Dear Parents and Friends of the Community

Last Wednesday I was privileged to witness Maryann Wright, our college Dux 2008, receive a University of Sydney Scholarship with Merit. The award is a recognition of Maryann’s performance at university, which has complemented her performance in last year’s HSC. Next Sunday, Maryann will also receive the Liverpool Catholic Club scholarship for being Dux of the college in 2008. I congratulate Maryann and her family on the receipt of the scholarships which will certainly help her with her university studies and are a recognition of her willingness to continually strive for excellence.

I take this opportunity once again, to thank the Liverpool Catholic Club for their ongoing support of the college. The club supports our college by providing the above scholarship to the dux and also providing some support to some families undergoing financial hardship. We have also been given great financial support for various projects over the last few years, for which we are truly grateful. Recently, the club has offered to sponsor a leadership mentoring program, for up to 7 of our Year 11 students. The program aims to promote leadership at and beyond the college and school years. This will not only be of benefit to the students and the college, but will also be of benefit to the community in years to come.

During recent weeks, the college has also been fortunate to be supported by the Fairfield Marconi Club, through a driving program offered to ten of our senior students. Club Marconi has organized ten hours of professional instruction for these learner drivers, free of charge. The lessons are one hour weekly lessons over this term. Once again, our students will certainly benefit from this generosity and we are thankful for this support.

This week the college conducted a study skills seminar for parents of students in years 10, 11 and 12. This was an opportunity for parents to take advantage of the seminars which students attended on the first day of this term. In order to give students more support in the area of study we have decided to subscribe to the online study skills tutorials offered by the Enhanced Learning Services. The online presentations will be accessible to all students in Years 7 to 12 and will be initially introduced to the students during Pastoral Care lessons. Once the online password is available to the college, parents will be informed so they too can access the web site to support their sons and daughters.

This term the college introduced a mentor program for students in Year 12. This program has been set up so that each year 12 student will have a teacher as their mentor, to offer individual support as they approach the remainder of the Higher School Certificate Course. It is hoped that, through this program, students will feel that any issues that arise can be discussed and resolved with the support of their mentor. I thank students for being open to the program and teachers who will give up their time to be available to these students.

Recently in the media, there has been significant focus on the issue of “sexting” (sending indecent texts and images by students using mobile phones and other technologies). It is essential that students (and parents), realize that these photos and messages cannot be retrieved and can potentially damage future career prospects or relationships. More importantly they often display no regard for the dignity of the persons involved which is totally in opposition to our Catholic values. An information sheet to increase understanding of the issue, is included with this
Last Friday evening the College acknowledged our mothers prior to Mothers Day, in our annual Mother’s Day Mass. This is truly a fitting way to thank God for our mums and all that they do. I thank Br Pat for celebrating the Eucharist with us, and thank the students, family members and staff who were able to attend. I include the following prayer for all to pray for our wonderful mothers:

**Gratitude for my Mother**

**Dear Lord, today we turn to you to give you thanks for all mothers.**

*With your own gift of life, they bore us in their womb and gave us life. They tenderly, patiently cared for us and taught us to walk and talk. They read to us and made us laugh. No one delighted in our successes more; no one could comfort us better in our failures.*

*We are so grateful for how they mothered us and mentored us, and even disciplined us.*

*Please bless them, Lord, and comfort them. Help their loving hearts to continue to love and give of themselves to others. Strengthen them when they are down and give them hope when they are discouraged.*

I also ask everyone to keep Mr Michael Hobby and family in your prayers. Mr Hobby is seriously ill in hospital.

God bless

**Mr J Lo Cascio**  
**Principal**

### From the Assistant Principal

**Energy Drinks**

In the last newsletter for Term One this year, Mr Brooks outlined the college policy on energy drinks. To further clarify the policy, students are not to bring the energy drinks that contain high levels of caffeine to school. These include brands such as V, Red bull and Mother. The college canteen does sell a form of energy drink which does not contain caffeine, but assists in replacing salts and nutrients lost due to exercise.

**Uniform**

A reminder to students and parents that the sports uniform must only be worn on Tuesdays for sport and on days when students have designated practical PDHPE lessons. In exceptional cases where the sports uniform is worn on other days, parents are asked to provide a note to their sons/daughter Pastoral Care teacher.

**Safety**

Students and parents are reminded of the need to be conscious of personal safety when travelling to and from school. Where possible it is suggested that students walking to and from school, do so in groups.

**Mr R Grech**  
**Acting Assistant Principal**

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**Parenting Corner**

**Dear Parents**

I suppose it is inevitable, that in addressing issues that parents need to be deeply aware of in the guidance of their children, the area of technology raises its head with increasing frequency.

There is no doubt that technology has, in many ways, improved society, increased our life span and generally made communication easier. Look at the developments in health care, transport and domestic life-style among others.

