From The Principal

Last month history was made on the Federal political scene with Julia Gillard becoming the nation’s first female Prime Minister. Regardless of one’s political persuasion, it is a significant appointment and indicative of a maturing nation embracing equal opportunity in the workplace and in public life. It is difficult to imagine that such an appointment would have been possible a generation earlier.

The coming Federal election provides an opportunity for Catholic schools, including St Bernard’s, to seek commitments from our candidates regarding funding commitments to Catholic Schools. I have written to local Federal members and candidates inviting them to visit the College to view first hand and discuss the implications of not receiving a secure fair funding commitment from the Government. Victorian Catholic Schools receive 37% less per student in total Government funding than Government schools. If this were to be further reduced, increased fees and lower resourcing at St Bernard’s would inevitably result.

The Shadow Minister for Education, Christopher Pyne, recently outlined the Coalition policy on Catholic school funding beyond 2012, promising to provide at least the same level of funding for Catholic schools with indexation against Government School costs.

The Minister for Education, Mr Simon Crean is yet to make the Government position clear beyond the process of the school funding review currently underway. As a school community we would welcome the certainty of a similar commitment.

I encourage all members of the St Bernard’s community to engage with our political candidates on the critical issue of the provision of secure, fair funding for the College during the Federal election campaign. Templates to assist in writing to candidates is available on the College website. It will be equally important that we engage with candidates in the State election scheduled for later in the year.

The view of the College from Beryl Street and Rosehill Road has recently changed markedly with 30 pine trees previously lining the northern and eastern approaches being removed during the break. These trees were planted in the sixties and had reached the end of their useful life and had become a hazard. They will be replaced with ornamental Manchurian Pears in the coming weeks.

Rehearsals for the annual production have continued throughout the holidays. Like its predecessors “The Wiz” promises to be a high quality, and thoroughly entertaining show. The commitment of the students and staff to this production has been remarkable and I hope that many of you will take the opportunity to attend one of the shows. Opening night is Thursday August 5th.

Last week the College 1st XVIII represented the school in the semi final of the Herald Sun Shield. Whilst they were defeated by an extremely strong St Patricks College team, the endeavour and sportsmanship of the players was exemplary. They were a credit to the College and to their coach, Hayden Kennedy and assistants, Damian Sullivan, Ian Wheeler, Trevor Spencer and Craig Osborne.

At the start of Semester Two we welcome Ms Sarah Quinn and Ms Sue Ziino to the teaching staff on the Strand Campus and Ms Felicity Cronin who will be working in reception. We also welcome back from leave, Garth Cupido, Steve Glenister, Geoff Caulfield, and Carol Ianazzo. Sincere thanks to Rachel Fantauzzo, Mara, Brunato and Sue Ziino for their work replacing those on leave.

Best Wishes

Tony Paatsch

Upcoming Events

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Between Fathers and Sons Program Information Evening

Fathers of students in Year 8 are invited with their sons to an information evening concerning the ‘Between Fathers and Sons’ program that is offered each year to dads and their sons. The program is run over 6 consecutive Wednesday evenings in O’Brien Hall. The information evening is on Wednesday, July 28 at 7.30pm in O’Brien Hall. A letter explaining the program in more detail will be mailed to all families before this night.
Edmund Rice Network News/ Justice Issues:

Edmund Rice Network News/ Justice Issues:

St. Bernard’s Immersion Group to Kenya – June 26 to July 9
A group of nine (left), which included four St. Bernards’ staff members, journeyed to Kenya during the recent school holidays to work at our ‘sister school’, Br. Beausang Catholic Education Centre in Embulbul, Nairobi. Thanks to major fundraising in recent years, the Secondary Campus is now a modern, solid set of buildings with classrooms, offices and labs. The Primary school, however remains a collection of tin huts with inadequate heating, lighting, and other essential resources. The group worked with the students and staff and visited the homes of some of the students being sponsored. There are just over 300 people involved in assisting the educational needs of students at the school and 120 of these are families at St Bernards. The trip was a very moving and challenging experience for all involved, with one staff member penning the following reflection:

“Through the poverty, the dust and the goats that roam the street, somehow everyone welcomes you yelling out ‘JUMBO’ (hello) with a beautiful smile as you walk pass. The sound of children laughing and playing is no different from any other primary school and it’s only when you approach the gate that you realise how different and worlds apart they are from our Australian schools. The grounds are dirt and the school rooms are tin sheds. A soccer game was well on the way, the rules were the same except the ball was frayed and rocks used to mark the goal square. A hockey game followed and sure enough sticks were picked out of the fire-wood pile and a golf-ball used instead of a hockey-puck.

