From The Principal

A number of recent events remind us that we are doing a lot right at St Bernard’s. Last Thursday night guests to the College were treated to the first Semester Concert. Students revelled in their capacity to bring joy to others through music, both instrumental and choral. This week the skills and sportsmanship of the Year 10 football team were admirable in their victory over St Jospeh’s Geelong. Senior students continue to spend evenings helping on the soup van and tutoring refugees. We also recently received a glowing endorsement from a prospective mother suggesting she wanted a St Bernard’s education for her son, based on her positive impression of the students whom she had stopped in the street and asked about the school. (She also mentioned how good they look in uniform!) There is so much that is good and positive taking place in the College that we can all be justifiably proud of.

Young people are easy targets for the media. We often read and view salacious stories that highlight instances of dangerous, irresponsible, self centred or antisocial behaviour. We understand that those featured in such stories are the exceptions rather than the rule but it is good to remind ourselves of the enormous capacity that young people have to achieve great things. History reminds us that for seventy years the young people of this community have been doing just that.

“Murphy’s Lore and Other Stories, the 70 Year History of St Bernard’s” is a wonderful read for all associated with the College. The contributions from students and teachers alike make it clear that there is something quite special about a St Bernard’s education. Many are not easily able to isolate and articulate exactly what this is. They write of the strong identity and affinity they feel for the school, mentioning the impact the teachers had on them and their gratitude for this. The sacrifice of parents is a common theme as well, as is the modelling within the school of service to others and faith in action as well as word.

Individuals write of their pride in their own and the collective achievements of their schoolmates. Even those who judge themselves to have been poor scholars or for whom school was a trial (with lunchtimes and Wednesday afternoon sport the high point), still write fondly of the people involved in the St Bernard’s community and feel privileged to have been part of the College.

Xavier Duff concludes his account of his time as a student at St Bernard’s :

“…more important than just academic education, the influence of the Brothers and other teachers had as mentors and role models, the experiences and friendships I had, all helped shape me and had a profound impact on my development as a rounded and resilient person. And that is something to be truly thankful for.”

I hope that our current students feel similarly when they reflect on their achievements at school and the influence of a St Bernard’s education on their lives beyond the school gates.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

*Copies of “Murphy’s Lore and Other Stories” are available for purchase from the College for a reduced price $30. Mail orders also accepted for the RRP of $39.95. Please contact the Development Office on 9289 1106 or at development@sbc.vic.edu.au

Please remember in your prayers Mrs Patricia Raffle, the mother of Old Collegians Football Club stalwart John Raffle and grandmother of past students Damien (College Captain ‘91), Tim (‘06) and Will (‘06) who passed away on May 15.

Upcoming Events
May 24 – 5:30pm – Board Meeting – Board Room
May 27 – 5:00pm – Strategic Planning Meeting – Careers Office
June 2 – 9:30am – Ladies and Friends Auxiliary Meeting – Pavilion
June 7 - 8:45am – Year 11 Exams Commence - Gym

Edmund Rice Network News/ Justice Issues:

Eri Joins Campaign to Urge Hotels to Combat Trafficking

Edmund Rice International has agreed to be a signatory to a letter to major hotel chains in South Africa encouraging them to combat human trafficking and child sex tourism as the country readies for the World Cup. In June, close to one million visitors will travel to South Africa for the World Cup. Past experience shows that this influx of people may also have the unintended consequence of creating opportunities for human trafficking. While not responsible for this tragic crime, the travel and lodging industry is well-positioned to help prevent human trafficking by taking steps to stop the use of hotels for these purposes.

The campaign, organized by Christian Brothers Investment Services (in this case Christian Brothers refers to the De la Salle Brothers) is to be sent to Best Western, Hyatt, Hilton, Starwood and other hotels, expressing concerns about human trafficking and encouraging the hotels to create ethical policies, train staff to help identify human trafficking, partner with social service agencies, and join an industry-wide code of conduct that guides anti-commercial sex tourism policy development.
Walkathon Result
Our recent Walkathon conducted on Founder’s Day was a wonderful success. To date, the total amount raised for the Christian Brothers’ school in Embulbul, Kenya is $32,100. This is the largest amount ever raised in one effort by this school community so many thanks once again to all who participated, raised funds or contributed in any other way to make it so successful. As they say in Kenya, ASANTE SANA (Thank you very much).