But there is a price to pay which can be quite disturbing. Computers, mobile phones, ipods etc can all have a positive value by providing instant communication, convenience, security or entertainment. The abuse of such gifts can cause disruption, considerable pain and can even destroy the lives of some sensitive or vulnerable young people.

In a recent article in the Sun Herald (May 3) we are reminded graphically of the danger of what is referred to as “Sexting”.

“The easy availability of new technologies and social networking sites can turn what can seem an innocent joke or flirtatious fun into a potentially devastating experience—with YOUNG GIRLS MOST AT RISK...can lead to public humiliation, cyber bullying or even sexual assault.”

Linda Burney, Community Services Minister, is also quoted as saying that “sexting” can haunt kids for life, damaging careers and relationships.

Parents are being advised and even urged to become more involved in the cyber space lives of their children, “to learn how to use and monitor their children’s mobile phones, and check photo galleries in their children’s facebook and myspace accounts”.

No doubt this seems like a hard approach. No doubt it will be unpopular with some, but how much do you value the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual welfare of your children?

My thoughts are prayers are with you.

**Br Colin**

**WALK WITH CHRIST!**

Last year, Sydney witnessed the tremendous power of faith through World Youth Day. This year on Sunday 14 June, join thousands of Catholics as we Walk with Christ in a Procession from St Patrick’s Church Hill Wynyard through the Sydney CBD, to St Mary’s Cathedral. The Bishops will lead the Procession carrying the Blessed Sacrament. We need your voices and your passion! Come sing, pray and share our faith. Cardinal Pell will conclude the ceremony with solemn Benediction. For more information, phone 9390 5996 or visit www.sydney.catholic.org.au

**Our Liturgical Life**

This year has seen Good Samaritan continuing to express and live its Catholic identity not only through the curriculum and co-curricula activities but also through its worship of the Living God. The excellent HSC results achieved in Studies of Religion in 2008 indicate the level of understanding of our faith that many students have obtained in their years at the College. This is continuing this year with our three HSC Studies of Religion I classes and for the first time a Studies of Religion II class. The passing on of our faith also means that we must endeavour to pass on an understanding of the need to offer praise to God. Our whole school liturgical celebrations of the Opening School Mass, Holy Week Liturgy and our Liturgy of the Resurrection when the College returned for term 2 was complimented by our Mother’s Day mass last Friday evening.

For a while now Good Samaritan College has desired to have a weekly celebration of the mass. We are happy to be able to say that from this Friday we will be having mass celebrated every Friday at lunch with the priests from the surrounding parishes agreeing to go on a roster for which we are thankful. As Catholics we know that the Eucharist is at the very heart of our faith and we pray that this weekly celebration of the mass helps to build and strengthen our faith community.

**Mr Kingsman**  
**REC**
INSTRUCTOR & VOCAL TUITION

Instrument tuition has commenced at the College in the areas of guitar, bass, piano and drums. Anyone interested in joining this program can see Mrs Popovic or Ms Benjamin to get the appropriate application forms.

Jamie-Leigh Russell will commence vocal tuition at the College in week 5 of this term. Students are invited to take part in individual or group lessons at the College. Anyone interested can see Mrs Popovic or Miss Benjamin for an application form.

MOCK TRIAL UPDATE

The College Mock Trial team has been in action over the last couple of weeks. Despite close defeats in both of our trials, there have been some outstanding performances. All team members have been putting a lot of effort into preparing the cases. They have sacrificed lunch times and after school hours to get ready for some challenging trials. Unfortunately we have been the defence in these two difficult cases. Special mention must go to two students who were singled out by the magistrates for their performances. In our first trial, Pratik Datt received special mention as Barrister for his excellent closing statement which displayed a great knowledge of and passion for the law. Chantal Monjo also received praise for her role as witness in the most recent case. She entertained the magistrate with her quick and witty responses, and her accent and body language had all believing in her character. Good luck to the mock trailers in the next round.

Mr D Costin
Team Coach

On the 4th May, Year 11 Visual Arts students travelled by train to The Museum of Contemporary Art at Circular Quay. Some of the exhibitions which they were lucky enough to enjoy and hopefully be inspired by were -

YAYOI KUSAMA: MIRRORED YEARS
This major exhibition features selected work from the past forty years by Yayoi Kusama, a prolific and internationally acclaimed Japanese artist. Yayoi Kusama

WALK THE LINE: NEW AUSTRALIAN DRAWING
Drawing is enjoying a renaissance in contemporary Australian art. This exhibition examines new approaches to drawing and the reinvigoration of drawing practice

AVOIDING MYTH & MESSAGE: AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS AND THE LITERARY WORLD
Avoiding myth & message is primarily an MCA collection based project featuring artists whose works have been informed by Australian literature

SOUTHERN SYDNEY CROSS COUNTRY

On Friday the 8th of May a number of students represented the college in the Southern Sydney Cross Country carnival at South Western Sydney Regional Park. On the day there were some impressive results with five runners now going on to represent the college in the New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges event later this term. The runners progressing to the next round are Joel Jarrett, Hayley Ingle, Bianca Adattini, Isabella Pezzuto and Christopher El-Hayek. We wish these students all the best in the next round.

