Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

Welcome back to Term Two. This term once again provides an opportunity for students to consider their efforts to date, to build on the "positives" of the previous term and to reflect on areas for improvement. It would certainly be my hope that this is taking place in the minds and actions of all students as we move further into Term Two. I also encourage parents to reinforce this fact to their sons and daughters throughout the semester and for the remainder of the year.

This coming week has been set aside as Catholic Schools Week in the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Dioceses of Broken Bay and Parramatta. The aim of this week is to highlight the positive aspects of Catholic education in the lives of young people. As an introduction to Catholic Schools Week parents were invited to a display held after the Year 7 2007 Information Evening on Wednesday. This display was an effort to highlight some of the positive aspects of Catholic education at Good Samaritan Catholic College and to allow parents to have a greater understanding of the environment in which their sons and daughters are educated.

As an introduction to Catholic Schools Week, the Year 7 Information Evening provided an opportunity to focus on the purpose of Catholic Education at Good Samaritan. It was emphasised at this evening that first and foremost, our Catholic School promotes the total education of students. This involves the spiritual, social, physical, emotional and academic education and development of young people in our care. Good Samaritan is also a college that promotes positive relationships and education of students for life beyond school. At this Catholic college there will always be an expectation that all students strive to be the best person that they can be. As a Catholic school we are committed to the Catholic faith and Jesus Christ and his teachings which guide us in what we do.

Finally, Catholic Schools Week allows us to seriously reflect on the nature of Catholic Education and to celebrate our successes. We certainly have a great deal for which to be grateful.

This week the college conducted the first assembly of the term. The major focus of this assembly was Anzac Day. It is essential that we all take the time to recognise the tremendous contribution to our history made by ordinary men and women undertaking extraordinary roles in defence of our country. Their sacrifices and bravery can never be fully understood by those of us who have not endured the experiences of those people who have served in various theatres, especially in active service. We can, however, see the benefits of their deeds in this wonderful free country in which we live. Our community acknowledges and thanks these wonderful people. I thank Mrs Colman for organising the ceremony and Warrant Officer First Class Parish and Mr Maguire for their contribution.

At the same assembly the college was presented with a bus for college use. This wonderful donation was presented by Mr Andy McGrath of Col McGrath & Son. I take this opportunity to acknowledge this very generous and most significant contribution to the college. It will certainly be put to good use and help to reduce continually increasing transport costs for students.

At present the college building program is nearing completion. The paving, landscaping and basketball courts should be finished this week and the internal fixtures and fittings will be completed in the next two weeks. It is hoped that the college will be able to take possession of the whole stage by the end of May. At that point, the students will have access to twelve new classrooms as well as the new performing arts block. Once the stage is completed the college is hoping to conduct the blessing and opening of stage 3, 4 and 5 buildings. The tentative date for the ceremony has been set for late September this year.

Last week the college received the sad news that Mrs Halpin’s father had passed away after a long battle with cancer. I ask all members of our community to keep Mrs Halpin and her family in your prayers. I also ask you to keep Ms Williamson in your prayers as she convalesces after her surgery.
This week we welcome Ms Rebecca Nolan who has joined the staff to replace Ms Skozylas. Ms Nolan joins the college after teaching at both Freeman Catholic College and St Pius X Chatswood.

On Thursday I received a visit from Br Colin who is back in Australia for a short time in order to finalise his visa. Br Colin stated that life in Pakistan is very different to that in Australia, however, he was confident that he is making a contribution to the De La Salle community in the region. I assured Br Colin that he would remain in the prayers of our community.

Next Sunday May 14 is Mother’s Day and although we oppose the commercialism of the day, it does provide a reminder of all that our mothers do for us. The college also wishes to acknowledge the mothers, grandmothers and carers in our community with a Mass on Friday May 12. This celebration will begin at 5pm at Good Shepherd Parish Church. I extend an invitation to all members of the community and their families to attend the Mass to celebrate the role of mothers.