1 Goal - Education For All
The goal of providing universal primary education by 2015 seems to be slipping out of reach according to the Global Campaign For Education (GCE). According to a UNESCO Global Report released earlier this year, 72 million children were out of school in 2007 and 56 million would still be out of school by 2015 if funding trends remained the same. The report also highlighted that around 54 percent of children out of school are girls; that literacy remains among the most neglected of all education goals, with about 759 million adults lacking literacy skills today, two-thirds women; that millions of children are leaving school without having acquired basic skills, and that 1.9 million new teacher posts will be required to meet universal primary education by 2015.

"It is estimated that it will cost US$16 billion a year to achieve universal primary education and wider Education for All goals by 2015;" said Kailash Satyarthi, GCE President. "This figure is just two percent of the amount mobilised to bail out four banks in the UK and US."

In the lead up to this years Soccer World Cup, the 1GOAL campaign is attempting to use the popular appeal of football to advance the cause of education for all. Information as to how you can support the campaign can be found at their website.

We here at St. Bernard’s are ‘doing our bit’ to keep the poor at school with the Walkathon realising a wonderful result that will make a massive difference to Br. Beausang Centre in Nairobi.

Walk to the G - Saturday May 22
Most would of heard of Michael Long and the fantastic work he is doing with the indigenous people of our country in the ‘Close the Gap’ campaign but what many won’t know is that the life expectancy of an indigenous person in our country is so much less than ours.

At St. Bernard’s we feel strongly about these issues and as an indicator of our support we are hoping to rally as many St. Bernard’s people, staff, students and parents to our banner as we can to walk, in conjunction with girls from St. Columbas and others, behind our banners on May 22 before the ‘Dreamtime at the G’ game between Essendon and Richmond.

Student Council have taken on the challenge of gathering as many of the St. Bernard’s community as they can to walk to the MCG beginning at 5.15pm at Federation Square. If you would like to be in it our banner will be proudly standing next to the information centre, so come along and join the school in a great cause. Please join us in support of the native people of our country.

General News
St Bernard’s Ladies & Friends Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon
This years luncheon will be held on June 9 from 11am to 3pm at Ascot House, Ascot Vale. It is always an enjoyable day and there is also the chance to take home some great raffle prizes. Information and ticket order forms will be sent out with the May accounts to each family. Please pay and reply promptly as there is a limit on numbers. We look forward to your company on the day.

Lisa Edwards, Auxiliary President

St Bernard’s Vs Parade Football Luncheon - May 26
A luncheon will be held in the College Sports Pavilion from 11:30am (for a noon start) as the precursor to the match between two of the ACC’s most fierce rivals. Guest speaker will be John Jordan SC, a barrister with connections to both Colleges, who has been a member of AFL Victoria’s Board of Directors. The match itself (beginning around 1:45pm) will be played for the Madden Bedford trophy, named after Simon Madden and Peter Bedford, 2 greats of their respective Colleges whose achievements both on and off the football field are well known.

The cost for the day will be $25 per head which includes a two-course luncheon with drinks at bar prices. Dress will be smart casual. For catering arrangements we would appreciate a reply by Monday 24 May. Bookings or any other queries can be made by contacting Michael Perrett on 9289 1106 or mperrett@sbc.vic.edu.au
VCAL News

Year 12 VCAL students as part of their Personal Development program have organised a number of successful excursions including Scienceworks and Ten Pin Bowling for Discere and Year 7 students.

Year 11s continue with Horticulture at Kangan TAFE. The vegetable patch is now starting to produce some fine lettuce and spinach with samples usually available on Thursdays.

