Dear Parents and Friends of the college

On Wednesday evening, April 28, Year 9 students were presented with their laptop computers as a result of funding provided by the Federal Government and the Catholic Education Office. As I watched the presentation, I was reminded once again, of the importance of cyber safety, especially as far as young people are concerned. There are many dangers associated with young people using the internet, such as: access to inappropriate information; inadvertent friendships formed with strangers; becoming victims of cyber bullying; being subjected to advertising pressures; risk to personal health through excessive use; and endangering privacy by revealing personal details about themselves. I think, at times, because young people are quiet and safe in their own house, we become complacent about the above issues, thus placing these people in greater danger.

There are several things parents can do to reduce the dangers and I include the following suggestions: be informed; be aware of what your children are doing on the internet; establish guidelines about safe internet use; teach your children to be critical users of the internet; put in place reasonable boundaries; use blocking software or filters; be prepared to follow up any concerns that you may have. One way to do this is by accessing the NetAlert website, www.netalert.gov.au. This site provides information and direction that will increase safety for young people. I stress that dangers associated with internet use are real and I ask parents to seek avenues to reduce these dangers for their sons and daughters.

Last Thursday, the college was issued with an invitation by the Liverpool Catholic Club to be involved in a Driver Education Course. This course will involve all of our Year 11 students, in the hope that their driving skills and road safety will be increased. The investment by the Catholic Club is quite significant, both financially and in terms of time; it will certainly benefit our students. I thank the Board of Directors and Mr Dave Vidler for their ongoing support and assure them that this will definitely make a difference to the young people of our region.

This term, a number of extra curricular activities are taking place to support students beyond the classroom. The activities include homework support on Tuesdays and Thursdays; study support for senior students on Tuesdays; St Vincent DePaul Night Patrol on Thursday evenings; debating on Friday evenings; Mock Trial; World Youth Day Activities after school; preparation for the Hinchinbrook, West Hoxton Schools Council Concert; Ministers of the Eucharist preparation. I thank the staff of the college for their support of the students and appreciate the opportunities they are affording these young people.

Next week, Year 10 students begin their Mid Year Examinations, followed by students from Years 7,8,9 and 11 in the following weeks. I stress the importance of all students being fully prepared for examinations and the importance of establishing a well-planned and organized study routine. Any students who need help in this area should consult their Pastoral Care teachers.

In the coming week, students in Years 7 and 9 will also sit for the NAPLAN Tests. The NAPLAN...
tests will allow the college to assess areas of proficiency and efficiency for each student in both Literacy and Numeracy. This will allow the college to build on the significant data which already exists on each student, which will further enhance each student’s learning.

This Sunday, we take time to acknowledge mothers across the country. Many mothers make so many considerable sacrifices and give so much for their children. There are many reasons for celebrating Mothers’ Day, but of paramount importance, is the opportunity to show this special individual what they mean to us. It would be wonderful if we were able to take the opportunity to do such a thing more often. We pray for all mothers:

Loving God,
Thank you for mothers who give life and nourishment to their children.
Bless these women that they may be strengthened as faithful mothers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons, and daughters, may love and honour them always.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Happy Mothers’ Day to all mothers.
God bless,

Mr J Lo Cascio,
PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL (ADMINISTRATION)

CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES
The college has been provided with information from Busabout regarding a new bus timetable to operate from Monday, 10th May. From the details obtained, it would appear that the major change is to the bus route number that students are required to catch, although some minor variations to the route may also occur. Copies of the new schedule have been distributed to students and spare copies are available from the college office. In summary, the following changes to bus numbers will occur.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Number</th>
<th>New Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Afternoon Services – New Bus Numbers

Old Number New Number
29 45
53 34
26 40
25 38
55 42
49 59
32 37

YEAR 12 PARENT-TEACHER-LEADER INTERVIEWS
A letter was sent home recently informing parents about the Parent / Teacher / Student interviews for Year 12, to be held on Wednesday, 12th May 2010 from 3.30pm – 7.00pm. It is a college expectation that each student and a parent/carer attend these interviews. The Semester One reports will be available for collection from the college office on the afternoon/evening of the interview. These interviews are opportunities to meet specific teachers and to discuss student progress in each of their courses. Students are required to be in full school uniform for the interviews.