No inter-active white board in the classroom just a black board and chalk. No computers, just a pencil and an exercise book, yet the children still manage to learn literacy and numeracy. The experience will stay forever in my heart and to Embulbul, Kenya and it’s people ‘ASANTE SANE’ (thank you very much)”

See our web site and follow the link to Project Kenya for more photos of the school and groups activities and to also sign up to join our Assistance scheme if you wish.

Mr John McKenna, Strand Campus Director

FAMILY Matters- A helping hand for families, by families
Family Matters is a new initiative being undertaken by the St Bernard’s community in co-operation with the community of St Columba’s. The lives of students and their families within our school communities often intertwine. Working together, we hope to be able offer a helping hand, when it is needed. Our aim, in offering help, is to provide some level of normality when life is all but normal. Sometimes the hardest thing to do is to ask for help. We need to break down this difficulty in asking for help and be there as a family for each other, because that is what our Christian community is and should be about. We need everybody’s help to make sure that our families know we are only a phone call away.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?
We are asking families who think they can offer assistance in a number of areas to join a bank of helpers who can be called on when needed. The areas of help are listed below. If you feel you can offer assistance please fill out a form that is available from either Reception or the Canteen. Names will then be placed on a database, and when required you will be contacted by a member of the Family Matters Group.

- Meals
- Home Maintenance / Garden
- Household / Ironing
- Transport (Adults only)
- Baby sitting
- Shopping

If you have any questions please contact Dennis Hobson, Faith Development Coordinator, on 92981063 or 0418354697.

ABCD Program for Year 7 and 8 Parents
The ABCD program aims to equip parents with the communication skills, parenting practices, information and strategies to help them build positive, trusting relationships with their early adolescent children and help them prevent, and/or cope with adolescent drug use. Please see the flyer attached for details.
General News

New Student ID cards
All student ID cards will be replaced over the next couple of weeks. This will tie in with systems that will be used for copying/printing, library catalogue and additional information systems that will be implemented over the coming years. Students are reminded to only add credit to their existing cards on a needs basis until the replacement cards are circulated.

Mr Jason Blakey, Information Services Manager

Notice to Parents of Students in Years 10 and 11
Formal work in Unit 3/4 subjects begins on November 22, 2010 for students who will be doing 3/4 subjects in 2011. It is intended that this will assist students to optimise all learning opportunities in their senior classes. Classes will operate with input, homework and introduction of assessment tasks. Attendance at these classes is compulsory and is part of the 2011 academic year. Classes will run from the 22nd November till 1st December. It is hoped this will assist with planning for end of year family activities and holiday employment options.

Subject Selection
Term 3 sees the beginning of the Subject Selection process for students going into Year 10, 11 or 12 in 2011. Subject selection at St Bernard’s involves some input about the structure of a course of study and students are encouraged to gather as much information as possible before making their decision. This could include looking at future career options with Mr Rosel and discussing progress in a subject with their teacher and discussing choices with parents and investigating the possibility of doing VCAL or VET or accelerating. Finally a subject selection is completed on line via the school website. Students will receive confirmation of course of study for 2011 in November of this year.

Subject selection for Year 10 students going into Year 11, 2011 will commence with a student information session on the morning of Monday July 26. The parent (and student) information session is a 7.30pm on Tuesday July 27 in the Auditorium. Information will be available on the school website from Friday July 23.

Subject selection for Year 9 students going into Year 10, 2011 will commence with a student information session on the morning of Monday August 9. The parent (and student) information session is a 7:30pm on Tuesday August 10 in the Auditorium. Information will be available on the school website from Friday July 30.

Subject selection for Year 11 students going into Year 12, 2011 must attend a student information session on the morning of Wednesday August 11. Information will be available on the school website from Friday July 30.

Ms Caroline Sheehan, Director of Learning

VCAL News
The end of Term 2 saw a continuation of the SCOPE Program, “See The Person Not The Disability” where Year 12 VCAL students participated in a Wheelchair Basketball match supervised by Wheelchair Sports Victoria. As part of their Numeracy mapping studies, the Year 11 VCAL students attended a session at the Eureka Tower Observatory overlooking Melbourne and the surrounding suburbs.

Western Front Experience 2011
In the Easter holidays 2011, SBC will be running a one off trip to England, Belgium and France to tour the memorials, cemeteries and museums created to commemorate the heroic soldiers and personnel who fought in battles for the ANZAC’s and our Allied forces. We will visit the villages they saved and experience how the towns have grown out of the efforts of not just those soldiers but of the Australian people back home. ANZAC day will be held at Villers-Bretonneux, the city Victorian soldiers liberated on April 25, 1918. The tour will also include two days in Paris to study the French Revolution and explore the amazing city and it’s cultural, religious and historical monuments, museums and cathedrals.

