Dear Members of the St Bernard’s College Community

This is my opportunity to thank you all, students, staff and parents for your contribution to an exceptional term in the life of St Bernard’s College. With the recent publication of the Clairvaux Magazine we have occasion to marvel at the array of activities and successes from 2010. It is with great pleasure that I can inform you that the ACC Athletics success story in 2010 moved on to its next exciting chapter last Wednesday when the expert coaches, headed by Mr Gerard Brown, led our boys to their ninth successive ACC Athletics victory. Witnessing this event highlighted how hard our boys work for success and how gracious they are in defeat. It demonstrated how motivated the St Bernard’s staff are, with so many hours of their personal time dedicated to the welfare of the boys. And this is but one event in the vast array of activities crammed into Term One.

Term One has seen us begin the year with an Academic Awards Assembly, an Opening Mass, Information Nights at most year levels, the Year 7 camps, Year 11 retreats, the Father/Son Games Night, ‘Secret Men’s Business’ Men and literacy evening, a third placing in the ACC Swimming Carnival, the launch of the Parent Portal and Parent Teacher Interviews. A personal highlight was the World’s Greatest Shave, where students, led by our school captain, Andrew Zammit, raised over $27000 for the Leukaemia Foundation. The spirit of Edmund Rice and his focus on selflessness, and caring for others, is alive and well within our school community.

On the topic of Edmund Rice, we must regularly challenge ourselves as a school community to ensure we are genuinely an EREA school. The charter for our 40 schools in Australia, challenges us to cater for those at the margins. Our social justice and community service activities try to assist those in our local suburbs. It is crucial for us to look beyond our shores to those most in need. Mr Tony Paatsch is visiting Br Beausang School in Embuul, Kenya at the moment (and therefore I am writing this article). We have a close relationship with this school and assist them with some teaching visits and prioritise them with our fundraising during the year as this support helps them to remain a viable educational entity for those who would otherwise struggle to get any education. Our key fundraising activity for this school is on Founder’s Day each year. This year all Year 7 – 12 students will be participating in the walkathon on Wednesday May 4th. Please assist your boys to donate to this most worthy cause.

We continue to be very worried about boys crossing Buckley St in heavy traffic on the way to school in the morning. Departing from Essendon station each day, three Ryan’s buses are provided for the boys to be delivered to school. Boys who arrive late to the station catch a public bus along Buckley St and disembark on the rise of the hill near our school. A new tunnel has been provided for the boys to use safely, but they continue to cross the road. In cooperation with the Moonee Ponds police and the Traffic Operations Group, this area will be targeted from the beginning of next term. Ideally, boys are to catch the Ryan’s Buses provided. Those who miss these buses on the odd occasion must disembark near the school and use the tunnel provided under Buckley St. Those who fail to do so may incur a jaywalking penalty from the police of $66. Whilst penalties should be seen as a last resort, I am very concerned that one of our boys will be seriously injured by a vehicle breaching the rise of Buckley St.

As the Easter holidays approach, I pray that we all find time to reflect on this most important time in our faith journey. Apart from chocolate and very, very long Gospel readings, Easter is a time for family gatherings and recognising the hope revealed in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. For many Christians in the past, the eventual ascension of Jesus into heaven was considered to be the end of the Jesus story. The good news of celebrating Easter each year however is the renewed realisation we have (just like the people who encountered Jesus at his resurrection) that He is very much present among us even today and every day of our lives. “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age”. (Mt 28:20)

But here is the challenge. When we read the different Gospel accounts of Jesus’ resurrection, we find Jesus appearing to some and not others. In Luke, on the road to Emmaus, Jesus walks and talks to the disciples and still they do not recognise him. This issue of recognising what is on offer was an issue for the disciples and surely therefore must be an issue for many of us. How often do we miss the beauty of a sunrise because of the storms brewing in our heads?

Rolheiser states “Christ is risen, though we might not see him! The miraculous doesn’t force itself on us. It’s there, there to be seen, but whether we see or not, and what precisely we do see, depends mainly upon what’s going on inside our own hearts.”

Best Wishes

Nick Scully, Acting Principal

Please remember in your prayers
• Mr Peter Nathan (‘60), father of Andrew (‘83), Paul (‘85), Matthew (‘88), David (‘90) and grandfather of Toby 7G, Zach 9D and Ben 10E
• Mrs Pauline O’Keefe, mother of Chris (‘05) and Daniel (‘07)

May They Rest in Peace
Founder’s Day

Founder’s Day will be celebrated at St Bernard’s on Wednesday 4th May. Celebrations will include a whole school mass, a walkathon and subsequent activities for Yr 7 – 12. It is expected that the day will conclude by 1.45pm and Ryan’s buses will be available at 2.00pm. Tullamarine bus lines will depart at their normal time.

