Dear Parents
Happy Fathers Day, for last Sunday, to all fathers. This is a day when we thank our fathers for the contributions they make to our lives and, where possible, spend quality time with them. The following is a light-hearted story that speaks to one of the many roles that fathers play in families. It highlights the wisdom that fathers need when responding to a child’s request, especially when the answer needs to be a “No.”

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss his use of the car. His father said to him, "I’ll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study the bible a little, and get your hair cut; then we'll talk about it."

A month later the boy came back and again asked his father if he could use the car. His father said, "Son, I’m really proud of you. You brought your grades up, studied the bible well, but you didn’t get your hair cut!"

The young man waited a moment and then replied, "You know dad, I’ve been thinking about that. Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair." His father replied gently, "Yes son, and they walked everywhere they went."

***

Our congratulations to Jacinta Vella who, along with a student from each Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Sydney, was presented with the “Archbishop’s Award for Student Excellence”, by Cardinal George Pell, at St Mary’s Cathedral, this week. Jacinta was nominated for the award as a result of her outstanding leadership in the faith dimension of the College, her commitment to her studies and her involvement in all aspects of College life. Patrick Goorkiz read the citation about Jacinta and the ceremony was attended by Jacinta’s family, teachers and a small group of her friends. We particularly thank our Parish Priest, Brother Pat, and Sister Marj for sharing Jacinta’s special day with her. Jacinta is a worthy winner of this very prestigious award.

***

Good Samaritan has been invited by the Catholic Education Office to participate in the Newman Stream Research and Development Project. This is a venture that will provide tremendous opportunities for our gifted (high ability) students. I draw your attention to the letter inserted in this newsletter, which provides more details on this program.

***

Congratulations to the Good Samaritan students who have been “stars” in the last couple of weeks:

Our “Drive to Survive” presentation at the Catholic Club, last week, was absolutely outstanding and showcased our very talented Year 11 students. We were so proud of our performers and the Year 11 students who were such a supportive audience were a credit to the school. We congratulate our singers, Joseph Raso and Isabella Saliba, our dancers, Jessica Csaszar, Josephine Losurdo and Justin Jarrett, our musicians, Jonathon Potter, Joseph Iaconis, Steven Segatto and Ian Doculara and our MCs, Joseph Ragusa and Maddison McPherson.

Our Year 7 “sparkies”, Adam Monti, Marco Gronowski, Aliya Dean and Zahra Huynh who represented the College at the Southern Region Sparkathon, for gifted students, last week.

Dylan Vidal and Chanelle Finau (Year 9) who were selected to represent Good Samaritan at the MISA Youth of the Year Public Speaking Competition this week.
GOOD SAMARITAN DAY

This annual day of celebration will be held on Friday, 16th September. The day will commence with the celebration of the Eucharist, followed by the traditional stalls to raise funds for various outreach services and it will conclude with a concert. The concert this year is being held on the college oval and therefore we ask parents and students to bring a hat and sunscreen and also a picnic rug/towel to sit on. Parents and family members are invited to attend part or all of the day. As was the arrangement in previous years, to assist with logistical arrangements and monitoring movement onto the site, those wishing to be present are asked to contact the college office in advance of the day to register their intention to attend. Entry onto the school site on this day will be restricted to those members of the school community who have registered their intention to attend. No exceptions will be allowed.

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR SEPTEMBER: NEW APPLICATIONS TO HELP MANAGE ONLINE DISTRACTIONS

Distracted by Facebook, YouTube, email or other websites you waste lots of time on? Students have found the following applications really useful. And they like the fact they get to make the decisions about how and when to use it.

FOR MACINTOSH USERS:

“SelfControl” is a free downloadable application which blocks access to incoming and/or outgoing mail servers and websites for a predetermined period of time. For example, you could block access to your email, Facebook, and twitter (you choose the websites to be blocked) for 40 minutes (you choose the time), but still have access to the rest of the web so you can do research and other work. Once you start the time, it cannot be undone by the application, by deleting the application, or by restarting the computer – you must wait for the timer to run out. Students have found this is a great way to manage technology distractions, set the timer for 30 minutes and do 30 minutes of effective work without being distracted by your technology!

