Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

Last Friday evening our Year 7 and Year 9 debating teams competed in the final of the SWCCDA Debating Competition at Freeman Catholic College. This competition was established in 2006 by schools in the local region. It has been organised as a local competition in order to take some pressure off parents and students by reducing travel time and by making the time of debates earlier. I am pleased to report that our Year 9 team was victorious in the final with a very polished performance. The Year 7 team who also performed well were narrowly defeated on the night. I am pleased to report that our Year 9 team was victorious in the final with a very polished performance. I congratulate all debaters especially the Year 9 team of Ashleigh Pontifex, Natasha Perre, Elizabeth Camilleri and the Year 7 team of Samantha Angeloni, Jonathan Byrne and Johann Kamalaneson. I thank the teachers Mr O’Sullivan, Mrs Peterson, Mrs Treloar, Mrs Fegatilli, Miss Schiller, Miss Samardzic Miss Kyriacos and Mrs Celea who have given up their Friday afternoons this term in order to coach and support the students. I also thank the students who took on support roles to ensure the debates ran smoothly each week. Finally thank you to the parents who came each week to support the debaters.

This week the college conducted the Year 11 Parent teacher student interviews. These interviews were accompanied by the Year 11 interim reports both of which provide essential information related to student performance. It was certainly pleasing to see the number of parents and students who gained from the interviews and the reports. The number of parents and students in attendance was most impressive and encouraging. These evenings enhance the written report and provide an opportunity to ask questions where grades or performance are in need of clarification. The college believes that we use assessment to inform parents and students of how students have progressed and as an instrument where learning may be enhanced. I stress that at the time of enrolment all parents and students agreed that they would attend events, such as parent teacher student evenings and encourage parents and students to make these events a priority. I thank those parents and students who avail themselves of this opportunity and point out to all the importance of such an experience.

At the college assembly this week I was able to acknowledge two Gold Award winners from our student body. This week’s recipients are Ashleigh Pontifex of Year 9 and Janice Tran of Year 11. These students have made a genuine effort to Let their light shine and this is a fitting manner for the college to recognise their commitment to different aspects of college life.

The hand over of Stage 5 of the College Building Project finally took place last Friday (June 9). The next step in the process of occupying the buildings involves the movement of furniture, equipment and lockers. This is a fairly involved process which may require parental help. At this stage we will stall the move into the buildings until the beginning of next term. This will enable us to minimise disruption as well as to ensure that every aspect of the move will be done correctly. The college would appreciate any parental help to move furniture and lockers. This move will take place on the final Saturday of the next school holidays (Saturday July 15).

Last week the college staff came together to farewell Mrs Joan Stivala. Mrs Stivala has been the college canteen manager since 2002. Mrs Stivala has provided many a meal to staff and students and has certainly done a superb job in ensuring that needs of students have been met. I sincerely thank Mrs Stivala for her support of the college community in this way. I also take this opportunity to thank those generous mums and friends of the college who come to work in the canteen in support of students. Students may not admit it but they certainly are advantaged by such munificence.

God Bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio
Principal
From the Assistant Principal

Parent Evening

We have engaged a guest speaker, Rocky Biasi to help parents understand the stresses that young people doing the HSC experience and to give helpful tips as to how best to help. The evening is aimed at parents of students presently in Years 11 and 12 and follows on from the recent workshops given by the same speaker to Year 12 students. A survey undertaken of parents on the Year 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interview night indicated high support for such an evening. We hope that the date suits and many parents can attend, especially as there are potentially stressful examination periods coming up for both Year 11 and Year 12 students.

Helping your child cope with HSC stress

Venue: GSCC

Wednesday 19th July at 7 pm

Year 10 Parent Teacher Student Interviews

Year 10 Semester One Reports will be distributed and Parent, Teacher, Student interviews conducted in the last week of this term, on Wednesday 28th June at 3.30 to 8 pm. Students are asked to book interview times with each of their teachers. The Semester One Reports reflect the new mandatory reporting guidelines so it is essential that at least one parent/guardian attends with each student to ensure that the reports are understood and discussed.

