Dear Parents and Friends of the Community,

Today the college community joined with special guests, Mr Chris Hayes, Federal Member for Werriwa; Mr Paul Lynch, State Member; Catholic Education Office Director of the Southern Region; Dr Mark Turkington, Fr Noel and Br Pat, to celebrate Good Samaritan Day. As is the case every year, the day provides an opportunity to celebrate all that is good about our community. The day is also very much about living out our college motto “Journeying with Compassion”. We began with celebration of the Eucharist which provided a time to give thanks to our God. This was followed by fundraising for charity. Each class raised these funds by setting up their stalls from which all proceeds would go to charity. Finally, the afternoon involved an appreciation of talent at the college. The concert this year was named “Goodstock” a take-off of Woodstock which occurred 40 years ago. The events of today are a very real indication of the spirit and sense of community that make Good Samaritan such a wonderful Catholic school. I acknowledge and thank the many people involved in our celebration. I especially acknowledge the organizers of different aspects of the day; Mr Kingsman, Mrs Dadd, Mr Wheeler, Mrs Popovic and Ms Benjamin.

Last week the college distributed the NAPLAN results for students in Year 7 and Year 9. The results provided information in relation to students proficiency in literacy and numeracy. The students performed reasonably well, however, of particular note, was the fact that our learning gain for our Year 9 students was above state average and higher than many schools across the Archdiocese of Sydney. There is much to celebrate about the improved performance of students in Year 9 however the college is also aware of areas for development which will be a focus in the coming year.

Next week the college community will farewell our Year 12 students. The students, their teachers and their parents will come together to celebrate what has been and to look forward to what will be. The week has been organized to pay a fitting tribute to year 12 as they venture beyond Good Samaritan. On Tuesday the students will be involved in outreach activities to re-emphasise the college motto “Journeying with Compassion” one more time. Two significant celebrations have been organized, a farewell breakfast and assembly on Wednesday morning, followed by Mass and the graduation ceremony on Wednesday evening. Finally the Year 12 Dinner Dance will be celebrated on Friday evening. As Year 12 approach the end of their time at Good Samaritan there is certainly a great deal for which to be thankful. I ask everyone to remember our year 12 students and their families in your prayers and I am sure everyone will join with me in wishing them all the best as they continue their journey beyond Good Samaritan.

Over the last two weeks Year 11 students have been undertaking their final exams at the end of the preliminary course. I congratulate the students on the mature approach they adopted while sitting the exams and look forward to the results. Over this term Year 11 have also been focusing on leadership with a view to electing the 2010 senior leadership group. At the end of week 8 this group was elected. I congratulate Steven Catania, Rebecca Hunt, George El Boustani, Jennifer Awad, Mariano Salvati, Sarah Spadaro, Damian Ferreri and Jessica Ciccone on their election as senior leaders. The college captains will be announced next week. As a college we look forward to their leadership in 2010.

GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE
HINCHINBROOK
NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE THEME 2009: “Be Witness To The Call”

Friday 25th September 2009

JOURNEYING WITH COMPASSION
This week Mrs Flanagan will begin her maternity leave to prepare for the birth of her second child. On behalf of the community, I wish Mrs Flanagan and her husband Adam all the best for the impending birth of their child.

______________________________
Finally I wish everyone a safe and restful holiday and look forward to a challenging final term when we return.

God Bless

Mr J Lo Cascio
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Attendance and Appointments
It is the college’s expectation that students attend all classes on all days except when they are absent from school due to sickness or for other approved reasons. Any appointments should ordinarily be made outside school hours. This requirement is equally applicable on Tuesday afternoons as students are required to fulfil mandatory requirements in relation to participation in physical activity and sport.

Sickness Procedures
If a student is ill at the start of the day parents are requested to make a judgment about the suitability of sending a sick child to the college. In the event of a student becoming ill whilst at school, the procedure is that the student reports to the college office after gaining permission from their Pastoral Care Teacher or Year Coordinator. Parents are then contacted by the school if it is assessed that the student’s illness requires them to be sent home. Students are not permitted to contact parents requesting to be collected from the school as there is a clearly established procedure in place for responding to matters of sickness. Should students not follow this rule, the college reserves the right to take appropriate action. Parents are advised to remind their children of this requirement should they receive direct contact from them during the school day.

Staff Leave
A number of members of staff will be taking periods of leave during fourth term. Mrs Flanagan begins her maternity leave at the end of next week. Mrs Stivala will be on long service leave for the first six weeks of term 4. She will be replaced by Mr Peter Wooden. Ms Benjamin will be absent for the first five weeks term and her classes will be taken by Ms Katherine Hubbard. During Ms Benjamin’s long service leave, Mrs Popovic will be Acting CAPA Coordinator. Mrs Hewitt will be absent from Weeks 2 to 5 inclusive to be replaced by Ms Ashleigh Burke. Mr Lozelle will also be taking a period of five weeks leave at the beginning of the term. Finally, Mrs Jarvis commences a period of long service leave from Week 6 of the term for the remainder of the year. We wish all these staff the very best during their time of renewal and revitalisation and we thank those teachers who will teach their classes during these periods of leave.

