



# GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE HINCHINBROOK NEWSLETTER

**COLLEGE THEME 2007: "PREPARE THE WAY"**

**Issue 6**

**Friday, 27 April 2007**

Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

Welcome back to Term 2. I certainly hope that students have returned to school refreshed and ready to tackle the remainder of the semester in a diligent fashion. All students are encouraged to make the most of this term. To do this they should pay particular attention to feedback gained from either interim reports/interviews (Years 7-11) or examinations (Year 12). The feedback is intended to provide direction for improvement and to allow students to set goals for the future. These goals, coupled with commitment to study, will allow each student to achieve to a standard which reflects their potential. I ask parents to reinforce to their sons and daughters the importance of doing their best at all times.

This week the college community came together to celebrate Anzac Day. This gave us the opportunity to acknowledge those women and men who served the nation to ensure that freedom and individual rights in this wonderful country were protected and promoted. At the conclusion of the ceremony a pine tree, propagated from the original Anzac Cove lone pine, was planted. This will form the centerpiece of a memorial to be set up in an area between the library and the creative arts block. The memorial will provide a constant reminder to students of the selflessness of those individuals who served our country in many ways in times of war. I thank Mr Vic Watts and Mr Kevin Wass from Liverpool RSL, Mrs Colman, Miss Morrissey and the students involved for their contribution to our Anzac ceremony.

Towards the end of last term, a number of students were involved in leadership activities which were of some note. Jarred Ingle and Vanessa Pretila represented the college at the annual Pentecost meeting with Cardinal Pell. Amy-lee Wulf, Dino Romeo, Amy Ikeakanwa, Andrew Papallo, Victoria Mammone and Joshua Kamalaneson

represented the college at Parliament House. Both were a rewarding experience for these students who will be able to further develop their understanding of leadership which will enhance their roles in the future.

At the Year 7 Camp the youngest students at the college were also involved in leadership activities. These students elected their class representatives for 2007. I congratulate the representatives for their election and acknowledge the confidence their peers have in their leadership. The names of the Year 7 representatives are included later in this newsletter. Each of the elected students will represent their classes and two of them will represent the Year 7 students on the Student Representative Council.

As a college we believe that leadership is an important aspect of student development and throughout the year the college will continue to seek ways to provide leadership opportunities for students.

Next week, the college will conduct the Year 7 2008 Enrolment and Information evening. Any parents who wish to enrol students into Year 7 in 2008 should attend the evening in order to find out about the college and to procure an information package. All students wishing to enrol in Year 7 will be interviewed by a member of the enrolment committee. This includes students who already have siblings at the college. Prior to the beginning of the information evening the college will be open for viewing. All parents and students are most welcome to attend.

I remind parents that the college will conduct an information session on teenage stress on May 7. The college counsellor Vini Capano will co-ordinate the evening which will give parents insight into the causes of teenage stress and various ways to cope with stress in teenagers. The evening will be conducted in the college library commencing at 7pm. Although the focus is on senior students, all parents are most welcome.

Today, the college hosted a visit by Mr Mark Turkington the Director of Catholic Schools in the Southern Region of Sydney. Mr Turkington took the opportunity to discuss the progress of the college and meet with both staff and students. The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to display many aspects of the college of which we are very proud.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful efforts of the community in raising \$5,800 for Caritas over the Lenten period. I know this generosity will be very much appreciated by those people in our world who are much less fortunate than ourselves. It is also essential that we remember that Easter is a reminder that Christ is alive and amongst us. I pray that where ever we go each of us may live in the light of Christ forever.

Finally, it is with sadness that I announce a number of deaths of loved ones in our community recently. Please keep Natasha Jurinic's father, Alfonso Henry's father, Mrs Bidner's brother, Mrs Anastasio's grandfather and Miss Nolan's grandmother and their families in your prayers during this very difficult time.

