Dear Parents and Friends of the College,

Welcome back to Term 2. Miss Sulentic led us in the following prayer at our staff briefing last week. Her message was very simple, but relevant, as we commence a new term:

Loving God,
We need the power of your spirit in our lives, to build on what is good and to help change what needs to be changed.
We pray that we may be faithful in responding to your call to grow as the people you have called us to be,
that we may ring out your praises through the way we live each day.
Amen

Last week we commenced our enrolment interviews for Year 7, 2013. It is always enjoyable meeting new families and reconnecting with families who already have children in our school. Parents are always so positive when they explain why they have applied for enrolment at Good Samaritan. Their reasons usually relate to their observations on the behavior and achievements of our existing students and they indicate that they want their sons and daughters to have similar experiences.

A reminder to parents that the closing date for submission of enrolment applications is Friday, May 11th, 2012.

Congratulations to our Good Samaritan ‘stars’ on their achievements over the last couple of weeks:

Our boys’ open futsal team who were successful at the regional level and will now progress to the state championships.

Thank you to Mrs Celea for her coaching expertise.
Gabriel Mendosa (Year 12) and Romer Macapuno (Year 11) and their dance group, ‘Kookies and Kream’, who have progressed to the semi-finals of ‘Australia’s Got Talent’.
Jake Ingle (Year 12) and Luca Marongiu (Year 11) who have been selected in the Southern Sydney Opens Soccer team to compete in the NSWCCC competition.
Jamon Wormleaton (Year 9) who was selected in the Southern Sydney Under 15 touch football team to compete in the NSWCCC competition.

Well done and good luck to these students.

Ms J Donovan
PRINCIPAL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Faith
Now Disciple
Knowledge

JOURNEYING WITH COMPASSION
Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms Iannizzi and Ms Romolo who were acknowledged as “Targeted Graduates” at a recent ceremony at the Catholic Education Office, Sydney. Each year the CEO targets outstanding University students who are preparing to commence their teaching career. Both Ms Romolo and Ms Iannizzi went through a rigorous selection process to be included in the 2012 Targeted Graduates Scheme. We are very lucky at Good Samaritan to have them join our learning community and the dedicated staff.

Safe Travel

We have received notice recently from the local Police to advise of a small number of incidents in the local area where school students have been approached by strangers in cars as they have been making their way home. This should remind each of us about some basic strategies for ensuring safe travel to and from school:

⇒ Always walk straight home or to school – take the most direct and open route.
⇒ If you feel unsafe at any time seek assistance from someone you trust – someone in a shop or other business, a library or school or a member of the police force.
⇒ Do not speak to people you do not know and never approach a car if a stranger calls out to you.
⇒ If you are scared and have a phone call 000
⇒ Wherever possible walk with a friend.

Parents please take the time to remind your sons and daughters of these basic principles associated with safe travel to and from school.

Winter Uniform

It has been wonderful to see the students return to school this term wearing their winter uniform. The positive image of the College which they present when wearing their blazers and ties is commented on regularly by members of the wider community. I take this opportunity to remind students that they are expected to wear their blazer to and from school every day. Boys are also expected to wear their ties as a part of their winter uniform with their top buttons done up.

Sydney Archdiocesan Performing Arts Festival

Many of you would be aware that we have a large number of students involved in the Sydney Archdiocesan Performing Arts Festival to be held at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on June 20 and 21. We have approximately 30 students in the massed choir and a number of students in the massed movement as well as 6 students who successfully auditioned for lead roles. All students in Year 7 and elective Music and Drama students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be attending one of the matinee performances on June 21. Tickets are also available to parents and friends for the evening performances on June 20 and 21. Tickets are $35.00 per person and need to be ordered in advance through the College Office.

A Letter and order form accompanies this newsletter.

