Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

On the 22 August Amy-Lee Wulf, of Year 12, was presented with the Archbishop’s Award for Student Excellence at St Mary’s Cathedral. The ceremony involved every Catholic secondary school in the Sydney Archdiocese and each award was presented by Cardinal Pell. Amy-Lee’s citation was presented by and read by Elisa Gatto of Year 11. The citation was as follows:

Amy-Lee Wulf is a committed, considerate and responsible student. She is one of Good Samaritan’s senior leaders who serves as a Senior Representative. Amy-Lee has experienced personal success within the school receiving recognition for her academic achievements and commitment to community service. She has been an active member of the school’s Social Justice Group raising the awareness of the community in relation to various global and local issues.

Amy-Lee views her role in a practical sense, raising funds and supporting many causes such as “Steps for a cure”, various charities and the Braeside Retirement Village. Amy-Lee has a selfless approach, placing the needs of others before her own.

Congratulations to Amy-Lee, a most deserving recipient of this prestigious award.

On Wednesday August 22 a number of Year 12 students were involved in “An Evening with Year 12” which was an evening that allowed Year 12 students to showcase their major works and performances in Visual Art, Music, Graphics and Drama. (The Textiles and Design major works were not on display as they were sent off to be marked prior to the evening). The performances and major works were most impressive and highlighted the talent that so many of the students possess. I take this opportunity to thank the students, and their teachers, for their commitment and dedication during the production of the projects.

This week at the College assembly I had the pleasure of presenting Gold Awards to Kayla Bittman Year 12, Cynthia Awraham Year 12, Elvira Macri Year 12, Matthew Hobby Year 11, Elizabeth Si Year 9, and Joshua Bugeja Year 8. These students have certainly made an effort to “Prepare the Way” and are worthy recipients of this award.

Last Friday the College conducted a Mufti Day, to raise funds, for the Archdiocesan Charitable Works Fund Appeal. I thank the students for their willingness to be involved and their generosity in raising $1,030. I can assure anyone who made a donation that the funds will be put to good use by the Archdiocese.

Next Saturday construction of the shade cloth structure will finally be completed. It has been a long time coming, however, it will certainly make our school environment sun safe and more comfortable for our students in warm weather.

On Saturday 15 September the College will be conducting the first working bee for this
year. The aim of the working bee is to clean up the college grounds and construct gardens, before the warmer weather begins. This is an opportunity for parents and students to be involved in the school and to help beautify the grounds. Any help on the day would certainly be appreciated, even if only for an hour or two.

Recently there have been a number of incidents involving video recordings passed around on students’ mobile phones. Some of the recordings have been most inappropriate and degrading. I am concerned that students possess this material, however, I am most concerned at the attitude of some students. These students are prepared to accept these recordings and, in a number of cases, pass them on. Possessing inappropriate and degrading material is unacceptable and has no place in a Catholic School or indeed in a young person’s life. I ask all parents to assist the College by monitoring the use of their children’s mobile phones. There is a real need to be aware of the content of some video recordings, which are explicit and degrading in nature. I reminded everyone, at our recent assembly, of the importance of respecting the dignity of all persons at all times. I again stress that this is a core value of a Catholic School. I emphasise, that as partners in education, parents have a major role to play in the promotion of these values, so that young people have an understanding of the importance of respecting others and themselves.

Congratulations to Mrs A Raco and family on the arrival early this week of a baby girl “Melissa Anne”.

God Bless

Mr J Lo Cascio
Principal

Silver Awards
Congratulations to the following students who were presented with their Silver Awards at this week’s assembly.

Matthew Hobby x 3
Dario Rossi
Justin Dalby
Sami Rached
Brooke Bellingham
Andre Rovira
Natalie Demasi
Ronnie Dalger
Gabriel Mendoza
Mike Kazzi
Angela Santaguida
Brittany Kirby

Working Bee
The College has planned a working bee for Saturday 15th September 2007 from 8.30am until 12.30pm. Any parents and students wishing to assist with the maintenance of the College grounds and are able to spare the time, are asked to contact the College office with their expression of interest.

