Dear Parents,

During our first College Assembly a couple of weeks ago, we acknowledged our high achievers in both the Higher School Certificate and School Certificate. Pierre Goorkiz, our College Dux for 2011, was quite inspirational in his address to students and staff. He used the 2011 College theme ‘Have Faith’, and the following is an excerpt from his speech:

“The College’s theme for 2011 was ‘Have Faith’ and I really couldn’t suggest a better sentiment for you to carry throughout your HSC and schooling life. After all, ‘Faith’ has always been that small nudge of courage that pushed us into the deep end; that innate, intangible force that so often guided us out of the despairing depths; that first gulp of fresh air that filled every fibre of our bodies with the strength and determination to carry on.

I would go as far as to say that faith is that fine line dividing success from failure. However, the question remains, into whom (or what) do we pour our faith?

Have faith in your family...
Have faith in your teachers...
Have faith in your friends...
Have faith in God, through whom we believe all things are made possible. Trust that he will bless you with peace, clarity and determination even in your deepest and darkest hours when all seems lost.

Have faith that his light will shine through your actions and your achievements and remember that when one door closes, he will open two others.

Lastly, (if you would excuse the cliché) have faith in yourself. Have faith in your ability to achieve whatever it is you set your mind to; that you may access your greatest potential and fulfill your largest goals. Trust in yourself to persevere; to desperately hold on to every ounce of determination, courage and motivation that you possess as you journey through the school years and latter life.

You alone are the architect of your ambitions. Have faith that you will achieve them.”

Pierre, like our other graduating students from 2011, is an absolute credit to our College.

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Our Student Leaders were also presented with their badges at this Assembly and these were blessed by Father Peter Smith at our Opening School Mass. I, once again, congratulate the following students and commend them for the commitment and enthusiasm they have already demonstrated in their leadership roles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains:</th>
<th>Justin Jarrett</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Leaders:</td>
<td>Maddison McPherson, Charbel Abou Fram, Renee Boreta, Jessica Csaszar, Jeffrey El Boustani, Annelise Fegatilli, Joseph Iaconis, Georgina Kaka, Kobey Martin, Jonathon Potter, Joseph Ragusa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 Leaders:</td>
<td>Marco Beretta, Maddison Coluccio, Patrick Ferreri, Yannick L’Eveille, Josephine Losurdo, Cassandra Monjo, Vianna Nguyen, Daniel Ussia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Leaders:</td>
<td>Carla Donoso, Domenico Raco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Leaders:</td>
<td>Harry Butler, Victoria Criniti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Leaders:</td>
<td>Zahra Huynh, Adon Villaverde</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Have faith that his light will shine through your actions and your achievements and remember that when one door closes, he will open two others.
I thank Father Peter Smith for the support he continues to give our College and sincerely thank him and the Lurnea Parish Council for their initiative in introducing a perpetual student grant from St Francis Xavier Parish. This grant will assist a Year 12 student with their university studies and is awarded to a practicing Catholic in the St Francis Xavier Parish. We congratulate Andrew Wright, the inaugural recipient of this award.

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Our College is heavily involved in the Archdiocesan Performing Arts Production of ‘Tell Me A Story’ which will be held at the Entertainment Centre in June. Congratulations to Yannick L’Eveille, Julia Fahmi, Sean Bermingham and Rebecca Gore who successfully auditioned for lead roles in the specialist vocal and drama ensemble, and Josephine Losurdo and Michaela Hodge who are in the specialist dance ensemble. In addition about 30 of our junior students are in the massed choir and another 30 in the massed movement. I have never experienced a school that has so many talented and willing performers as there are at Good Samaritan, so this will be a wonderful experience for them. A number of Southern Region rehearsals will be held in our College Hall. Thank you to Mrs Popovic, Mr Munguia and Miss Welsh for their generosity in making the huge time commitment to this endeavour in support of our students.

*****************

Well done to the students who generously gave up their time last Saturday morning to provide food for the homeless in the city as part of the St Vincent de Paul ‘Brekky Van’ - Adrian D’Onofrio, Joseph Iaconis, Carina Bilotta, Khanh Nguyen, Isabella Saliba, Jasmine Phimphrachanh, Daniel Rodriguez, Sarah Tacca, Nika Morozoff, Rebecca Gore and Tiffany McPherson. I also thank Miss Bilaver for her organizational efforts and Mr Turner and Mr Howard for their attendance and supervision of students on Saturday. It is wonderful that our students have the opportunity to support such a worthy cause.

