From The Principal

On Monday we farewelled our Year 12 students. Following a breakfast shared with staff, the final full school assembly was held in which Mr Denis Fitzgerald addressed the College community. Denis spoke to the students about their obligation to commit to equity and justice in the community, pointing out that this has been a feature of the working careers of many of his former classmates at the College.

In the evening Year 12 students and families gathered for a moving final Eucharist celebrated by Fr Christian Fini, OMI. The day concluded with the Valete dinner at which students highlighted their experiences at the College. It was a wonderful day and a fitting celebration of the contribution this outstanding group of young men and their contribution to the St Bernard’s community. I would like to acknowledge the work of Year level Coordinators Mrs Emma Robinson and Mr Matt Hurley, Director of Mission Mr Dennis Hobson, coordinator of the day’s events Mr Bruce Wallace and Mrs Pauline Zammit for her behind the scenes work.

While I laud the exemplary performance of the students on Monday it would be remiss of me not to express my disappointment at some events of the previous evening. Up to one hundred Year 12 students gathered for a “pub crawl” along Mount Alexander Road. It would appear that this “event” was tolerated and in some cases supported and encouraged by parents.

Late last term we gathered all graduating students and parents. We clearly outlined the likely impact of such an “event” on the safety of students and the reputation of the College in the community. Local police reinforced these dangers at a year level assembly days before they finished. Despite this, local residents and traders were subjected to the boorish drunken and antisocial antics of a small number of our students. What is of greatest concern is the tacit support provided by the presence of so many otherwise exemplary boys. Twice in three years the College community has been damaged by those who have done so much to build it and who benefit most from St Bernard’s good name.

I will be asking the families of the class of 2012 to commit to working with staff and students to plan an end of year celebration free of the dangerous and embarrassing behaviour we have all been diminished by this year.

One positive aspect of the celebrations on Monday was the chance for boys and families to acknowledge the teaching staff that have worked alongside them for six years. The affection between students and their teachers as well as the obvious appreciation of boys and parents for the contribution made by these teachers was wonderful to see. Today is world teachers’ day and the College will recognise the efforts of its most valuable asset with a morning tea. Whilst the Morning Tea will be greatly appreciated it is this approbation of the teachers’ work from students and families that is of infinitely greater significance.

Just prior to this newsletter going to press we received news of the tragic death of Elliot Dean-Tasker, College Captain of CBC St Kilda. We have offered any assistance that we can provide to the CBC community. Our 2011 College Captain, Andrew Zammit will convey our sympathies to the CBC community. Please keep Elliot’s family and all at CBC in your prayers.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

Please remember in your prayers
Carmel O’Brien, husband of past student and Hall of Fame Inductee Noel ‘46 and mother of Peter ‘69, Brendan ‘71, Damien ‘73, Paul ‘78, Patrick ‘81 and Timothy ‘84 who passed away peacefully on October 19 at the age of 82. Also past student priest Fr Frank O’Laughlin ’47 who passed away peacefully on 26 October, at Mercy Hospice, having turned 80 the previous day.

May They Rest in Peace

General News

Procedures for sickness during the day
If a student becomes ill during the day he is to report to sickbay at front reception. If it is deemed that the student should leave school then the Year Level Coordinator will be notified. Parents are then contacted by reception staff to collect their son from sickbay. Students will not be permitted to leave school without following the correct procedure.

Under no circumstances are students to take it upon themselves to contact their parents to arrange an early departure.

Leaving school during the day for an appointment
Each student will bring to school a note in their diary or a letter from home, signed and dated by a parent, explaining the reason for early departure. This is to be presented to the student’s homeroom teacher (Yr 7 – 9) or Year Level Coordinator (Yr 10 – 12) during morning homeroom for signing. This note is then presented to front reception staff at the time the student signs out.

Late arrivals to school
This continues to be a problem, and parents and students are reminded that the school day commences with homeroom at 8.45am. Students arriving late are required to sign in at front reception and collect a late pass before going to scheduled classes.

IMPORTANT
There are still a large number of current Year 12 students who have not handed in their preference sheet for the collection of their VCE Certificate and Clairvaux Annual. Can this be handed into the Accounts Office as soon as possible to ensure that you receive these? If you require another sheet, this can be obtained from the Accounts Office.

Are you doing a 3/4 subject in 2012?
Unit 3/4, 2012 classes begin 28th November 2011 for 8 school days.