FOR PC USERS:

While there is no free version of the “SelfControl” software available for PC users, you can download a similar program called “Freedom” for a small fee. You can even try it out 5 times for free then after that you are charged a $10 one-off licence fee. Freedom is a simple tool that locks you out of all networking (Internet browsing, email) for anywhere from 15 minutes to 8 hours. And once you invoke it, there’s no way to quit out of it, short of rebooting your computer. This is not as good as the Mac program above as with that program even rebooting does not work! However as rebooting is a pain, it is likely you will stick it out and keep working when it is only for another 15 minutes or so. The other issue is it locks you out of the Internet completely, whereas with the Mac software above you get to choose which sites you are blocked from but you could keep researching on the web - not the case with this software. However, if you are distracted by everything on the internet, then maybe this is the software for you!


Parents may also want to check out the new ‘core concepts’ page for each unit. This page is a summary for parents and teachers who would like to know the main ideas covered in the unit without having to wade through all of the videos, audio files and activities that the students work through. Obviously there is much more detail in the unit, but this will provide you with the key points and quickly direct you to the sections of the unit where you can find further information. It is also useful for students who would like an overview of the content covered before they start working through the unit, or who would like to quickly review the key concepts at a later stage. You may also notice a new look to the start of each unit, making navigation through the unit clearer and simpler whether you are a parent, teacher or student.

Our school’s subscription details to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au are -

User name: forgscconly
Password: 48results

Mr P Brooks
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Archbishops Award for Student Excellence - congratulations to Jacinta Vella
Student Welfare Coordinator

To the Parents

In the last issue I wrote about how parents play a major role in developing resilience in their children. I quoted from the respected parenting educator, Michael Grose, who has written that in the busyness of life and in a fast-changing, modern world many parents feel confused about the best way to raise their children. He states that in his experience of over twenty years in parent education over parenting has replaced under parenting. While it’s not their fault that they can be overprotective, such well-meaning parents can prevent their children from learning to solve their own problems and developing their personal resourcefulness. I wish to continue this theme in this article.

Have realistic goals for your children

Many children today experience excessive parent pressure to perform at continuously high standards. Of course expectations about success and achievement are important. However, if they are too high, children give up. If there is too much pressure, children become anxious. There are highly anxious children sitting in every class.

Parents help your children to persevere

Parents can sometimes let children give up a learning or leisure activity too easily. Research shows that resilient learners link success with effort so allowing children to give up too easily weakens their resolve. Resilient students don’t give up because they dislike their teacher or the task is too complex for them. Similarly, they don’t resign from a sporting team because they are not winning matches or have become bored with the sport.

Develop independence early

Many modern parents are so anxious about their children’s safety that they neglect to give them opportunities to develop independence outside their homes. Many children are driven everywhere rather than walk or use public transport even when it’s safe and readily accessible. Today’s children have less freedom than those of past generations, which hinders their ability to assess risk.

Let your children experience being out of their comfort zone

There are many times when children are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones. For instance, giving a talk, performing at the school concert or going on the school camp may be challenges that your children have to confront. Children will put pressure on their parents to rescue them. Parents then make excuses or allow their child to stay at home. Parents who rescue their children from learning situations, take away opportunities for them to challenge themselves and to learn from their experiences.

All parents want what is best for their children. They want their children to be able to bounce back from the setbacks and disappointments that are part and parcel of life. When you teach your children how to cope with life’s challenges rather than protecting them from the challenge, you are helping them to learn skills that will serve them for their lives.

Mr M Bell
Student Welfare Coordinator

World Youth Day Corner

World Youth Day was the most amazing experience a young 16 year old could ever ask for. Being able to travel thousands of kilometres away from home to an old traditional country like Italy than meet the world in Spain for a week! What more could you ask for.

