to shape Good Samaritan into what it has become today. As we reflect on the last four years with Year 10, we have a great deal for which we can be thankful. Their contribution to the college has been significant. As has been stated to Year 10 themselves, we appreciate what each person has brought to our community and as the journey continues the hope is that they recognise how fortunate they have been. Whether these students continue the journey at Good Samaritan or choose to travel along a different path, we pray that God will look after each of them and their families. Thank you to the parents, families and teachers of Year 10 students for the support that they have given these young women and men during their time at Good Samaritan.

Year 10 Awards for academic excellence, academic effort, sport, debating and public speaking and creative and performing arts will be presented this evening. The recipients names will be published in the next newsletter.

Today the college community welcomed Year 7 2006 for an Orientation Day. The students were given an overview of life at the college and an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the environment. It was certainly an informative and productive day for these students. I welcome our newest students to the college and certainly look forward to our association with these over the next six years.

This week I received word from the Catholic Education Office, that students at the college would be concluding school for 2005 on Friday 16th of December. This slightly earlier conclusion
is necessary due to the building program at the college. As the roof will be under construction, for the two storey building in Stage Five, the builders have deemed it unsafe to have students in the vicinity. Therefore, in the interests of student safety, the above conclusion date has been set. As a result, the college “End of Year Mass” and awards will be conducted on Thursday December 15 and the picnic will take place on Friday December 16.

In the last Newsletter, I wrote explaining that the Catholic Education Office had released the Strategic Management Plan for 2005-2010. The pamphlets explaining this plan are now available from the college office. I ask any parents who would like a copy of this publication to enquire at the office.

Today we were able to participate in yet another sporting event for the college. The U13 Boys Touch Football team final, unfortunately we were defeated by Marist College Penshurst, score 4 to 3, with the man of the series awarded to Joe Napoletano Year 8 La Salle.

Congratulations to all the students involved. A special thank you to the coach, Mr Zahra whose expertise enabled the team to go through to the final undefeated.

God bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal

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**Advent - The Arrival**

The name Advent comes from the Latin words, *advenire* & *adventus* which mean ‘to come to’ and ‘arrival’. Put simply, we as Christians are awaiting the arrival of our Christ. Furthermore, it is the period of the year during which the Church requires the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the feast of Christmas, the anniversary of the birth and coming of Jesus Christ.

Unfortunately, because we are caught up with the ‘silly season’ and all that this secular period of time provides, we as Christians can forget that the true focus of Advent is by no means limited to just Christ’s first coming. An equal, if not more important theme found in the Advent Liturgy, is the Second Coming of Christ when He comes again to judge the world.

As we approach the first Sunday of Advent we need to remind ourselves about the importance of family and praying as a family. We are reminded that the Holy Family prayed on that first Christmas day and were blessed with the birth of our Saviour and King. This Advent, let us all spend some time in prayer asking our Lord to bless and hold sacred the ‘family’.

*Lord Jesus, just as you came into the world on Christmas day,*

*Supported and held by your loving parents, may we spread the*

*love and joy of your arrival with our families and with those people who may not know or have not heard of your good works.*

*May the Christmas spirit of support, guidance, love and thanksgiving shine on each one of us and may your arrival revive and sustain our faith in you.*

*We ask this prayer through you, our Saviour and King.*

Amen

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**Endeavour Book Orders**

Parents/Guardians are reminded that the Endeavour Book Orders for 2006 are due back to the college office by 9th December 2005. All students should have already received an order form.

It is vital that families have their order forms returned by this date, so that the company can have the packs ready for the start of 2006 academic year.

**Second-hand Book Sale**

We have run a second-hand book sale for the past few years. This has usually taken place during Week 10 and creates opportunities for families to sell text books they no longer require and/or to purchase text books at cheaper than new prices. We would need to have parent volunteers to organise and run the day.

If parents are prepared to be involved they are asked telephone the college office and leave their contact details by Friday 2nd December. We will notify you during Week 9 if we have sufficient support to make the day viable.

Mrs B Eljed
Assistant Principal
On Monday, 14th November, the Year 11 Industrial Technology Graphics class went on an industry study excursion to Liverpool. Firstly, we visited Liverpool City Council and met the Senior Town Planner, Mr Adam Cobern. He discussed the development application process and indicated the quality of drawings which need to be submitted.

We then ventured into the heart of Liverpool to visit Mosca Pserras Architects and observe the procedures and techniques used in modern day architecture. We also discussed innovative ideas and designs for our major projects.

We then had a lunch break at Westfields Food Court before heading off to our final destination, Jilmar Design, model makers in Liverpool. There we were given a thorough insight into model making in industry. It was an eventful day, which was an exciting educational experience for all of us. We learnt a lot about how the various industries operate.