God Bless,

**Mr John Lo Cascio, Principal**

### Anzac Day Prayer

*Let us pray:*

*God of love and liberty,  
We offer our thanks today for the peace and security we enjoy and for those who laid down their lives to defend them.  
We remember those who in time of war faithfully served their country.  
We pray for the families and for ourselves whose freedom was won at such a cost.  
Make us a people zealous for peace,  
And hasten the day when nations shall not lift arms against nation.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

### Leadership

#### **Polding**

Bryce Wilson  
Carina Bilotta

#### **Mackillop**

Nicole Cameron  
Joseph Iaconis

#### **De Paul**

Chris Castiglione  
Connie Picicella

#### **Chisholm**

Maddison McPherson  
Jonathon Potter

#### **Merici**

Jay Fagan  
Brittany Kirby

#### **La Salle**

Zoe Smith  
Daniel Rodriguez

## From the Acting Assistant Principal

### School Photographers

The college will be conducting its annual photo day on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May. All students will be having an individual and class photograph taken. A personally labelled envelope will be going home on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. The envelopes must be returned on the day of the photographs whether students are purchasing photos or not. Anyone wishing to have family photos taken may obtain a separate envelope from the college office prior to the photo day. Students will be required to be in full winter uniform, including blazers, for the photographs. Please ensure that students have the correct amount of money for the envelope as the office will be unable to give change.

### Year 12 Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May

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

### Bike Helmets

A reminder to parents and students that all bike riders are required, under NSW Law, to be wearing an approved bike helmet whilst riding their bike.

**Mr R Grech**  
Acting Assistant Principal

### Year 11 SLR Excursion

Following is a letter received after the Year 11 SLR Excursion.

*"Dear Mr Lo Cascio,  
We have just hosted your Year 11 students at our motel and felt compelled to jot a quick note to you to say what an absolute pleasure it was to have them stay with us. Without exception the students were extremely courteous, well behaved and always willing to assist us. In our experience, it is rare to find a group of students showing such a degree of responsibility and maturity when on excursion.*

*Mr Cloran, along with all your staff, did a great job organisationally and it was great to see such warm interaction between the teachers and students.*

*I am sure you must be very proud to lead a college with such solid values. To see those values be upheld by every member of the staff and students is sheer joy for us.*

*Michelle Hearn, Southern Cross Motor Inn"*

I thank Year 11 students and staff who attended the excursion and express my gratitude to them for the manner in which they upheld the good name and reputation of the college.

## GSSC College Awards

The College Award system reflects our Mission, which states that; "we will acknowledge the individuality of all members of our community and value the gifts they bring with them on our shared journey. All members of our community are encouraged to explore their potential and strive for personal excellence". In Term 1, the College recognised individual achievements and efforts through our Award system.

The College awarded Bronze Awards to students in the following four categories:

