Welcome back to Term Two. I hope the break provided the opportunity for time with family and friends and the opportunity to celebrate the Liturgical Feasts that make Easter the centrepiece of our Christian beliefs and liturgical year. Sincere thanks to Nick Scully for his role as acting Principal at the end of last term and Mr Geoff Caulfield for his work as acting Campus Director.

During my absence from St Bernard’s, I visited Kenya and a number of the ministries conducted by the Christian Brothers and the Edmund Rice Network, including Br Beausang Catholic School in Embulbul. The St Bernard’s community provides financial support for this school and we make possible the enrolment of students who would otherwise have no access to education. The flagship of our fundraising is the walkathon on Edmund Rice Day, held on Wednesday this week. This year’s walkathon raised a total in excess of $38,000. I thank all students and families who have contributed generously and ask that those who are still to return money do so promptly.

I wrote the following observations / reflections while in Kenya. I record them here, conscious of the fact that many within this community have already visited Embulbul and have strong connections to the Br Beausang community:

• There are only two survival choices for most young people in Kenya: education or life as a day labourer where work is sporadic, poorly paid and insufficient to support a family. Most families where the parent/s are day labourers cannot afford schooling for their children. For those who can’t access these two, crime is a third option.
• As I walked among people with “loose change” in my pocket (that could feed their family for a week or longer) I felt my sense of entitlement was really challenged and this made me feel dreadfully uncomfortable.

Other than the Founders Day fundraising, the College operates “Project Kenya”, which is administered by former College Deputy Principal, John McKenna.

Individuals, families or groups contribute $380 annually which feeds and educates a child at Beausang. I encourage all families to consider supporting “Project Kenya” by contacting John either through College Reception, by email at jmckenna@sbc.vic.edu.au or visiting the St Bernard’s website for details.

During the school holidays a group of students and staff visited Europe to tour the battlefields of Northern France. As part of the tour they attended the ANZAC Day ceremonies at Villiers – Bretonneux. This group represented their families, the College and their country well and proudly. Congratulations to Matthew Catterall who was chosen to read a piece of scripture at the dawn service. Congratulations to staff members Alex Cometti, Caroline Sheehan, Jacq Wade and Brian Hall on their involvement in this successful immersion experience.

Later this year we have immersion experiences scheduled to the Indigenous Community at Nauiyu Nambiyu in the Northern Territory and to Japan. Given recent events in Japan we are reconsidering timing and itinerary of this particular immersion experience.

St Bernard’s works hard to ensure that bullying is not part of our school culture. Our detailed policy and the work of staff over many years has resulted in a school community where respectful relationships are the norm and bullying in any form is not accepted. Each year we conduct a survey of all students, asking them to report (anonymously) any bullying of which they are aware. The survey also asks some age appropriate questions about behaviour which may impact on the safety of individuals in the community. This survey will take place in the coming weeks and provides important feedback to us on the impact of our policy and procedure. It also allows us to act where the safety of individuals is compromised. I ask that you discuss the survey with your son and reiterate to him the importance of being open and honest in his responses.

At the start of this term we welcome to the staff Mr Michael Torpey who has joined the staff. Michael will be replacing Kate Torpy as she leaves us on maternity leave in the coming weeks. We also welcome Mrs Kerry Norton who has joined the library staff.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch
General News

From The Strand Campus Director

Founder’s Day Walkathon
Our Founder’s Day walkathon was conducted on Wednesday and I would like to congratulate and thank all students of SBC who not only participated but also those who raised a significant amount of money for Project Kenya.

At this stage the amount raised exceeds $38,000 with a final total to be reported in the next edition of the newsletter. I would like to acknowledge the incredible effort of the following boys who collected in excess of $100, a fantastic achievement.

7G raised $2,271, and given that the same homeroom raised over $4,000 for the World’s Greatest Shave, this is a great testament to the charity and generosity of all the boys in the class. Thank you to homeroom teachers Miss Cracknell and Mr Cox. We also acknowledge and thank the Walshe family for their support of Project Africa with Cameron in 7G raising $500 and his older brother Simon, in 10B, raising $300.

I would like to acknowledge the incredible effort of the following boys who collected in excess of $100, a fantastic achievement:

$500 Cameron Walshe 7G (Winner of the Highest Fundraiser & Year Level award)
$310 Killian Murray 8E (Winner of Year Level award)
$280 Jarrad Mezzadra 7G
$250 Anthony Cunsolo 8G
$225 James Hadchili 9A (Winner of the Year Level award)
$200 Christian Figueroa 7J, Matthew Jones 7A
$180 Daniel Yacoub 9H
$169 Jakob Shaw 8A
$160 Rory Mullins 7D
$150 Martin McGurk 7D, Ethan Liberman 8G
$135 Anthony Prochilo 8D
$130 Tim Hughes 8H, Christian Santalucia, Tyler Farrell 7H
$126 Michael Cesile 8H
$125 James Travaglini 7B, James Le 9E
$120 Declan Knights 8H
$115 Liam Sardega 8H
$110 James Vitali 8C
$100 Zavier Hannett 7E, Zach Smakman 8A, Tristan Laybourne 7G, Sam Finlayson 8H, Nathan Grimaldi, Matthew Falvey, Matthew Buccheri 7E, Josh Stipic 9B, John Muccio 7G, Jack Gazzola 7B, Grady Marston 7E

Attendance on Founder’s Day
I would like to thank the many parents who supported their son in raising money and also attending on the day. It is the most important day on our school celebration calendar. Always remember that an injury or minor illness does not exclude the participation of our boys on such a day. We can always find ways in which he can have him contribute to make the day a great community event.

