FROM THE PRINCIPAL

THE TIME MACHINE

I am sure all those who saw the school Production the "Time Machine" over the weekend will agree that they had seen something special.

Our Vision Statement talks of the way we like to educate our students, our focus on the whole person, using creativity and best practise, building positive self-esteem and fostering our student’s individual abilities and talents. The school production encompasses all these attributes of a dynamic school curriculum and more.

It is important to applaud and acknowledge when we see excellence achieved and I have no doubt that this school production was an example of excellence. When imagination, passion and hard work come together it is amazing what can be achieved.

Special thanks to Mr Frank Carter, who was responsible for the music and lyrics for this production. Along with Ms Gina Goss (Director), Ms Kate Williams (Chorographer), Mr Matthew Sharpe (Voice Coach) and Mr Bryce Ewing (Music) together they formed an exceptional creative team to bring this piece of art to life over the last 3 months. I also thank the many staff who volunteered behind the scenes to ensure that this was a seamless and professional production.

Finally I congratulate the 70 students who took great risks and demonstrated great courage in performing for us. In doing so they created a bit of magic to inspire and uplift us all.

EMA CHEQUES

Parents/Guardians please be advised that cheques for the second half of the Education Maintenance Allowance are now available for collection from the College Office.

Cheques that are not collected by Friday 10th September will be credited to your fee account. Please note students are not permitted to collect cheques on your behalf.

COLLEGE OFFICE

INTERIM REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Interim Reports for Semester Two subjects have been completed and will be posted home today. The purpose of the Interim Reports is to open dialogue between students, teachers and parents on how goals set at the beginning of the semester are going, identifying concerns and putting in place strategies to rectify any issues raised. When the report arrives, please take the time to sit down with your children to discuss it. Additionally, I would strongly encourage all parents to attend the Parent Teacher Interviews on Thursday 9th September, 4pm – 8.30pm and Friday 10th September, 9am- 12.30pm. These interviews represent a perfect opportunity to find out how your children are going in their subjects and gain insights and strategies to assist them in achieving their goals.

James Roberts
Director of Learning
The journey to East Bentleigh provided ample time for some soul searching over the previous weeks below par performance when 2 points were dropped, as well as how to compensate for the loss of the Greyhound like forward Willshire. Johnson then declared himself unfit at the last minute, so the team took to the pitch reverting to the successful ‘Back Three’ with Letelier filling in on the left. It soon became apparent that St James could play a bit; their crisp passing to feet, movement and pace causing instant problems. Beckham in goal was called upon numerous times as St James missed some gilt edged opportunities, while at the other end Prosser and Davies were unable to convert the few half chances we made. Nil–Nil was looking a good half time result until we momentarily lost discipline, over-committed too many men forward and were punished on the break ..... Beckham with a split-second hesitation as a through ball split our defence. The players thus found themselves in alien territory – behind at half time and facing a huge challenge to haul themselves back into the contest. The team were sent out for the second half with clear instructions to adopt a more physical approach to stop the opposition’s flowing style. As some of the St James’ players began to show a touch of arrogance, skipper Lekakis bulldozed his way through the centre to strike an equaliser and Cornelio put a big hit on the half way line to see one of their tricky midfield playmakers limp off. Had this been at a Premiership ground, chants of “You only sing when you’re winning” would have undoubtedly reverberated from the terraces. As the game went on, both sides could have scored a handful. Opposition winger ‘Bruno’ began to irritate as on more than one occasion he went down as easily as Frank in his Heavyweight World Title Fight against Mike Tyson, and a couple of times the Referee had a rush of blood to the head thinking he was officiating a Netball match instead of a contact sport. The final golden opportunity fell to Collier after the ‘Riverdancing Methakul high stepped down the right wing. His close range effort was destined for the top corner before their keeper impressively intervened. A 1-1 draw had looked unlikely at times and the players could leave proud of the character and bouncebackability (yes, it is a word–see an Iain Dowie post match interview) they displayed. Whether we now miss out on the Grand Final despite being undefeated is in the hands of the organisers.....we await the call from Chairman DeGoldi.

Mr Bradley – COACH

A small group of our best female athletes braved the cold conditions at Olympic Park last Wednesday to compete in the Victorian All Schools Knockout event. As a team, the girls had to field a competitor in nine track and field events. They received points in each event based on performance and scores were tallied to give a final result. The girls finished in 9th position out of 15 schools. This was a very creditable result as the competition was open to any government or private school from around the state. The team members and events are listed below:

- Tegan Crowley – 90m Hurdles, 200m and relay
- Jasmine Carroll – Javelin, 200m and relay
- Taylah Smith – 800m and relay
- Jess Hall – 100m and Long Jump
- Vanessa Curcio – 100m and relay
- Lauren Halstead – High Jump
- Kaitlyn Wakartschuk – 800m
- Keisha Pauline – shot put
- Maddie Carroll – Team manager

Congratulations girls on your fine achievements.