God Bless,

John Lo Cascio
Principal

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June 2023

CONFIRMATION

Parents of children in Year 6 or above who want them to receive the sacrament of Confirmation must attend the registration meeting on TUESDAY 9th MAY after 7.00pm Mass at Good Shepherd Church, Hoxton Park. Confirmation will be celebrated on the 13th, 20th and 27th June at 7.00pm.

EASTER SEASON

Next week we celebrate the fourth week of Easter. We recall Christ’s Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning and we are encouraged to look towards the risen Lord for guidance and strength. We are reminded through the readings at Mass about the need to be close to Christ and to each other, particularly as we approach Pentecost and celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. The book of Isaiah tells us about the Spirit resting upon God’s servants bringing understanding, wisdom, insight, counsel, strength and knowledge. These are the gifts of the Holy Spirit we receive in the sacrament of Confirmation. Let us continue to ask the Holy Spirit to inspire us to use these gifts in the work of the risen Lord.

Let us pray-
Loving and glorious God, we praise you with Easter joy because Christ is our redeemer. Through the Eucharist we live the risen life and share the mission of your Son. Keep us faithful to Jesus, who is always with us. Amen

Mr K Griffiths
Religious Education Co-ordinator

Catholic Schools Week
Prayer

Gracious God, we come together to give you thanks and to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

As a school community we value the chance we have to work together, and to give our best, by using the skills and talents with which you have blessed us.

The disciples spent much of their life bringing the love of Jesus to others.

May we support and encourage each other as disciples of Jesus to open our hearts to this love to share it with others.

Finally, we ask your blessing upon all who give so generously of their time and gifts to help form our Catholic Schools.

We make this prayer in the name of your son Jesus. Amen

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From the Assistant Principal

Pupil Free Day
Friday 19th May

We thank parents and guardians in advance for making the necessary arrangements for their children’s supervision on this day. The teaching staff will be using the day to keep up to date with current research in Boy’s Education and to continue to refine our assessment and reporting procedures.

Year 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
Wednesday 24th May

Year 12 reports will be distributed from the college office on this afternoon, and interviews conducted with pastoral and subject teachers. Students are asked to arrange an interview time with their teachers. Interviews will be conducted between 3.30 and 7 pm.

2005 College Magazine

All families who had students in the college during 2005 will shortly receive this magazine. The magazine will be distributed to the youngest member of each family. It is a wonderful record of the year and I am sure has been eagerly anticipated. Congratulations to Mr O’Sullivan who co-ordinated the magazine.
NSW Interest Subsidy Scheme

Recently, Good Samaritan Catholic College received $83,870 as subsidy on a number of loans taken out to establish the school. Our school community is appreciative of the support received from the NSW State Government under the Interest Subsidy Scheme.

The NSW Interest Subsidy Scheme, which began in 1965, is of vital importance to this school.

We express our thanks for the continued support of both the Government and the Opposition for this scheme.

Mr J Archer, Business Manager

Sports Uniform

Students and their parents/guardians are reminded that all students are required to have a track suit both pants and jacket. Although during sport activities students will often require only the shorts and top they must wear the full track suit to and from school on sports days and on those days that students have permission to wear their sports uniform for practical lessons. Students are not to wear the school jumper as the outer layer with the sports uniform but, of course, in really cold weather, may wear the jumper under the track suit jacket. We are reviewing the present trial of allowing students to wear their sports uniform to school on those days they have practical lessons, due to concerns we have about the presentation of some students. We ask all parents and students to assist us by ensuring that the sports uniform is worn correctly and our high uniform standard is maintained.

Mrs B Eljed, Assistant Principal

Technology News

New College Website

Our website has been updated with a new layout and new online resources. It will continue to be a major communication tool between parents and the school, with the latest information on college news and upcoming events. I encourage all parents and students to take a look at our new website and refer to the site on a weekly basis to be up to date with what is happening at our school.

Internet Safety Tip #2

Make sure internet filtering software is installed on your computer. The software will “filter” known sites that have questionable material which should not be accessed by children. A good filtering software product is “cybersitter”. You can download a trial version of the product at www.cybersitter.com

Mr J Reyes, IT Co-ordinator

Congratulation

Adrian Cavallaro who received 3 months of free training at the Martial Arts Centre, Kemps Creek.

