Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

Last Monday evening, the college conducted our first formal presentation evening at All Saints Liverpool. This event provided the community with an opportunity to recognise the commitment, talents and achievements of many of our students. It was certainly gratifying to see so many students who have been willing to strive to do their best on numerous occasions throughout the year. It was also very pleasing to be able to witness the student performances in various acts. These performances certainly highlighted the talents of students and their involvement helped to make the evening memorable. I thank the parents and students who were able to attend. I particularly acknowledge the committee who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the evening.

Congratulations to all award winners whose names are included later in this newsletter.

On Monday evening three students from Year 12 were also acknowledged as recipients of teachers’ scholarships provided by the Catholic Education Office. Congratulations to Marc Ghignone, Lauren Camden and Daniela Catanea on receipt of the scholarships for 2007.

On Wednesday 6th December the “Parent Helpers Thank You” dinner was conducted at the college. This is conducted to thank those parents who give up their time to support the college through various means such as the canteen, library, uniform shop or the office. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank those parents and care givers who continually display a willingness to support their children by being involved in the college in various ways. I also look forward to a continued association with these parents and ask others to support their children by volunteering to be involved in the college in the future.

The night would not have been possible without the efforts of Mrs Ciampa, Mrs Golubic and the staff who were able to attend. I thank them for their support.

Last Friday, the Year 7 2007 students visited the college as a cohort for the first time. This was an exciting, albeit nervous time for many of these young people as each begins a new chapter in their lives. The day provided an opportunity for students to meet their pastoral care teachers and to familiarise themselves with the college prior to the first day of 2007. The college staff also took the opportunity to conduct some testing in order to gain an increased insight into the ability of students before they begin their academic journey through secondary school. I thank Mrs Sayadi and Ms Williamson for the organisation of the various aspects of the day. This proved to be a most worthwhile experience for all concerned.

I know I speak for the whole community when I say that we look forward to welcoming Year 7 2007 back to the college at the beginning of next year.

As each year draws to a close there is always much excitement in relation to what the future holds. At the same time there can be some sadness as people who have been members of the college community for various periods of time move onto new challenges. This year the college community will farewell a number of teachers and students. I take this opportunity to acknowledge those staff who are leaving Good Samaritan at the conclusion of 2007. Ms Hanratty, Miss Schiller, Mrs Eljed, Mrs Lethbridge, Mrs Halpin, Miss Kyriakos, Mr Wright, Ms Frisardi and Miss Dangca will finish their employment at the college this year. I know the community will join with me in wishing each of these people God’s blessings as they venture beyond Good Samaritan.

I especially acknowledge Mrs Eljed who is also leaving to take up principalship at Clare Catholic High School. She has been a true Catholic leader at Good Samaritan and has played an integral role in shaping the direction of the college since 1999.

There have been a number of appointments to replace staff leaving and these will be announced in the first newsletter of 2007. I do, however, take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr Grech who will be acting Assistant Principal for 2007. This appointment is an interim measure for 2007 only. The permanent Assistant Principal position will be advertised.
During 2007 and the successful applicant will take up the appointment at the beginning of 2008.

Finally, as the year draws to a close, I thank every member of the Good Samaritan community for their contribution throughout 2006. I am very proud to be associated with the students, staff and parents of Good Samaritan and I look forward to our association next year.

I wish everyone a holy and happy Christmas and a safe holiday. I take this opportunity to ask everyone to consider how they can make a positive difference to others over the Christmas season.

God Bless,

Mr John Lo Cascio

Awaiting the Birth of Jesus

This weekend we commence the third week of Advent. At mass, we light the rose coloured candle symbolising joy and the imminence of the coming of Christ. We are challenged to embrace the coming of the infant Christ and to bring his message to those who have not heard. In other words, as our college theme has asked us to “let our light shine” we too must remember to let others experience the light of Christ’s love.

Let us pray,

Lord our God, you bring light and joy to the darkness of this world. Let us carry your light to the members of our family and to those who are yet to hear your call. We ask this through Christ the Lord. Amen

Season’s Greetings to all.

