CRANBOURNE EAST RETREAT

On Wednesday of this week, Year 11 students from the Catholic Youth Ministry Class will run a retreat for the Year 7 students at our Cranbourne East campus under the supervision of Mr. David Fini. The senior students have been preparing the retreat for a number of weeks and will provide an opportunity for fun, reflection and prayer throughout the course of the day. The year 11 students conducted a very successful retreat for our St. Agatha’s confirmation students in term 3 and this has inspired them to look for other opportunities where they can provide young people with the time and environment in which they can talk about the importance of faith in their lives.

YEAR 9 CAMP

The first of our two year 9 camps take place this week and I know our students are eagerly looking forward to leaving classrooms behind and trying their hand at surfing, rock climbing and kayaking. The experience of taking risks and learning new things will stay with these students forever and comes at a stage in their development where physically and mentally challenging the fear of failure is an important step to take. I wish them well and send them on their way with our school motto “Be Not Afraid” ringing in their ears. I thank Mr Bardi and the attending staff for the quality of care they will provide and also wish them well in their endeavours to keep up with our students as they surf, climb and kayak over the next few days.

STAFFING & RECRUITMENT

A number of staffing positions for 2012 have now been finalised and I would like to welcome the following personnel who will join us in February of next year. Ms Romilda Bennett joins us from St Francis Xavier College and will take on a House leader position as well as teaching Legal Studies and SOSE. Mr Steven Nash will move from Sale Catholic College to take on the Religious Education Leader role vacated by Mrs Mary Murphy. Mr. Nash has had a number of years’ experience in this role at Sale and also previously within the Salesian school system. Ms Di Lewis joins us from KooWeeRup Secondary College and will teach mainly in the Food Technology Department. Mr John Bolton is joining us from the construction industry having just completed his teaching qualifications and will teach Design Technology from years 7 to 10.

I am also pleased to announce the following positions of leadership for 2012 which have been filled by current members of staff:

Ms Jessica Chakman - House leader

Mr Glenn Collings - Technology Coach

Mrs Shannon Maher - Vet & VCAL Co-Ordinator

Mr. Tim Hogan
PRINCIPAL
TERM THREE FOOTY COLOUR DAY AND LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Although last term might seem like a distant memory, I would like to make mention of two events that took place on last Tuesday of the Term (20th September).

Students were encouraged to wear the colours of the football/rugby/soccer team they support and make a gold coin donation to the Bishops Family Foundation. Also, at lunchtime, a concert was held to showcase some of the dance and music talents of our students at St Peters and at the same time raise money for charity. A picture of our Year Nine dance roup is attached. The students dancing and singing were amazing and again reminds us that we have many talented students in so many areas at St Peter’s College.

Overall the enthusiasm and participation of the students was evident and approximately $700 was raised.

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMS

In the first few days of this term, the Year 12 students undertook trial examinations to help them prepare for their final exams which will take place in a few weeks. These exams are very important in allowing students, teachers and parents to gain an insight into the academic progress of students in each of their subjects.

An important aspect of this process is the feedback given to students from teachers. This feedback should be taken by the students to provide them with further impetus to undertake a solid revision and study program over the next few weeks.

SUMMER UNIFORM

Students are reminded that during Term Four, the Summer Uniform is to be worn, which included wearing the College Blazer to and from school. Also, the summer shirt is to be tucked into the trousers or shorts.

Anthony Banks
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL-STUDENTS

CRANBOURNE EAST NEWS

Next Wednesday 26th October we will celebrate along with the rest of the College the Year 12 Graduation Mass. The mass will be held be during period 4 at the West Campus. We will travel down to the West Campus via a bus for this celebration. As the conclusion of the Mass will coincide with the end of the day students will be dismissed from the West Campus on this day.

James Roberts
HEAD OF CAMPUS – CRANBOURNE EAST

A NEW ADVENTURE HAS JUST STARTED

The first week at Cranbourne East Campus was very exciting indeed, both for the students and staff. A lot of things to set up, (and still much more to come), but the students are very cooperative and it makes things smoother. We are trying to build up a strong community in Faith at the very beginning itself and we invite all stake holders to have their share of contribution at all levels. We have got some interesting projects in mind till the end of this Term and we will keep the students and parents informed about the events.

SO LET US ALL WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SAINT PETER OUR PATRON TO MAKE OF CRANBOURNE EAST ONE OF THE BEST SCHOOLS TO BE IN.

Jean-Paul Antoine
TEACHER- CRANBOURNE EAST CAMPUS
ARE YOU EX NAVY, ARMY, OR AIR FORCE?

Then Carry On (Victoria) may be able to help you with education costs if you meet our eligibility criteria.

Carry On (Victoria) assists Secondary School students in Years 7-12 with grants for expenses such as fees, books, uniforms, excursions etc. For those students going on to Tertiary Education a grant may also be available.

Children whose Parent/s or Legal Guardian/s have a need for financial assistance and comply with our eligibility criteria may apply. All grants are income tested and the closing date for applications is 25th October 2011.

If you have served in the Australian Defence Forces is Allied Forces and you wish to apply for a Secondary Education Grant for 2011, please telephone Carry On on (03) 9629 2648 to establish eligibility and request an application form.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

St. Peter’s College is registered with the Ritchies Community Benefits Scheme. You can help us to raise money for the College by ensuring that 1% of your expenditure will be donated to the school.

Cards are available at Ritchies stores, or you can contact the College Office for more information.

UNIFORM SHOP

Due to School Closure on Monday 31st October (Cup Weekend) the uniform shop will not be open.

