From The Principal
During the 2010 Lenten Liturgical Season, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference challenged us to consider taking up something as a Lenten challenge rather than the more traditional giving up of something. I hope that this challenge has provided a catalyst for renewed focus on the needs of others and an opportunity for providing help to those less fortunate than ourselves.

A Lenten preparation with such a focus blends seamlessly into the Edmund Rice charism. It reinforces our commitment to those “at the margins”, challenging us to be a source of hope to others as we approach the Easter season and contemplate the hope implicit in the resurrection. In the final days of this term each year level will engage in an Easter liturgy. I hope that, in addition to this, many boys will join with their families in their parish Easter liturgies.

During the recent long weekend, the College suffered major storm damage with most buildings suffering water damage and the grounds affected by a combination of erosion, deposits of mud and fallen trees. The music centre was inundated, ruining carpets. Air conditioning units on roofs were damaged by hail and wind. The sports fields were rendered unplayable and, of the many trees that fell, most seemed to fall on fences.

This crisis provided an opportunity for the staff to once again demonstrate their incredible commitment to the College. Bruce Wallace, Paul Pupillo and George Camilleri were on site from mid afternoon until late into the night on Saturday. Brett Huxtable, Lachie Robertson and a range of contractors joined them on Sunday and Monday. We were able to commence classes in all areas, with the exception of the music centre, the library and the lower playing fields on Tuesday. On behalf of all students and staff I sincerely thank those involved in the clean up.

The St Bernard’s Athletics Squad will represent the College at the ACC Athletics next Wednesday. We wish them well as they defend their title and thank the staff who have worked with them, particularly coordinator Mr Gerard Brown. We look forward to acknowledging their efforts in the next newsletter.

In recent weeks we have become increasingly concerned by the behaviour of some students travelling to and from school. I ask that parents reinforce acceptable behaviour for boys at these times. Removal of a student from buses is an inconvenience to families but is an unavoidable response when students’ behaviour impacts on the safe travel of others. I also remind families that Essendon station is an out of bounds area for all St Bernard’s students from 3pm until 4.30pm. Any boy who needs to be in this area during this time is asked to discuss the issue with the Campus Director.

In particular I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Mrs Annette Gornell (deputy chair) and Mr Brian O’Loughlin who recently resigned after long periods of service. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Christine McCaffrey, Mr Matthew Mulkearns and Mr Peter Roberts to the Board and I thank them for their generosity in accepting their appointments. We also are pleased to confirm the reappointment of Mr Peter Hogan as Board chair and the appointment of Mr Rod Lamplugh as deputy chair.

The College Board for this year is as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Br Brian Brandon</th>
<th>Mr Luke Cooney</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Hogan</td>
<td>Mr Rod Lamplugh</td>
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<td>Mrs Christine McCaffrey</td>
<td>Mr Matthew Mulkearns</td>
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<td>Mr Tony Paatsch</td>
<td>Mr Peter Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Nick Scully</td>
<td>Mr Garry Trainor</td>
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The College is also fortunate to have the following on various sub-committees:

**Building Sub-Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mr Luke Cooney</th>
<th>Mr Brett Huxtable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Dan Lucin</td>
<td>Mr Greg Mulcahy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Tony Paatsch</td>
<td>Ms Caroline Sheehan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Gerard Smith</td>
<td>Mr Bruce Wallace</td>
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</tbody>
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Finance Sub-Committee
Ms Tina Davis   Mr Russell Hande
Mr Peter Hogan   Mr Greg Hughes
Ms Hayley Leane   Mr Tony Paatsch
Mr Peter Roberts   Mr Nick Scully
Ms Caroline Sheehan

Advisory Sub-Committee
Ms Alex Cometti   Mr Fabian Fabiano
Mr Aaron Fernandes  Mr Hayden Kennedy
Mrs Christine McCaffrey  Mrs Claire O’Loughlin

Students finish classes for the term at the normal scheduled time next Wednesday, March 24. The staff will be involved in professional learning activities on Thursday and Friday. The College Office will close at 1pm on Friday March 26 and reopen on Monday April 12. The accounts office will remain open during the holidays with the exception of public holidays.

Being the final newsletter for the term, I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and restful holiday break and the joy of the risen Christ at Easter.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

Edmund Rice Network News/ Justice Issues:

Earth Hour 2010
Earth Hour 2010 takes place on Saturday March 27 at 8.30pm (local time) and is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community throughout the world. It is a call to stand up, to take responsibility, to get involved and lead the way towards a sustainable future. Iconic buildings and landmarks from Europe to Asia to the Americas will stand in darkness. People across the world from all walks of life will turn off their lights and join together in celebration and contemplation of the one thing we all have in common – our planet. Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia when 2.2 million homes and businesses turned their lights off for one hour to make their stand against climate change.