Mr K Griffiths, (RE Co-ordinator)

A Christmas Prayer

“O God, our loving Father,
help us rightly to remember
the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in
the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and the worship of the wise men…

May Christmas morning
make us happy to be your children,
and Christmas evening
bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus’ sake. Amen”

(By: Robert Louis Stephenson)
**New Traffic Arrangements for 2007**

During the Christmas break new security gates will be installed at the college. The gates are being installed for college security and student safety. The installation of the gates will limit access to the college grounds by both vehicle and pedestrians during the installation of the gates will limit access to the college grounds will begin at 3.10 pm. No vehicles will be allowed in the college grounds before this time unless on school business. The main roundabout at the entrance to the college will be no stopping at any time. Parents are encouraged to drop students off and pick them up outside the college in order to reduce congestion and increase safety.

R Grech, Administration Co-ordinator

**Subsidiarity Forum St Mary's Cathedral**

* A new Century ... *

... A new Millennium *

**Seeing the World as It should be**

On the 25th November 2006, Adriana Hermis and I had the privilege of being chosen to attend the Summer 2006 Subsidiarity Forum at St Mary's Cathedral. Three lecturers from different fields in society, deliver presentations throughout the day followed by open frank discussion as the forces revolutionising society were debated.

Mr John Finneran, Community Manager for Caritas Australia, began and introduced the concept of Catholic social teaching and the Principle of Subsidiarity. In analysing current trends and divisions in society, such as Poverty, and looking at the Free market, and Political parties’ roles on such matters, John demonstrated the need for individual action to promote equity.

The second speaker was Mr Greg Donnelly, Member of the Legislative Council in the NSW Parliament. He spoke on the political authority at the service of Society. This speech focused on the necessity for Christian adherents to interact in the political arena. He explained the ways political operations intertwine with religious social teaching, such as the contemporary media coverage on legislation governing Abortion and Stem Cell research.

Concluding the Day, was His Eminence Cardinal George Pell who expressed his opinion on the importance of the family-the first and vital cell of society. In the most socially stimulating presentation, the role of a typical 21st Century teenager in Australia was examined. We appreciated the opportunity to attend and to hear answers to questions raised in respect to the Church’s stand on social teaching. By: Joseph Boustany & Adriana Hermis

**Careers News**

**AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS WEEK**

November 27th to December 1st

Year 10 students really excelled in a week of entrepreneurial activity that culminated in trade displays, promotional videos, company reports and truly impressive commitment and enthusiasm. The sixteen “companies” competing during the week first appointed CEOs or general managers who then took responsibility for ensuring that the whole team remained on task and on time. Many students reported feeling challenged by the demands of meeting the expectations of their peers and maintaining a competitive edge over their competitors. Most companies decided a corporate image on the first day and maintained it throughout the week. If only they were as enthusiastic and fastidious about maintaining their appearance throughout the year!

By Friday morning when the judges arrived, the finishing touches were being applied to classrooms that had been turned into casinos, five star hotel foyers and even a Japanese tea room.

Our judges, Mrs. Jenny Rickard, Senior Curriculum Consultant from Sydney CEO, Mrs. Franka Norberti, Manager, Liverpool Workplace Learning Partnership, Mrs. Ann Gibney, Consultant, Liverpool Workplace Learning Partnership and Mr. Dominic Bonfiglio, General Manager, Synapse I.T. were consistently wowed by the high standards achieved by our Year 10 entrepreneurs. Congratulations to all of our graduating Year 10 on a very successful week.

**Christmas holidays jobs**

You can gain much more than some extra spending money by taking on a casual job over Christmas. The skills of dealing with employers and clients or customers, being well presented and on time and the boost to self esteem that comes from accomplishing tasks to meet the expectations of others are every bit as rewarding and valuable as the pay check. It’s not too late to apply. Many large retailers are still recruiting Christmas staff. Try the following links;

or at http://

http://www.woolworths/home/

or try the Australian Job Search home page and search for casual retail at http://

www.jobsearch.gov.au or http://


www.seek.com.au Good luck!