Cathy Heijden - COACH

In the lead up to the Interim reports and the increasing assessments in Term 4, the Year 10 Forum have been compiling a set of study skills tips to motivate and support Year 10 students during time. Topics to be covered include:

- Beware of and plan for distracters (OUT NOW)
- Goal setting
- Create and use a study timetable
- Homework completion checklist
- How to use assessment feedback
- How to prepare for exams
- How to interpret the language of exam and test questions
- What worked for me! Tips by senior students

YEAR 10 FORUM LEADERS INITIATIVE

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- What worked for me! Tips by senior students

These will be updated and displayed each week in the Year 10 Home Rooms. It is hoped that students other than Year 10 may benefit from this material also. To this end, all materials will be made available to all Year Level Coordinators in the week of their release. Feedback from parents and students is welcomed.

Mrs Marschner

YEAR 10 LEVEL CO-ORDINATOR
FORENSIC SCIENCE CAREERS INFORMATION SESSION. Career Information sessions give insights into career options in the forensic sciences and information about requirements to enter into those careers. Speakers include a forensic pathologist, toxicologist, odontologist, entomologist, mortuary technician, physician from clinical forensic medicine and representative from the Donor Tissue bank of Victoria. When: 12.30pm-4pm, September 24; Where: Coronal Services Centre, Institute Lecture Theatre, 57-83 Kavanagh St, Southbank; Reg'n: http://www.vifm.org/careers_info.html

MISSED MONASH (PENINSULA) OPEN DAY? The Peninsula campus (at Frankston) offers physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing, midwifery, emergency health (paramedic), business, education and sport and outdoor recreation. 'Experience Peninsula' is an opportunity to see facilities, meet students and find out about courses. When: 10am-2pm, 28 Sept; Where: Mc Mahons Rd, Frankston; Who: Year 10 - 12 student/parents; Registration: www.monash.edu/study/events/experience/

YEAR 12 NEWS....

9. CONCERNED THAT YOU MAY NOT GET A HIGH ENOUGHATAR? If you want to go to university but think you may not get a high ATAR there are a number of courses of action you can consider, including the following:

- Complete the Diploma of Tertiary Studies at Monash Uni in either arts, business and commerce, education, IT, nursing, science, or visual and media arts. See: pages 305, 316, 324, 328, 335, 343, 347 of the VTAC Guide.
- Complete a course at Monash College. See: pages 296-298 of Guide.
- Complete a course at MIBT (Deakin Uni link). See: pages 289-292 of Guide.
- Consider studying a related degree with a lower ATAR. If you do well you MAY be able to transfer to your desired degree later.
- Start with a TAFE course in a related field. Two years at TAFE often equals one year at university (sometimes more).
- Consider a country/rural campus. ATAR’s are often lower at these campuses due to lower demand.
- Complete 'Year 13' at a school offering this option (particularly in design and related courses, eg Northland, Brighton Bay, Swinburne Senior)

10. CONTEMPORARY ARTS THEATRE AUDITIONS – The Uni. of Tasmania is not that far away! Offering the Bachelor of Contemporary Arts, it is conducting theatre auditions in Melbourne for that stream. The course runs at Inveresk (Launceston) in a precinct with Queen Victoria Museum, Art Gallery and School of Architecture & Design. When: 15 and 16 Nov; Where: Malthouse; Audition tips DVD: www.acadarts.utas.edu.au; Info: Jana Harper, (03) 6324 4423, Jana.Harper@utas.edu.au

11. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN OF VETERANS - Children of veterans intending to apply for tertiary studies in 2011 need to be aware that financial assistance for up to 65 students is available through the Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust. (The scholarships are means tested). See: www.avcat.org.au.
The Gospel of last Sunday speaks about humility and hospitality, and about how seriously we can take ourselves. The last time I wrote for the newsletter I mentioned the “Narrow Door”, one thing that certainly makes it difficult to enter by the narrow door is our self importance. It is one of the constant challenges for Catholic educators to impress on students their importance to God and at the same time to understand that our model is the servant leadership of Jesus. Yes, every one of us is loved by God in our uniqueness, we are precious in his sight! The problem is when we take that preciousness and make it into something that God never intended. We see examples of this often enough in the constant rush to litigation if things don’t go our way “Someone is going to pay for this” is the cry. After all, we deserve better, even if the consequences were never intended, we have a right to excellence, don’t we?”

The example of the guest at the banquet is used by Jesus to expose the honour hungry egos of his audience. The calculating mind can see the value of taking the lower place at table, all the time hoping to be noticed and elevated to a higher place. False humility, scheming humility. Of course, the story could be extended. The scheming guest finds the lowest place. The host, upon seeing the honour-hungry guest seated at the lowest place awaiting a higher calling, bends over and whispers in his ear, “I see you know your place.” Nothing awakens self knowledge so painfully as a failed strategy.