Written by: Pat, Claude & Michael

As year 10 students are in their final week of school, it is a Good Samaritan tradition for Year 10 students to attend and participate in Australian Business Week. Australian Business Week is about running a company in the Hospitality Industry, and specialising in hotel management in a competitive marketplace. It is also about building business awareness and self-development.

At first, faces went blank. We were confused, uninterested and bored. Many of us had trouble understanding the terms and concepts involved in running a business but soon took to the whole experience in an understanding way. We have had to meet several deadlines and have had to make many important decisions along the way. This has created a lot of ups and downs, smiles and frowns throughout the 13 groups.

This experience has taught us about many different work related topics and challenges that each and every department has to face. We would like to thank all the teachers who gave their time throughout the week to help make this week more enjoyable and understandable. A special thanks to Mr Berry and Miss Walker for organising the week and allowing us to go through with it.

Written by: Nicolle Viegas & Lina Romeo
YEAR 10 Retreat

On Wednesday November 16th, Year 10 students undertook a retreat day based on the unit of work they have been covering in class, “working for Justice in Australia”. The retreat has allowed Year 10 students to become exposed to a range of injustices that exist here in Australia and abroad.

The students were encouraged to make small changes at school and home to combat forms of injustice including racism, sexism and ageism. They were also asked to take a brief journey into the world of people who live in under-developed countries. This allowed them not only to appreciate how fortunate they are to be in a community which cares and provides for them but more importantly appreciate that, if they are not proactive in speaking out against forms of injustice, then we are all responsible for not spreading the type of justice about which Christ spoke.

The day concluded with both staff and students sharing the sacrament of the Eucharist in which Father Pat called us “to act justly and love one another tenderly”. He also reminded us about the importance of finding Jesus in everybody we meet. By doing this we understand that in God’s eyes we are all equal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students of Year 10 and the staff for making the day an enjoyable and insightful one. May we continue, as a school and broader community, to journey with compassion, particularly with those people who are confronted with injustice on a daily basis.

Mr K Griffiths
(Religious Education Coordinator)

YEAR 9 & 10 Drama Excursion

On Friday 18th November Year 9 and 10 Drama accompanied by Miss Schiller and Miss Dangca travelled to the Seymour Centre in Redfern to see the Company B’s performance of “Amajuba” a South African collection of stories. The play, which was written by the director and the cast, is a collection of true stories experienced under the apartheid in South Africa. The play was a mix of English and the South African language Xosa. It outlined the injustices the black South Africans faced under white law and how they learnt to survive in the conditions.

It was a fantastic performance that was both entertaining and educational. It also illustrated highly developed performance skill and excellent direction.

We would like to thank Miss Dangca and Miss Schiller for accompanying us and we hope they enjoyed the day

Year 9 & 10 Drama

Social Justice

On Wednesday, the 16th November, the Senior Leaders and four Year 9 students attended a Social Justice Twilight Meeting at All Saints Catholic College. This was organised by teachers from Catholic Schools in the Southern Region to promote social justice awareness and action within our respective communities.

Each student attended two workshops outlining social injustices experienced throughout the world. Some of the workshops visited include Hiroshima, Immesian (East Timor), Indigenous, Catholic Mission and Amnesty International.

We found the night to be a valuable experience, and were able to draft an action plan to promote social justice within GSCC. As captains of the college “we are looking forward to sharing our ideas with Mr Lo Cascio and bringing awareness of the justice issues to the students of the college and look out for social justice opportunities in 2006”.

Marc Ghignone & Lisa Nguyen
School Captains

Library Needs Help……..

The Library is in need of helpers to cover books. If you can spare some time, your assistance is most welcome.

Marc Ghignone & Lisa Nguyen
School Captains
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 workshops for parents offering practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

A FREE RTA parents’ 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

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

CEO Funding
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.

DATES TO REMEMBER
Wednesday 30th November
Year 10 Dinner Dance

Sunday 4th December
Carols by Candlelight Liverpool Catholic Club
7pm pm

Friday 9th December
Last Date for Book Orders 2006

Thursday 15th December
End of Year Liturgy

Friday 16th December
End of Year Picnic

MONDAY
28.11.05
T Brown
V McTaggart

TUESDAY
29.11.05
D Beazley
T Cox

WEDNESDAY
30.11.05
E Nikolic
A Marcocci

THURSDAY
01.12.05
G Bartolo
M Damjancuk

S Orellana

FRIDAY
02.12.05

MONDAY
05.12.05
N Tummarello
E Hobby
J Colley

TUESDAY
06.12.05
J Napoletano
L Duris

WEDNESDAY
07.12.05
M Romeo
L Marongiu
E Carrabs

THURSDAY
08.12.05
L Vella
C Smith

FRIDAY
09.12.05