Only a year later and Earth Hour had become a global sustainability movement with more than 50 million people across 35 countries participating. Click on the link to visit the Earth Hour 2010 site then sign-up to pledge your support by turning off your lights for one hour, Earth Hour, 8.30pm, Saturday March 27 2010.

Asylum Seeker Myths
In 2002 the Edmund Rice Centre led an important effort to bring clarity to the national debate through the publication of the accessible fact-sheet: Debunking the Myths on Asylum Seekers. In view of some recent comments by political leaders the Centre has judged it necessary to revisit the topic to once again bring a factual spotlight to the debate for this coming election year. The publication “Debunking the Myths About Asylum Seekers in 2010” is available for download at the Edmund Rice Centre website.

A very popular myth is that Australia is being inundated by people in boats. This is false. 1800 boat people have sought asylum in Australia in 2009. This number is tiny when compared to other countries. Even given an increase in 2009, the annual average number of boat arrivals to Australia is tiny in comparison to the 50,000 people that over-stay their visas each year, or when taking into account that on average 95% of asylum seekers actually arrive in Australia by plane. Click on the link to the Edmund Rice Centre to read about more of the myths.

Global Gifts : Send the Gift of Life
The Catholic organisation, Caritas is the agency that runs ‘Project Compassion’ during this season of Lent. As we approach Easter, Caritas Australia’s Global Gifts provide a special way to mark the big occasions in life. Giving a ‘Gift of Life’ card is a meaningful way to mark a special occasion, and makes a real difference to lives of people around the world. The work of Caritas Australia focuses on building stronger communities and their Global Gifts represent many of the aspects of their projects. They believe that by addressing the issues that surround poverty in a respectful and enhancing way, we are ensuring a better future for the world’s most marginalised people. If you choose to order a printed card, Caritas will post it to you, ready for you to write a personal message and send to friends and family. Each gift also has a magnetic strip on the reverse so it can be displayed on the fridge. Each Global Gift purchase is tax-deductible. Why not give a more meaningful gift for Easter this year and help make the world a better place? Go to the Caritas web site to place an order and make Easter this year an extra special one. (www.caritas.org.au)
General News

Classes for Strand students finish for the term on Wednesday, March 24 at 3.00pm. Parent/Student/Teacher interviews for Term 1 will be conducted on Thursday, April 15 between 2pm and 8pm. Classes will finish on that day at 12.40pm. To allow for enough time for students and staff to book interview times for that Thursday, booking sheets will be handed to all Strand students on Monday, March 22. Students are asked to confirm times with parents at home and then book in those times with the appropriate staff at school. Homeroom teachers will explain the process to the Year 7 students.

Mr John McKenna, Strand Campus Director

Thursday April 15 - Year 10 and 11 Classes

Due to Year 10 and 11 Parent Teacher Interviews occurring on Thursday April 15, classes for the Clairvaux Campus will conclude at 1:30pm. All Year 10 and 11 parents/guardians will receive a letter outlining details for the interviews. We are aware that the School Diary originally stated that the interviews would take place on April 22 but this has been amended to April 15.

Mr Nick Scully, Clairvaux Campus Director

Uniform Shop

The Uniform shop will be open on Thursday March 25 from 8:30am - 11:45am for all winter purchases.

VCAL News 2010

Last week a small number of VCAL students visited the GM Holden plant in Port Melbourne. Students were treated to a tour of the engine assembly line and saw the opportunities available for both apprentices and graduates in a global automotive company.

Year 12 students also had a presentation from Ambulance Victoria as part of their ADAPT program which highlights issues with drugs and alcohol amongst teenagers. Staff have been able to visit a large number of students in their work placements. Feedback has been very positive demonstrating that students are taking their work very seriously. I congratulate them all on their efforts.

Mr Chris Mannix

Year 7 2012 Enrolment

Parents who currently have a son enrolled at St Bernard’s are reminded to attend the Parent Information evening to be held on April 29. Attendance at this meeting is essential if you wish to proceed with enrolment. Families have been placed on waiting lists in the past because they have missed out on attending these nights and have subsequently not submitted an application. Any enrolment enquiries can be directed to the College Registrar – Mr John Nocci via email jnocci@sbc.vic.edu.au or on 9289 1103.

Enrolment Information Night for Families NEW to St. Bernard’s College

Tuesday, APRIL 20, 2010

College Auditorium

7.30pm

Enrolment Information Night for Current families and families who have had a student attend St. Bernard’s College in the recent past

Thursday, APRIL 29, 2010

College Auditorium

7.30pm

Year 10 Reflection Day

The recent Year 10 Reflection Day’s theme was Manhood, with facilitator Jonathan Doyle working with the boys on particular issues that the growing man faces. Each session included input from Jonathan, then personal reflection and was followed up by small group discussion facilitated by the Year 10 home room teachers. The material covered was challenging and the boys showed through their group discussion work that they understood a little more about the types of messages that are pushed their way from the media and from their peers.