Traffic
The College has recently received calls from members of the public who have expressed concern over vehicles exiting from the College at the peak times of the morning and afternoon. I remind parents that care needs to be taken when entering and leaving the College as there are many high school and primary students in the area at the time.

Mr R Grech
Acting Assistant Principal

If you honour your Father and Mother, “you will live a long life, full of blessing”

We Pray,
Lord Jesus, your Father in heaven never left you and continually provided You with love, patience and compassion. May You now bestow Your blessings on all fathers within the Good Samaritan community and may they be an example of God’s love and patience to their children. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Happy Father’s Day and remember it is a gift given which takes a lifetime to master.

Mr K Griffiths
Religious Education Co-ordinator

From the Assistant Principal

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Acting Assistant Principal

This Sunday, Father’s Day we give thanks for our Dads. Father’s Day provides an opportunity to ask our Lord to look over and guide them in their fatherly role in the family. St Paul gives some advice in this area in his letter to the Ephesians 6:2-4 which states:
Honour your Father and Mother. This is the first of the Ten Commandments that ends with a promise. And this is the promise:

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Father’s Day Prayer

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Mr K Griffiths
Religious Education Co-ordinator
As Father’s Day approaches this weekend I thought it appropriate to quote some of Michael Grose’s reflections on FATHERHOOD. Michael is a leading parent educator, a trained teacher and author.

DADS DO IT DIFFERENTLY

There is little doubt that fathering has come a long way in a short time. Move over the provider dads of the 1950’s and 60’s and the absent dads of the last decades of the twentieth century. Today’s dads want to be active participants in the lives of their children.

The best way to learn about parenting is by DOING IT; so those fathers who lack sufficient confidence need to become involved in as many aspects of parenting as they can.

Here are some ideas to help you become a CONFIDENT FATHER and get maximum enjoyment from the job:

REMEMBER that fathering is different from mothering. The language of fatherhood is often PHYSICAL so play and activity are common ways that men connect with their children, which can be the cause of frustration to many mothers!

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AT LEAST ONE ASPECT OF YOUR CHILDREN’S LIVES. When heavily involved in at least one area of children’s lives, men’s parental confidence and satisfaction increases dramatically.

ENSURE YOU HAVE AT LEAST ONE RITUAL THAT CONNECTS YOU REGULARLY TO YOUR CHILDREN, particularly if work prevents you from being the dad you want to be. Bed-time stories, meal times and shared games are some ways that men can stay in touch with their children.

DEVELOP A SHARED INTEREST WITH EACH CHILD, which will help you maintain a relationship during the teen years. Adolescence can place a strain on parent-child relationships, however a common interest such as a shared love of sport can help keep the relationship strong.

LET YOUR CHILDREN INTO YOUR LIFE. Children generally love to learn about their father’s interests. A man’s passion can often rub off onto his children during the primary school years.

Everyone benefits when fathers become active participants in the lives of their children. The outcomes are better for children, mothering improves when they can share the emotional and financial burdens of child-bearing with a partner and men themselves benefit as their emotional well-being is strongly connected to their fathering.

Happy Father’s Day to all the wonderful Dads out there. God bless you in all you do.

Sr Marj Carroll

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On Wednesday 15th August a group of Year 10 students attended the Shepherd Centre School for Deaf Children, following a Sausage Sizzle which raised over $450 for this very worthwhile cause. The students presented the Centre with their generous donation before joining the students in their playgroup session. I would like to once again take the opportunity to thank all who contributed to this fund raising effort and to congratulate the Year 10 students who represented the College so admirably on their visit to the Shepherd Centre.

Mr D Cloran
Year 10 Co-ordinator

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On the 2nd August, Freida and I ran our business “Baker’s Supreme” for Year 9 Commerce class. We sold hot chocolate and cheese and bacon rolls. All profits made were donated to Westmead Children’s Hospital for further research and equipment.

