FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WELCOME BACK

I welcome back all of our students after the holidays hopefully refreshed and ready to take on the challenges of term 4. No more so than our year 12 students who in three weeks will begin their final set of exams. I know that all have been revising over the term 3 study break with the assistance of our teaching staff and I give them every encouragement to finish the year well.

Celebrations are an important part of concluding our students 13 years of formal education however I ask for parents assistance in ensuring that the timing of these celebrations do not impact on our students performance in the coming weeks. Students will finish exams on various dates and I know of students who have struggled to concentrate on their final exams knowing that their friends are out celebrating. The Valedictory Dinner on the 19th of November signals the end of the year 12 exams and marks the appropriate time to begin their well earned celebrations.

CITY OF CASEY – YOUNG WRITER’S COMPETITION 2010

Congratulations to Michael Curmi in Year 7D who received an encouragement Award for Poetry and Lyrics in the City of Casey - Young Writers competition for 2010. Michael will receive his award at a ceremony tonight at the Cranbourne Community Theatre.

JAPAN & CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TOURS

I also welcome back our travelers from Japan and Central Australia. By the look of some of the photos on our school website the students and staff have had a memorable as well as educational experience. From all reports our students have represented themselves and our school with great pride on both trips and I thank them and our dedicated staff most sincerely for this.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Lauren Halstead who became the Pre Novice Eventing Champion at the National Interschool Equestrian Event in Sydney during the holidays. Lauren had to compete in dressage, show jumping and cross country and lead in each section of the competition.

Tim Hogan
PRINCIPAL
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

For those of my generation and older, the career mission and view of the future was linear and clear – get a good education, a safe secure job in a solid industry and remain loyally until retirement (or as a woman, perhaps until children come along!). Many of this generation may not have followed this path, with twists and turns along the way, but it can be a mindset which we apply to ‘Generation Y’. It can lead us to worry about our young people who have not yet determined their career path. It sometimes leads those of us in the older generation to wonder why or how young people can suddenly change course and take up an entirely new direction.

Recent research suggests that for Gen Ys the future is an exciting and uncertain maze of opportunities and pathways – what an optimistic outlook! Sometimes we can urge our students to work at establishing short and long term goals, believing that it is necessary and important that they develop clear plans for the future. Evidence suggests that these initiatives serve little purpose for students of today. Michael McQueen, a leading commentator on Gen Y, states that having grown up in a time of rapid technological change, Gen Y are clearly aware that the future is uncertain and constantly evolving. Their mentality is that locking in medium-to-long term plans is potentially futile and limiting. Gen Y’s expectation of a career future that is varied, unpredictable and flexible has profound implications for teachers and parents. Increasingly it seems we will serve our young people best by emphasising the need for them to be their best and do their best in order to give themselves the greatest range of options and the most flexibility in going forward.

Perhaps we can no longer extol the virtues of certainty and life long career choices but rather encourage students to develop:

- Determination to be and do their best, at all times – internal motivation offering its own rewards
- Self confidence and resilience to follow their desires and dreams
- Maintain their enthusiasm for all that life has to offer and encourage them to forge their own future.

If you would like to read more about the work of Michael McQueen, his website is worth a look: www.TheNexgenGroup.com

Elizabeth Hanney
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – STAFF

FOOTY COLOURS DAY

On Thursday 16th of September, students and staff were invited to wear the colors of their chosen football, soccer or rugby team in place of their normal attire. This made for a very colourful student body and staffroom on the day! A gold coin donation was given by those participating, and $524.55 was raised for local causes. Thank you to all students and staff who got into the spirit of the day.

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

At lunchtime on Thursday, 16th of September, a lunchtime concert was held in the Multi Purpose Hall. This gave our students the opportunity to display their talents and also allowed for money to be raised for the victims of the Pakistan Floods. A total of $262.05 was raised on the day. A big thank you to all the students and staff who gave up their time and put on such an entertaining concert.

Anthony Banks
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

STUDENTS LEAVING THE COLLEGE

Could parents of students not returning to St Peter’s College in 2011 please complete a Student Exit Form as soon as possible. This information will allow us to respond to students currently on our waiting lists particularly at Years 8, 9 & 10 for 2011.

Student Exit Forms are available from the College Office. Thank you for your assistance.

Kelley Cooper
REGISTRAR
JAPANESE & FRENCH YEAR 12 ORAL EXAMS INFORMATION

Students must be present at least 30 minutes before the time set for their examination. Students will be required to provide appropriate photo ID on entry to this examination. The examination rules dictate that students are not to wear their college uniforms. Therefore students are to wear neat casual clothes.

St. Peter’s College will provide transportation to the examination centers from school. Alternatively parents/guardians may choose to arrange their own transportation. All families should have received a letter and permission slip with the relevant information. Please contact Miss Faulkner if this has not been received.

The Year 12 Japanese Oral Exams
Friday 8 October
The Tudor Box Hill
1101 Whitehorse Road
Box Hill
The students’ examination times will be between 12.15 and 1.25.

The Year 12 French Oral Exams
Thursday 14 October,
Quality Hotel Manor
669 Maroondah Highway
(Whitehorse Road)
Mitcham
The students’ examination times will be between 3.40 and 4.00.