- **Bronze Academic Achievement Award**

**CAS:** Frances Sentina, Kristen Kuan, Luen Samonte, Melissa Petracic

**CAPA:** Zoe Smith, Aldric Angeles, Magella Barbuto, Luen Samonte, Michael Stikovic, Elvira Macri

**HSIE:** Kobey Martin, Sami Rached, Sarah Spadaro, Robert Borg, Kaia Pondelak

**MATHS:** Renee Boreta, Mark Bawalan, Paolo Marcocci, Luen Samonte, Elisa Gatto, Linda Jing

**PDHPE:** Yaw Amoahene, Lauren Smith, Kayla Arndell, Haylee Ingle, Andrew El-Zakhem, Georgina Agostino

**LOTE:** Alyssa Cook, Christina Cavallaro, Natasha Perre, Anthony Alvaro, Philip Russell,

**ENGLISH:** Marcus Clinch, Alyssa Cook, Anthony Pellegrini, Luen Samonte, Sandra Jajou, Jaimie Selvage

**SCIENCE:** Bryce Jarrett, Bruno Romeo, Laura Beazley, Natasha Perre, Aaron Colley, Janice Tran

**TAS:** Zoe Smith, Agnieszka Komenda, Mariano Salvati, Daniel Smith, Cassandra Pignataro, Daniella Argenta

- **Bronze Academic Effort Award**

**CAS:** Shelby Cachia, Rhys Wellington, Ben Ryzak, Annyas Badran, Andrew Papallo

**CAPA:** Victoria Vitanza, Irene Macapinlac, Kassandra Gore, Anthony Thepsombandith, Justin Tomas, Bianca Losurdo

**HSIE:** Joseph Ragusa, Kaelah Role, Anthony Harrison, Danielle McPherson, Michael Callisto, Nato Foti

**MATHS:** Jake Ingle, Natalie Perre, Vanessa Siciliano, Johnny Sgro, Antonio Avati, Roberto Agostino

**PDHPE:** Jake Ingle, Bianca Adattini, Madeleine Honyi, Anthony Belardo, Matthew Alverne, Elvira Macri

**LOTE:** Natasha Perre, Chris Vella, Rose Pipicella, Joanne Sidoti, Juliette Iaconis

**ENGLISH:** Carina Bilotta, Billy-Jay McGee, Giuseppe Bologna, Alanah Oaten, Reiko Aguilar, Mariana Pacchiarotta

**SCIENCE:** Laura Ayala, Shannon Price, Rachel Pace, Monique Barnes, Sandra Jajou, Edward Llave

**TAS:** Christopher Leal, Shannon Price, Rachel Pace, Monique Barnes, Sandra Jajou, Edward Llave

**TAS:** Christopher Leal, Shannon Price, Matthew Attard, Elie Dagher, Melissa Campisi, Rochelle Marte

- **Bronze Year Co-ordinators Award**

Joseph Ragusa, Bruno Romeo, Chantelle Monjo, Nicole Cabello, Andrew El-Zakhem, Kayla Bittman

- **Bronze House Co-ordinators Award**

Chisholm Cynthia Awraham

La Salle Meagan Drennan

Polding Victoria Mammone

De Paul Teresa Papandrea

Merici Don Lizada

Mackillop Nato Foti

**Congratulations to these students.**

## NSW CCC Swimming Championships Results

Congratulations to Jacob Zammit who participated in the NSW CCC Swimming Championships "Boys 14 yrs 100 Metre Long Course Breaststroke Event" gaining eighth place in a time of 1.25 minutes.



## Year 12 Legal Studies

On Friday 26th March, the Year 12 Legal Studies students travelled to the Downing Centre Courts and the State Library.

Our journey commenced early, as we met at Liverpool train station at 7.25 am. We arrived at the Downing Centre at 9.30 am, passed through security and were informed of the proceedings to come. The court room officer taught us some interesting facts about the courts, e.g that it is the largest district court in the southern hemisphere.

We explored the first and second floors entering several court rooms and hearing cases. This was quite exciting for us as we could see how the legal system operates through first hand experience. We were fascinated at the procedure and legal expertise of the personnel in the court rooms. Entering and viewing a case influenced our knowledge and understanding of the adversarial system (Australian Court Room Procedure).

After we heard a few cases we walked over to Hyde Park where we had lunch together, followed by a walk to the State Library. We discovered that the library was a great resource for cases and legal information that we could use for examination preparation and assignments.

The day was a great success thanks to the co-operation of the students, the pre-operational work done by Miss Samardzic and also Mr Costin who accompanied us throughout the day.

**Diego Oyarzun, Year 12**

## Youth Leaders Forum

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March the senior leaders attended a Leadership forum at the Opera House with many other students from various schools across NSW. We listened to seven guest speakers from a range of different lifestyles who spoke to us about their professions, what led them into these fields and what their jobs involve on a daily basis.

The mid morning session provided an opportunity for students to take to the stage and voice their opinions and concerns on diverse social issues such as global warming and discrimination in Australia.

Listening to the perspectives of others gave us a small insight into life after school and how young people can make a difference in our world. It also provided us with an overview of the challenges that lie ahead of us in reaching our goals.

We were thankful for this opportunity to be involved in such an experience that allowed us to meet new people and broaden our understanding of contemporary issues in society.

**Dino Romeo, Amy Iheakanwa, Amy-lee Wulf, Andrew Papallo, Victoria Mammone and Joshua Kamalaneson.**

**Miss M Walker, Year 12 Co-ordinator**

## Parenting Corner

Dear Parents,

I hope your Easter and holiday break afforded some time for reflection and quality time with your treasured adolescents. The recent incident at the University in Virginia brought home to us all the fragility of life just by being at the wrong place at the wrong time and therefore how important each day is in showing affection to your child. No matter what age, they are not too old to respond to that affection.

A short poem I came across recently said it in another way

*Children need a cuddle  
To help them cope with life,  
For what is a little thing to us,  
Can cause a child great strife.  
So remember how important  
A cuddle can make you feel.*

*It shows a child you love and care  
And that your love is real,  
Cuddle them every morning  
As you send them on their way  
And ask yourself this question now,  
"Did you cuddle your child today".*

May God bless you as you endeavour to bring out the best in your child.