Silver Awards
The following Year 12 students will be presented with their Silver Award(s) at the Year 12 graduation assembly next week.

Mr P Brooks, Assistant Principal

PARENTING CORNER

Dear Parents
No doubt for quite a number of you this will be a momentous week as your son or daughter says farewell to Good Samaritan College to face the future come what may! It probably seems no time since you accompanied her/him to start school and now that journey is over. No doubt you have your own memories of these significant years. Many friendships have been forged. I know some have been on this journey together since kindergarten and will probably continue friends for the rest of their lives. I came across this article on GROWING UP IN LIFE that could offer some helpful reflection for parents of children no matter what age. It is written by Larry S Chengers:

* You are unique, my child – a wonderful addition to life
  for there is no one else like you.
* You are important ... believe it... know it...
* Search your heart and be willing to try new things ... 
  Don't be afraid to be different... follow your feelings and 
  be proud... be happy...
* Reflect your feelings, your hopes and your dreams... you 
  have much to contribute and other people can learn from 
  you. Take your time and...and please don't hurry
* You must reach out and help others to grow...for the more 
  you give, the more you receive
* Your time on earth is a measure of progress, year by 
  year...for each year will present new and different 
  opportunities...
* Enjoy what is beautiful in life, my child, and try to 
  achieve the highest goals in life... TO LOVE, TO CARE, 
  TO GIVE, TO SHARE*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your Year 12 adolescents. Not only in the weeks ahead but also for the rest of their lives they remain the CLASS of 2009 and Good Samaritan Catholic College holds very special memories of them.

God bless

Sr Marj

Kweku Akins Daniel Arcuri (4)
Daniel Attard Axl Avenido
Monique Barnes Rowena Barreira
Nicol Borczyk Jessica Bugeja
Mariecar Capili (2) Adam Cosgrove (3)
Anthony Da Silva (3)
Matthew De Martin Sally El-Azzi (2)
Danielle Froio (2) Kate Gerrish (3)
Haylee Ingle (4) Victoria Levido
Wesley Lizada (2) Jamie Mataikovic
Monique Panetta James Phan
Kirc Planes (3) Helen Said (3)
Luen Samonte Anthony Thespombandith

(1) (5) (4) (3)
THE NEW EVANGELISATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Pope John Paul II spent his pontificate calling for and challenging us to a new evangelisation. This is nothing more than a recommitment to the living of our life within the Catholic Community as found within our local parishes and wider Church. This commitment began at our baptism when we entered into the life giving death and resurrection of Jesus and were born into the living Body of Christ. The great celebrations of World Youth Day is one of the most graphic and concrete examples of the new evangelisation effort. Thousands of young people from local parish communities come together to explore and commit to a life lived in communion with God and each other; becoming witnesses to the call. The power of these young people to change the world for the good in the name of Christ has been reaffirmed by the release of a Statement by the Australian Catholic Bishops in time for this Sunday’s Social Justice Sunday entitled And You Will Be My Witnesses: Young People And Justice. This document reminds not just the young but all of us to live and act as the hands to Jesus; “to bring liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.” Lk 4:18-19. The full text of this document can be found on www.catholic.org.au

SPARKATHON 2009

On the 9th day of the 9th month of the 9th year of the new millennium, four Year 7 students and Miss Boggs travelled to Aquinas College, Menai to participate in “Sparkathon”, an interschool competition for gifted students. Adrian Arcuri, Hannah Brocklehurst, Rebecca Camilleri and Raymond Dang were nominated for their consistent results, broad general knowledge and ability to think ‘outside the square’.

The atmosphere amongst the students was electric. By our side on the battlefield were 4 students from Good Shepherd, Hoxton Park and St Therese, Sadleir. With our combined forces, it seemed all was shaping up for an epic victory.

The day fired many challenges our way including:

◊ Constructing the tallest tower with 40 straws and 20 paper clips that could also support the weight of a tennis ball
◊ Solving elaborate mathematical problems
◊ Designing an artwork ‘Mr Squiggle’ style from a random line
◊ Creating a new invention with only a balloon, a pipe cleaner, an envelope, a rubber band and some string
◊ Deciphering codes, anagrams and puzzles
◊ Matching random artworks, songs, quotes, logos and faces to their owners

In the end, we fought long and hard and learned many valuable bits of knowledge that we will take with us back to school. The day was busy, interactive and above all, loads of fun. Lest we forget this great day.