By Prathik Datt, Year 9

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Congratulations and Good Luck

Kayla Salopek Year 8 and Alex Carver Year 11 on their selection to represent New South Wales at the 2007 Australian Junior Road Cycling Championships to be held in Canberra from 30th August to the 3rd September 2007.
WORLD YOUTH DAY CORNER
“Only 319 Days To Go”!

The Great Crossing Ghan Pilgrimage
Friday 5th October – Thursday 11th October, 2007
(October School Holidays)

Applications are currently being taken for young people between the ages of 18 and 35 to experience the pilgrimage of the WYD Cross and Icon as it crosses the Ghan.

The Great Crossing Pilgrimage will go for 6 days, beginning in Darwin (NT) and concluding in Port Augusta (SA). Two of these days will be spent aboard the iconic train, the Ghan, and there will be events and gatherings with local communities in Katherine, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Uluru, Coober Pedy, Woomera and Roxby Downs.

Applications close 10 September 2007. For more details, please see the WYD website.

WYD Radio Program
People can listen live and for free, every Thursday night 8 pm - 9 pm at http://www.voc.org.au/.

Attention Year 12 students Want to become a WYD Volunteer?

Anyone can apply to be a WYD volunteer providing you are over 18 years old, and willing to commit your time and eager to be a part of the volunteer workforce.

The organizers of WYD need LONG TERM and EVENT volunteers. Long Term Volunteers will need to be available for 3-12 months, while Event Volunteers will work from 14-20 July 2008.

As a volunteer, you will receive the opportunity to serve the Church, grow in faith and share in the spirit; a unique event uniform specifically designed for WYD08 volunteers; transport to and from work; meals, specialised training, and the opportunity to meet and work with many other enthusiastic people from around the world.

For more information and application details, please refer to the WYD website.

Photos of the artworks that are being created by 3 students, for World Youth Day, will be showcased in the next newsletter. The finishing touches have not yet been applied as this newsletter goes to print.

Miss Darmody
WYD Co-ordinator

Social Justice: Raising Awareness about Genetically Engineered Food

Genetically engineered foods have the potential to contaminate environments through cross pollination. Naturally grown crops may be destroyed and as a result would create dependency on these new genetically engineered crops. This would be devastating to third world countries which would now have to rely on “genetic engineering” companies to provide them with food. To find more information on this issue, please visit the following websites:

- www.truefood.org.au
- www.biointegrity.org
- www.non-gm-farmer.com

Mr G Georgiou
Social Justice Committee

CCC Netball Carnival

On Tuesday the 28th August, 30 students went to the CCC Netball Carnival. Three teams of ten each competed in a total of 7 games.

The senior team, coached by Ms Flocco, won 4 games, drew 2 and lost 2. Unfortunately they did not make the quarter finals.

The intermediate team, coached by Mrs Cook, won 4 games and lost 3. They came third in their division but did not make the quarter finals.

The junior team did exceptionally well and won 6 games and lost only 1 which put them first place in their division. This meant that they made it to the quarter finals where they played Sutherland. It was a tough game, but unfortunately they lost by 2. The final score was 6-4.

All the girls put in a great effort and everyone played well. We thank all the teachers who make it possible for us to go and we especially thank the coaches for putting in their time and effort.

Congratulations to all the girls and the coaches.

Written by:
Lauren Smith & Alyssa Cook, Year 8
CAREER NEWS…. 

UWS Regional Bonus Scheme
Students who complete the HSC in 2007 and who include UWS preferences for 2008 will have their tertiary entrance rank increased by 5 points for entry to UWS courses. This applies except when courses have additional selection criteria. There are also more scholarships available, applications must be made before September 28th, visit UWS web site http://www.uws.edu.au/ for more details.