The squad consisted of:

Mr V Micev and Mr S Zahra

NSW CCC Swimming

On Wednesday 6th May, Chanelle Finau of year 7 represented Southern Sydney at the NSW CCC Swimming Championships at Homebush. She qualified fastest from Southern Sydney in the 50m breaststroke, 50m butterfly and 50m freestyle. Although Chanelle didn’t progress to the next round, she performed admirably and represented the school with great pride. Congratulations and well done.

Mr V Micev
NAIDOC celebrates the survival of Indigenous culture and the Indigenous contribution to modern Australia.

For 2009, NAIDOC Week celebrations will be held on 5th to 12th July. The national theme this year is Honouring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth. All Australians are encouraged to participate in NAIDOC week activities.

A Creative/Essay writing competition is open to all students at the college. There are two categories; for year 7-10 students the creative writing topic is “Write an article explaining the significance of the 1967 Referendum and its importance to Aboriginal people” and for year 11-12 students the topic is “Explain the importance of the 1967 national referendum and how it shaped Aboriginal Australia today”.

Entries must be received by Friday 29th June 2009. If anyone is interested in the competition please see Ms Brocklehurst for application forms.

HELP THE HANNA’S!!

The Hanna family of seven is about to be torn apart by Cancer and there is nothing doctors can do anymore to help them.

Both mother, Shatha (battling breast cancer) and father, Jamal (battling prostate cancer and secondary bone cancer) in their 40’s, are the parents of five young children, Nancy 17yrs, Alan 15yrs, Andy 13yrs, Alex 9yrs and Christina 5 yrs, are battling to keep their children together and secure their future. As family friends of the Hanna family, we have witnessed the tragedy before others and know that the children need all the help they can get. The family were forced to sell their family home to pay for their parents’ medical bills and ongoing life expenditure, and are currently paying $480 a week for rent. As a community, and through church, we are trying to raise money to obtain suitable accommodation for them which is closer to their requirements, also to pay their school fees, clothing, school needs and other basic necessities.

We are in need of your prayers and generosity, to take as much pressure off the Hanna family through this hard time. If you are able to help and assist them in any way, there has been an account set up to help the Hannas. To make a donation you are able to do so through the account details below:

Bank Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Account Name Hanna Family Appeal
BSB 062 000
Account Number 13470681

If you have any other ways of helping the Hanna family, please contact Nora Yousif on 0413 537736

Your kind help and thoughts are highly appreciated and every prayer and donation will make a difference!

Natalie Patto and Renee Yousif

*All Saints’ Parish Liverpool* is having their 117th Annual Debutante’s Ball which will be held at the Liverpool Catholic Club Function Centre on Saturday 29 August 2009.

An invitation to all young ladies aged 15 and over who would like to do their debut, to please contact Lisa Cattarin direct on 0418 430 284 anytime.
CANTEEN ROSTER

MONDAY 18th May  
J. Short, F. Oselli, T. Kristen

TUESDAY 19th May  
L. Versi, J. Martinez

WEDNESDAY 20th May  
N. Pulitano, G. Beretta, J. Vartuli

THURSDAY 21st May  
S. Lichaa, H. Molina, G. Bartolo

FRIDAY 22nd May  
N. D’Amore, M. Cleary, G. Cowie

MONDAY 25th May  
A. Testa, M. Macri, L. Tomelic

TUESDAY 26th May  
L. La Rosa, L. Pacchiarotta

WEDNESDAY 27th May  
N. Bodagh, N. Matti

THURSDAY 28th May  
S. Orellana, T. Severino, C. Byrne

FRIDAY 29th May  
R. Parker, A. Morozoff, M. Mudaliar

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 20th May
Yr 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Friday 22nd May
2010 college enrolment applications close

Wednesday 20th May
Yr 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Tuesday 26th May
Yr 7, 8, 9 & 11 exams commence

Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th May
Yr 7–2010 interviews

Anzac Day Remembrance

The College will be conducting a raffle to support Caritas Australia. First prize will be a CHOICE of ONE of two jerseys. These are a signed and framed Manly Sea Eagles Jersey from the 2008 premiership winning team and a signed and framed West Tigers jersey from the 2005 Premiership winning team.

Tickets will be $1 each or 6 for $5. Students can purchase tickets at lunch time from the student leaders. Parents and other members of the community can purchase tickets through the College office.

Tickets will be on sale from Tuesday 28th April through to 29th May 2009.