Silver Awards Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who have recently been presented with Silver Awards at school assemblies.

Megan Brown        Ashleigh Pontifex
Robert Borg        Sandra Waga
Alyssa Suyko        Annyas Badran
Hollie Strohmayer    Alyssa Cook
Juan Savody        Jenwicka Khoo
Danielle McPherson  Helen Said
Anthony Thepsombandith

Bus Travel

We have been contacted recently by our bus companies over students not following correct procedures. Students who are entitled to travel free on buses need to show both their bus pass and T/Card pass when boarding the bus. Students who do not have the required passes need to pay for the journey. If students have lost passes they need to apply and pay directly to the bus company for a replacement pass. Students are not under any circumstances to use another student’s T/card or bus pass. If students are found to be doing this they may lose their right to free travel. We ask that parents/guardians check that their children have the required passes or money for bus journeys and ensure that their children understand the serious consequences should they be found to be in breach of procedures.

Mr K Griffiths, RE Co-ordinator

This Sunday June 18, is the Feast of Corpus Christi. “Corpus Christi” in Latin means ‘The Body of Christ’ and is a most significant feast for us as Catholics. This year, Cardinal Pell has invited us to join in a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to celebrate the Mystery of the Eucharist.

Last year’s procession was an excellent way of bringing people together and this year it should be no different. In fact it provides a tremendous opportunity to express our Catholic faith and rejoice in the mystery of the Blessed Sacrament.

Throughout history, Catholics have gathered to celebrate the real presence of Christ among them through the Eucharist. In the years after the death and resurrection of Christ, the community gathered to ‘break bread’ in memory of Him. These gatherings were seen in relation to the Last Supper. Paul in his letters to the Corinthians describes the Eucharist as a celebratory meal in which people come together to remember the Last Supper and to recognise the presence of the Lord in the breaking of the bread. Above all the Eucharist unites us with God, helps us to build community and calls us to become Who we receive.

The details of the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament are outlined below:

Date: Sunday June 18, 2006
Meet at St Patrick’s Church Hill at 2.30pm and process to St Mary’s Cathedral for Benediction at 4.00pm. The event will conclude at approximately 5.00pm.

If further details are required these are available on www.sydneycatholic.org.au

Mr B Eljed, Assistant Principal

Working Bee

The College will be having a working bee on Saturday 15th July. Parents are invited to assist in the movement of furniture and lockers into the newly completed buildings. If you are available between 9 am and 12 noon and would like to offer assistance please contact the school office and leave your name.

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 parental support on this matter to ensure that their sons and daughters do not bring chewing gum to school.

Mr R Grech, Administration Co-ordinator
School Fees Reminder

Term Two School Fees are due to be paid by 19th June.

If parents have difficulty meeting school fee commitments they should make an appointment to discuss this issue with Mr Lo Cascio.

Bell Shakespeare Troupe Visit

Call for Nominations

Have you thought about nominating as a member of the Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic Schools (SACS) Board or its Finance or Audit and Risk Management Committees?

The role of the SACS Board is to provide, on behalf of the Archdiocese, leadership and overall direction for systemic Catholic schools within the Archdiocese, and ensure the existence of a system of education which will contribute as effectively as possible to the total educational needs of young people within the Catholic tradition. (Eight meetings per year).

The role of the Finance Committee is to monitor and plan, on behalf of the Board, policies aimed at the optimum use of finances and resources available to the Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic Education System. (Six meetings per year).

The initial role of the Audit and Risk Management Committee is to establish its terms of reference. Once established, its role will be to monitor, on behalf of the Board, financial compliance and to identify and monitor areas of risk exposure. (Four meetings per year).

Nomination forms can be obtained on

Tele: 9568 8473 or
Email: chris.whiting@ceo.syd.catholic.edu.au

Year 12 Biology Excursion

On Monday 29th May, the Year 12 Biology class visited the Museum of Human Disease at the University of NSW. At the Museum we saw preserved bodies that had been infected by diseases. Those who did not keep their eyes shut throughout the tour, were able to view and learn about what happens to their body when they become sick. The lecture tour and programs gave us a great insight in to our bodies, and will be most advantageous to us in the current topic when it comes to the HSC. We had many laughs throughout the day and enjoyed it very much.