**Sr Marj Carroll**

## Junior Girls Softball – WINNERS!

The junior girls softball team played Freeman Catholic College the last week of term 1 to decide who would take out the MISA north regional final.

Good Samaritan were far too good on the day and won the game 11-6. Consistent pitching by Montana Bolzan, great catching by Stephanie Ruiz and excellent fielding by the in-field contributed to the win.

The girls now advance to the Grand Final where they meet the winners of MISA south region to decide who will be MISA Champions 2007.

Good luck next week girls.

**Mrs C Celea, Coach**

## WYD 2008 Corner 444 DAYS TO GO!

This edition Magella Barbuto shares her insights about attending the Palm Sunday concert on April 1<sup>st</sup>, to celebrate World Youth Day 2007, with the American priest, Fr Stan Fortuna.

**Fr Stan Fortuna ROCKS St Mary's Cathedral**

*A few Sundays ago on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Sydney Archdiocese held an Activ8 concert in celebration of the 2007 World Youth Day and Palm Sunday. This concert consisted of many Christian bands and dance groups. The atmosphere was lively and everyone got into it. But the main attraction was the rapping priest, Fr Stan Fortuna, a Franciscan rapping priest from the United States.*

*Fr Stan came out on stage and the crowd roared. He picked up a bass guitar and began to get the crowd cheering. He began with a prayer and added his own personal theme to the event. His sense of humour brought a light to all the Catholics on the forecourt outside St Mary's Cathedral and definitely caught the attention of many passers-by.*

*Fr Stan was a very inspirational speaker, sharing his views about issues affecting many people in the WYD age bracket. By the end, people were chanting his name and screaming for him. After the concert there was a youth mass in the Cathedral. Fr Stan gave the homily and everyone just sat there with their eyes fixated on him, listening to him. Fr Stan is a very outspoken priest and I can confidently say that many, if not everyone, was touched by what he had to say.*

**Magella Barbuto, Year 9**



## **GSCC Homework Club**

For some years the College has made available the opportunity for students to receive assistance with homework and assessment tasks after school by way of the Homework Club. The Homework Club runs on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 pm to 4 pm in the library from Week 2 to Week 9 of each term. Teachers who volunteer their time are available to help students. The library is not open for general use at this time. Students are required to sign in and come with work to do. If students need to leave before 4 pm they must have a note in the diary or be picked up by a parent or carer from the library. Lunchtime help is also available in the library on most days. If your son or daughter is experiencing difficulty with a task encourage them to seek help early on rather than at the last minute. This will keep everyone happy and also promote learning independence and success.

**Ms Williamson, Special Education**

## **Gifted Education at GSCC**

The College is in the process of developing protocols around Gifted and Talented students. The essence of giftedness is advanced development. Students who are gifted have the potential to perform at levels significantly beyond what we might expect for their age. A student can be intellectually or creatively gifted. He or she might be physically gifted or gifted in some area of his social-emotional development. But giftedness in any area means ability well beyond the average.

The college is committed to ensuring that provision is made to extend and enrich students who are gifted and talented. If you have any queries in regard to your son or daughter and giftedness please telephone Ms Williamson at the College.

## **Good Shepherd Parish Hoxton Park International Food & Entertainment Day on Sunday 6th May 2007**

You and your family are invited to celebrate our **Parish Feast Day** starting with Mass and followed by our International Food Day with Entertainment. To add to the excitement we invite you to dress up in your country of origin national costume. Also, if you or your children are able to do an item of entertainment unique to your country of origin—please contact Clementina on 0438 085 220.

10 am Mass 11 am Feast Time  
12.30 pm Entertainment

Cost: Adults \$7, Children \$5 (children under 5 years free) Deserts with coffee or tea \$3, Soft drinks and bottled water \$1.50. Please bring own chairs or rug.

## **Congratulations Nicolle Viegas**

**Congratulations to Nicolle Viegas on being selected as a member of the CaSPA (Catholic Schools Performing Arts) Team. This group toured the United States over the recent Easter holidays. From all reports the performances were exceptional.**

## **Science Department**

In the science department this term we are focusing on scientific method in our classes. This method is the 'process by which scientists, collectively and over time, endeavour to construct an accurate (that is, reliable, consistent and non-arbitrary) representation of the world.' Don't we all wish for this.