Mr P Scollard
Assistant Principal

Religious Education

During the Easter Season at times, it seems the mystery of the resurrection becomes second-hand news; we have all heard it before and it is nothing new. What we do not know of is that we do not know when we will really encounter the risen Lord. The Lord’s disciples struggled with the reality of the resurrection in those early days of discovering His empty Tomb and they often encountered Him in the most unlikely places; locked rooms, journeys to other towns; in the words of other people and on the shores of familiar places.

This Easter season is about us being open to the fact that we can encounter the risen Lord in the most unlikely places and people. Like the disciples we may not even know that we are in the presence of the risen Lord and it may not even be until He has left that we realise that He was amongst us. I pray that we are able to watch and listen so that we can recognise Jesus when He is in our presence.

I would like to congratulate Luke Clinch who received an award at the assembly today from the Executive Director of Catholic Education, Dr Dan White. This award was for the High Distinction that Luke achieved in the Religious Literacy Test that he sat last year with a score of 48 out of 50.

As you are aware part of our Easter preparations at Good Samaritan Catholic College is to participate in Project Compassion where we raise money for Caritas, the official charity arm of the Catholic Church in Australia. This money goes to assist the local, wider Australian and international communities and is particularly aimed at education and the development of self-sufficiency amongst communities in need. This year the community raised $7206.70 which is a $3000 increase on last year’s total. I would like to congratulate the entire College community on this effort.

Easter Prayer

Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate
Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen
Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing
Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty
Christ is Risen indeed from the dead, the first of the sleepers,
Glory and power are his forever and ever

St. Hippolytus (AD 190-236)

Mr P Kingsman
Religious Education Coordinator
Parent’s Corner

Recently I have been doing some research on what teenage girls and boys worry about most. In this article we will look at what concerns girls. This includes appearance, the security of their friendships, academic progress, how to attract friends and deal with rejection that come along and dealing with their emotions around attraction for boys.

For girls, one key issue centres on appearance and body image. The British Journal of Psychology reported that 70% of 7 year old girls want to be thinner and that 50% of 9 year old girls have been on a diet. Incidentally, 25% of young people diagnosed with anorexia are boys.

Parents, especially mothers play a major role when it comes to teaching teenagers (especially girls) how to love their body type. The pressures to look perfect like the celebrities and models they see used in advertising are making many young people unhappy with their bodies and themselves. This can lead to low self esteem and behaviour issues. In most cases there is nothing wrong with the way they look.

Melinda Hutchings, Eating Disorders Expert and Generation Next speaker says “pressures and fears are manifesting into eating disorders and self image problems... This is a time when bullying is on the rise, when violence is on the rise. Parents haven’t grasped the enormity of the issues facing our teenagers”.

Helen Saplarn from “Generation Next” has put together the following ideas on how parents can help their teenage children to develop healthier attitudes to body shape.

- Don’t make food a big issue, even if you’re trying to get across healthy eating messages. Just make sure there is lots of healthy and nutritious food in the house.
- Never mention the word ‘diet’. Try instead to encourage what they eat to be lifestyle choices. Make sure children do not over hear continuous conversations about the latest diet or fad. Otherwise girls will grow up thinking it is normal to restrict what they eat for the sake of being thin.
- Get the children in your house involved with the cooking. Teach them the nutritional value of foods, what effect they have on our bodies and which foods help us stay healthy.
- Make meal-times a stress-free family occasion by focusing on companionship and conversation, not who's eating what.
- Girls are very sensitive about what their dads think of them; this is after all the first man they ever get to know. Make sure dads don’t make comments about their daughter’s weight.
- Don’t use food to feed emotions. Don’t let food be a substitute or something to feel guilty about.
- Compliment your child’s body on what it does – not how it looks. Help them see their body as something useful and powerful, not something to be judged on appearance. Don’t admire celebrities for how thin they are.
- Often teenagers obsess about their weight when they are feeling pressures in another part of their lives. Find out how your teenager is feeling and what is going on in their lives. Give them tools to deal with the pressures so they don’t turn to food for comfort.
- Praise your teenager for their achievements and qualities rather than their appearance.
- Teach children media awareness. Explain that not even the celebrities look like the images they see, thanks to airbrushing and stylists.
- If your teenager is too harsh about their appearance, remind them that nobody, not even the celebrities are completely satisfied with the way they look. Accept them as they are and encourage them to do the same.
- Listen to them. Eating disorders are often the last resort for young people who are not being heard any other way, or feel that eating is the only thing they can control in their lives. Make sure your children can talk to you and that you hear what they’re saying – not what you want to hear.