Work placement visits continue for both Year 11s & 12s.

Chris Mannix

The Wiz - Help Needed

We’re looking for 7 Razor style scooters (they can be any brand) that we have your permission to paint black! They will be treated with tender love and care and returned to their original homes after the production. If you can be of any assistance please contact Luke Steward or Brooke Baker. Much appreciated!

Music News

Congratulations to staff and students for their efforts last week with regards to the Semester 1 concert. We particularly thank the Sunshine Community Brass and taiko group Wadaiko Rindo for performing as part of the evening. We now look to the future with more concerts and activities in store for the remainder of Term 2.

The Semester 1 Soiree is scheduled for Tuesday June 1 in the College Auditorium. The Soiree is a small, less formal concert that offers the opportunity for students to perform as soloists or in small, self-directed groups. This opportunity is open to all musicians of the college, not just to those involved with music at school. Students may register to perform at this event by contacting Mr. Puglisi before May 24 2010.

The Year 7 honours band has received a special invitation to perform at The Song Room and Allans Music Education Teacher Professional Development Day on June 11. Our honours band will be guided by guest clinician, Mr Peter Francis. The band will provide an insight into the quality of our work at St Bernard’s as a benchmark for other teachers & schools.

We are now in the process of finalising the ‘Keys to Success Project’ with the acquisition certificate being printed this week, acknowledging all the donations towards our grand piano. Benefactors are invited to the Semester 1 piano concert at the College in commemoration and acknowledgement of their support. The evening will include the first unveiling of the framed Acquisition Certificate and will occur on Tuesday June 22 in the St Bernard’s College Auditorium at 7:30pm.

The Year 7 concert for Semester 1 is fast-approaching. It will occur on Thursday June 17 at 7:30pm in the College Auditorium. This is a compulsory activity for all students in classes 7A, B, C, D & H and we encourage all parents and families to attend in support of the students.

Carmelo Puglisi, Director of Music

Italy Ski Experience - January 2011

A father/son (or other members of the family) fully guided ski tour of the Dolomites has been planned for January 2011 - 12/01/11 - 22/01/11: Cost: $2,400 pp - includes 10 days skiing/boarding lift passes, accommodation (dinner, bed & breakfast), transfers from Trento to Dolomites & return. Please contact Mr. Bruno Spiller, Snowsports Team Manager, at the College for further information.

Senior First XV111 Football Results

Round 4 - First Herald Shield Game - De La Salle 9.6. 60 lost to St Bernard’s 12.11.83

We were very disappointed to head out to East Malvern and see that there were no change rooms available to us. We were very keen to do well, so this was a huge hurdle to us being ready to play good football. After a slow start against the wind, we hit our straps in the second and third quarters to pull away to a handy win. It was great to see Andrew Grosso back in form and using the ball extremely well. Kieran Farrell was tireless around the ground and Sam Jones proved a handful for the opposition by kicking 4 goals 3 behinds.

Goals: Jones 4, Iudica 2, Wall 1, Schroder 1, Grosso 1, T.Sullivan 1, Borzillo 1, Caven 1
Best players: Farrell, Grosso, Jones, Iudica, Schroder, Madden, Saundry, T. Sullivan, Overman
Café Calmer Player of the Match: Andrew Grosso
Herald Shield Player of the Match: Kieran Farrell
Round 5 - Catholic College Sale 7.10.52 lost to St Bernard’s 10.8.68

We travelled out to Pakenham to play this extremely important second round game. Schroder and McNamara were out injured, while T. Sullivan and Ludica played under duress. We played solidly all day, but allowed Sale to get within one goal with 5 minutes to play. Ludica and Sargent controlled the backline and provided options forward. After successive clearances, we kicked 3 goals rapidly to eventually win by 16 points.