Or, the scheming guest is ignored by the host and forced to fraternise with the bottom. He lets go of his social ambitions and enjoys himself. At the next dinner he takes the lowest place because of the company. When the host appears and asks him to come up higher, he declines. He is having too good of a time. What is more important, demanding what we see is our rightful place, or, being comfortable by making no distinctions between people?

Jesus challenges the host by posing the question about who is on the guest list. Are they on the list because they may be able to pay him back as good or better than he has given? Or are they there because he values them as people? Jesus says not to expect or look for repayment, go out and invite those who could never repay in kind and you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.

I think that we all at sometime take our selves too seriously and forget Jesus’ words “Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart.” (Matt11:27-30) A great spiritual writer of our time, Robert wicks gives a wonderful example of a teacher that he knew who worried about his image. His friend spoke with great feeling about a presentation he had given at school and how disinterested the class seemed. His friend said that this had depressed him. So Robert asked why he was so depressed. The response was “I told you why! I did my best and they just yawned, and I felt like a fool!”

Robert laughed and said “My goodness, about five seconds after you left the room, they probably forgot what your name was. Let’s keep things in perspective” Perspective goes out the window when we have an exaggerated sense of our own importance, and so does compassion and concern for others.

Reflection from Lk4:18-19

‘And Jesus read from the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah, “The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, For he has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, To proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, To set the downtrodden free,
To proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.’”

Deacon Tony Aspinall
COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

ST. AGATHA’S NEWS

ST.AGATHA’S VOICE: Would you like to submit an article for the September edition of our Parish Publication “St.Agatha’s Voice”? Articles and photos can be dropped into the Parish Office or emailed to stagathas@nex.net.au. For further enquires contact the Editor, Steve Borsodi on 5996 6978. (A.H) or the Parish Office.

RAISE THE ROOF UPCOMING EVENT: A Pet Show will be held on Saturday 18th September at 10am as a fundraiser for Raise the Roof. Categories will include: Best dressed, Most talented & Most like owner, most unusual, cutest, ugliest. Competition entry fee $2. Sausage sizzle, Devonshire teas & much more. All pets must be on a leash or in an enclosure.

THE ANNUAL ITALIAN MASS & PROCESSION will take place on Sunday 10th October at 2.30pm at St.Agatha’s Church. Enquires Teressea 5996 1845 or Filomena 5996 4803. See notice board for further details.

RE 4 THE RABBLE- “A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIFE OF MARY MACKILLOP” will be held on the weekend of the 11th, 12th September at the Cardinia Cultural Centre Pakenham. Tickets on sale now! See notice board for further details or contact 9561 3784 for tickets.

CALL OF GUADALUPE – THE MUSICAL will be held on the 10th October at 2.30pm at St.Agath’s Church. Enquires Teressea 5996 1845 or Filomena 5996 4803. See notice board for further details or contact 9561 3784 for tickets.

MSS ON THURSDAY: will be at St.Peter’s Chapel at 9.30am.

CARITAS PAKISTAN FLOODS APPEAL: Donations to provide desperately needed emergency relief to the 20 million people affected by flooding in Pakistan can be given online at www.caritas.org.au or send to GPO Box 9830 in your Capital City or call 1800 024 413.

Greg Nelson

ST. AGATHA’S PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

Name of person
The parish data system, PACS, which has been purchased using funds provided by the CDF, is about to be installed in all parishes.

St Mary’s Parish, Sale, is in the process of installing the software and converting the data from PDS, the old system.

It is hoped that the installation process will be easy for parishes to install themselves, particularly with support from Human Edge and the growing number of users across the diocese.

Once all parishes have had the program installed and successfully converted their data a training day will be organized.

It is thought that the training days will be held on a regional basis to give each participant greater access to tuition.

Following these training days, a ‘Secretaries Day’ is proposed to allow an exchange of ideas, and experiences, and also look at any other issues that are current and causing concerns.

PACS for Parishes

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New Parish Websites

Following the successful launch of the diocesan website Media Officer, Colin Coomber, is in the process of setting up several parishes with their own site.

Sale, Bairnsdale, Lakes and Orbost, Korumburra and Leongatha have indicated that they will be interested in this exciting development.

Any other parishes interested should contact Colin at the Bishop’s Office.

Contact Us
Telephone 5144 4311
jeffd@sale.catholic.org.au
pats@sale.catholic.org.au
Fax 5143 2016

CDF Signboards

Over the years the Catholic Development Fund has provided funding to all parishes for projects both educational and parish based.

Signboards have been produced with both the diocesan and CDF logo and a brief message indicating the CDF is proud to be supporting and associated with projects.

Over the next few weeks parishes and schools will be contacted and asked for permission to display the signboards on their building project under construction and on any future projects.

The objective is to increase the exposure of the CDF and in doing so increase peoples awareness that they are helping the mission of the church by supporting the CDF.