All Year 11 students (and any Y10 accelerating students) are expected to attend
Timetable will be published via email before 24th November
From The Strand Campus Director

I would like to congratulate our Japanese teacher Ms Sarah Brens and her classes of Year 7 – 9 Japanese for their effort in establishing a link with the Toyama Junior High School in Iwaki City in the Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. We all know that the Fukushima prefecture was devastated by the Earthquake and subsequent tsunami in March this year. Classes felt that the best way to support the community was to send them 1000 individually folded paper cranes. Below is a translated letter that Ms Brens received from a Year 9 girl from the school:

**Letter from Mikiko who is a 3rd year student:**

Thank you very much for your support. Folding all of those paper cranes is a very difficult task. When I think that you made all of those cranes for us I feel very happy. The cranes are very beautiful.

On March 3rd we lost many things in the earthquake and resulting tsunami. Our treasured possessions, albums, special people and a home that we might not ever be able to return to. Our school also fell victim and we are now borrowing a nearby school. Regardless of the situation we are enjoying each day together.

Before the earthquake, I never thought this kind of thing could happen. I thought I would always lead an ordinary everyday life and spent my days without much thought. However, my way of thinking has completely changed since this sudden earthquake. I don’t know what will happen tomorrow and now lead a life of uncertainty. Therefore I think everyone should value their family and friends everyday.

We still are experiencing hot weather in Japan. However because of the radiation problems in Fukushima we cannot go swimming in the pool, so we spend the days feeling very hot. Although Australia and Japan’s seasons are different, please take care of yourself.

I was very happy to receive a present from a far away place. Again, thank you for your support.

Mikiko

Congratulations

The JENESYS (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youth Scholarships) invitation program provides scholarships of $8000 available to 200 students learning Japanese in Australian schools. The scholarship and programme allows students to experience Japan for two weeks. It is with great pleasure that we announce that Jamieson Trainor from 9E has been awarded a scholarship and will spend two weeks in Japan in December. Well done Jamieson!

Summer Uniform

A reminder to parents that the boys will be allowed to wear their summer uniform from Wednesday November 2, the day after Melbourne Cup day. Refer to the following website for information about the summer uniform: http://year7sbc.weebly.com/the-uniform.html

Timed Assessment Tasks

Students are currently undertaking their TATs and I have been very impressed with the studiousness of our boys as many of them are attending after school help and voluntarily meeting together as a group in the library after school to prepare and revise. TATs will conclude next Friday November 4. Below is an overview of the remaining TATs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Nov 2</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Mathematics &amp; RE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Nov 3</td>
<td>Art/Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Nov 4</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 9 2012 Subject Selection

A reminder to all parents that the Year 9 2012 subject selection process will begin on Thursday November 3. Students will participate in a process during the day and parents are encouraged to attend the subject selection evening in the Auditorium from 7.30pm on the same day. Mr Mark Reedy (Curriculum leader) will speak about Year 9 Electives/Subject Selection Mark Smith (Director of Santa Monica) will present to parents about their son’s 2012 experience.

Year 8 Investig8 ILEAP Presentation Day

All Year 8 parents are invited to the ILEAP presentation day on Thursday November 17. Two sessions (9.30am and 11.30am) are offered depending on your son’s homeroom. It’s a great opportunity to be involved in your son’s learning at the College. Thanks to Ms Shelley Beecham for her coordination of this fantastic learning opportunity for our boys.

SMS Messages

Please be aware that ThreeAU and VodafoneAU have been experiencing network difficulties with sending and receiving messages and therefore some parents may not be receiving automated messages relating to their son’s absence. The issue is currently being fixed. If you require more information regarding this issue, please call 1800 300 346 Option 2.

Calculators

All Year 8 students received a handout recently with regards to the purchase of calculators for Year 9. If you haven’t yet seen that note please ask your son as it is to be returned to Abacus Calculators and Resources by December 9

**Damian McKee, The Strand Campus Director**

**PLEASE NOTE...**

For those parents who did canteen duty this year but are unable to do it again next year can you please contact Canteen Manager Carolyn Holland on 9289 1136 or email CHolland@sbc.vic.edu.au before the end of term.
Year 12’s...

The Library Staff would like to take this opportunity in congratulating you on completing Year 12 and hope you achieve your best in the coming weeks. We would also like to remind those students who have outstanding Library books to please return them as soon as possible, or if required for exam purposes, no later than 22nd November, 2011.

Many thanks and very best wishes.

St. Bernard’s Library Staff

Unit 3 and 4 Exams.

A reminder to parents and students that Unit 3/4 exams are rapidly approaching.

The largest of the VCAA exams, English is on Thursday November 3rd. Students are reminder to arrive at all their exams 30 minutes early. They are also reminded off the following: must commit VCAA numbers to memory, clear plastic drinking bottle, no label on bottle, bottle must only contain water, 1.5 litre max. Pencil case must be clear plastic zip lock bag. Students are reminded to ensure calculators are fully functioning (including new batteries). PHOTO I.D. is a must for all exams.