Please feel free to contact me at the school on any issue. Our conversation will always be confidential.

Mr M Bell
Student Welfare Coordinator

Curriculum Coordinator

2012 National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy later this month. The tests will ensure national consistency in benchmarking Literacy and Numeracy standards across all Australian jurisdictions. The dates for this year’s NAPLAN tests are as follows:

- **Tuesday 15 May:** Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Writing
- **Wed 16 May:** Reading
- **Thursday 17 May:** Numeracy

At Good Samaritan, students in Years 7 and 9 have already commenced targeted preparation for these tests in English and Maths classes although Literacy and Numeracy are domains which are nurtured across the curriculum and not subject specific. With only a few weeks to go before the tests, students and parents are also encouraged to visit the NAPLAN website at http://www.naplan.edu.au Sample test items, marking criteria and marking guides are available as are NAPLAN tests from previous years. In particular, students are advised to read and engage with persuasive texts in everyday publications such as newspapers as it is this text type which will be assessed in the Writing component of the tests this year.

Parents are encouraged to work with their sons and daughters at home using these free online resources to complement the preparation being conducted in class. We wish our Year 7 and 9 students all the very best for the NAPLAN tests.

Mrs C Anderson
Curriculum Coordinator - Administration
St. Vincent De Paul Brekky Van Volunteers

This year senior students are involved in a program run by St. Vincent De Paul called the ‘Brekky Van’ which aims at educating our students on the realities of street life. The students are escorted by teachers to Surry Hills where, with the assistance of St. Vincent De Paul, they prepare a hot breakfast for the homeless of Sydney. Students hear real life stories first hand as they enter into conversation with homeless people. The feedback we have had from students and teachers alike is that the experience is rewarding as well as enjoyable, leaving students grateful of their fortunes.

Our latest group of students from Year 12 gave up the second Saturday of their holidays to attend, demonstrating a sincere concern and commitment to the program. The students that attended were Marry Jane Baz, Adriana Herrera, Shedona Pulumbarit, Annelise Fegatilli, Carina Bilotta, Marina Pavic, Rebecca Lia, Sherly Sylvestor, Desiree Bent, Angela Santaguida and Frances Sentina . This would not be possible without the assistance of teachers, a profound thank you to Mr Howard,

Year 11 Industrial Technology - Timber Projects

Year 11 Industrial Technology – Timber Students have recently completed their first practical project.

The students in Industrial Technology made clocks. They used lamination and basic joint construction techniques to produce the face and frame of their clocks. Some of the timbers that were used in the lamination are Merbau and Radiate Pine. They have produced some fine examples of precision and craftsmanship, and have set a high standard for the future students.

All of the student projects are on display in the library this week.

Mr S Katalinic
Assistant TAS Coordinator

Year 12 Music HSC Performance Workshop

On Tuesday 1st May, the Year 12 Music class from Good Samaritan attended a Music HSC workshop at Clancy Catholic College along with Freeman Catholic College and Thomas Hassall Anglican College. This workshop was a great opportunity for all students to present a piece from their HSC performance repertoire. Over 40 different pieces were presented throughout the day from all the schools.

Music teachers from the schools gave feedback and spoke to the students about what to expect in the HSC performance examination and what they can work on to get the best result.