In Italy we had plenty of time to pray silently and to reflect on our journey so far. For me, my God moment was in the Assisi in the Church of all Angels. Inside it was complete silent and the only light was by the candles. As a knelted and prayed, I felt so calm and peaceful. You could not hear a thing. The only thing I heard was the sound of a tear drop that landed on my pilgrim journal but I didn't shed a tear from sadness, I was so centred with myself it was magically, I couldn't help but shed one or two tears. Nicole Cameron, Student

World Youth Day has changed the way I believe and has definitely made me stronger in my faith. The moment when the pope waved at us, I felt as though I had been blessed. I met so many great people on this trip and saw so many beautiful and historic places. My ‘God moment’ would definitely have to be our visit to the Sistine Chapel. Realising how much faith Michelangelo had to paint such a beautiful art piece inspired me. There are so many great memories that we have now, but the funniest was when we climbed up 551 stairs of the Vatican dome. When we reached the top, it was getting difficult. Monique and I could barely fit through the hallway. But when we reached the top, the view was amazing! Memories like these make me so grateful for the trip. We all had such a great time with Ms Welsh and Mr Badolato and I will never forget the trip of a lifetime. Melissa Arndell, Student

GIFTED EDUCATION

The Good Samaritan team of four Year 7 students, Adam Monti, Marco Gronowski, Aliya Dean and Zahra Huynh represented our College fabulously at the Sparkathon, a thinking skills academic challenge held at Aquinas College this year. The students were matched up with Year 6 students from Holy Spirit Primary, Carnes Hill and Good Shepherd Primary, Hoxton Park. It was a great chance to meet future Good Samaritan students and meet old primary school friends. The students had to multi task, completing challenges on Mathematics, General Knowledge and Creative Arts, as well as building a catapult to get medical supplies across a river in a flooded town! There were a lot of fun activities and it was a wonderful opportunity for our students to meet other like minded students in a relaxed and creative setting!

Look out for other opportunities to get involved at school. Set yourself the challenge of doing something out of your comfort zone like these Year 7 students have done!

Ms C Ong
Gifted Education
An evening with Year 12 showcase

On August 24, students from Year 12 showcased their major works at the college. Parents, family and friends had the opportunity to see TAS and Art works and Music performances.

Music students performed one piece each from their HSC repertoire. The hall provided the venue for these amazing performances and songs ranged from Johnny Be Goode, Chopin, Muse and Metallica, just to name a few.

Everyone also had the opportunity to observe the fantastic designs from Wood and Graphics. Everyone was amazed at the outstanding quality of these works. There were TV units, outdoor settings and even a fish tank!!

Later in the evening everyone was fed by the Year 12 Hospitality students and no one was disappointed! There were a variety of foods, both savoury and sweet.

Year 12 Art students displayed contemporary artworks, photos, videos and charcoal drawings in the Gallery.

We would also like to thank students from year 7 -11 who displayed their works and performed during the evening.

Students have worked extremely hard throughout their HSC course to produce these fabulous works. We would like to thank all the teachers for their time and effort and also to the parents who supported their children throughout this stressful, yet exciting time.

Ms Popovic
CAPA Coordinator

Year 10 Textiles

Earlier on in the year, year 10 Textiles Technology students completed Art Quilt design projects and portfolios. The theme for their quilt was Self Portraits. Students investigated fabric decoration and manipulation techniques such as appliqué, hand and machine embroidery, dyeing, quilting, cording and direct digital printing to name a few. Bonnie Zivcic and Kristine Flores have had their art quilts entered into the TEA NSW Art Quilt Challenge, which is an annual competition, where if selected, students will have their quilts displayed at the Texstyle exhibition in Sydney along side with the year 12 major works. All the best to Bonnie and Kristine and well done to all year 10 Textiles students.

Miss K Sobkowski
Textiles and Design TAS Teacher
Year 8 Food Technology

MacKillop Assembly

29th August 2011
Meritorious Students From The 2011 Science Competition

Credits awarded to the following students:

**Year 7**
- Bryan Aguilar
- Christopher Bebawi
- Angelo Beretta
- Emma Jarrett
- Robert Kingston
- Jeffrey Lai
- Matthew Wakim

**Year 8**
- Annabelle Alverne
- Luke Clinch
- Sean Cutler
- Eirene Magsino
- Nathan Oselli

**Year 9**
- Monika Caraballo
- Cory Lenci
- Regine Marte
- Tayla Price
- Michael Rodriguez

**Year 10**
- Marco Beretta
- Sinead Cummins
- Daniel Kamalaneson
- Josephine Losurdo
- Juan Montoya
- Francis Pham
- Alec Salopek
- Sarah Santangelo
- Khatelynne Tablante
- Bonnie Zivcic