Students are also reminded to leave mobile phones at home.

Lastly and most importantly, be prepared, be well rested, well fed and calm.

Bernadette Kirkwood, VCE Coordinator

Year 10, 2012 - Notebook Computers

Notebook computers for Year 10, 2012 will be provided by the College under the Federal Government's DER funding. This is the last tranche of that funding. These laptops will be loaned to students for three years. As insurance is not covered by this funding there will be a notebook resource levy that covers the cost of insurance for 3 years included in next year’s fees. That cost is yet to be determined.

Caroline Sheehan, Director of Learning

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

The St. Vincent de Paul Society operates their Soup Van in the Footscray area 365 days a year. They provide food for homeless teenagers and adults; as well as for the many families who live in run-down boarding houses in the area. Every year they have an annual Christmas party for their ‘clients’ where over 700 people are given a three course traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. Everyone who comes gets a present. Last year the Vinnies, because of the generosity of the St. Bernard’s community, was able to give every child and teenager an extra present. This is often the only present these kids will receive at Christmas time.

This year looks like there will be even more people coming. I am asking for your help to make this Christmas a happier time for the Vinnies’ clients. Could you please consider donating a present this Christmas? Anything that you would be happy to receive yourself would be greatly appreciated.

The Boys’ Homerooms have been given the responsibility for providing a present for:

7A, 7B, 7C, 7D- Male Child
7F, 7G, 7H, 7J- Female Child
8A, 8B, 8C, 8D- Male Teenager
BE, 8F, 8G, 8H, Female Teenager
9A, 9B, 9C, 9D- Adult male
9F, 9G, 9H- Adult female
10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E- Adult male
10F, 10G, 10H- Adult female
11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E- Adult male
12A, 12B, 12C, 12D- Child male
12E, 12F, 12G, 12H, 12I, 12L, 12V- Child female

All presents need to be clearly labelled which age group they are for. Eg Female Teenager 14 yrs

There will be a box at Reception where the presents can be placed. They need to be picked up by the Vinnies on Friday 2nd of December.

Nauiyu Nambiyu, Daly River trip 2012

Nauiyu Nambiyu is a remote Northern Territory community of approximately 500 people located 220 km’s south of Darwin on the Daly River. Each year the College takes a group of 12 students and 2 staff to this Aboriginal community for an experience of culture, the land and to meet and interact with other Australians living a very different life to the city context of Essendon/Keilor.

Priority is given to students in Year 11, 2012. All Year 10 homerooms have been spoken to in recent weeks about this unique opportunity and your son should have received an introductory letter, itinerary and expression of interest form. Those intending to apply, or unsure, should attend the Information Session in the College Boardroom 6.30-7.30pm Tuesday November 15. No need to RSVP. If you and your son cannot attend the information session further enquiries can be made to David Sutton at dsutton@sbc.vic.edu.au. Expressions of interest close Friday November 25.

David Sutton

SBC EVENTS

Annual Volunteers Dinner - November 9, 6:30pm at the College Pavilion

This is an opportunity for SBC to say thank you to the many helpers who assist the College in the canteen, library, reading, uniform shop, sporting groups etc. We hope you can join us. If you wish to attend please contact Carolyn or Mandy no later than November 2 on 9289 1136 or email CHolland@sbc.vic.edu.au
**Japan Trip**

Japan has a thriving culture consisting of the nicest people, highly joyous celebrations and some of the most interesting activities. Through the SBC Japan Trip, myself and eleven others were able to experience, and take back to Australia, fantastic life experiences that otherwise would be nothing but foreign. The highlights of the trip to me personally, would be the initial day in Hiroshima, when we were all immersed in the culture at a brush festival (筆まつり - Fude Matsuri).

To see the contrast between the Australian way of life and Japanese was astonishing and almost indescribable. Such things as: the Shinkansen (Bullet Train) which speeds along at 300km per hour without any shakes, the general cleanliness, highly respectful mentality, lush countryside with mountainous backdrops and heritage of the nation sets it apart from anything else. I encourage anyone thinking of traveling there to do so, and I hope to return someday. Finally, the contribution it made to our knowledge of the language was astounding and through maintaining contact with the people we met (as I have been) we all may continue to develop.

**Music News**

We are pleased to announce that the College is implementing several new initiatives to further enhance music at the College. First is the proposed Year 8 Music Enhancement subject for 2012. This subject will offer students at Year 8 with a strong interest in music a chance to work further in an instrumental class environment, much like a continuation of the Year 7 compulsory instrumental program. At this stage, we have reached our intended target of 56 students who wish to participate in this program next year.