*****************

While on the topic of sports uniforms, parents would be aware that students are only permitted to wear their sports uniform to school on Tuesdays and the one day they have a double period of PDHPE in the two week cycle. The latter is a privilege and this will be revoked if some students continue to ‘play the system’ by wearing their sports uniforms on other days. The abuse of this privilege is being carefully monitored from next week. I am sure you would agree that students present much better in their College uniform so we wish to minimize the number of students in their sports uniform on any given day.

*****************

We look forward to our College Swimming Carnival this week.

Ms J Donovan

Assistant Principal

Changes to School Attendance in NSW
As mentioned in the last Newsletter changes to the Schools Act in NSW have lead to a number of changes with regard to student attendance responsibilities. Included with this newsletter is a brochure which outlines the changes and parents legal responsibilities.

School Caps
Thank you to parents for your overwhelming support as the College has adopted a policy of students needing to have a College Cap on sports afternoons and during practical PDHPE lessons. I am sure you agree that in a country such as Australia, with such a high incidence of skin cancer, everything we can do to model and promote sun safe behaviours is worthwhile.

Safe drop off and pick up
A reminder to parents of the following simple rules which keep all of the students at Good Samaritan safe when arriving at and departing school each day:

- Parents wishing to drop students off in the morning are required to turn right at the main roundabout into the bus bay with students alighting from the vehicle in the designated area at the eastern end of the bus bay. Pulling up short of this point inconveniences other families and disrupts traffic flow.
- In the afternoon, access to the college bus bay for vehicles wishing to pick students up will commence after 3.10pm. No vehicles will be allowed in the college grounds before this time. Again, students should be collected from the far eastern end of the bus bay area and nowhere else.
- The main roundabout at the entrance to the college is “no stopping” at all times.

I apologize for any inconvenience caused by difficulties in obtaining the new sports uniform. This has occurred because the supplier was uncertain about the number of older students who would wish to purchase this. You would understand that we need to outfit the Year 7 students before other year groups. We are hopeful that more stock will become available as soon as possible. The supplier will be at the school on Wednesday afternoons from 2.45 until 4.45.
Every parent wants their children to be happy and successful at school. The question is how do parents support their children to achieve their best at school? Most parents are realistic about their children’s academic potential. They realise that not everyone can come first in each subject area.

So how do parents encourage and support their children without adding too much pressure through unfair expectations? This is not an easy task. How do you balance encouragement and pushing your child to do their best?

Every parent knows their child better than anyone else. A parent will know when encouragement is best, when to push and when to back off. That doesn’t mean you’ll always get it right. There will be delicate situations and your best intentions will backfire. That’s just how life is.

Research suggests that there are some fundamental factors that help to maximise students’ chances of being successful. Parents can guide their children along the path to success by helping them to:

- adopt a positive attitude to all areas of their life even failure
- make a choice to be happy
- develop meaningful relationships (especially with you, their parents)
- exercise regularly
- set realistic goals and work to achieve them
- focus on their strengths
- be organised – this requires effort and time
- manage their time – don’t have the TV or Facebook on during homework/study

One key factor in being happy and successful at school is for students to become involved in the life of the College. When students participate in extra curricular activities they develop stronger relationships both with teachers and other students. This bond creates a deeper sense of belonging and acceptance within the students and makes for happier and successful young people.

I would ask parents to talk to their children about taking part in the many, varied activities that are offered here at the College.

Mr M Bell
Student Welfare Coordinator
Tell me a story

Rehearsals have begun for the CaSPA Festival. Students have a rehearsal every Thursday at lunch time in the P Block.

This is an exciting time for students. They are very eager and dedicated with their singing and dancing. Mr Munguia, Miss Welsh and Ms Capuzza are doing a wonderful job rehearsing and guiding the students.

Our first cluster rehearsal with other schools from the Liverpool region is on 21st March. The massed choir will be at Holy Spirit Hall, Carnes Hill and the massed movement will be at our college hall.

A note will be given to each student at the beginning of March. Please see Mrs Popovic for further details.

Public Speaking Comes to GSCC

Good Samaritan will be hosting the first round of the CSDA Public Speaking competition on Friday 2nd March this year. This is the first time our college has hosted this event which features Catholic schools from across the Sydney metropolitan area. This is a great opportunity for our college to showcase its’ great public speaking talent who have excelled over our short history.

At the moment trials are still being held to determine our two representatives in each division from Year 7 to Year 12. This is the first time that trials have needed to occur in each year group demonstrating the growth of public speaking in recent years. To accommodate the increased interest in public speaking and help support the college’s new house cup there will be house competitions held in each year group from Year 7 to Year 10. Any student interested in supporting their house’s quest for the house cup should attend a public speaking meeting or see me to register their interest. No previous experience is required.