Bradfield College HSC enrichment days
Whole day seminars including examination tips, comprehensive study notes and presentations by experienced assessors for VET Hospitality, Business Services, Retail and Information Technology courses will be run October 2, 3 and 4. Cost; $40 per day. Apply and pay online at www.bradfieldseniorcollege.com.au, closing date is September 17th.

Gap year
You may have seen advertisements for the ADF’s gap year program, or heard of students going abroad for a gap year and wondered what it is all about. After applying through UAC and being accepted for a program of study in 2008, it is possible and many find it desirable to defer enrolment until 2009 and take a gap year. The gap year has many advantages.

For those who would like to take the Australian Defence Forces option, the opportunity to experience a totally different, independent existence, meet new people and earn some money before commencing three to five more years of study can be a valuable life experience. Gap programs also exist overseas in situations such as camp counselors or au pairs in Europe and the U.S. (e.g. Camp America) or volunteering in developing countries.

Whilst this concept has only fairly recently been promoted in Australia, in other countries the gap year is considered an important part of the transition from school to career. The gap year is a time for maturing and value-adding in terms of experience and attitude – not to mention gaining some financial independence. UAC applications are still required on-time however so that an offer can be made and deferred.

ACU invitation to live a day as an Environmental scientist
Year 12 students may apply for this free program that includes a lab session, workshops and a field trip to Berry Island. Email Catherine Byfield if interested; catherine.byfield@acu.edu.au

The International Student Admissions Test
ISAT measures general academic abilities considered important for coping with the intellectual demands of most tertiary courses. International students studying Year 12 in Australia and in Foundation programs are required to sit for the ISAT for applications to:

• University of Western Australia - Undergraduate Medicine & Dentistry
• Monash University, Melbourne- Undergraduate Medicine
• Monash University, Malaysian campus – Undergraduate Medicine
• Griffith University – Dentistry

ISAT is available in over 50 centres around the world, and all centres have multiple sittings of the test. ISAT test dates for the Sydney test centre are: 20 September and 25 October. Students are advised to sit for the test before the end of September. Applications to sit for ISAT must be made ONLINE. Follow the link for further info AND to register ONLINE. http://www.acer.edu.au/isat

Macquarie University and UNSW Open Days, September 1st
If you missed the open days at University of Sydney, UTS, UWS and ACU – don’t miss this!!! Your opportunity to speak directly with academic staff and students, look over facilities and get a taste life as a tertiary student – all free but not always available.

Educational Access Scheme (EAS)
Most institutions participating in the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) have an Educational Access Scheme (EAS) for those students who have experienced long term educational disadvantage. Schemes operate differently. Check each institution’s entry in the EAS Booklet for more information.

* Eligibility:
To qualify applicants must demonstrate that their educational performance during Years 11 and/or 12 or equivalent has been seriously affected by circumstances beyond their control.

The EAS Booklet lists the types of educational disadvantage (ED) that may be taken into account. You need to consider these carefully & identify those factors applicable to your circumstances that can be substantiated by appropriate documentation. Types of disadvantage considered include:

• Disrupted schooling, Financial hardship, Home environment and responsibilities, English language difficulty, Personal illness/ disability, School environment – no documentation required to meet this criteria.
• Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Applicants. Institutions have specific schemes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants & most take into account all types of educational disadvantage when assessing applications on this basis. You may/ may not be required to submit an EAS application. Check each institution’s entry in the EAS booklet carefully to determine their requirements.

Applications, EAS Booklets / Application Forms are now available from Mr Berry and/or may be downloaded from the UAC website from August. Details are also included in the recently released 2008 UAC Guide.

To apply, you submit just one application through UAC to be considered for Educational Access Schemes at all institutions that participate in UAC (except the Australian Maritime College).

ON-TIME EAS APPLICATIONS TO UAC CLOSE 28 SEPTEMBER 2007.
TRY TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ON TIME.
If so, you will only have to submit one EAS Application Form together with only one set of correctly verified documents. If you miss the deadline however you must apply directly to each institution concerned after first verifying that a late direct application will be accepted. You do not apply through UAC.