By: Diana Lemos, Year 12

Year 11 Morning Tea

On Wednesday, 31st May the whole of Year 11 gathered together for a shared breakfast/morning tea assembly to farewell and wish luck to our wonderful teachers Mrs Burney and Ms Barry. Both staff members will be leaving us temporarily to prepare for motherhood.

Planning this morning was difficult because both teachers had to be kept in the dark, however with the help of Miss Walker and many students it was all made possible.

On the morning, students brought in a variety of goods to be shared amongst Year 11 including snacks, drinks and various cakes. It was all set up outside with background music and tea and coffee provided by Miss Walker.

Overall the morning tea was enjoyed by all especially the surprised and overwhelmed Mrs Burney and Ms Barry. We would like to wish them both the best of luck on the wonderful journey that lies ahead.

By: Andreea Patrinjei & Joshua Kamalaneson
All Year 10 students will attend the annual CareerSearch event at UWS Milperra Campus on Wednesday, June 28th. The event provides opportunities for students to meet and ask questions of representatives from employer organisations, tertiary training institutions, university and TAFE institutes and group training companies. Career seminars will be conducted at scheduled times. Students can make the most of their day by planning their time between displays and seminars.

From Career Central

- **Pre Electrical Course @ TAFE**
  - **Info & Testing Session**
    - **Date**: Tuesday 18 July from 10.00am
    - **Location**: Block Q First Floor, Room Q.1.7
    - Wollongong Campus – Foley’s Rd Wollongong.
    - TAFE Illawarra is offering an Electrical Pre Vocational course in Semester 2, 2006 for those who are thinking of leaving school and keen to start a career in the electrical field. An Information & Testing session will be held on 18 July. Pre-vocational courses are designed to provide you with a basic range of skills and some work experience to help you gain an apprenticeship / traineeship or a job. This course includes skills relating to occupational health & safety, electrical principles, workshop practices and an introduction to electrical wiring. When you complete this course you will be eligible for exemptions in various Certificate 2 and 3 courses in Electro technology if you want to continue your studies. Applicants need to bring a pen, paper and a calculator.

Ultimo Science Festival...

The 2006 Ultimo Science Festival on August 16th to 20th will explore forensic and nuclear science, sustainable technologies, relations between design, fashion and science and more. Lots of fun and interesting activities planned for all students! The 2006 Ultimo Science Festival will explore forensic and nuclear science, sustainable technologies, relations between design, fashion and science and more. There are a range of activities planned, both day and evening, across Ultimo precinct and hosted by the Powerhouse Museum, the University of Technology Sydney, Ultimo TAFE and the ABC. Some of the activities schools are invited to include science demonstrations and lectures, science-art exhibition, a theatre and costume parade and a snap-a-scientist sizzle. Wednesday and Thursday, 16th and 17th August, will focus on secondary students and Friday 18th August, on primary school students. Program details will be available on the following link shortly.

Spotlight On Studying in Japan!

AFS Intercultural Programs is offering 29 full & partial scholarships for all Australian high school students to study up to one year in Japan. Applications close 1st July. AFS is an international, volunteer-based, not-for-profit organisation providing intercultural experiences for over 55 years worldwide. AFS offers more than 140 programs in over 50 countries including Intensive programs to France, Italy, Thailand, Spain, Japan and China; High School Exchange in North America, Asia, Africa, South America, Latin America and Europe; and University programs in Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico and China. The High School Exchange Program is offered as an Intensive program or for a semester or a year. Community Service, Volunteer & Hosting programs available.

Scholarships to Japan // Partial AFS scholarships range in value between $2,500 and $5,600 while a full scholarship is worth up to $11,200.

Eligibility // ~You must be • in Year 9, 10, or 11 at a high school in the year of application • meet the AFS application guidelines for Japan • succeed in AFS selection.