The day has been a great success for a number of years. The involvement and enthusiasm of all the boys makes it a special day in the life of the College.

It should be noted that all boys are expected to attend this day. The Year 10, 11 and 12 boys will need to remain at school until dismissed by their Year Level Coordinators at approximately 1.45pm. Rolls will be taken at this time and students who fail to have names marked off (without appropriate explanation) will be required to assist the College at a Saturday detention.

From The Strand Campus Director

I wish everyone a Happy and Holy Easter. Can I remind all families that we will expect to see all boys looking resplendent in their winter uniforms when they return from their Easter break on Wednesday April 27 (Day 8 on the timetable).

Western Front

I would like to thank in advance the staff who are accompanying our students on the Western Front Experience to France during the Easter holidays; Alex Cometti, Caroline Sheehan, Jacqueline Wade and Brian Hall have all given up their school holidays to attend this incredible experience. I would like to congratulate Matthew Catterall from 8D who will be given the incredible honour of speaking to the public who will assembly for the dawn service at the Villiers Bretonneux Australian National Memorial to commemorate ANZAC Day. Well done Matthew and good luck.

Founder’s Day Walkathon

All students should now have their walkathon cards and hopefully each boy is making the effort to raise money. Please encourage your son to use the Easter break to make the most of the many fundraising opportunities. As a school we are hoping to raise around $50,000 for Project Kenya.

Dates to remember on The Strand

Wednesday April 27 – First Day of school for Term 2.
Monday May 2 – Year 7 King Tutankhamen Excursion to the Melbourne Museum.
Wednesday May 4 – Founder’s Day Walkathon.
Monday May 9 – BB Santa Monica Day.
Tuesday May 10 – 8D Santa Monica Day.
Tuesday May 10 – Year 7 & 9 students begin NAPLAN testing.
Friday May 13 – The Strand Photos
Friday May 13 – 7A, B, F & G Bullybusters.
Monday May 16 – 7C, D, E, H, J Bullybusters.

Website News: The Parent Portal

Recently the Parent Portal, the newest inclusion to our College website, was launched by a mail out to all families, alerting them to our new development. The letter also contained the unique family ID and password for each family, with these details being necessary to access the features of the Portal, which include making bookings for Parent/Teacher interviews and, in future, access to Semester and Interim reports. Any parent who has not yet received this letter is asked to attend the Front Office in person to collect an extra copy of the letter, or call 9289 1105 to arrange for a new letter to be sent.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will now be taking both email and phone orders from the start of Term Two. If you know what size your son requires phone or email it through, along with the item details, and the order can then be picked up by the student when ready. Parents are encouraged to contact me on 92891176 or at RBuhagiar@sbc.vic.edu.au to take advantage of this service.

St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon

St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon is to be held on Wednesday June 8 at Ascot House, Ascot Vale. Invitations and Ticket Order Forms will be mailed home in the April Accounts or are available online at the Ladies Auxiliary website http://www.sbc.vic.edu.au/groups/la/la.php

The Southern Italy/Sicily Tour – September 25 – October 7 (Term 3 holidays)

There has been considerable interest in the 13-day tour of Southern Italy (Amalfi Coast & Sicily) which is being offered to students & families over the Term 3 holiday period. Cost of the tour is $2,200pp (land content only: twin share accommodation; bed & and breakfast and some dinners; transportation; guide) $200.00 refundable deposit is due by 15/04/11. For further details, please contact me at the College.

Lisa Edwards, President St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary

Professore Bruno Spiller, Senior Teacher of Italian
PRODUCTION 2011

The Show will go on!

For many years St Bernard’s and St Columba’s College have embraced the performing arts, with countless musical productions and combined ensembles staged annually enthralling audiences, each performance defined by the incredible amount of skill and talent demonstrated by our students.

Being involved in 3 consecutive musical productions, provided me with the experience and confidence to emerge, evolve and develop as a performer, as well as a person. “Jesus Christ Superstar” was the epic starting point for me, playing the character of the flamboyant King Herod, then Uncle Maximus the following year in the “Sound of Music” and finally closing with Lion in the “The Wiz” in 2010.

Performing and entertaining an audience suddenly became a passion that I embraced and developed, but now it is different; the performer becomes the observer sitting in the audience and looking at the scene from a whole different perspective. With the enormity of the success of these productions, I am pleased to announce that the strengthening tradition is set to continue with a musical production underway in 2011.