NOTE: YOU MUST ALSO LODGE AN APPLICATION FOR TERTIARY STUDY WITH UAC BY THE REQUIRED DATE(S).
Follow the link for further info AND to download the 2008 EAS Booklet & Application Form.

Mr S Berry, Careers Adviser
National Literacy and Numeracy Week will be held from 3rd to 9th September 2007. In order to acknowledge this event at Good Samaritan the teachers will consider various activities and strategies across different classes to highlight literacy and numeracy.

The College acknowledges that literacy and numeracy are life skills which need to be continually promoted by parents and teachers. These areas are not simply the domain of English and Mathematics teachers.

The book orders are due in to the College by Wednesday 5th September and the books will be available for students to start their HSC studies in Week 2 of Term 4.

If any student missed the deadline, it is important that they contact Endeavour directly to make arrangements. It is essential that students have their books from the beginning of the HSC courses to give themselves the best chance of success.

On the 29th August, two players from the best team in the NRL, John Morris and Lee Bennett from the West Tigers, came along with the Police Liaison Officer from Liverpool Police Station, Constable Jennifer Carey, and Michael, from MAA, came to speak to Year 10 about safe driving.

They explained some of the causes of motor vehicle accidents and also some of the consequences of reckless driving. They showed us two video's on safe driving and previous experiences of car accidents from other NRL players. John and Lee also shared some of their experiences with us. They asked us questions about the causes of motor accidents and also the social, financial and legal factors that may result. They gave away some foot balls if we gave correct answers and at the end of the incursion we were able to meet and get the foot balls signed by John and Lee.

We found it very exciting to meet players from the West Tigers, and we told them that they better win on Friday night and make the top 8, so we can try and win that premiership.

Written by:
Mark Williams and Rose Pipicella Year 10
7th September
APEC Public Holiday

10th September to 20th September
Year 11 Preliminary Course Examinations

21st September
Good Samaritan Day

24th September
Injection 3 Year 10-12 Girls

25th September
Year 12 Outreach

26th September
Year 12 Breakfast Farewell
Assembly
Graduation Liturgy

28th September
Year 12 Graduation Dinner
End of Term 3

15th October
Term 4 Commences

Hearing Awareness Week

Last week was Hearing Awareness Week it was a time to remind us to value our hearing and to protect it from loud noise and the permanent damage that follows. Today's teenagers are at a high risk of losing their hearing early from listening to loud music, especially through head-phones. Some people as young as 18 have been found to have the sort of hearing loss you would expect to find in 80 year olds.

Loud music systems can also cause ringing in the ears, (tinnitus), which may also lead to permanent hearing loss. The World Health Organisation recommends that stereos not exceed 85 decibels but many ipods are capable of producing 115 decibels. At that volume, only one minute of listening time can cause damage to the ears. Download a volume limiting software patch for ipod Nano and 5th generation models at www.apple.com.au/sound/

Some other useful sites for information are:

- www.tinnitus.asn.au
- www.hearing.com.au

Mrs K Le Cornu
Innerant Teracher-Hearing

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| **TUESDAY**   |
| 04.09.07      |
| E Hobby       |
| J Colley      |
| Beazley       |
| T Cox         |
| T Zanetic     |

| **WEDNESDAY** |
| 05.09.07      |
| L Dwarte      |
| C Mallia      |
| M Romeo       |
| B Goria       |

| **THURSDAY**  |
| 06.09.07      |
| G Gerrish     |
| A Demasi      |
| R Origlia     |
| G Bartolo     |
| S Lichaa      |
| N Bodagh      |

| **FRIDAY**    |
| 07.09.07      |
| APEC          |
| Public Holiday|
| D Caruana     |
| D Segatto     |
| R Romeo       |

If you have any spare time, the canteen needs help!