Recognising that personal and cultural beliefs influence both our perceptions and our interpretations of natural phenomena, we are aiming through the use of standard procedures and criteria to minimise those influences when developing the many theories involved within the huge range of scientific principals which we need to teach. As a famous scientist once said, "Smart people (like smart lawyers) can come up with very good explanations for mistaken points of view." By teaching carefully about the scientific method we are hoping to teach our students a discipline which focuses on completing work thoroughly, and minimises the influence of laziness, bias or prejudice in the experimenter when testing an hypothesis or a theory.

One of our biggest challenges is always to make this system relevant and enjoyable. This we do often, but not all the time, and its during these times we need to help our students and as parents our children understand that by testing theories and processes we are in effect teaching about life.

**Mr T Bagot  
Science Co-ordinator**



# DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2nd May Year 7 2008 Information Evening  
School Open from 5 pm  
Information Session 7 pm  
Year 7 Geography Excursion
- 4th May Year 10 HSIE Excursion
- 7th May Year 11 Physics Excursion  
Parent Night  
Coping with Student Stress
- 8th May Year 10 Allwell Testing  
Year 7 & 8 SNAP
- 9th May Year 8 History/Retreat
- 10th May School Photos  
Science Competition Years 7-10
- 11th May Mothers Day Mass 5 pm  
Year 11 Driving Excursion  
Year 8 History/Retreat

## Host An Exchange Student

*Hosting an exchange student is the ideal way to begin the path to achieving these goals.*

World Education Program (WEP) is seeking warm and caring families who have a genuine interest in hosting one of their exchange students. Students from France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and Brazil will arrive in July for periods of one term to one year to live with a volunteer host family, attend the local school and assimilate into the local community.

Students bring a different culture and history, world understanding, foreign language, love and friendship and fun. They enrich the school classes, friendship groups, sport teams and home.

For further details contact WEP Australia on 1300 884 733 or visit [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au)

## Sisters of Charity Outreach Volunteer Training Program 2007

Sisters of Charity Outreach is a volunteer based, compassionate diverse service offering hospitality, holistic care and a human presence through various programs in our services.

We are interested in hearing from **Prospective Volunteers** who are:

- committed to supporting people in need
- friendly and compassionate
- feel comfortable within a Christian environment.

We are based in the City (St Vincent's Clinic), Darlinghurst, Lewisham and Liverpool, our services need volunteers for all sorts of roles.

Training Program is essential and consists of 6 core units and 1 elective unit in a chosen service over a 7 week period, commencing on 21 May (Monday mornings at Liverpool) and 23 May (Wednesday mornings at Darlinghurst) For further details contact 9822 5980 or 8382 6431 before 11 May.

## St Therese Primary School Sadleir-Miller

### Celebrates 40 Years!

**Celebration Dinner:  
Saturday 17th November 2007**

**Venue: Liverpool Catholic Club**

**For further information contact:**

**School Office 9607 7879 or**

**Email: [info@stt.sadleir.syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stt.sadleir.syd.catholic.edu.au)**

## Catholic Education Office - Funding

### *Do Catholic schools get more funding than government schools?*

No. Catholic schools receive less total government funding than State schools. In the 2005-2006 financial year, government schools received on average \$9,242 per student from Federal and State sources. By contrast, Catholic systemic schools received on average \$6,674 per student from Federal and State sources (2006 calendar year). This means that Catholic school students received on average \$2,568 less per student in government recurrent funding. This funding shortfall is partly offset by fees, building levies and other charges paid by parents, as well as by financial help from parishes.

## CANTEEN ROSTER

MONDAY 30.04.07	TUESDAY 01.05.07	WEDNESDAY 02.05.07	THURSDAY 03.05.07	FRIDAY 04.05.07
H Stacey J Short	D Toro A Waga	M Romeo G Carrabs	K Cutler G Bartolo L Bakhos	R Parker M Fraietta S Koutroubas
MONDAY 07.05.07	TUESDAY 08.05.07	WEDNESDAY 09.05.07	THURSDAY 10.05.07	FRIDAY 11.05.07
N Carver D Palumbo L Versi	D Ingle T Pontifex T Martin	M Campisi J Roccisano	G Gerrish A Demasi R Origlia	W Whitehouse M Ragusa R Pope