Mr M Bradbury
Public Speaking and Debating Coordinator

RE Coordinator

As we have now entered into the season of Lent we can often get caught up in focusing on what he have done wrong, how we may have sinned against God and what sacrifice we will make to hopefully make God forgive us. Lent thought should be a time when we are focusing on what we will do to change our hearts and re-focus our lives towards the Good, that means learning to think of others not ourselves.

God does not seek sacrifice but justice and mercy. To help change our hearts then let us make sure that we are really generous with Project Compassion which makes the lives of the poor better and brings justice and mercy to the most oppressed economically and politically. If each student and staff member in Good Samaritan is able to raise $25 for Project Compassion then we will be able to donate $30,000. Let us make good our lives by changing our attitudes and giving generously.

Mr P Kingsman, RE Coordinator
**Disability Provisions for the Higher School Certificate Examinations 2012**

**Information for Students and Parents**

**What are Disability Examination Provisions?**
The Office of the Board of Studies has developed a special examination provisions program to assist students in completing the Higher School Certificate examinations. The Board of Studies aims to offer practical support by allowing provisions for students who may have a special examination need—whether it is related to a physical condition, visual impairment, hearing loss, trouble expressing ideas in writing or a reading difficulty.

**How do I make an application for Disability Provisions?**
- If you require more information Mrs C Leonello will be available from Monday to Thursday to answer any questions.
- Fill out the form available from Mrs C Leonello giving permission for the school to put in an application for you. Return it to Mrs C Leonello as soon as possible.
- Be prepared to go through a process of discussion and some assessing in order to put in an application. There is a considerable amount of information to gather and applications need to be submitted to the Board of Studies by the end of Term 1. For some provisions, Medical Certificates will need to be collected, supporting the application.

Please contact the Mrs C Leonello via the college office if you have any further questions.

Mrs C Leonello  
(Learning Support Teacher)

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**Textiles News**

Congratulations to Bonnie Zivcic of Year 11, who has had her Year 10 Textiles and Design Art Quilt selected for inclusion in the Art Quilt Challenge Exhibition at "The Muse" Sydney Institute of Technology, Ultimo. The exhibition will be held from Monday 27th February to Saturday 3rd March in conjunction with the Textiles and Design Year 12 major works exhibition "Textyle". Well done Bonnie!
2011 Dux of the College
Pierre Goorkiz

Year Coordinator’s Award

Year 7  John Hemmings
Year 8  Adam Monti
Year 10 Georgina Ciampa
Year 12 Carrol De Guzman

Congratulations

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS
Monday to Thursday only each week  7.30am - 8.20am
Also open
28th Feb; 13th March; 27th March from
12 noon to 3.45pm

Sport Uniform 2.45pm and 4.45pm on
Wednesdays 29th Feb and 7th March to take
orders for the new College Sports Uniform (A
deposit needs to be paid upon ordering).

Italian Proverb

All’orso paion belli i suoi orsacchiotti –
beauty is in the eye of the
beholder

Staff vs Students Basketball
DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 6th March
Year 12 Parent/Teacher/Student interviews

Tuesday 13th March
Vaccinations all Year 7

YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS
South Western Sydney Area Health Service will be visiting Good Samaritan to administer dTpa (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) and HPV vaccinations on Tuesday 13th March to all Year 7 students. All Year 7 female students are to receive the 1st dose HPV vaccine.

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

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27th Feb</td>
<td>A. Ammellino, R. Raso, S. Sloane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 28th Feb</td>
<td>A. Sarpa, C. Ferella, L. La Rosa, A. Jirathammakul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29th Feb</td>
<td>J. Vartuli, L. Duncombe, N. Jargees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 1st March</td>
<td>M. Castiglione, G. Gilvear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 2nd March</td>
<td>D. Razlog, J. Jamhour, D. Doherty, P. Tragai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 5th March</td>
<td>G. Cownie, L. Losurdo, R. Pope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 6th March</td>
<td>L. Versi, N. Babawi, A. Jirathammakul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 7th March</td>
<td>C. Magsino, D. Gavalas, A. Morozoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 8th March</td>
<td>S. Lichaa, G. Bartolo, K. Cutler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 9th March</td>
<td>T. Kristen, P. Puttenger, J. Gardner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OPEN DAY
Saturday 17 March
11.00am - 1.00pm

Presentation in the College Hall • 11.00am

The Good Samaritan community extends an invitation to prospective parents and students wishing to enrol for 2013. All are welcome to attend.

The Good Samaritan Catholic College is a community committed to quality education.

Students are encouraged to strive for excellence in all aspects of their lives, in a Catholic environment based on the values taught by Jesus Christ.

Journeying with Compassion