The students from our College did an amazing job with their performances. Songs from our students included a beautiful theatrical piece called ‘This is the moment’ to a heavy rock piece by Dream Theater called ‘Ytse Jam’. All pieces presented were of a high standard and were very entertaining. All the Year 12 Music students from Good Samaritan are to be commended on their behaviour and presentation throughout the day.

Mrs E Popovic
Year 12 Music Teacher

CaSPA “TELL ME A STORY”

This is an exciting term for students! Rehearsals are continuing every week and it is great to see the students committed to CaSPA.

All CaSPA T-shirts have been ordered and will arrive by the end of May. These T-shirts are to be worn for every rehearsal and performance this term.

The next Southern Region Cluster Rehearsal is on 6th June. The choir will be travelling by bus to rehearse at Mary Mackillop College at Wakelei. Students in the massed movement and leads will stay at Good Samaritan and will rehearse in the hall. All students from Good Samaritan will then attend a full dress rehearsal on 19th June at the Entertainment Centre. We will be travelling by bus to and from the venue and there is any early start. We have to be there by 8am and we will return at approx. 4.30pm.

On Wednesday 20th June, all the lead and massed movement students will attend the first day/evening performance at the Entertainment Centre. (The choir does not attend this day). On Thursday 21st June, all leads, massed movement and choir will attend the day/night performance at the Entertainment Centre.

As the event gets close, more information about ticket sales and times will be available. If there are any questions in the meantime, please contact Mrs Popovic at the College.

Mrs E Popovic
Festival Coordinator

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Miss Romolo, Mr Pham, Mr Wheeler and Mr Turner for their support to date.

Good Samaritan Catholic College is committed to living out the Catholic mission of helping others in need and has arranged several dates throughout the year to attend Brekky Van. All senior students are invited to be involved and are requested to see Miss Bilaver with their interests.

**STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MAY**

**HOW STUDENTS GET THEMSELVES MOTIVATED TO DO ACADEMIC WORK**

**REWARDS:** Many students set rewards for themselves “I’ll read this section then I can eat this sandwich”. Some students use the opposite, punishments; they create consequences for themselves where they will deprive themselves if they do not do the work.

**SELF-PRaise:** Some students find that recognising their progress to themselves and praising themselves for their efforts creates a more positive mental environment and encourages them to keep going. Comments such as “Well done, you’ve solved yet another problem” can help create mental stamina.

**GOAL-ORIENTED SELF-TALK:** Students who think about why they are studying or what possible future outcomes may be from putting in effort can also strengthen the effect of these thoughts by making sub-vocal statements while they are engaged in an academic activity. When faced with an urge to stop working they may focus on the thought of getting better marks, or getting into a particular course at uni or even the satisfaction of learning a new skill or developing self-discipline.

**INTEREST ENHANCEMENT:** This involves looking for ways to make the task to be completed more interesting or enjoyable. Even making slight modifications to make something less boring or repetitive. One student found that by writing notes in a different style it made the activity more inspiring.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STRUCTURING:** This is also referred to as resource management and is all about removing temptations and creating an environment that is more conducive to studying. It may even mean studying in a different location such as a local or school library in order to stay focused on the tasks to be completed.

**PROXIMAL GOAL-SETTING:** Breaking larger tasks into smaller more manageable chunks will help students to feel more motivated about what needs to be done. Setting specific and achievable short-term goals with an allocated time-frame can help increase students sense of efficacy.

**EMOTIONAL CONTROL:** Thoughts produce feelings, feelings lead to actions. If we can make our thoughts and feelings more positive, this can lead to more positive actions. When students are feeling unmotivated, strategies such as taking a short amount of time to close your eyes and engage in deep slow breathing, or counting slowly backwards from 10 while thinking positive reassuring thoughts about their abilities to do what has to be done has been found to be beneficial.


Our school’s subscription details are -
Username: forgscconly
Password: 48results

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**YEAR 8 MISA DEBATING ROUND 1**

On Monday 30th April the debating season launched with our participation in the MISA Year 8 debating competition. This is the first year the college has entered this competition which has a slightly different format to the regular SWCCDA competition. The main difference is the inclusion of a fourth “silent” speaker sometimes referred to as a team advisor. One of the benefits of our entry into this competition was the opportunity to give new debaters a chance to represent the college.