Instead it will be open on Wednesday 2nd November from 1pm to 4pm

Trish Henry
Uniform Shop

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS
WATER WEEK OCT 17-21ST

Even though Victoria has had high rainfalls this year and our water storage levels currently sit above 60%, it’s important that we continue to be aware of water conservation.

This week marks “National Water Week” and various schools across Australia are participating in educational activities that teach students how to effectively manage this resource.

At St Peter’s we are committed to lowering our water consumption. At present, our ovals and garden beds are fed with recycled water, and water conservation is an integral component of our Environmental Studies curriculum.

As part of the South East Water’s “Learn It! Live it!” Program, we encourage everyone in the community to find ways of saving water at home. Here are some strategies that could be implemented as summer approaches:

- Install a water tank to collect rain water. Alternatively, use grey water (water from dishwashers and washing machines) to feed your garden beds
- Water gardens early in the morning so as to avoid soil evaporation
- Ensure that washing machines and dishwashers are used with a full load
- Limit showers to 4 minutes

Together we can all make a difference!

Jackson Barfoot
Ms Tracy Alles
ENVIRONMENT CAPTAIN
TEACHER
Given the general busyness of life in a school community at present, particularly for all concerned with VCE, students and families and staff, the Gospel of Sunday was timely. The Gospel was from Matthew (22:15-22) and it is certainly well known and often quoted. “Render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s and render unto God what is God’s.” What is given to Caesar is not given freely but it is demanded. What is given to God is given as a response to invitation. In fact we cannot really “give” God anything, whatever we have is his. The very coin with Caesar’s head and name on it comes from the earth, God’s creation no matter whose name is on it.

The Gospel is not really about taxes but it is about balance. Balance is essential to the Christian life. At present of course, it is easy for lives to get out of balance with a huge emphasis on study to the exclusion of all else. It is not only study of course that demands so much of our time. Things like “Social Media” facebook etc are becoming a huge user of time. Likewise sport, being a member of a team can become a huge commitment. None of these things are bad as such, but they do need to be kept in check, in balance.

I often hear from parents who drive their children all over the place at weekends and in the evening to various sports, competitions etc, that they don’t attend church and don’t take their children because mass times would prevent their children from taking part in some activity or other. Some of the older students say that because they work at weekends there isn’t time for Church. Of course simply attending church is not giving to God what is God’s. If we are to truly respond to God’s invitation, our lives require a little reorganising.

We don’t have less time now than we have ever had, however we have allowed more and more things into the time we have and we have not been discerning about this. We have certainly made ourselves busier as a result of the many things we take on, but we have frequently lost the balance. As spiritual beings we have a deep need to be connected to the God from whom we came and by whom we are sustained and to whom we will go. As parents we sometimes have to be proactive in helping our children to find a balance in life, sometimes we need to find it for ourselves.

Deacon Tony Aspinall
COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

A prayer for the gift of Discernment

Loving God, help us to hear your voice amidst the noise of the world, Guide us to places and times of peace that we may listen and hear your voice.

By hearing your voice may we know how best to serve you for your honour and glory and for the good of our neighbour.

Help us Lord to give you what you ask of us, to respond wholeheartedly to your invitation to know you and to love you.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

ST. AGATHA’S NEWS

GODSTART PROGRAM: Sr.Grace is asking for interested parishioners to join the GodStart team. GodStart is a post Baptism program which involves visiting families to deliver a birthday card each year after their child’s Baptism. The aim of GodStart is to remind parents how much they, and their children, are loved by God, that they are important members of the Church community and that they belong to it. If you can assist or would like further information please contact Sr.Grace on 5996 1985.

AGAPE GROUP (18-35): Will now meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. 7pm (after the 6pm Mass) in the hall. Please also prayer for a Holy Hour every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Adoration Chapel. Contact Sr.Mercy for further information on 0403 423 021.

NEED TO RECHARGE YOUR YOUTH MINISTRY BATTERIES? Youth ministry leaders and volunteers are invited to “Recharge” with a day of prayer, reflection and skill-building. “Recharge” is an opportunity to meet others involved in youth ministry in the diocese and to nourish your youth ministry vocation, with prayer and professional development. Fr.Christian Fini OMI, the director of Oblate Youth Australia, will be our guest speaker. The day will include practical youth ministry workshops and lunch will be provided 9.15am-4.30pm Sunday October 23 at the St.Ita’s Hall, 50 Victoria St, Drouin. This event is open to all those working or volunteering in youth ministry and will cost $20 per participant, RSVP jessd@sale.catholic.org.au.

CASEY YOUNG TRIVIA NIGHT: Are hosting a Trivia night on Saturday 5th November 7pm at St.Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield. Contact 0407 881 206 for tickets. All money raised will go towards the Assist-a-Student education program.

MACKILLOP YOUTH ADULT COMMUNITY (MACYAC) “COME AND SEE”: MacKillop Young Adult Community (MacYAC) is a network of young adults and Sisters of St.Joseph centred 155 Melbourne Avenue, Glenroy. It provides an opportunity for young adults (18-35 year old) to ‘live in’, share life, prayer, reflection, vision and outreach to those in need. MacYAC is offering a “Come and See” Session on Saturday, 29th October at 2pm. Come on Friday night and stay from Friday evening, 28th October to Sunday afternoon 30th October to find out more about the young adult community. For more information contact 9306 8903 or Sr.Rita Malavisi 0419 299 065 or email : macyac@sosj.org.au

Greg Nelson
St Agatha’s Parish Representative