**Goingtouni.gov.au**

A new service offered by the federal government provides information and links for assistance with government supported places at uni, fee paying students, HECSHELP loans, understanding the tertiary education and training system in Australia and FEEHELP loans. If you are going to uni, this site is probably worth a look.
PARENTS—PLEASE HELP!
Your experience and expertise in life skills and employment can significantly improve the career education and experience of our students: your children. If you can assist by being part of a Careers committee, presenting a brief talk to a group of students on occasions, performing mock interviews or in any other capacity, please let me know. Just call the college and leave your contact details. I look forward to continuing to work with you to improve the career awareness and outcomes for all of our students.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

Mr S Berry
Careers Co-ordinator

Year 10 students returning in 2007 will commence this mandatory program on Tuesday January 30 (the first day back for Year 11).

Mrs C Peterson
Curri

From the Curriculum Co-ordinator

HSC Results
For the majority of our HSC 2006 students and their families the long wait will be over next week when HSC results are released. Students will be able to obtain their results on Tuesday December 19 from 6am, and have the option of accessing them through internet, telephone or SMS. Students are advised to have their personal PIN codes readily available and to be familiar with the processes used to obtain their results.

We look forward to celebrating with our students the release of HSC results at a morning tea to be held on Wednesday 20th December at the college. A letter has been sent to each student providing them with more information regarding accessing HSC results and the morning tea.

SC Results
Year 10 will be able to collect their School Certificate documentation from the college on Monday 18th December. Included in their package will be the School Certificate Record of Achievement, Testamur and Semester 2 reports. Parents and students are reminded that this year’s results will contain a Computing Skills Test competency indicator, identifying each student as either “Competent” or “Highly Competent”.

Year 11 2007 – HSC: “All My Own Work”
Students entering Year 11 in 2007 will be participating in the HSC: All My Own Work. This program provides students with the knowledge and skills to research effectively, and complete assessment tasks without plagiarising or failing to acknowledge other people’s work. It will be conducted online and involves students completing case studies and quizzes to test their knowledge.
Congratulations-2006 Award Recipients

Year 11 First Place in Preliminary Course
- Engineering Studies: Adrian Pjanic
- Industrial Technology - Graphics: Adrian Pjanic
- Software Design and Development: Adrian Pjanic
- Biology: Amanda Vella
- Business Services: Amanda Vella
- English Standard: Amanda Vella
- Food Technology: Amanda Vella
- PDHPE: Amy-Lee Wulf
- Information Processes & Technology: Bianca Xerri
- Drama: Candace Cummings
- Ancient History: Carmel Divola
- Textiles and Design: Daniella Argenta
- Business Studies: Dino Romeo
- Chemistry: Dino Romeo
- Economics: Dino Romeo
- Mathematics: Dino Romeo
- Mathematics Extension 1: Dino Romeo
- Fundamentals of English: Edward Llave
- General Mathematics: Elvira Macri
- Visual Design: Elvira Macri
- Community and Family Studies: Elvira Macri
- Photography: Georgina Agostino
- Studies of Religion I: Jaimie Selvage
- Physics: Janice Tran
- English Extension 1: Kaia Pondelak
- Modern History: Kaia Pondelak
- English Advanced: Bianca Xerri
- Legal Studies: Laverna Lavulo
- Hospitality: Sally Gauthier
- Exploring Early Childhood: Teresa Papandrea
- Music: Vanessa Pretilla
- Sport Lifestyle and Recreation: Victoria Mammone
- Visual Arts: Victoria Mammone

Year 11 Commitment to Study
- Derrick Ackhavong, Georgina Agostino, Joseph Boustany, Belinda Campisi, Carmel Divola, Adriana Hermis, Joshua Kamalaneson, Elvira Macri, Natalie Macri, Victoria Mammone, Kaia Pondelak, Vanessa Pretilla, Lina Romeo, Jaimie Selvage, Amanda Vella, Amy-Lee Wulf

Senior Sport
- Thomas Kennedy & Desiree Kulu

Senior Creative and Performing Arts
- Candace Cummings & Corinne Inzitari

Senior Public Speaking and Debating
- Joshua Kamalaneson

Year 10 Academic Excellence
- Anthony Endravian, Elisa Gatto, Nhi Tran, Maryann Wright