As a result debating debutants Caitlin Pace, Amy Raso, and Tayla McPherson joined team advisor and experienced debater Marco Gronowski to debate Mount Carmel Catholic High School at Varroville. The students worked very well as a team and in the end their superior debating method and matter helped them secure the first victory of the season. Congratulations to the team on a very positive start to the year as this will hopefully be the first of many great debates performed by these students. Their next opponents in this competition will be local rivals Clancy Catholic College.

Mr M Bradbury
Public Speaking and Debating Coordinator

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**Holiday Debating Workshop**

On one of the wettest days of the year a group of students spent a day of their holidays learning more about the art of debating. With a record amount of interest in debating this year, students were offered the chance to work with some of our experienced debaters to learn about the activity and begin to develop their skills. The workshop culminated in a practice debate masterfully adjudicated by College Captains Justin Jarrett and Maddison McPherson along with new Public Speaking and Debating Captain Sarah Santangelo and her fellow senior debaters Melanie Thomas and Sinead Cummins. It is great to see debating continue to be a popular activity for students at the college. In a few weeks these students will have the opportunity to represent the college in the SWCCDA Debating Competition.

Mr M Bradbury
Public Speaking and Debating Coordinator
Anneliza Alverne: Miss Iannizzi Year 9 Visual Arts.

This painting only started with a light wash of the background, the path and the trees. As time went on, I started painting over them to make them look darker. It was only when I started adding the details to my painting that it came to life. For the leaves, I started off with light pink dabs and continuously added red to make it seem more natural and realistic. I have used different painting techniques for the trees using short and long brush strokes and thick and thin lines to help display a rough texture and unique pattern. I chose to paint this particular landscape as it gives me a free and relaxing feeling as if I was actually walking through this landscape down its path.

Suzanne Thai, Miss Iannizzi Year 9 Visual Arts

In my acrylic landscape painting, I have decided to draw a small village in Vietnam. I have incorporated the Elements of Design and the Structural Frame to give my artwork more detail and a realistic feeling.

Year 8 De Paul Disco for Project Compassion

On Wednesday 4th April 2012, Year 8 De Paul hosted the first ever Good Samaritan Disco for Year 7 and 8 students. The Disco was our initiative to raise money for Project Compassion. After two weeks of selling tickets and promoting the event, we had many eager students ready to dance the night away! The Disco started at 5pm with music provided by our very own DJ, Mr Reyes, who played all the latest hits. Pizza, chips and drinks were also sold on the night.

The night was a big success, with all students having a great time and dancing right up until the last song! Through the Disco, our PC class was able to raise $744 for Project Compassion. We would like to thank Ms Donovan and Mr Scollard for their support and our Year Coordinator Mr Turner and our PC teachers, Mr Dominish and Miss Romolo for helping to plan the night. A big thank you goes out to Mr Reyes for providing all the music. Thank you also to the following teachers who supervised on the night: Mr Teuma, Mr Badolato, Mr Zahra, Miss Bilaver, Miss Iannizzi, Mr Scollard, Mr Kingsman and Miss Sulentic. Overall it was a fun night and a great way to end the term!

Rachel Nagamine and Monika Ramzy.
Year Coordinator’s Award

This award is to recognise those students who continuously do the right thing, who are exemplary members of the Good Samaritan Community. They wear their uniform with pride, always behave appropriately and respectfully and generally make Good Samaritan a better place for us to learn and work together.

As well as receiving a certificate at a Year Assembly, the students will have their names published in the College Newsletter and will receive a $5.00 voucher which can be redeemed at the College Canteen.

I congratulate the following students who are recipients of the Pastoral Care Coordinators Awards for this fortnight.