STUDY SKILLS SESSION - PARENTS AND STUDENTS
Advance notice is provided of a parent and student study skills evening to be held at the college on Wednesday, 2nd June from 7.00pm until 8.30pm. The work from the student study skills sessions, that were held earlier will be developed further at this meeting. The timing of this session coincides with the completion of the examination period and it should provide all students with the opportunity to reflect upon the successes and challenges of their study regime. The content of this presentation is different from the student sessions and, as the session is very interactive, parents are strongly encouraged to attend with their son or daughter, to ensure that maximum value is obtained from attending. This workshop aims to provide parents with a greater understanding about what students are expected to do at home and it will explore how parents can contribute to their son’s / daughter’s academic success. There will be no charge for attendance at this session.

Mr P Brooks
Assistant Principal (Administration)

WALKATHON 2010
The Good Samaritan Catholic College Walkathon will be conducted on Friday June 11. This event will give the college the opportunity to raise funds to furnish the new college chapel and hall and to upgrade a number of the college ICT facilities.

In conjunction with the walkathon, the college will be running a major prize draw currently valued at well over a thousand dollars. The more money students raise, the
more chances they have winning one of the major prizes. Students will be issued with their sponsorship cards and additional information on Monday. For those students who start seeking sponsorships early, a number of prize draws will occur in the lead up to the walkathon giving them the opportunity to win some fantastic prizes.

If there are any parents associated with businesses that may be able to contribute to the prize pool for this event, it would certainly be most appreciated. Additionally, if any parents are able to assist in any capacity on the day please contact the college with your details.

WINTER SPORTS UNIFORM
A reminder to all parents that the college has the following expectations of students when wearing their sports uniform to and from school.
When the tracksuit is worn to school, the tracksuit top must be the outer garment that is worn, if necessary, the school jumper can be worn beneath this.
In the event that the college sports uniform is temporarily unavailable, full school uniform must be worn to school. On these occasions, students should have a note from their parent/guardian to explain this.
Thank you for your support in this matter as we work together to maintain the good name of the college in the wider community.

Mr P Scollard
Assistant Principal (Pastoral)

PARENTING CORNER
With MOTHER’S DAY on Sunday I thought I would feature an article I found in a cook book entitled FOUR INGREDIENTS by Kim McCosker and Rachael Bermingham. It is a very good resource for busy Mums and Dads alike as well as a Sister, like me. I quote it below:

A RECIPE FOR ALL MOTHERS
Today I left some dishes dirty; The bed I made at 3.30
The nappies soaked a little longer, The odour grew a little stronger.
The crumbs I split the day before Are staring at me from the floor.
The fingerprints, there on the wall Will likely still be there, next fall.
The dirty streaks on the window panes Will still be there next time it rains.
“Shame on you old lazy bones,” I say “And just what have you done, today?”

I nursed a baby till he slept, I held a toddler while he wept.
I played a game of hide and seek I squeezed a toy, so it would squeak.
I pulled a wagon sang a song,

Taught a child right from wrong.
What did I do this whole day through?
Not much that shows, I guess it’s true...
Unless you think that what I’ve done Might be important to someone
With bright blue eyes and soft blond hair
If that is true, I’ve done my share.

Joanne Green
I guess it is all about getting our priorities right and you can make the adaptations to your own family situation. May all you wonderful Mums out there enjoy a beautifully, blessed day of THANKSGIVING for all your selflessness over many years to get your adolescents to where they are today. May our loving God bless you abundantly.

Sr Marj

YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER
Last week, Year 9 and 10 students participated in an information session about World Youth Day Madrid 2011. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and receive an information pack about the event. World Youth Day is an opportunity for the young Catholics of the world to explore their faith and form a deeper relationship with God. This event is a pilgrimage of faith that starts this year. Students who are expressing interest in attending World Youth Day should be actively looking at ways to participate in Liturgical events both at school and in their local parishes.