It is my pleasure to finally announce that the chosen text for the School Production in 2011 is “Disney’s High School Musical”. Originally starring Zac Efron as Troy Bolton, Captain of the School Basketball team and Vanessa Hudgens as Gabriella Montez, a smart, shy yet attractive ‘geek’, “High School Musical” tells the story of 2 very different teenagers brought together through the school production and their passion for the performing arts.

This year’s auditions saw a great attendance and plenty of interest with a total of 160 students from both Colleges all keen on securing a position in the cast list. As always, the calibre of those auditioning was phenomenal, making it extremely difficult for the directors and production team to choose the 50 to be cast.

A huge congratulations to the following students who will feature in this year’s production:


For the students who were unsuccessful I would personally like to thank you for your time and effort as well as sharing your talents and skills. I am sure to see you in upcoming productions.

Good luck and all the best to the cast, directors and production team!!

On with the show!

Matthew Barrasso, St Bernard’s College Arts Intern

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following students on their fantastic performance in the Australasian Schools Cycling Championships in Shepparton during the week:

Christian Molinia – Under 16 Male Expert Section
Track Events
10 Lap Scratch Race – 8th Place
Flying Lap – 8th Place
Points Race – 9th Place
Overall – 9th Place
Individual Time Trial – 19th Place
Hill Climb – 14th Place
Road Race – 43rd Place

Nicholas Dachs – Under 14 Male Novice Section
Road Race – 53rd Place Overall (7th Place in his age group)

Cameron Walshe – Under 14 Male Expert Section (pictured right)
Mountain Bike Downhill – 3rd Place (Bronze Medallist)

The boys did a fantastic job representing St. Bernard’s College and we look forward to further success in the future.

Congratulations also to the following boys who have been selected in the Victorian Volleyball State teams who will play in the Australian Volleyball Championships in Adelaide in July:

Alex Ielo (Under 17 Boys – Final Squad), Anthony Williams (Under 17 Boys – East Development Team) and Mark Sampson (Under 17 Boys – Emergency). Old Boys Thomas Swallow (Under 19 Men – Final Squad) and Michael Cirilo (Under 21 Men – Final Squad) were also good enough to make the squad.

Craig Osborne, Director of Sport
Wanted for St. Bernard’s Old Collegians Football Club

A young man with an interest in computers and football needed as data entry operator for senior football.

The Commitment: Most Saturdays from 1.30pm - 5pm for the duration of the football season

The Pay: We are offering a payment of $40.00 per week.

The operator would be given brief training in live data entry for the “Dartfish” statistics program. The work involves receiving statistics per player from a caller and entering via mouse clicks on a laptop computer screen. At the end of each quarter a simple report is to be printed for the coaches use. Those interested please call Wayne Carey 0416 048 734.

St. Bernard’s Under 13’s Football Club

The St Bernard’s Under 13’s Football Club is looking for recruits. Training is on Wednesdays from 4:30pm - 6pm with games being played on Sunday mornings at 12:20pm. The first game is on April 10. If you are interested come on down to training and for further information please contact Andrew Vinecombe on 0423 274 545 or check out the website http://www.stbernardsfc.com.au

St Bernard’s Old Collegian’s Basketball Club

The St Bernard’s Old Collegian’s Basketball Club is currently looking for 2 players to join their Under 16 boys team which will play Saturdays beginning in early May. If you are interested and were born in 1997 or 1998 please contact Kerin Moloney on 0400 789 547 or at ka66@optusnet.com.au

Junior Volleyball League

All St Bernard’s students interested in playing volleyball are invited to join the Junior Volleyball League which begins on Friday May 6 after school in the College gym. Make a team with your friends or enter as an individual and a team will be found for you but just be sure to pick up a team and player entry form from Reception as soon as possible. There will also be a $100 prize for the winner of this year’s Senior Divisions competitions.

Ace Fun Tennis School

Get fit in one of our programs for all ages and standards with classes starting from $10. Singles and doubles competition available with free tryouts every Friday during April. For further information please contact 1300 223 386 or admin@acefuntennisschool.com. Website: www.acefuntennischool.com

Angling For a Cure Fun Run

The Royal Children’s Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust will be holding their 6th Angling for a Cure Fun Run around the Maribyrnong River on Sunday April 10. In 2010 the Run attracted over 500 participants who helped raise over $20,000 to support research into Cystic Fibrosis at the Royal Children’s Hospital. Cystic Fibrosis is the commonest lethal inherited condition in the Western World and remains incurable and life-limiting. Some 350 children with CF are cared for at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

The Fun Run is a loop course around the Maribyrnong of either 4km or 8km starting & finishing at the Anglers Tavern. If you are interested in volunteering for this event please contact Silvia Pozzuto on 0414684059 or email silvia.pozzuto@rch.org.au

Keys please: Learning to Drive without Tears - Thursday May 5, 6:30pm

Held at Avondale Heights Library (69-79 Military Road), Keys Please offers information and practical ideas for young people (and their parents) on how to use the learning to drive period 120 hours of practice to help you become a safer and better driver.