Goals: Sawaya 2, Brown 2, Cooper 2, Ludica 1, Wall 1, Chrystie 1, Sargent 1
Best players: Ludica, Wall, Farrell, T. Sullivan, Sargent, Moylan
Café Calmer Player of the Match: Jordan Ludica
Herald Shield Player of the Match: Jordan Ludica

That leaves our record at an imposing 3 from 4 in ACC Games and 2 from 2 in Herald Shield games. Our final ACC and Herald Shield game is against Parade at St Bernard’s on Wednesday May 26 and we would love to see you down there supporting the boys.

Hayden Kennedy

Careers News

REMINDERS

Herald Sun Careers Expo, Fri 30 July-Sun 1 Aug, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre.
Sports Medicine & Science seminar, 23 May, Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, Reg’n: vic.sma.org.au; Info: Tamara, ph 9674 8707, tamara@vic.sma.org.au.
Sports Medicine seminar, 28 May, Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre; Info: Alane Hillbrich, 9420 4312, opsmc@opsmc.com.au.
‘Focus on Melbourne’ University seminar series (various faculties); Register/Information: ph 8344 6543 or www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/focusonmelbourne

1. COMPUTER GAMES BOOT CAMP! Year 9-12’s can go to a computer games boot camp. 7 days on everything connected to games. Interested in becoming a professional gamer, building, designing games or simply playing games? Then this is for you. When: 3-9 July; Where: Monash, Clayton; Cost: Free; Info/reg’n: www.infotech.monash.edu.au/promotion/games-boot-camp/

2. MORE ON MONASH (CLAYTON) MEDICINE INTERVIEW PROCESS – The new Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) for the B. Medicine/B. Surgery will, most likely, consist of eight sequential ‘stations’ plus one rest station. At each the applicant will be interviewed by one interviewer for eight minutes followed by two minutes for scoring/ changeover. Each “circuit” of nine stations will thus take 90 minutes to complete. Interviews will be held over the same time period as previous years (late Nov-mid Dec).

3. ADF GAP YEAR – The Australian Defence Force Gap Year program provides an opportunity for those who have finished Year 12 in the previous two years to experience continuous military training and lifestyle before going on to study. Apply online; applications are open 1 May to 31 May 2010. Applications are for Navy or Army only and are based on merit. Info/app: www.defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear.

4. RMIT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS – ‘Get Real Experience’, offers school students experience/insights into science, engineering, the environment, health and medical sciences. All are free; most include lunch. Coming up next holidays:

Health and Medical Sciences: hands-on workshops - nursing, Chinese medicine, biomedical science, laboratory medicine, medical radiations or pharmaceutical science. When: 10am-4pm, Tues 29 June; Where: Bundoora campus.
Electrical and Computer Engineering: see different engineering technologies. When: 9.30am-4pm, Wed 30 June & Thurs 1 July (identical days); Where: City campus;
Environmental Science and Engineering: undertake fieldwork and on campus interactive workshops; When: 9.30am-4.30pm, Tues 6 July; Where: City.
Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering: build your understanding of engineering through workshops, When: 9:30am-4:30pm; Where: Bundoora.

Medical Laboratory Visits: What happens after a blood or other medical test? Find out on this laboratory tour; When: Mon 5-Fri 9 July. Information for this and all bookings: www.rmit.edu.au/seh/experience.

5. $5000 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING – Year 12s –VU is offering these scholarships to students securing an ENTER (ATAR) above 70! Details on careers board.

6. WORK EXPERIENCE. Students are again reminded that forms need to be returned by Monday 24 May

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

Croatian Folk Dancing Group

The Australian-Croatian Cultural Association Antun Mihanovic was formed in 2003 in Fawkner, Victoria. The dance group started with 20 children and has seen many come through its ranks over the past 7 years, many forming strong friendships and seeing each other socially outside of dance practice and group events. Currently we have 16 dancers and are looking to recruit new members. The age range of dancers is from 12 to 21 years old and practice is held in St Mark’s Parish Hall (Fawkner) every Monday from 6:00pm to 8:00 pm. [Except School Holidays].

For all those interested or further information please contact Anna on 0421 414 308 (after 6:00 pm).