Upcoming event:
‘May 21 - Believe Catechesis with Cardinal Pell - Free Youth Event’

900 young people from across Sydney attended last year’s catechesis and more are expected to come this year. ‘Believe’ Catechesis with Cardinal Pell is set to be the biggest Catholic youth gathering in the Archdiocese of Sydney for 2010. The is a FREE ticketed event that will feature amazing music, FREE BBQ, drama, testimonies and an incredible World Youth Day style catechesis by His Eminence. Be excited, be inspired and BELIEVE, because ‘without God we are nothing’. The event will be held at All Saints Liverpool Parish, 48 George Street on the 21st of May. It will begin at 6.30pm with FREE food and a mini-concert in the Parish Hall and will be followed by the catechesis. For more information or for tickets, please see Mrs Dadd.

Mrs E Dadd
Assistant RE Coordinator

REMINDER TO ALL
On Friday 28th May, Good Samaritan Catholic College staff will be attending a Staff Development Day (PUPIL FREE) which is to be held onsite. Please note that student supervision will not be available on this day.
As a college community we are commencing our block of Half Yearly Examinations. The timetable for these examinations is outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>TUESDAY 11TH MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 13TH MAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Language Conventions 45 min</td>
<td>Reading 65 min</td>
<td>Numeracy * 40 min x 2 (80 min total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BREAK Writing 40 min</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</table>

All students have received an examination timetable and all parents should have received a letter from myself and their son’s/daughter’s Pastoral Care teacher outlining the procedure for this period of time. A reminder that students are required to attend school, as normal, during this period. If students are away for any reason they must follow this procedure:

Ring the College to notify Mrs Jarvis/Pastoral Care Coordinator of absence
On first day back, complete an Illness and Misadventure form, stating the reason for the absence. Take this to Mrs Jarvis immediately. CAN I REMIND PARENTS THAT ABSENCE FOR EXAMINATIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY FORMAL DOCUMENTATION (Eg a Doctors Certificate). Failure to do this could result in the student being awarded a zero mark for the task.

Mrs R Jarvis, Curriculum Coordinator

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**2010 National Assessments Yrs 7 and 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>TUESDAY 11TH MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 13TH MAY</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>TUESDAY 11TH MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 13TH MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>BREAK Writing 40 min</td>
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**How long are the national tests for Year 7 and 9?**

NOTE: These are no longer than the Basic Skills Tests that they replace.

A calculator will be required – one currently being used that the student is most familiar with.

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**How to best support your child**

- Ensure your child has a good night sleep;
- Give them a solid healthy breakfast – but don’t overload them;
- Provide healthy snacks and lunch on test days and plenty of water;
- Cut back on after school activities if your child is tired, but encourage fresh; air and a fun play outside;
- Kids pick up cues from us – so keep it low key. The test will cover normal classroom/curriculum work learnt over a period of time – so no extra tutoring or last minute studying is necessary;
- Encourage your child to do their best but don’t put any pressure on them - emphasize that this is just one of many tests they will have during their schooling, and is to help them learn better;

Most of all – reassure them that you are proud of them … for who they are - not what they can do.

No test can ever measure a persons worth.
DEBATING ROUND 1
When the temperature starts to fall and the sound of bells begin to ring around the classrooms it can only mean that the debating season has arrived. On Friday 30th April Good Samaritan launched the debating season for 2010 at Freeman Catholic College. After a successful year of public speaking, Good Samaritan was fortunate to have a plethora of students’ eager to support the college in debating. The last few years have witnessed some great debates between Good Samaritan and Freeman with this year being no exception. Each team had to debate the very difficult topic “That Australia’s health system should be nationalised”. A particularly challenging topic for our younger debaters who were given a week to research anything and everything about Australia’s health system. By the end of each debate it could be said that all students had a greater understanding of our health system and the current political climate. At the conclusion of the night Good Samaritan was victorious in the year 10 and senior divisions. It appears that both teams have every intention of repeating their successful 2009 campaigns. In other debates our year 8 and 9 teams were unfortunately beaten in very close debates. Our year 7 team had a strong debut but was also unlucky not to be awarded a win on the night. Next round all teams will be debating at the college with our juniors taking on Clancy College and our senior team facing Mary MacKillop. Special thanks to Mr Dominish and Ms Wright for adjudicating on the night and our team of coaches and supporters including Mr Lo Cascio, Ms Raso, Mr Turner, Mrs Castillo, Miss Parsons and Mrs Fegatilli.