If you are interested, please contact Ms Cometti via email at acometti@sbc.vic.edu.au to discuss the amazing opportunity further. There are only 24 places available and applications close July 30 so get in quick!

Ms Alex Cometti
First XV111 Football
The 2010 season has come to an end, with St Bernard’s runners up in the ACC Premiership season and making the Herald Shield semi finals.

ACC Grand Final - St Josephs 9.7.61 defeated SBC 8.8.56
During the last week of Term 2, St Bernard’s first football team played in the ACC Grand Final against St Joseph’s Geelong. After beating them in round 2 of the ACC season, we were confident that we could push them and possibly bring home the premiership, something that hasn’t been done at the College since 2001.

The game was a tight tussle throughout, with no more than three goals separating us at any time. With three minutes to go and 17 points down, we threw caution into the wind and moved a couple of our backmen forward. It paid immediate dividends with 2 quick goals but leaving only about 20 seconds on the clock. We were able to clear the ball from the subsequent centre bounce and drive it forward, only for a St Joseph’s mark in a pack about 35 metres out from our goal. The siren sounded, with SBC defeated by 5 points.

Goals: Soloman 2, Schroder 2, Moylan 2, Cooper 2
Best: Grosso, Schroder, Farrell, T.Sullivan, Cooper, McSweeney, Overman, Angus, Saundry

Herald Shield Semi Final - St Patricks 16 8 104 defeated SBC 4 6 30
On Wednesday July 14, the senior football side ventured out to Port Melbourne to play St Patricks Ballarat for a chance to play on the MCG for the Herald Shield Cup. Whilst playing a very competitive first quarter, St Pat’s structures and overall playing depth proved too much, soundly beating us by 74 points. St Pat’s will now play St Joseph’s Geelong in the Grand Final, who defeated Essendon Grammar in the other semi final with a goal after the siren.

Goals: Jones 2, Schroder, Larsen 1
Best: McSweeney, Grosso, Sargent, Schultze, Schroder, Farrell

I would like to take this opportunity to thank three fathers who dedicated their time to the side this year. Mr Trevor Spencer (father of Matt – year 11), Mr Damien Sullivan (Tom, year 12) and Mr Ian Wheeler (Jack, year 12) were at every training session held on Tuesday mornings in Term 1 and were at every game throughout the season. Also I would like to thank Old Boy Joe Pinataro who acted as runner in every game. Their help is much appreciated.

Captain: Isaac Madden
Best And Fairest: Jordan Schroder
Runner Ups: Kieran Farrell (2nd), Tom Sullivan (3rd) and Rhys Moylan (4th)

Mr Hayden Kennedy

Congratulations...

to Will Harris (Year 8) and Sean Hefter (Year 9) on receiving the Brass Tavern Weekly Award recognising their recent umpiring performances in the Essendon District Football League. Both boys are from the College’s Umpiring Academy, training each Wednesday afternoon under the guidance of the two of the EDFL’s best senior umpires.

St Bernard’s Shine at the Vic Schools Cycling Championships.
On July 15, seven students headed down to the Go Kart Club in Port Melbourne for the Vic Schools Cycling Championships to compete against the best cyclists in the north west metro district. On a tough day of competition the College achieved some amazing results.

Tom Lynch our college captain, finished 4th overall in the under 19’s closely followed by Thomas Dapcich in 5th place. In the under 15’s race we saw 3 of our young guns in Christain Molinia (4th), Darcy Heenan (5th) and Pat Martin (7th) with these boys giving us a glimpse of what is in store for the future of cycling at St Bernard’s. However our best performance came in the under 17 race with Vincent Bonasera taking the silver medal whilst help Harrison Smith, in his first race, finished 5th.

Special thanks to John Molinia, father of Christian, for helping register the boys on the day and to all the boys for representing the College in such an outstanding way.

Mr James Davey

Lawn Bowls Scholarship
The Strathmore Bowls Club is offering a full Scholarship to any student aged between 14 and 16 who is interested in learning the game of lawn bowls.

