Dear Parents and Friends of the college
Next Friday, the students and staff of Good Samaritan Catholic College will set out on our college walkathon. As has been stated on a number of occasions, this is a way of supporting World Youth Day and ICT at the college. I thank all those parents and students who have supported the walkathon to date. We are well on the way to raising a total, which will allow us to meet both our World Youth Day and ICT targets. The total last Wednesday stood at $22,272 which is most pleasing. I continue to encourage all students to see if they are able to maximize their fundraising efforts over the next week to reach our combined total of $30,000. I also ask that students are prompt to return their money so that we can process the funds.

Recently the SRC representatives for Year 7 2008 were presented with their badges. The Year 7 leaders are traditionally elected at the year 7 camp at the end of Term 1, which was the case this year. I congratulate Maddison Coluccio and Julian Licata on their election to these positions. They have the confidence of their peers and teachers in undertaking these important leadership roles.

This week I had the pleasure of presenting a Gold Award to Alyssa Cook of Year 9. This is a significant presentation, as it is the first Gold Award presented under the new criteria. I congratulate Alyssa for her commitment to many areas of college life.

As was stated in the last newsletter, the college will be supporting a large number of pilgrims, who will be sleeping at the college during the week prior to World Youth Day. This number was originally set at approximately 375. It has now risen to over 500, due to the shortfall in Homestay positions. This figure represents a significant increase in the number of pilgrims, which will necessitate an increased number of volunteers to help with breakfast and evening supper. I again appeal for help at these times and, if possible, support with Homestay to accommodate our pilgrim visitors. If anyone is able to help, please leave your name at the college office as soon as possible.

This week the Parent Consultation Committee met for the term two meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to consider college directions and gain an overview of curriculum. The topics covered were: World Youth Day update, Fundraising update, an overview of the Even Start program and an overview of curriculum at the college (presented by Mrs Jarvis and Miss Molloy). I thank the Parent Consultation Committee for their continued support and willingness to be involved in the life of the college.

Recently the Catholic Education Office approved the “2007 Annual Report to the Community”. This document is a summary of the achievements of the college in 2007. The report is available on the college website, the noticeboard outside the college office, and upon request from the college office. I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to peruse the document, in order to become familiar with the progress of the college in 2007.
From the Principal...continued

Over the last two weeks the enrolment committee has been undertaking interviews of prospective year 7 students. One of the comments that has been continually stated is “The college has a very good name in the community”. I emphasise again that a good name does not simply happen, it is gained through the positive efforts of many individuals. It is a pity, however, that some students display a disregard of the good name of the college and do not behave in a manner respectful of the rights of others, whether at school, or travelling to or from school. Often, it is also disappointing to witness students who look to blame others for their own indiscretions. One of the first ways for students to grow as people, is for them to accept responsibility for their behaviour, and to accept the associated consequences. This is an important aspect of their journey to adulthood. Too often, people in our society look to blame others for their own failures, instead of making a commitment to change. The earlier this change can take place, the better our society will be. We all have a duty to encourage our young people to take responsibility for their own failures, instead of making a commitment to change. The earlier this change can take place, the better our society will be. We all have a duty to encourage our young people to take responsibility for their own behaviour, and to encourage change rather than to look to blame others for our failings. I hope, as parents and teachers, we are able to encourage this positive approach in the young people with whom we associate.

God Bless

Mr J Lo Cascio
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

School standards

Families in the college community are clear about, and largely support, the high standards that are expected of students in terms of their uniform, grooming and the wearing of jewellery. The college policy has remained consistent and transparent for many years. It is always pleasing to note that the vast majority of students attending the school are a credit to themselves and their families by the way in which they are attired and groomed, the manner in which they relate to staff and other students and the way in which they abide by school rules.

In a small number of instances, students have chosen to move outside the parameters set with regard to the wearing of jewellery. In this regard, the policy states that “girls only may wear one pair of sleeper or stud earrings, in the ear lobes”. No other jewellery is to be worn. The college policy is that “boys do not wear jewellery”. Jewellery that is confiscated will ordinarily be returned at the end of the term.

Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews

In the last week of this term there will be the opportunity for parents of students in Years 7 to 10 to meet with the teachers of their son(s) / daughters (s). Three separate occasions will be available for these interviews, including the afternoons / evenings of Tuesday, 1st July and Thursday, 3rd July together with all day on Friday, 4th July. It is an expectation that at least one parent from each family attend these interviews with students. Students are expected to attend in full uniform. Further details will be provided to each student through a letter and a sheet that will facilitate the booking of interview times. This will be distributed to all students in Years 7-10 next week.

World Youth Day 2008

Only 32 days to go until WYD. All Pilgrims attending World Youth Day are asked to attend a formation and information afternoon this Sunday.

Where: Holy Spirit at Carnes Hill
Time: 4pm
When: Sunday 15th June

As World Youth Day is fast approaching we ask that students and parents please check regularly for information leading up to World Youth Day.

For more information regarding information visit:

www.wyd2008.org
Or contact Miss Welsh

Gold Award
Recipient
Alyssa Cook
Dear Parents and Friends

Thanks for the positive response that I have received to my earlier “Parenting Corner” columns. The sole purpose of these few words is to encourage you to continue to “fight the good fight” as you support your children as they continue to grow as young adults.