Miss Boggs

YEAR 7 SCIENCE

On Friday 11th September Dr Deane Hutton, previously on “Hey Hey It’s Saturday” and “The Curiosity Show”, came to Good Samaritan to teach Year 7 about saving the Earth through Science.

Dr Deane showed us some exciting experiments using water, wind, fire & earth. The experiments involved earthquakes, water rockets and our favourite, the mouse trap chain reaction.

We also learnt about simple ways to save the environment at home such as:

• Turning off the tap while you brush your teeth
• Turning off electrical appliances at the wall when not in use
• Recycling and composting
• Using the half flush which saves 30 litres of water each day

Halving your shower time or halving the water pressure which can save 50 litres of water each day!

Thank you Dr Deane for a great show!

Joseph Pipicella, Emil Obaid & Anthony Bilotta
The NAPLAN tests are a vital tool for assessing student’s literacy and numeracy skills. NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) assesses all students in Australia from Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in five key areas: numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. The tests are conducted in May each year.

This year our Year 7 students performed well in Writing, Spelling and Overall Literacy, the results in each of these areas was above the state mean. The Year 9 cohort was above the state mean in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Overall Literacy, Number Patterns and Algebra, Measurement Data Space and Geometry and Overall Numeracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Area</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GCCC</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>544.7 546.3</td>
<td>588.7 586.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>534.7 531.6</td>
<td>584.6 566.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>568.5 551.3</td>
<td>595.7 586.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>532.9 543.0</td>
<td>570.3 577.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Literacy</td>
<td>543.4 542.2</td>
<td>585.3 578.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number, Patterns and Algebra</td>
<td>548.3 549.8</td>
<td>604.3 599.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement, Data, Space and Geometry</td>
<td>549.7 551.5</td>
<td>607.5 597.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Numeracy</td>
<td>548.9 550.7</td>
<td>605.5 598.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student’s results in the NAPLAN tests are reported in bands. A comparison of the percentage of students represented in bands is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAPLAN 2009</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Band 9</td>
<td>Band 7, 8, 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>GSCC¹</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW²</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National²</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>GSCC¹</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW²</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National²</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>GSCC¹</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW²</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National²</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>GSCC¹</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW²</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National²</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>GSCC¹</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW²</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National²</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
A Year 7: Highest band = band 9; Lowest band = band 4; Bands 5-9 represent the % of students at or above minimum standards
B Year 9: Highest band = band 10; Lowest band = band 5; Bands 6-10 represent the % of students at or above the minimum standards
1 Source: SMART data analysis package
2 Source: NAPLAN Summary Report 2008 (www.naplan.edu.au)
In 2009 we were pleased to note a significant growth in student’s literacy and numeracy skills, particularly amongst our Year 9 students. A comparison is drawn between the students’ results as Year 7 in 2007 and their results in 2009. In Numeracy our Year 9 students attained an average growth of 56.8, which was 18.7 above NSW trends and 15.9 above the average Diocesan growth. This was the third highest growth across the Archdiocese. Our growth in Reading and Writing was also above state and diocesan trends. This significant achievement reflects the considerable efforts made by our teachers to develop our students’ literacy and numeracy in their classrooms over the past two years.

The college will now undertake a detailed diagnostic analysis of the data to identify trends and issues across both Year 7 and Year 9 as well as to be able to identify and address the needs of particular students. We will then use this information to inform our teaching and learning programs so as to ensure that we continue to build students literacy and numeracy skills through the curriculum.

Miss Catherine Molloy
Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator
MISA FINALS
VOLLEYBALL TEAM - MINOR PREMIERS
The Junior boys volleyball team, including Joshua Bell and Thomas Macri, worked hard to be minor premiers. On Tuesday they played an amazing Grand Final against William Carey Christian School. The long rallies contained supporting shouts from around the court. Andre Gioiosa, Stephen Salinitri and Steven Portolesi displayed incredible athleticism as they leaped, jumped and flew for every ball. Milan Paunovic and Jake Towerton played with safe hands to put many balls exactly where they needed to be. Adrian D’Ononfrio and Mark Wakeham played some great net shots. The long rallies were testimony to how closely matched the teams were. Good Samaritan led in all three very close sets. But sadly we lost the game to a disciplined team.
The boys should be proud of their efforts. They have all grown in their volleyball skills and sportsmanship. They continually put their bodies on the line for the team. We aimed to be gentlemen, and in regards to this aim, the grandfinal players were all winners.
Congratulations boys!
Mr S Gray