The scholarship includes:
- All equipment
- FREE coaching on an ongoing basis
- Advice and instructions on the etiquette of bowls

If you are interested or for further information please contact the president of the mens section, Allan Colson on 0401467972 or 92090443
Tickets to see THE WIZ are selling fast
Visit the land of Oz...see the Munchkins guide Dorothy down the Yellow Brick road - if only she had remembered her satnav. Ease on down the road. Ease on down, ease on down, ease on down the road. Imagine meeting a Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion - if only Dorothy could phone home to see if they really are trustworthy friends... Can the good witches, Addaperle and Glinda, ensure the success of Dorothy, Scarecrow Tin Man and Lion? Will Dorothy find her way home? Gaze in wonder as Dorothy defeats The Wicked Witch... All your questions will be answered if you come and see The Wiz playing in the College auditorium from August 5-8 and 12-14. Tickets are $25 for adults, $18 for concessions and $75 for families with order forms, as well as other information, available on the College website. If you have any further queries feel free to leave a message on the Ticket Hotline 9289 1049 or email at wiztix@sbc.vic.edu.au.

See you at the show!

Careers News

REMINDERS

1. OPEN DAYS COMING.....check out universities and TAFE Institutes that interest you at their annual Open Days. Especially vital for year 12s looking at tertiary pathways. Dates on VTAC website, Year 12 careers wall and in subject selection and careers seminar day booklets. Don’t forget to take Open Day Questions and review online program before you go!

2. ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS CAREERS DAYS – RMIT is holding Careers Days for their courses in Advertising and Public Relations. The Advertising Day will provide an up-to-date overview of the industry and employment opportunities, covering branding and strategy, integrated marketing communications, creative advertising, account service, media, production, the future, and study options. When: 10am-3.30pm, Sat 21 August; Where: RMIT building 108, Level 9, Lecture Theatre 16 (239 Bourke St, Melbourne); Cost: $55 (incl refreshments); Register: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au; Info: enquiries@rmit.edu.au.

2. PR Day provides a realistic overview of the industry and employment opportunities and covers consultancy PR, corporate PR, new media, government PR, event management, fundraising, the future, and study options. When: 10am-3.30pm, Sat 4 Sept; Where: RMIT Building 108, Level 9, Lecture Theatre 16 (239 Bourke St, Melbourne); Cost: $55 (incl refreshments); Register: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au; Info: enquiries@rmit.edu.au.

3. NEW COURSES AT LA TROBE (Bundoora) FOR 2011:
JOURNALISM (SPORT) - A vocationally oriented degree equipping students for careers in the increasingly complex field of sports media. In 3rd year students complete the Sport Journalism Internship, requiring 120 hours at an approved work place. Major studies: journalism, media studies, sport management. Career opportunities: print media, radio, TV, and online; potential in public relations and professional communications for sport companies and sporting organisations. See: www.latrobe.edu.au/humanities.

BUSINESS (EVENT MANAGEMENT) - designed to produce leaders for the special events sector, emphasising the application of theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed for the management of events. The degree combines business subjects (accounting, marketing, business law, entrepreneurship, economics) with studies in the management and delivery of special events. Specialisations: project management, sport facility and event management, business events management, event planning, event operations and sustainable community events.

POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND ECONOMICS – this degree equips graduates with a broad knowledge base that can be used to resolve practical policy problems. Content includes policy-focused economics seminars and a range of subjects integrating philosophical, political and economic aspects of public policy issues (eg PPE, public policy and ethics). Careers: economic and social analysts and decision-makers in public, private and not-for-profit sectors (eg analyst, economist, journalist, political adviser).

Mr David Rosel, Careers Adviser (9289 1159 or drosel@sbc.vic.edu.au)
Program at St. Bernard’s College

**Dates: Monday August 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th**

**For Year 7 & Year 8 Parents Only**

**When:** 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm  **Where:** At St. Bernard’s College

**Venue:** Room 431 (Margaret Carey Building)  **Cost:** $20 per person

**Presenters: School Counsellors - Mr John Samanna  Mr David Sutton**

What is the ABCD program?
The ABCD program aims to equip parents with the communication skills, parenting practices, information and strategies to help them build positive, trusting relationships with their early adolescent children and help them prevent, and/or cope with adolescent drug use.

The program is targeted at parents of young people in Years 7 & 8 and focuses on the critical transition years from primary to secondary schools. It will be run in groups between the sizes of 8 to 14.

The research based ABCD program consists of four sessions run over four consecutive weeks. Issues addressed by the program will include:

- Parental attitudes, role-modeling and parenting practices
- Family problem-solving and conflict resolution
- Positive parent-adolescent relationships
- Enhancement of family understanding and connectedness
- Alcohol and other drugs information

Please register your attendance by returning the completed slip below with payment of $20.00 in an envelope, to the Front Office by Wednesday 4th August 2010.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

“ABCD Parenting Young Adolescents” program.

**Name of Parent/s Attending:** __________________________

**Name of Son/s:** __________________________ **Class/es:** __________________________