Melissa Faulkner
LOTE COORDINATOR

Sporting News

HISTORIC GRAND FINAL
The senior boy’s football team won the Division 1 GRAND FINAL for the first time in this school’s history. The game was played in bright sunshine at John Paul College, in the last week of Term 3. We had to overcome numerous problems before taking the field for this final game. We still started without five of our better players.
The first quarter was tough and tight, as we had expected, with both back-lines controlling the game. As the game progressed, our tackling and pressure on the ball carrier started to bear fruit. Andrew McInnes gave our forward line a huge lift, and John Paul started to wilt.

In the end the score was unflattering to John Paul’s effort, as we came away with a 10 goal victory.
Coach Hampson was ecstatic with the win, which was just reward for his efforts, and for his enthusiasm for this competition. The student off-field team, led by Trent Dick, was fantastic this year. Thanks must go to everyone who contributed to the success of this team.

Scores: St. Peter’s 12-10-82 defeated John Paul College 2-6-18

GOALS: Travaglia (2), Johnson(2), McInnes(2), Molesworth, Freeman, Biviano, Jones, Harbour and Roscoe.

BEST: Boland, Harbour, Cotton, Roscoe, Campbell, McInnes, Jones, Bower, Faamausili, Sheperdson.

Mr. Grant
ASSISTANT COACH

TERM 4 CALENDAR

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<td>Year 12 Practice Exams</td>
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<td>Wed 6th</td>
<td>Debating Championship Finals</td>
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<td>Tues 12th</td>
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<td>Year 7 Immunisations</td>
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<td>Year 11 Performance Night</td>
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<td>Mon 25th</td>
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<td>STUDENT FREE DAY</td>
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<td>Year 11 Exams Begin</td>
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<td>Fri 26th</td>
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<td>END OF TERM 4 Reports Posted</td>
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Reports Posted
The Forgiveness of God

The Gospel of the 24th Sunday in Ordinary time speaks of the welcome that awaits sinners who turn back to God. It strikes a chord on several levels. Whilst attending a national Youth Gathering in Berwick recently (Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia) I was struck by how readily the young people seemed to understand that if they wanted to be a “Leader” for Christ, then they needed to be at one with him. This calls for what is known as a conversion of heart, a change in how we live, an awakening of faith.

To assist the young people, the Sacrament of Reconciliation was offered as an opportunity to unburden themselves of all the things that have become habit and are bad for faith practice. It was evident from seeing about 9 Priests kept busy that this opportunity was most welcome. In the Mass that followed, Bishop Prowse was the Principal Celebrant and he commented that it was marvellous to see young people taking the opportunity to seek the graces of reconciliation. For many of us older people the term “Confession” is still in use and we can sometimes think of the Sacrament negatively. Nothing is further from the truth. When we confess our sins to God and seek his forgiveness through reconciliation, not only are we unburdened, but we are freed.

In his homily, Bishop Prowse spoke of a recent meeting he had in the Middle East with young Catholics who live in countries where they are forbidden by law to practice their faith. He compared it to the situation in Australia where it is not law that prevents us practicing our faith but the fear of being “uncool” or some sort of weirdo if we admit our faith and openly practice it. Of course, peer pressure is not the only obstacle there is also a fair amount of disinterest, both learned and personal. The learned disinterest comes from family and friends who no longer avail themselves of the sacraments in order to cultivate their relationship with God. I think the personal disinterest grows from this.

The Bishop then gave an example (from Pope Benedict) of people who try to live a life of faith as being like a tall ship which moves effortlessly through the water moved by the wind in the sails which is in reality the breath of the Holy Spirit. Those who try to do without this are like canoeists in choppy waters, it is all hard work!

All in all the message is simple, Jesus knows we are sinners, he does not ask for perfection, he knows that is not possible for us but he asks us to change our lives not by our own power but by his. If we have turned away, turn back. All we have to lose are things which hold us back. Jesus says that there is great rejoicing in heaven when a sinner repents, it is not a bad thing to cause a celebration in heaven!

A prayer for reflection

Lord, be merciful to me a sinner!
Through the experience of your mercy to me may my love for others become more generous.
May it be a practical love that responds to what is needed,
a forgiving love that does not impose conditions,
and an understanding love that sustains the weary soul.

Amen
Deacon Tony Aspinall
COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

ST. AGATHA’S NEWS

THE ANNUAL ITALIAN MASS & PROCESSION will take place on Sunday 10th October at 2.30pm at St.Agatha’s Church. Enquiries Teresa 5996 1845 or Filomena 5996 4803.

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.

MUSIC MINISTRY: We have an urgent need for assistance in our Parish with our music ministry. Do you play the keyboard and are willing to learn to play at Mass? The Sisters Choir especially needs an organist/keybord player as do other Parish choir/singing groups. Please contact Sr. Mercy if you can help through the Parish Office on 5996 1985.

BISHOP PROWSE has chosen a Patron Saint for the new Cranbourne East Parish and School. The three Saints names submitted to the Bishop after the last Parish Pastoral Council meeting were: Mother Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop), St. Thomas and St. Paul. The Bishop has chosen St. Thomas. So the new name will be St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Cranbourne East. St. Thomas acknowledged the faith and devotional life of many of our migrant parishioners. At the same time many also relate to Thomas’ struggle to believe until making the breakthrough to heroic faith in the risen Jesus.

Greg Nelson
ST. AGATHA’S PARISH REPRESENTATIVE