A full AFS participation fee to Japan covers // Return travel from your home right to the door or your host family. Orientation and enrichment activities during the stay. Medical costs incurred during the visit, except for pre-existing conditions, dentist and eye care. ONLINE applications close 1 July 2006.

Event & Music Management Program!

Julius Media offers accredited training in Sound, Lighting, Music Production, Staging and Vision, including the recently introduced Event and Music Management Diploma as well as short intro courses during the holidays. Open Day: 19th August.

Julius Media is run by experienced industry professionals & offers nationally accredited courses in Entertainment & Music Technology from Certificate 3 to Advanced Diploma level as well as a number of 1 day intensive workshops.

Three major courses are available:
- Technical Production (Theatre and Events) - for people seeking a career backstage and in audio visual • Music Production (Recording Engineer) - for people interested in becoming a Sound Engineer but with extra employment possibilities • Event And Music Management (Diploma) - combines PR, Marketing and Media in an exciting new qualification.

Julius Media operate a Sydney campus, with affiliates in Brisbane, Melbourne & Adelaide.

Contact the Sydney office for further details. OPEN DAY: Saturday 19 August from 11am. Bookings required. Please contact JM. Follow the link to access information on the College & its courses.

Coles Myer Jobs

The COLES MYER group which includes BI-LO, TARGET and KMART stores as well, is now recruiting casual staff, state-wide, for the September 2006 to January 2007 period. Apply ONLINE now!

Job No. PKT25741 // Coles Myer includes the following businesses state-wide:

- Myer / Coles / Bi-Lo / Kmart / Target / Officeworks / Harris Technology / Liquorland / Vintage Cellars / 1st Choice / Coles Express

Applicants should be well groomed, confident and enthusiastic people who are available for casual work during the September – January period including weekends, holidays and during extended trading periods. To be eligible to apply for these jobs, you must be an Australian or NZ citizen or have an appropriate visa to be able to live and work in Australia. Follow the link for further information and to apply ONLINE for these positions.

NOTE: You can also search & apply for other jobs advertised with the group, state-wide, through this link.
The High Achiever Early Offer Program at the University of Notre Dame Sydney allows talented students to be nominated by their school for a separate early offer into their chosen course. FEE HELP / Scholarships available. Closes 30 June.

**General Introduction**

Notre Dame is Australia's first private Catholic university in Sydney and opened in February 2006 with an enrolment of 450 students. The university offers a personalised, high quality education in a friendly environment as well as the excellence in professional training that is a hallmark of the existing two campuses in Broome & Fremantle, Western Australia. Notre Dame Sydney offers courses in Arts & Sciences, Commerce, Education, Nursing & Law with Graduate Medicine available in 2007 / 2008. FEE HELP is available to eligible students and a limited number of Commonwealth-supported places (CSP) are offered in Nursing & Education. The High Achiever Early Offer Program
The Scheme is available to both domestic and International students and all secondary schools and colleges may nominate academically outstanding students for a separate, early offer under the Scheme. The offers made will be based on the marks to date in the students' HSC studies in Year 11/12. Students achieving an average of 75% or higher across their subjects may be nominated. All offers will be conditional upon the applicant completing the HSC and maintaining a high standard of academic performance. Notre Dame seeks to enrol students with a broad background and the potential and motivation to succeed in their course and chosen professions. Hence entry is based upon a range of factors: academic performance, a student interview, contribution to school & community life and recommendations by schools and employers. The High Achiever Early Offer Program also includes scholarship opportunities, with one scholarship from each of the University's Academic Schools (Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, Law & Nursing) available.

**Applications**

Students must be nominated by their School for the program. See your Careers Advisor ASAP if you meet the general requirements and are interested in being considered. Applicants must submit their completed Application Forms by 30 June 2006. The School Nomination Form must be forwarded separately by the school concerned. All nominated applicants will be granted an admissions interview between 3 July and 11 August. Applicants in rural or regional areas, interstate or overseas, may be interviewed by phone.

---

**Year 10 History Excursion to Canberra**

On Friday 26 May, three Year 10 History classes went to Canberra on a History excursion. We left bright and early at 6 am in the morning, stopped off at McDonalds for breakfast and arrived at the National Museum of Australia after a three hour drive. We were entertained thoroughly by our coach driver and learnt a lot about Australia's geography and history along the way.