Timed Assessment Tasks
With the NAPLAN tests being conducted next week it is timely to also remind parents that students will sit their timed assessment tasks (TATs) over the next month. Year 8’s begin their TATs on Wednesday May 25; Year 9s on Friday May 27. Year 7’s will participate in class assessment tests over the next five weeks. All TATs will be completed by June 3.

Welcome
We welcome Alex Treherne back to St Bernard’s from Strathmore Secondary College. Alex is in 9G and we all welcome him and wish him the best in settling back into SBC.

Dates to remember on The Strand
Monday May 9 – 8B Santa Monica Day.
Tuesday May 10 – 8D Santa Monica Day.
Monday May 30 - 8E Santa Monica Day
Tuesday May 31 - 8F Santa Monica Day
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday May 10, 11 & 12 – Year 7 & 9 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.
Wednesday May - Year 7A and 7B retreat day.
Friday May 20 – Year 7C and 7D retreat day.
Friday June 3 - Year 7E and 7F retreat day.
Wednesday July 20 - Year 7G and 7H retreat day
Friday July 22 – Year 7 Grandparent’s Day.
Wednesday July 27 - 7J retreat day.
**NAPLAN Testing for Years 7 & 9**

Testing for students in Years 7 and Year 9 under the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will take place on the mornings of May 10, 11 and 12. The NAPLAN tests are conducted by VCAA on behalf of MCEETYA (Ministerial Council on Education). The results of the test provide diagnostic information for parents and teachers about a student’s performance in Literacy and Numeracy. The information is used to support teaching and learning programs here at St Bernard’s. **We would ask that you make every effort to ensure your son is present for these tests and avoid any appointments or other interruptions to the morning of May 10-12.** A medical certificate must accompany any absence and the missed tests will be sat in an extra session on Friday, May 13. Later in the year, you will receive your son’s personal report which will outline skills in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy.

*Ms Caroline Sheehan, Director of Learning and Ms Katherine Barresi, Literacy Coordinator*

**TAT weeks Years 8 & 9**

Timed Assessment Tasks for Year 8 & 9 begin soon. Students complete assessment tasks in a timed manner – similar to exams. For Year 8 students these begin on May 25 and end on June 3. For Year 9 students they begin on the May 27 and end on June 3. **We would ask that you make every effort to ensure your son is present for these TAT and avoid any appointments or other interruptions.** All absence during this time will require a doctor’s certificate.

*Ms Caroline Sheehan, Director of Learning*

**Music News**

Term 2 has started with some great musical contributions at the ANZAC Day assembly and Founder’s Day Mass. We commend the students who contribute to the life of the college through music.

From May 9 we will be hosting a Conductor in Residence to work with the staff and students of the College. Dr Mark Fonder will commence his stay with us by directing the ACC Bands Workshop and then working with the Year 7 instrumental music classes, bands and elective music classes during the week. Dr Fonder is from Ithaca College in New York and we look forward to his contribution during his time with us.

**Semester 1 Soiree**

All students of the College with an interest in music performance are welcome to register for the Semester 1 Soiree to be held on Thursday May 19, 7:30pm in the College Auditorium. Registrations can be organised through the instrumental music staff or Mr Puglisi or Mr Steward directly. The soiree is an opportunity for students to perform solos or self-governed small group music in a supportive environment. We encourage as many students as possible to get involved. This concert is free for audience members.

**Upcoming events**

Semester 1 Concert: June 9, combined with Aquinas College, Ringwood
Year 7 Concert (7A,8,C,D & H): June 23

**Friends of Music**

This active College group has just had their second meeting for the year. The Friends of Music are currently seeking small donations and gifts to be used for fundraising and raffles prizes at concerts. We would be appreciative of parents and community members who can contribute in this capacity and those who can are asked to contact me at the music department office on 9289 1121.

*Carmelo Puglisi, Director of Music*

**St Columba’s College and St Bernard’s College 2011 production - DISNEY’S HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**

Performance dates:
Thursdays 4 & 11 August
Fridays 5 & 12 August
Saturdays 6 &13 August

All performances are held in the St Bernard’s College Auditorium (41 Rosehill Road, Essendon) and commence at 7:30pm

Ticket details to be released soon. Stay tuned

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

There has been considerable interest in the proposed tour of Southern Italy, Rome, Amalfi Coast & Sicily. It is open to families and friends of St. Bernard’s and a refundable deposit is due by May 30. Please contact me for further details.