At times, this is no easy task as young people often feel that they don’t need or don’t want your support particularly if it comes in the form of advice.

The secret of success lies in always being there for them especially when they fall into a heap. Words aren’t always helpful and sometimes (if they are seen as nagging) are counter-productive. This is especially true when your major interaction with the child is when he/she has appeared to do something wrong! What is your reaction when they have some success, have shown a kindness to family members, had a good report, have received the praise of their teachers?

For most parents there are numerous opportunities to support their child as he/she struggles to be a better person.

As parents, the strongest support you can provide for your children is your own good example of living out the gospel values that a school like Good Samaritan stands for.

In this post Pentecost season we are reminded by St Paul that

“The Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control”.

We could do no better than share these virtues/values with our children as they strive to become the best people they can be.

What a service we would be doing our children, ourselves, our school, our society and our Church.

God bless your efforts.

Br Colin

**Parenting Corner**

**Parenting Tips**

Over the next few weeks “Parenting Tips Ten Priorities” will be included in the newsletter.

Two more are included in today’s newsletter.

**Tip No. 2**

**Be honest about the underlying values in one’s life**

“Your son must see that your values make you happy.” (Prof. David Isaacs Character Building)

“Why should children be happy with their lot when parents complain about theirs?” (Barbara Holborow, Former Childrens’ Court Magistrate)

- Look honestly at your motivations.
- Beware of putting your work before family.
- Beware of leaving the heavy lifting in the family to your spouse.
- Take the initiative to create good family times weekly.

**Tip No. 3**

**Teach right and wrong**

“My mother, I am no longer a child, I know the difference between right and wrong.” (Homer Odyssey)

“Children need to fail...When we impulsively protect our children from failure, we deprive them of learning…” (Martin Seligman The Optimistic Child)

“One consequence is worth a thousand words.” (Ray Guarendi Back to the family)

- Foresee the big issues and give clear reasons on the range of challenges your child will face: faith, drugs, attitudes to sexuality and relationships, business ethics, modesty, etc.
- Speak clearly but affectionately about things that are not right, or not good enough.
- Don’t just do things with your son or daughter: create times you talk easily.

**Silver Awards Recipients**

Joshua Bugeja, Zoe Tishler, Tuan Vu

**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS—TERM 2**

Opening Days & Hours

Every Monday to Thursday

7.30 am to 8.20am

Also open on Tuesday 24th June 12 noon to 3.45pm

CLOSED EVERY FRIDAY
### GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE
401 Hoxton Park Road, Hinchinbrook NSW 2168 - PO Box 444, Hoxton Park NSW 2171
Phone: (02) 9825 9955 - Fax: (02) 9825 9966
Email: admin@goodsamaritan.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.goodsamaritan.nsw.edu.au

### DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th—20th June</td>
<td>Year 11 Work Placements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th June</td>
<td>School Walkathon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st / 3rd / 4th July</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Student interviews</td>
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<td>4th July</td>
<td>Term 2 ends</td>
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<td>World Youth Week begins</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15th July 2008</td>
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<td>World Youth Day Mass</td>
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<td>20th July 2008</td>
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### CANTEEN HELP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY 16 JUNE</td>
<td>J. Short, L. Versi, A. Morozoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 17 JUNE</td>
<td>D. Toro, A. Waga, L. Vella</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE</td>
<td>M. Campisi, J. Roccisano</td>
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<td>G. Bartolo, S. Lichaa</td>
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<td>FRIDAY 20 JUNE</td>
<td>WALKATHON</td>
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<td>MONDAY 23 JUNE</td>
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<td>TUESDAY 24 JUNE</td>
<td>L. Pacchiarotta, D. Poschl, L. La Rosa</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE</td>
<td>R. Criniti, S. Yako</td>
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<td>THURSDAY 26 JUNE</td>
<td>L. Vella, C. Smith, S. Gioiosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 27 JUNE</td>
<td>L. Losurdo, J. Gardner, G. Cownie</td>
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### FAIRFIELD CITY COUNCIL

**Families together invites parents to a free information evening**

**THINK OUT LOUD: HELPING ANXIOUS KIDS**

Presented by Megan Taylor

This is a two-part program for parents of anxious children. The program aims to inform parents about the nature of anxiety and to equip parents with practical strategies to work with their children in reducing anxious thoughts and behaviour.

**DATE:** Wednesday 18th & 25th June 7pm—9pm

**PLACE:** Conference Room, Mt Pritchard & District Community Club, 101 Meadows Rd, Mt Pritchard

Phone Fairfield Children’s Resource Centre 9724 7875

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

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### WORLD YOUTH DAY BREAKFAST VOLUNTEER SHEET

I would like to volunteer to help serve breakfast at Good Samaritan during World Youth Day Week.

**NAME:** .................................................................

**CHILD’S NAME:** ................................................... **CLASS:** ........................................

**DAY/S I AM AVAILABLE TO HELP:**

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<th>Date</th>
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*(Please tick the days you can help)*

Please return this tear-off slip to the College Office as soon as possible.