A special thank you to the Year 10 coordinators Ms Suzie Bradmore and Mr Chris Knauf as well as the Year 10 Home room teachers who helped facilitate the day.
Italy Tour – January 2011
An opportunity exists for members and friends of the College community to participate in a 19-day tour of Italy. Tour commences in Venice on January 5 and concludes in Rome on Sunday January 23. Cost per person is $2,600.00 (Land content only). For further details please contact Mr. Bruno Spiller at BSpiller@sbc.vic.edu.au.

Mr Bruno Spiller, Senior Italian Teacher, Clairvaux Campus

Music News
The Music Department is currently focused on a number of concerts taking place in Term 2. The first of these is the Semester 1 College Concert which will feature the Senior Concert Band, Intermediate Concert Band and Big Band. It also feature a guest Taiko Group and the Sunshine Community Brass Band. Proceeds from this concert will go towards the current LOTE/Music project to purchase Japanese Taiko drums for the College and start a Taiko drumming group. This Concert will be held in the College Auditorium on Thursday May 13 2010, starting 7:30pm.

The Friends of Music at SBC are very active this year, as they are each year, with support and fundraising initiatives. Meetings are filled with valuable discussion regarding the direction of the music program and how best to instigate valuable projects. Many thanks to the new parents who attended the last meeting and we encourage more supporters to join us. The next Friends of Music meeting will be held on Monday April 19 in Music Room 302 at 7:30pm.

Mr Carmelo Pulisi, Director of Music

Careers News
1. LA TROBE UNIVERSITY – La Trobe (Bundoora) has a ‘Talk and Tour’ aimed at school students wanting to find out more about La Trobe. A great chance to check out courses and careers. When: 9.30am - 12pm (optional afternoon activities), Friday April 9; Register: www.latrobe.edu.au/talkandtour or 1300 135 045;

2. SWINBURNE - Art and Design Discovery Day on Thursday April 8 at Prahran campus. In Year 10-12 with a passion for art and design or film and TV? Then this is for you. See: www.future.swinburne.edu.au/events/artsanddesign/

3. NEW GAP YEAR OPTIONS AT DEAKIN UNI – Students taking a GAP year can get a head start now by studying one or two subjects off campus during that year. This could be a helpful option in terms of keeping in touch with study during that year. Students who take this option will make a seamless transition into Deakin by taking a lighter study load while having access to the range of Deakin student services and opportunities (eg access to course specific events/networks, access to the library, alternative entry points in Trimester 2 or 3, access to career counselling, volunteering partnerships and short term study programs). See www.deakin.edu.au/future-students.

4. WHAT DOES A NURSE DO? Enter a day in the life a student nurse. You will participate in a variety of hands-on nursing workshops and be able to talk with staff and students. Register at www.acu.edu.au/universityexperience.

5. WORK EXPERIENCE UPDATE - Students are reminded that Monday 24 May is the deadline for returning work experience forms. No excuses!

6. CAREERS IN AGRICULTURE Approximately 50% of jobs in agriculture are located in capital cities, such as agribusiness, environmental management and research development. Demand far outweighs graduate numbers, so there are great prospects in this industry. Developing sustainable agricultural practise will only increase career opportunities. Go to www.land-environment.unimelb.edu.au

7. LATTITUDE GLOBAL VOLUNTEERING - Information Night Wed 24 March for any interested students and family members to find out more about volunteering with Latitude. Returned volunteers, parents of returned volunteers and staff will be available to answer any questions about the placements we have available in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Americas, Australia and the Pacific. The session will be held at our office at: Level 1, 95 Johnston St. Fitzroy (above Coles). Interested parties are invited to come along any time from 6pm to 9pm for an informal discussion with our representatives. Formal presentations will be given at 7pm and 8pm. Students are encouraged to register their interest to attend at www.lattitude.org.au. Students are encouraged to register their interest to attend at www.lattitude.org.au.

Mr David Rosel, Careers Adviser (9289 1159 or drosel@sbc.vic.edu.au)

Junior Volleyball Competition
Any student not in the Rep Squad who wants to play in the Junior Volleyball competition can get a Player/Team Entry form from Mrs Debra White at the Front Office. The season runs during term 2 & 3 and all games are on Friday nights at the St Bernard’s College gym starting at 3:30pm, 4:30pm or 5:30pm. Anyone who does not have a team, will be put into one.

Bubble Dome Student Workshops - April 6 - 8
Ever wonder how 3D movies like Wall.E and Shrek are made or how special effects are created? Learn how to invent your own awesome 3D worlds, characters, computer games, and environments in this cutting edge 3 day workshop running at St Bernard’s from April 6 - 8. For a booking form and further information please go to http://www.bubbledome.com/workshop-sign-up/school-holiday-courses/computer-animation-games-design.