YEARS 10,11 & 12 GIRLS SOCCER
Throughout this term the girls showed skill, courage and determination to strive towards the goal of playing as a team and reaching the grand final. Both these goals were achieved as the team reached the grand final against Freeman College. The final was hard as both GSCC and Freeman are highly skilled. Unfortunately a goal from Freeman in the last minutes of the game saw Freeman win. Thanks to all girls for their commitment, although lots of injuries and prior commitments lead to some girls being unable to attend all the games. It was a good season and all girls are congratulated on their achievement.
The team consisted: Natalie Yelda, Jessica Ciccone, Magella Barbuto, Latoya Walker, Lana Ferreira (goal keeper), Elizabeth Si, Michelle Divola, Laura Giansante, Isabella Pezzuto, Montana Bolzan, Bianca Adattini, Jema Samonte, Jennifer Papallo, Haylee Ingle, Gabriela Macias. Also a thank you to Mr Costin for coaching, Jackie Da Silva for filling in once, Carmelo Ussia, John Fahmi and Steven Catanea for helping out at the games.
Domenica Marasco

NSWCCC ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
Last Friday 18th September, Good Samaritan had 10 athletes represent Southern Sydney at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships held at Homebush. This carnival brings together the best athletes in Catholic Schools across all of NSW. It is a great achievement for those students who make it this far and a fantastic experience for all aspiring athletes. On the day our students performed to the best of their ability and with great pride. Unfortunately, we didn’t have anyone make it to the next round of competition, but all can be very proud of their efforts. Congratulations and well done! The team consisted of:

RUGBY LEAGUE FINALS
Under 14S Boys
Up against an undefeated side in the final, the Under 14’s Rugby League team knew the task would be difficult from the beginning. An early try put us in an advantageous position, however the heat and win made the task a difficult one. Fatigue and a well drilled opposition meant that Clancy were just too god on the day. The boys played a spirited season, with some exceptional work by Liam Evans, Vince Romolo and Dennis Holder. These three lay a solid foundation for others to follow and were inspirational considering the conditions. Well done for the season and we look forward to the challenges next year.

Intermediate Boys
On Tuesday 22nd September the Intermediate Boys Rugby League team took on the undefeated team from Clancy Catholic College in the MISA grand final. It was a remarkable come back from the team after two early losses in the season to make the grand final after, and the boys were on a high after dominating William Carey Christian School in the grand final qualifier the previous week. Unfortunately, Clancy got away to 12-0 lead at half due to some individual brilliance and unfortunate decisions. The game looked to be slipping away when the score was extended to 18-0 early in the 2nd half, but the boys continued to fight until the final siren and clawed their way back to a final score of 18-10 thanks to tries from Thomas Napoletano and Aldric Angeles. It was a great effort from the boys who showed determination and team spirit throughout the season.

Congratulations to ANTHONY TOMELIC OF Yr 10 who has been selected to represent the U15 NSW State Soccer team that is competing in the National Titles in Coffs Harbour at the beginning of October.
Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28th Sept</td>
<td>A. Testa, M. Macri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th Sept</td>
<td>D. Toro, A. Waga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th Sep</td>
<td>R. Criniti, D. Hadjisocraticus, N. Bodagh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 1st Oct</td>
<td>G. Gerrish, A. Demasi, R. Orgilia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 2nd Oct</td>
<td>R. Parker, M. Mudaliar, H. Molina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASTHMA SPRAYS!!!

All students suffering from asthma are reminded to carry a ventolin inhaler with them at all times. Parents are advised that the college keeps on hand only a limited supply of inhalers for the urgent treatment of students suffering from asthma. If provided to students, it is expected that the inhaler is replaced by the family the next day so that a small supply is readily available should the need arise. If a replacement is not received, then it will be necessary to charge for the cost of replacing this school supply.

Just a reminder to Year 11 parents that the Year 12 2010 Assessment INFORMATION EVENING is on Tuesday 27th October 2009. It is compulsory that all Year 11 students attend with at least one parent.

FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier and happier!

Do you have children 7 to 13 years old?
Are you worried they might be unhealthy or even overweight?
We get kids healthy and fit in only 10 weeks—and help them stay that way!

The NSW Parenting Program is an established healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self esteem and confidence in children above their ideal weight. On the program we encourage children to give things a go and show parents how they can be supportive and involve the whole family in making healthier choices. The program is NOT a diet and does not encourage rapid weight loss in children, rather it is about empowerment—putting the child at the centre of a range of ways to make healthy lifestyle changes, to lose weight naturally and build a foundation for healthy living—for life!

What happens on the NSW Parenting Program?
Program consists of 20 sessions (twice per week, 2 hours/session) run after school.

Program highlights include:

- Games, activities and swimming for kids, learning being active can be a lot of fun.
- Discuss easy, effective ways to improve your child’s behaviours and confidence
- Demonstrations, games and tips on healthy foods, label reading and portion sizes
- There is even a fund supermarket tour and a chance to try delicious new foods!

15 places on the course worth up to $800 per child are being offered completely free of charge to first come, first served basis.

Contact Jill Manahan on 97802835 or visit www.mendprogramme.org and click “Join a MEND Program”. Parent or carer must accompany each child.