Further to this, we are pleased to acknowledge the support of Mr Paatsch, the College Executive and College Board in supporting the implementation of a Music Bursaries Program from 2012. $5000 has been pledged to this program annually which will be shared between 10 students of the College to offset the costs of instrumental music tuition. There will be an application and audition process for students to undertake in order to become eligible for this support. These bursaries are designed to support those students who contribute greatly to the life of the College through music. Further information and online application for bursaries can be found at [www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/music-prizes-and-bursaries.html](http://www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/music-prizes-and-bursaries.html).

Congratulations to the students of the Blues Band, SYNC and the Intermediate Concert Band for their entertaining performances last week at Our Lady of the Nativity Primary School. Our Year 7 and 8 students represented the school well and are a reflection that our music program should only get stronger as these capable students continue to improve.

Friends of Music: Next meeting for this group is Monday evening November 7th at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held in the SBC Music Department, Room 302. All are welcome.

Instrumental Music Lessons: A reminder to those undertaking instrumental music lessons at the College that enrolments continue into next year. Those wishing to cease lessons at the end of 2011 need to submit a notification of cancellation immediately by going to [www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/withdrawal.html](http://www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/withdrawal.html). This must be done by November 7th 2011.

**UPSKILL Scholarships**


**Congratulations to...**

the following boys who made the ACC Team of the Year in their chosen sports: James Riley, Weston Howell and Justin McConville in Hockey, Nick DiMedio and Scott Sinnott in Table Tennis and Mark Berezdecky and Matt Spencer in Basketball.

**ACC Swimming**

Although it is a long weekend, swimming training will still be held on Sunday night, 6:15 – 7:45pm at SBC Pool and every Sunday till 18th December. Morning training begins next Thursday, 3rd November, 6:30 – 8am, SBC Pool, and will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Breakfast at school after training.

**St Bernard’s Hockey Club**

St Bernard’s Hockey Club had very good season considering a rocky start with lack of a pitch due to it being replaced., and had 4 teams make it to the finals: U/13 West - Premiers, U/15 West - Premiers, U/15 Pennant North West – Drew in the semi-final, U/17 West – had to forfeit due to mass illness, which was heart rendering considering they had to fight hard to have a team, and then continued to fight hard to the end of the season.

We also had James Portelli (pictured above - middle) selected for the regional North West Tigers U/15 Team, to compete in the Junior State Championships. James then went on to be selected to represent The Northern Territory in the National Championships and was voted their Best and Fairest (you will have to ask him how he got to play for them!).

Two U/17 players; Simon Walthe and Kevin McCary were both selected for the Regional Team North West Tigers, for the Junior State Championships. Their team won every game only to lose in the Grand final in a penalty shootout.

Last year U/17 Justin McConville (pictured above - bottom) played in the same competition for the North West Tigers as a Goalie; he conceded only five goals for the whole competition and the team went on to be State Champions. This was first for a junior goalie at St Bernard’s. Congratulation guys lets hope we continue and grow.

**David McConville**

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Marc Eastmure 11A

Carmelo Puglisi, Director of Music.
Northwest Wolves Rugby League Club

Come & Try!

Curious about Rugby League, why not COME & TRY
Every Monday at A J Davis Reserve 5.30pm
70% of the Wolves Juniors had never played before & just love it!!!
Groups based on skill Advanced / Intermediate & Beginner

Division 1 Grand Finalist Men & Women 2011 (debut season)

Juniors Boys under 7 / 8 / 10 / 12 / 14 / 16 / 18
Junior Girls u12 & 18 OzTag
Senior Men (Div 1, Div 2 & Social) - Senior Women (OzTag)

Played under the National Approved Safe Play Code

Ground: A J Davis Reserve – Fullarton Road Niddrie
Contact: Sheryl Christensen 0417 567 507
Email: northwestwolves@hotmail.com
Find us on Facebook

70% of the Wolves Juniors had never played before & just love it!!!
ART SHOW

18th, 19th, 20th November
Edmund Rice Centre ‘Amberley’
7 Amberley Way, Lower Plenty
(Melway 21C12)

Opening Night 18th November 7.30pm:
$10 ADULTS  $5 CONCESSION

Weekend:
$5 ADULTS  $2 CONCESSION
Saturday 10am – 5pm
Sunday 10am – 4pm

Tickets for Opening Night
‘Amberley’ on 9439 8282 or
manager@amberley.org.au
www.amberley.org.au
(tickets available at the door – booking preferred to assist with catering)