Year 10 Academic Effort
- Eugenio Campisi, Justin Ciampa, Elyce Coluccio, Andrew El-Zakhem, Michelle Harrison, Sandra Jajou, Nhi Tran, Maryann Wright

Year 9 Academic Excellence
- Elizabeth Camilleri, Rose Pipicella, Luen Samonte, Natasha Perre, Helen Said, Daniel Arcuri, Ashleigh Pontifex

Year 9 Academic Effort
- Adam Cosgrove, Danielle Froio, Diana Macri, Danielle McPherson, Natasha Farac, Natasha Perre, Rowena Barreira, Amanda Bittman, Laura Donaldson, Nicole Borczyk, Jessica Bugaja, Matthew De Martin

Year 8 Academic Excellence
- Kristen Kuan, Flora Mansour, Andrea Brocklehurst, Chantelle Monjo, Alyssa Suyko, Leah Brown, Louise Doculara

Year 8 Academic Effort
- Steven Catanea, Damiano Ferreri, Rebecca Hunt, Elizabeth Si, Katherine Hobby, Paul Tacca

Year 7 Academic Excellence
- Alyssa Cook, Bruno Romeo, Erika Brocklehurst, Jema Samonte, Mark Bawalan

Year 7 Academic Effort
- Alyssa Cook, Brooke Bellingham, Joshua Bugeja, Irena Baltic, Caroline Said

ADF Leadership Award
- Kayla Bittman, Marc Ghignone

Literacy Award
- Angela Castillo

Junior Creative and Performing Arts Award
- Phillip Do, Paige Jeffrey, Jade O’Brien, Zoe Martin, Dominic Cabusi, Anthony Spinelli, Christina Mori

Junior Public Speaking and Debating Award
- Maryann Wright, Natasha Perre, Anthony El-Zakhem, Johann Kamalaneson

Junior Sport Award
- Andrew El-Zakhem, Paige Jeffrey, Joseph Napoletano, Haylee Ingle, John Kennedy, Lara Ferreira, Bianca Addatini, Anthony Tomelic

House Award
- CHISHOLM: Lina Romeo
- DE PAUL: Nora Yousif
- LA SALLE: Vanessa Pretilla
- MACKILLOP: Melissa Gajardo
- MERICI: Nhi Tran
- POLDING: Victoria Mammone

Good Samaritan Award
- Andrea Brocklehurst, Maryann Wright, Kayla Bittman, Lina Romeo, Joshua Kamalaneson, Vanessa Pretilla

Poetry Competition - “Write 4 fun”
The following poem written by Alyssa Cook Year 7 was nominated by Miss Dangca for the above poetry competition. It has been chosen to be published shortly in the “Simply Poetry Book”.

My Uncle
(Dedicated to my Uncle Mark who I love very much)
My Uncle is funny,
He makes everyone smile,
My Uncle lives far away,
I see him once in a while.
My Uncle always rings me,
And we talk on the phone,
We talk about school and work,
And we moan.
My uncle is sweet,
But can also be sour,
My Uncle is talkative, We can chat for hours.
My Uncle is caring,
As kind as can be,
My Uncle is Mark,
That special someone to me!

By: Alyssa Cook, Year 7 GSCC
What is the issue in education?

The issue is quality education for all students.

As a Catholic community, we need to campaign for the best possible government schools that are up-to-date and well resourced; and also for the best possible non-government schools that are up-to-date and well resourced (and to which parents are expected to contribute financially).

Those with a passion for the education of young Australians need to combine their efforts to ensure that the best possible opportunities are available to all.

Catholic schools are not in competition with government schools. Nor are they necessarily better or worse. They are, however, distinctively different.

The divisiveness that has characterised the education debate in recent years needs to be set aside.

School Fees

A reminder that all school fees are now due for payment. If there is a problem regarding the immediate settlement of outstanding accounts, please contact the college and make an appointment with Mr Lo Cascio to discuss the matter.

Monday 18th December-Picnic Day
Please note the canteen will be closed.

Thank you to all the volunteers over the past year.
Your contribution has made the running of the canteen so much easier.
See you all in 2007 and have a good break.
Merry Christmas, Tania Golubic