Adrian demonstrated skills in self-defence and kickboxing during school sport.

Thank you also to the Martial Arts Centre for offering this opportunity.

GSCC College Bus
Thank you Col McGrath & Son

Mr Lo Cascio & Mr Andy McGrath
Year 7 News

Year 7 has been a huge change from last year. We were comfortable as the leaders of the school and now we have to work our way to senior leaders. This year has also been a big spiritual change for us all as we have a lot more religious involvement.

My favourite experience this year was definitely our Year 7 Camp. It was good to hang out with our friends and also make new ones. One of the highlights of the camp was the camp fire, just sitting around it and talking to our friends.

At the Swimming Carnival it was great to see the involvement of the whole school and it was great to see Merici win it on the day.

This year’s house sport was won by De Paul in the touch football, while Chisholm was the runner up.

Overall Year 7 has been a great change and experience.

By Matthew McElhone

Congratulations to the following students who were the first Year 7’s to receive Bronze Awards in 2006

Jema Samonte
Alyssa Cook
Karla Alzamora
Bianca Adattini
Simon Bartolo
Joshu Bugeja

Keep up the good work.

Mr D Costin, Year 7 Co-ordinator

Careers News...

Year 10 Career Tests, Tuesday May 9th

All Year 10 students will complete career tests next week as part of our term 2 Careers program. The tests will be conducted by Robert Allwell and Associates at school from 8.45am until the end of period 4. The results will be reported to each student in an individual portfolio and will be interpreted in class during programmed lessons, providing valuable information for guided career research activities.

Parents may find this time an opportunity to discuss with their children the options that they have for further study, tertiary education and careers. Year 10 is an important year in schooling when students make choices that may have long term effects. Much research demonstrates that when these choices are based on sound information and in collaboration with parents the long term effects are generally very positive for the student.

UMAT

The Universities Medical Aptitude Test is required for students wishing to study medicine at UNSW, UWS, Newcastle and Bond University, and medicine, dentistry, optometry and pharmacy at The University of Melbourne and Monash University. The test will be held on Wednesday, July 26th and will be conducted by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research). Interested students can register online at: http://www.acer.edu.au/tests/university/umat/intro.html or see Mr. Berry for a brochure.

Internships

You may have heard of interns mentioned in medical TV dramas, but have you ever met one? Internships are becoming more popular in Australia as more employers seek graduates with significant work experience in their chosen field. Internships are usually voluntary and combine tertiary studies with on-the-job experience. Check out some of the internships listed to find out more;

Biennale of Sydney internship: http://www.biennaleofsydney.com.au/getinvolved/volunteer?sessid=70d2e5e05b6079787ae5846f09fa256f

JMC Academy Open Day, May 27th


University of Sydney Prospective Student Tours

The University of Sydney offers regular FREE tours of the Camperdown and Darlington Campuses to prospective students in Years 10-12. Parents and guardians are also welcome. Bookings essential. Register online at: http://fmx01.ucc.usyd.edu.au:8080/msru/tours/register.jsp.

Next tours: April 27, May 24, June 14. The tour encompasses the Camperdown/Darlington campuses of the University. The tours are guided by fully trained Student Advisers, who offer you the unique opportunity to find out more about the University of Sydney from a current student's perspective.

Mr S Berry
Careers Adviser
MACKILLOP & POLDING
EASTER RAFFLE
PRIZE RECIPIENTS
Daniel Bartolo, Ernesto Martinez, Anne Maree Tacca, Jamie Selvage, Mrs D Newhouse, Miss V Hayward, Prathik Datt, Eric Hockings, Chloe Callus, Michael Zaia, Amanda Vella, Mrs L Colman, Tammy Boulatsakos, Mrs S Mclnerney, Chris Vella

CONGRATULATIONS

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

PETER'S ICE CREAM
Peters Ice Cream have increased the price on some products, New prices effective 8 May 2006 are:
Drumstick $3.00
Milo Cup $2.50
Milo Stick $1.10

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