At Keys Please you’ll find out about:
• Why young drivers are at risk and why driving experience is so important.
• The importance of learning to drive in stages.
• How to plan your learner’s driving practice.
• Tips on how to work together and manage any stress that could get in the way.
• The importance of developing a positive partnership between learners and their parents.
• How to get the best out of the learner period.

Presented by VicRoads this free information session runs for about 90 minutes with plenty of opportunities to ask questions and get the right information. This is a free event but bookings are necessary so call 8325 1940 if interested.

Treehouse Secrets Theatrical Experience

Treehouse Secrets Theatrical Experience is a unique drama program specifically designed for ages 10 – 15 to create self awareness and stage skills, culminating in a fully staged production. The program runs for 2 terms on Thursday nights from 6:15pm - 7:45pm at 89-91 Rose Street Essendon. For further information please contact Tracey Smythe on 0427 664 862 or visit www.treehousesecrets.com

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Married couples, make 2011 the year that you prioritise your relationship and join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend this year. Our weekends helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other. Couples and a priest will present on the weekend and, although it is based around catholic values, you don’t need to be Catholic to attend. The next weekends will be held on 8-10 April, 3-5 June and 19-21 August. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au
Reminders:
1. LA TROBE UNIVERSITY – ‘Talk and Tour’; check courses, see the uni, ask questions. 15 April, Reg’n: www.latrobe.edu.au/talkandtour
2. ART AND DESIGN AT SWINBURNE – Art and Design Discovery Day 21 April; Reg’n: www.swin.edu.au/artanddesign
3. ‘ACCESS ALL AREAS’ AT MELBOURNE UNI - Year 12’s; 15 April; Reg’n/Info: 8344 6543 www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events;
4. THE AGE VCE AND CAREERS EXPO 2011 – Fri 6, Sat 7 and Sun 8 May; Caulfield Racecourse

1. PSYCHOLOGY AT SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY – Psychology is the systematic study of mental processes and behaviour; it looks at views of the self, relationships, psychological development and emotional disorders. University psychology courses must be accredited by the Australian Psychological Accreditation Council (APAC). Psychology graduates are highly sought after by a range of organisations to work in human services such as community health, clinical psychology in hospitals, scientific research, counselling and welfare, organisational behaviour, HRM and marketing. Further study graduates can become psychological practitioners. Psychophysiology can lead to science careers such as hospital scientist, medical research, sleep lab and cognitive studies. Swinburne has several courses that include a psychology major: B. Social Science (Psychology), B. Arts (Psychology and Psychophysiology), B Arts (Psychology & Forensic Psychology) and so on. The course name indicates the interest stream involved. Regardless of the course, 12 subjects are required for a psychology major (of 24). In 2012 a new stream in Sports Psychology is commencing. Four sports psychology subjects will be required. In student surveys, Swinburne is rated very highly for teaching quality, graduate satisfaction, staff qualifications and generic skills (2011 Good Universities Guide). Psychology is forecast to have the highest percentage employment growth of all occupational groups in the next decade. Many people take up a career related to psychology after completion of a three-year program, about half choose to undertake further study in order to work as psychologists. NOTE: Psychology can be studied at any university. Do your research to find which university/course suits your needs.

2. UMAT 2011 – The Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) is a 2 hour and 45 minute multiple-choice test used to assist with selection of students into medicine and health science degree programs. It is required for Year 12 applicants for Monash University’s Medicine/Surgery, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Pharmacy/Commerce degrees). On-line registrations must be completed by 5.00pm AEST on Friday 3 June. The test date is Wed 27 July 2011. Before registering for the test, read the UMAT2011 Information Booklet, available at http://umat.acer.edu.au. Candidates must be in at least their final year of secondary schooling. Practice Test 1 and 2 are electronic books available for sale at the UMAT website.

3. INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY? Do you believe that the building industry only relates to trades, starting with an apprenticeship and progressing to the tools on a building site? Well, in fact, the building industry is constantly changing and so are career opportunities, which range from the key building trades to managers and professionals with a university degree. The Building Commission recently launched the ‘Careers in Building’ website designed to give you information about career options, skills shortages and education pathways. See: www.virtualcareersexpo.com/buildingcommission. The building industry is one of the largest in Victoria, employing 184,000 in 2010. Also see: www.buildingcommission.com.au/careersinbuilding.

David Rosel
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