*Professore Bruno Spiller, Senior Teacher of Italian*

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop is now taking both email and phone orders. 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.

*Renee Buhagiar, Uniform Shop*

**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](http://www.sbc.vic.edu.au/groups/la/la.php)

*Lisa Edwards, President St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary*
Congratulations!

Congratulations to our ACC pennant Golf Team who finished 2nd overall at the ACC open Golf Tournament held at Northern Golf Club on Tuesday May 3. It was a great day for golf and the boys played extremely well only to be beaten by 2 stokes to De La Salle. Well done to the following boys who represented St. Bernard’s College so wonderfully: Ted Donoghue, Ben Nathan, Joel Ward, Will Ryan, Scott Sinnott, Tristan Britt, David Drentin and Elliott Dawson.

Congratulations also to Year 12’s Liam McIntyre who, along with father Michael and Old Boys Mitchel Brown and Andrew Ireland, was part of the victorious St Bernard’s outfit which successfully took out the team event in the Great Train Race against Puffing Billy for the second straight year.

Craig Osborne, Director of Sport

College Foundation Hall of Fame 2010

On Friday April 8 the Annual College Foundation Hall of Fame event was held at the Australian Club in William Street. In what was a truly memorable evening in a venue certainly befitting of the occasion, Mr Simon Madden, Dr Brian McNamee and Father John Reilly were inducted into the College Foundation’s Hall of Fame.

One of the highlights of the night was the elevation of Hall of Fame member Mrs Margaret Carey to the status of Legend of the College. With countless family members on hand Margaret was given a standing ovation from all in attendance as she accepted her honour, a clear demonstration of just how much she has meant to the College and all connected with it.

Overall, the night was an overwhelming success with the the feel and camaraderie amongst the attendees most evident as they reminisced and celebrated all that is good with St Bernard’s College.

SBOCArts Presents URINETOWN! The Musical

Following the success of our 2009 debut, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, SBOCArts is excited to announce its new show: the Broadway hit, Urinetown!

Don’t be put off by its unusual title, Urinetown is a hilarious musical that takes a serious and all-too-familiar inconvenient truth and turns it on its head: If all the water ran out, would you pay a tax to use the toilet? Urinetown sets itself up in a parallel not-too-distant future, where drought has seen a questionable tax on toilet use making the poor poorer and the rich richer, and everyone just busting! You don’t pay, you go to Urinetown! But when one young man decides to take a stand against corruption, the wheels of revolution begin to turn.

Location: St Bernard’s College Auditorium, 41 Rosehill Road, Essendon 3040

Show Dates (all beginning at 8pm):
Fridays May 27 and June 3
Saturdays May 28 and June 4
Thursday June 2

Ticket prices are Adults: $25; Concession:$20; Four Pass (4 Tickets) $75 and for all bookings please go to http://www.webticketing.com.au/DisplayEvent.aspx?eventid=157

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.acefuntennisschool.com

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
1. CAREERS IN SPORT MEDICINE AND SCIENCE SEMINAR - 29 May at MSAC. Speakers featured: physio, osteotherapy, dietician, podiatry, doctor, psychologist, sports scientist. All relevant tertiary institutes will be present. Registration details from yr 12 careers board. Students must register, note $40 cost.

2. WORK EXPERIENCE DEADLINE! Year 10s have until 30 May to return forms.

3. GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES – Decisions about higher education are some of the biggest you will have to make. What to study? What type if degree? What is right for me? To help with this GradFiles 2010 provides summary information. Highlights: 76.2% of bachelor degree graduates seeking full-time employment were in full-time employment within four months of completing their degrees; around one-fifth of graduates were undertaking further full-time study; the median annual starting salary for new Australian resident bachelor degree graduates aged less than 25 and in their first full-time employment in Australia was $49,000 (25.6% higher than the median earnings for all Australians aged 20-24 in 2009); 93.2% of graduates expressed broad satisfaction with their courses.

While for students leaving secondary school and intending to start a degree it will be 3 - 4 years before they will look for full-time employment, current graduate employment levels are very relevant. However, it is worth remembering that the employment market may change substantially by their graduation time. Remember, too, however, that graduates are less likely to be unemployed in the long-term than non-graduates (GradFiles, Dec 2010); see www.gradsonline.com.au.

4. FOCUS ON MELBOURNE — Yr 10-12 students are invited to look at study options available in New Generation degrees (all 7pm-8.30pm). Focus on Environments, Wed 4 May; Focus on Engineering and IT, Wed 11 May; Focus on Biomedicine, Wed 18 May. www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/foc usonmelbourne.

5. OPEN DAYS. Plan ahead:
VU: June 26
Monash Caulfield, Clayton: 6 Aug
La Trobe: 7 Aug
RMIT: 14 Aug
ACU: 154 Aug
Deakin Waurn Ponds, Waterfront 21 Aug
Uni Melb: 21 Aug
Swinburne: 21 Aug
Deakin Melbourne: 28 Aug

More details are available on institute websites.

David Rosel
Careers Adviser
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