At the museum we explored what the Australian identity is and learnt about the different indigenous and western perspectives. An expert in 'museology,' Miss Molloy was of great help with a combination of interactive displays, ancient artifacts and legendary sports footage; we left with a fresh new view of Australia and the importance of indigenous culture.

After lunch at the museum, we hopped back on the coach and went to the War Memorial, with a detour to Australia's Old Parliament House. At the War Memorial we discovered what it would have been like many years ago in Australia in war times. We had the opportunity to view precious artifacts and soak up the solemn atmosphere. We were exposed to both amazing and saddening truths and all would agree that the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" and the large walls lined with plaques of fallen soldiers had enough to astound us and open our eyes to the real impacts of war. It certainly helped us understand how lucky we are and how terrible war really is.

We then headed back to NSW after a breath taking view of Canberra and returned back to school at about 6 pm. We all had a fantastic day learning a great deal about our own country and its history. It was a truly eye opening experience and we would like to thank the teachers who accompanied us; Mr Steadman, Miss Morrissey, Miss Nolan, Miss Schiller, Miss Molloy and Mr Costin.

**By: Maryann Wright**

**Year 8 Medieval History Incursion**

On Tuesday the 16th and Wednesday 17th of May Year 8 were privileged to have a fun-educational day with a professional medieval peasant. The day started out with learning the basics; the social structure, who was who in medieval times and what role they had in society. We quickly moved onto what weapons the soldiers used and how to defend yourself in battle. We also saw and tried on different styles of armour. Our medieval peasant used Year 8 students to demonstrate what it was like to fight for your life; Maddison, Flora, Kayla, Dylan, Leonardo and Raymond were lucky to be selected. We got a good laugh from watching them pretending to fight each other. After a quick recess we were back and learning about medieval shields and the heraldry surrounding them. It was interesting to see the different symbols, found on the shields and to learn about their history and meaning. Year 8 also got an opportunity to create our own heraldry using symbols that represented our lives, and bold striking colours.

After learning about all medieval times we got to meet Ben the Jester who showed us the tricks behind the medieval jester show. He did a good job of making a fool of himself! Just like he would have done for the Lords and Kings if he was entertaining in medieval times. He showed us in slow motion how to make a sword, this resulting in a lot of laughter and a fun time. We will remember his juggling skills and how he accidentally ate a raw egg instead of the apple!

The last part of the day was the most memorable. We all joined together in groups of five and raced in medieval armour. We got a chance to group together with people we are not close friends with and to work as a team to be the first ones around the tree in that heavy armour!

We think we can say, on behalf of all Year 8 students, that Medieval Day was a fantastic learning experience, we took away so much knowledge of the time and we had lots of fun too!

**By: Rachel Pace & Katherine Hobby (Miss Nolan 8.6)**

---
Fairfield City Council
Families Together
Invites parents to

Fussy Eaters, Difficult Sleepers
Monday 19 June 2006 (10.30 am – 1 pm)

Balancing Emotions in your family
Thursday 22nd June (10 am - 1–30 pm)
Presented by:
Petra Will-Heart
Parent Educator
Centre for Practical Parenting
at
Community Room
Tarlington Parade Meeting Place
Bonnyrigg
No Cost!

The Federation of the Parents and Friends
Association of Catholic Schools, Archdiocese of
Sydney invites parents and teachers to:
Family: The foundation of a child’s education
7–8 pm Wednesday 21st June 2006
Lidcombe Catholic Club
24 John Street, Lidcombe
Guest Speaker: Dr Charles Burford
Associate Professor
School of Educational Leadership
Australian Catholic University

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
The Uniform Shop will be open from
7.30 am to 8.30 am
Monday to Thursday
On every second Tuesday - the shop will also be
available for students at lunchtime and for
parents from 12.20 pm - 3.45 pm

The Canteen does not accept $50 notes. It would be appreciated if
students could have the correct amount or small currency 10¢ 20¢ 50¢