Distinctions awarded to the following students:
- Nehal Prasad (Year 7)
- Kristy Bartels (Year 9)

High Distinction awarded to the following student:
- Melanie Thomas (Year 10)

Drive to Survive Gala Night

The Drive to Survive Gala night was held last Monday. The College portrayal of the Drive to Survive program was in 3 sections. The first, students performed a song called ‘Drive’. During this there was a video presentation of a young man going for his provisional license and ensuring that he follows the SMART elements from the program. At the end of this the young man receives his license and the song ‘Shut up and Drive’ begins. This portrays the young driver who, through dramatic dance, tries to uphold the elements of the program but ultimately becomes distracted by his peers and is involved in an accident. Finally the song ‘Too late to Apologise’ starts and the dramatic dance continues and looks at the consequences of unsafe driving.

The students performed brilliantly on the night. The musicians were spot on and kept the timing brilliantly so that the dancers were able to keep the beat. The dancers were very well choreographed and their timing was also very impressive. Congratulation to all involved for representing the college so brilliantly and dedicating many hours to rehearse.

Thanks to the musicians: Joseph Iaconis, Steven Segatto, Ian Doculara, Jonathon Potter and Joey Raso, the singers Joseph and Isabella Saliba. The dancers Justin Jarrett, Jessica Csaszar and Josephine Losurdo, as well as Jessica Csaszar for her work on the video.

Thanks also to Ronnie Dalger, Julie Fahmi, Georgina Kaka, Annelise Fegatilli, Simone Mrdjen, Zoe Smith, Laura Hughes, Michaela Hodge and Brittany Kirby for their efforts in planning and preparation and all of the other students who were involved in the initial planning, as well as all of the teachers, students and family who supported on the night.

Thanks also to Mr Mungia, Ms Hughes, Ms Popovic and Mr Scollard for their guidance of the students in their discipline as well as Mr Turner and Mr Zahra for their work during the night.

Mr D Costin
Year 11 Coordinator

National Literacy and Numeracy Week
National Literacy and Numeracy Week

National Literacy and Numeracy Week is an annual event in which students from around the country celebrate these two facets of education in a variety of contexts. At Good Samaritan Catholic College, activities that were both engaging and challenging were presented to our students. Some of the activities that our students were faced with involved daily anagrams, where students were required to find the word of the day. This activity lasted for a fortnight, upon the event’s conclusion students were required to submit their answers.

Estimating competitions were also held where students were required to use their mathematical knowledge and put their physical skills to practice. One of the estimating competitions held involved guessing when a Mr Potato Head frozen in a block of ice would completely break free of the ice. Other such events included students estimating how many consecutive throws of a basketball they could get through the hoop and a target throw competition. Moreover students were also required to put their probability skills into action at our Games of Chance booths.

The winners of these events were:

**Daily Anagrams:** Christopher Woollett (Year 7), Gian Thompson (Year 8), Madelaine DeLeon (Year 9), Konrad Ryzak (Year 10) and Pierre Estephan (Year 12).

**Mr Potato Head:** Alessandro Mosca (Year 7)

**Basketball Throwing Competition:** Connie Pipicello (Year 11), Vincent Calabro (Year 9)

**Target Throw:** Nikkia Upson (Year 10) & Alessandro Mosca (Year 7)

**Games of Chance:** Melanie Thomas (Year 10)

Special thanks go to the numerous teachers that supported all these events, and a very special thank you goes to Mark Bawalan, Bruno Romeo, Rebecca Arcuri, Alyssa Cook, Erika Brocklehurst, John Pham Le, Patrick Goorkiz, Pierre Estephan, and Pierre Goorkiz of Year 12 for giving up their lunch times to support the Games of Chance activities throughout the week.

**Mrs J Tolomeo & Mr G Georgiou**

National Child Protection Week

4-11 September 2011

This year's theme is: **Play Your Part** to keep children safe.