Mr M Bradbury, Debating Coordinator

Round 1 Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Speaker</th>
<th>YEAR 7</th>
<th>YEAR 8</th>
<th>YEAR 9</th>
<th>YEAR 10</th>
<th>SENIORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea O’Conner</td>
<td>Juan Zarate-Cardona</td>
<td>Rochelle Abbate</td>
<td>Maddison McPherson</td>
<td>Kaylah Arndell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Speaker</td>
<td>Frank Canturi</td>
<td>Celia Iturrieta-Godoy</td>
<td>Sarah Santangelo</td>
<td>Joseph Ragusa</td>
<td>Anthony El Zakhem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Speaker</td>
<td>Harry Butler</td>
<td>Dylan Vidal</td>
<td>Konrad Ryzak</td>
<td>Justin Jarrett</td>
<td>Chanel Gronowski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senior Team: Kaylah Arndell, Anthony El Zakhem, Chanel Gronowski

Year 10 Team: Joseph Ragusa, Maddison McPherson, Justin Jarrett

GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE OPEN DAY

We would like to further acknowledge the following students who so generously gave of their time on Saturday May 13th to help with our Open Day. Their enthusiasm and dedication is very much appreciated. These students helped out in the areas of Science, TAS, CAPA, Business Services and around the school generally to create a wonderful day for our visitors.

Matthew Beazley, Steven Catanea, Jessica Ciccone, Anthony Dalger, Natalie Di Giulio, George El-Boustani, John Fahmi, Ivy Famador, Damian Ferreri, Rebecca Hunt, Helen Nguyen, Maria Nguyen, Dastin Pamonag, Tina Pham, Cristina Reho, Tracy Scutts, Sarah Spadaro, Giulia Tomoleo, Michelle Tran, Sandra Waga, Latoya Walker, Natalie Yelda
TECHNOLOGY NEWS

* Year 9 Laptop Deployment Scheme
All students in Year 9 have recently been provided with a College-managed laptop; and the digital resources the laptop has to offer will be integrated in a number of their class lessons. I would like to remind our students of the following key points that was addressed both at the information evening and a pastoral care meeting:

- The laptop has to be charged and ready for school: It is a requirement that the laptop is fully charged prior to the commencement of the school day. Laptop chargers are not to be brought to school under any circumstances. For technology intensive classes such as IST, the College has a number of spare chargers and batteries for this occasions.
- The portable HDD has been provided for students to back up their work: The HDD is not intended to store personal data (this includes music, videos, etc). Students should see one of the members of the ICT team to enable the full capacity of the drive.
- The laptop is not to be used in any public area: This includes the bus bay, on buses and the school recreation grounds during recess or lunch. The laptop must be kept in its case when it is not in use.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 9 students on the way they have professionally and effectively utilised this tool in their classes so far.

* This edition’s Cyber Safety Tip: Downloading on the internet
Set limits on downloads that your child may perform on the internet. Free games, free music, animated toolbars, and other downloads can expose your computer to spyware or other unwanted software. Depending on the ages of your children, you can teach them not to download software from unknown sources on the Internet or ask your permission before they download anything. This can help to keep unwanted software off your computer.

A child might accidentally infect your computer with spyware or other unwanted software. Some popular sites for children might try to download programs without permission. To avoid this, monitor where your children go online. Update antivirus and anti-spyware software on a regular basis, and make sure that it is turned on.