Year 7: Emily Arndell  Year 8: Tayla McPherson
Year 9: Angela Salvati  Year 11: Natalie Ihlow
Year 12: Gabriel Mendoza

GSCC REGIONAL FUTSAL CHAMPIONS

On Friday the 27th April, the College Futsal team travelled to Minto to contest the NSW Futsal Regional Championships. During the course of the day the team had to play a five team round robin with the best from each pool qualifying for semi-finals. The boys won their first game in a close encounter against Robert Townsend High School (last year’s state Champions) 2-1 with Andre Gioiosa scoring both goals not to mention the excellent goalkeeping from Joseph Raso. We then played Sefton High School and again proved to be the team to beat winning 8-1. In the third game against Mt Carmel Catholic College we were able to add to a goal tally by scoring 4 goals to their 0. The boys went into the final round of the round robin having to meet Melba Copeland Grammar College from Canberra, who were also undefeated after three rounds. The game started extremely tight and remained that way for the entire match however the boys stuck to their game plan and assisted each other which allowed us to score 7 goals to 2.

The semi-finals saw us meet Fairvale High School and again it was a very close encounter. The extraordinary goalkeeping skills of Joseph Raso and goals by Andre, Adrian and Brandon allowed us to again proclaim victory 4-2 setting up a Grand Final showdown against Illawarra Grammar School. This team, like us, had advanced through the competition undefeated. The game was another tight encounter with Illawarra Grammar School struggling to match the pace and skill level of our boys. Both teams missed goal opportunities through pressure applied by the opposition, however, it was GSCC that again emerged victorious 3 goals by Andre, Adrian and Jake to their 1.

Whilst credit must be given to all the boys who gave their absolute best all day, it was the extraordinary goalkeeping talent of Joseph Raso that piloted our wins; he only conceded 7 goals during the entire day, an absolutely outstanding effort! All boys are to be congratulated on their sportsmanship, as not one of them received a yellow or red card during all six games.

A huge thank you must go to Andy Lancaster, who gave up his time to impart some of his extensive knowledge of the game, in training the boys. The boys will now contest the NSW State Championships on the 23rd July. Best of luck boys!

The team members were: Luca Marongui, Andre Gioiosa, Adrian Hadjisocratous, Joseph Raso, Jake Ingle, Steven Portolesi, Brandon Cook, Stefan Adattini, Corey Dwarte, Daniel Ussia and Luke Ferreri.
DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 8th May
Year 7 Vaccinations

Tuesday 8th May
Year 11 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
3.30pm - 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th May - 17th May
Years 7 & 9 NAPLAN tests

COLLEGE UNIFORM NEWS

COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

Mon to Thurs 7.30am - 8.20am CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

Also open Tuesday 8th May, 22nd May, 5th June and 19th June12 noon to 3.45pm

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SPORT UNIFORM NEWS

On Campus Sport Uniform pickups and measurements fortnightly Term 2 10am - 4pm

Wednesdays 16th & 30th May; 13th & 27th June

College Fees Term 2

College Fees Statements for Term 2 have been issued to students. Payment is requested by the 12th May 2012.

Payments can be made by BPay, eftpos, Centrelink deduction, as well as cash and cheque.

If families are having difficulty making fees payments or wish to make arrangements to make periodic payments, please contact the College Business Manager, John Archer, on phone 98259955 to discuss.

College Newsletter

The College newsletter is a great source of information relevant to your child’s education at Good Samaritan. This newsletter is distributed fortnightly for your child to bring home. However, sometimes you may prefer to receive the newsletter electronically. The college website publishes the newsletter - http://www.goodsamaritan.nsw.edu.au/News & Events/. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy via your email, please email the address below with your child’s name, Year and Pastoral Class.

Sending an email to us at the address below greatly assists in preventing possible transcription errors in misreading handwritten email addresses.

To: l.lillis@gscchinchinbrook.catholic.edu.au

Subject: Email newsletter