**FACTS FROM NAPCAN**

All members of the community share responsibility for creating a safe community for children. This may involve becoming informed of indicators of child abuse; knowing how to how to report concerns about child abuse; supporting families under stress in your neighbourhood; educating others; not remaining silent; getting help for oneself.

**What's it about?** Go to [http://www.napcan.org.au](http://www.napcan.org.au) and find out how you can be involved.

The feast of the Triumph of the Cross 14th September

This is an ancient feast and amongst the Eastern orthodox and Catholic Churches is called, "Raising Aloft of the Precious Cross.

The True Cross, that is the cross on which Jesus was crucified, is said to have been discovered in 326 by the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine I, Helena of Constantinople, during a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem was then built at the site of the discovery.

The Feast of the Holy Cross grew in importance to counteract heresies that grew up regarding Christ’s human nature. This was true of Arians and the Monophysites. With both of these heresies, the human nature of Jesus was either subjugated to His divine nature or did not exist altogether. If this was the case, then Jesus made no human sacrifice on the cross, so there was really no point to Jesus’ suffering or death because God can’t die.

This celebration is not one of the morbid, but rather one of celebration, a reverencing of the victory that Christ had over death. It is an initiating in of new epoch where we will not endure the decimation of death but rather the victory of new life. It is not only a reverencing of the cross on which Christ physically died but more importantly an act of self dedication to Christ and His call to us that we take up our cross daily and follow Him.

**Mr P Kingsman**

RE Coordinator
GOOD SAMARITAN
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
HINCHINBROOK

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PO Box 444, Hoxton Park NSW 2171
Phone: (02) 9825 9955  •  Fax: (02) 9825 9966
Email: admin@gscchinbrook.catholic.edu.au

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

PARENT LINE  132055 or 1300 301300
Confidential Help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

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

Healthy Breakfast Corner

Last week during our regular Breakfast service on Thursday our students enjoyed their toast and with a twist...to the beats of 80's music!

Friday breakfast was our “Balkan” theme- with music from a number of Eastern European countries complemented by the selling of traditional palacinke (delicious thin pancakes) filled with nutella or strawberry jam.

Many thanks to all who have assisted with the Breakfast Club. A special thanks to Mr. Micev for the fantastic selection of music as well as Miss Sulentic, Miss Najdek, Miss Bilaver and Mrs. Golubic for their fine culinary skills!

Finally a big thank you and farewell to our Year 12 Breakfast students who have volunteered their mornings over the past 18 months to serve the GSCC community!

Best

Wishes and Good Luck!

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 16th Sept</td>
<td>GOOD SAMARITAN DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22nd Sept</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM 3</td>
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<td>Monday 10th Oct</td>
<td>FIRST DAY OF TERM 4</td>
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<td>Friday 16th Sept</td>
<td>GOOD SAMARITAN DAY</td>
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Notice from RTA

Parents and students of Good Samaritan will have noticed that roadworks are nearing completion and in particular the new road access for residents opposite Good Samaritan and adjacent to the Hoxton Park Shops. This access is strictly for residents only and the RTA have requested we advise parents and students of Good Samaritan to not park in or use this access for drop off of students at any time. We ask you adhere to these instructions from the RTA.

Thank you.

Mr J Archer
Business Manager

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 12th Sept</td>
<td>R. Raso, R. Pope</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 13th Sept</td>
<td>L. Versi, L. La Rosa</td>
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<td>Wed 14th Sept</td>
<td>J. Vartuli, L. Duncombe, N. Jargees</td>
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<td>Thurs 15th Sept</td>
<td>C. Byrne, A. Demasi</td>
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<td>GOOD SAMARITAN DAY</td>
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<td>C. Magsino, D. Gavalas, J. Roccisano</td>
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<td>Thurs 22nd Sept</td>
<td>G. Bartolo, K. Cutler, R. Origlia</td>
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<td>Fri 23rd Sept</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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Year Coordinators Award

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<td>7</td>
<td>Grace Riotto</td>
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<td>Courtney Reylin</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Abdo Youssef</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Andre Callus</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Steven Segatto</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Anthony Abbate</td>
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Italian proverb of the week

Il fine giustifica i mezzi - the end justifies the means