Mr J Reyes
IT Coordinator

ELEARNING NEWS

The growth of technology over the last few years has caused many changes to our society. Because of the popularity of websites such as Facebook and Web 2.0, we now have the ability to be 'connected' and are living our lives in the public eye more than ever before. Whilst in the past, children and teenagers have relied on the advice given to them by parents and other adults, on how to behave responsibly in a range of social situations, the internet and technology are posing new challenges on how act responsibly in an online, information rich society.

Within our college newsletter each fortnight, we will be providing some helpful tips and websites for parents to better understand the technology. This newsletter edition we include the following:

Click - A Technology guide for parents

This is a site developed by the Department of Education and Training and designed for parents to assist them to come to terms with all things 'tech' in the 21st century. It has some useful information on cyber safety, as well as a glossary of terms used in technology.

Mr G Lozelle
Librarian
With approximately 2 months remaining until completion of our new hall and chapel, construction is well underway.
CatholicCare
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This Parents
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Danielle

Mia

Yr 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
3.30pm—7.30pm

Monday 17th May
2011 Year 7 enrolments close

Wednesday 26th—Thursday 27th May
Yr 7, 2011 Interviews 3.15pm—7.30pm

Friday 28th May
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (PUPIL FREE DAY—NO SUPERVISION AVAILABLE)

GOOD SAMARITAN
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
HINCHINBROOK
401 Hoxton Park Road, Hinchinbrook NSW 2168
PO Box 444, Hoxton Park NSW 2171
Phone: (02) 9825 9955 • Fax: (02) 9825 9966
Email: admin@gscchinchenbrook.catholic.edu.au

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 10th May</th>
<th>F. Oselli, A. Ammellino, S. Arcuri</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11th May</td>
<td>B. Boustany, K. Matti, T. Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12th May</td>
<td>A. Pipicella, A. Macias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th May</td>
<td>S. Lichaa, G. Bartolo, K. Cutler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th May</td>
<td>T. Kristen, P. Puttinger, S. Orellana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17th May</td>
<td>A. Testa, M. Macri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th May</td>
<td>L. Pacchiarotta, G. Camera, G. Natoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th May</td>
<td>J. Vartuli, P. Paull, N. Jargees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th May</td>
<td>L. Valenzano, C. Kairuz, A. Spadaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st May</td>
<td>N. D’Amore, M. Cleary, G. Cownie, C. Mallia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
118th Annual All Saints Parish Debutante Ball—August 7th 2010

It is that time of year again when All Saints Parish is seeking any young ladies aged 15 years and over interested in making their debut. Anyone who is interested or requires any further information is to contact Allie at the Parish Office on 9602 8466 during business hours or on 0413 792 245 after hours. This event is always a wonderful and memorable experience for all!

ROOM IN YOUR HEART FOR CHILDREN?
CatholicCare is looking for people to become foster carers in their permanent care program. Specifically, CatholicCare needs people to provide care for children ranging in age from 3-12 years. For further information please contact Danielle Swane or Bernadette Ahern on 8709 9333, or visit www.fosterkids.com.au

GOOD SAMARITAN
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401 Hoxton Park Road, Hinchinbrook NSW 2168
PO Box 444, Hoxton Park NSW 2171
Phone: (02) 9825 9955 • Fax: (02) 9825 9966
Email: admin@gscchinchenbrook.catholic.edu.au

KIDS HELP LINE 1800 551800
We care and we listen—anytime and for any reason

PARENT LINE 132055 or 1300 301300
Confidential Help 9am—4.40pm Mon to Sat

LIFELINE 131 114
24 hours, 7 days a week telephone service

Good Samaritan Catholic College
Walkathon
Friday 11th June 2010

iConnect Conference, 10th—12th September

This conference, jointly hosted by the Council of Catholic School Parents, the Sydney Federation of Catholic School Parents and the Catholic Education Office, Sydney.

The three key-note speakers are:
- Professor Alma Harris: “A Master Class for School Leadership Teams in parent Engagement in Low SES Communities” - Friday 10th September

For further information please contact Mary Ryan on 9568 8115 or mary.ryan@ceosyd.catholic.edu.au at CEO Leichhardt..