**From The Principal**

Welcome back. I hope that your family experienced the hope and joy of the Easter season and that students return rested, refreshed and prepared for the rigours of the term ahead.

During the break I read a book called “The Spirit Level - why equality is better for everyone”. The fundamental premise of the book is that the level of equality in a society is an accurate predictor of many measures of “success” for that society. It suggests that greater inequality, that is a greater gap between the “haves” and the “have nots”, rather than the average income of a country or state correlates with how well that society does on a range of measures. Inequality, it suggests, leads to poorer physical and mental health, higher levels of family breakdown, violence, levels of incarceration and lower educational performance, trust, anxiety and a myriad of other measures.

Fittingly, I read this over the Easter Season when Jesus himself provides a powerful example of servant leadership and equality when he washes the feet of his disciples’. It reminded me that the gospels compel us to be committed to equality. Liberation theology takes things a step further insisting on “preferential option for the poor” (the end result of which is no poor – perhaps the ultimate in equality). We are further reminded of the importance of a commitment to equality by the EREA Student Inclusion Policy which states “We see in the actions and teachings of Jesus a clear message that all are equal in the eyes of God”.

How then does St Bernard’s College remain faithful to the demands of the Gospel and still educate for the excellence that we all expect of our boys? I think we need to remember that equality doesn’t mean being content with mediocrity. Rather, it means developing our own God given talents and using them to inspire the same opportunities in the “poor” that we have had.

The College will celebrate Edmund Rice day next Wednesday May 2. Last year our first immersion group of Year 11 students travelled to Kenya and lived and worked in the Br Beausang school. At the Mass which will commence our celebration of the day some of these boys will address us whilst we will also meet some of the students from Embulbul…via skype. On this day, each boy and family has the opportunity to make a small contribution to the equality of Kenyan society and, in a tangible way, make the world a better place. I encourage your generosity in this endeavour.

Our proud tradition of high quality productions continues this year with “Jekyll and Hyde” which opens on August 2 and continues until August 11. I hope that all families will take the opportunity to see our boys starring in what promises to be a wonderfully entertaining show. I hope you will take a moment to view the promotional video link attached here.

Congratulations to Gerard Brown and his all-conquering athletics team (pictured above) who completed a “Decade of Dominance” with their ACC victory in late March. This amazing feat means St Bernard’s are still the proud owners of all the ACC silverware, with the Athletics Shield returning to our trophy Cabinet alongside the Swimming and Cross-Country titles.

This term we welcome to the administration staff Ms Georgia Bozikis. We also welcome Ms Suzanne Camminiti who replaces Mrs Christine McGee who is on long service leave.

One of the challenges in all schools, particularly secondary boys’ schools, is to maintain an accurate, timely flow of information to families. The College website and the emailing of this newsletter is proving more effective than the hardcopy newsletter which was often dredged, weeks old from the depths of the school bag. Other sites linked from our main website including, “Peace and Justice”, “Year 7” and “Music” are also proving popular and effective means of communication. From this week I will be using “twitter” to provide reminders about events and brief news snippets from the College. To receive these please “follow” me at @SBCprincipal.

Best Wishes

Tony Paatsch

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**Edmund Rice Day Walkathon**

It is Edmund Rice Day next Wednesday, May 2 (the feast day is actually on May 5). Please support us in our endeavour to have 100% student’s attendance on the day. The day is one of the most important days in the College calendar and will provide the College with an opportunity to gather and celebrate the life and example of Blessed Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers. In addition to this we will raise funds for Project Africa. Our goal is to raise $60,000 for the Br Beausang Catholic College in Embulbul, Kenya.

I am conscious of the gap in some of our boy’s understanding between collecting money, and the life of those who live in the Embulbul community. It’s difficult for many of our boys to make the link and at the same time feel the passion of service to others. Having said that, many of our boys do have this consciousness through other life experiences.

For this reason we have spent some time with the boys highlighting the needs of the families that we assist in Kenya and also relating this act of service to the life and experiences of Blessed Edmund Rice. Edmund saw the need of the poor in Waterford, Ireland and as a relatively young and very successful businessman decided to dedicate his wealth and life to educating the boys of poor families. It was an incredible sacrifice.

So, on Wednesday, it is not just about Blessed Edmund and what we can do for the community of Embulbul. The message we send to the boys is how we can live the vision that Jesus had for us. It is about inclusiveness, solidarity and how we as a community can help the poor and marginalised in other ways. Please encourage your son in participating fully on the day.
From The Strand Campus Director

Important Change of Dates

A review of the Strand TATs has necessitated some changes to some calendar dates that will impact on students and families. We apologise in advance for these changes however the alterations were made with better educational outcomes for the boys in mind:

• The Strand TATs for Semester One were originally scheduled for Week 6 this term and will now take the form of two separate TAT periods. Block 1 will be in Week 7 (May 31, June 1) and Block 2 will be in Week 10 (June 18 & 19).
• The correction day scheduled for Friday May 25 will now be moved to Friday June 22.
• The Strand PST interviews Thursday June 28 will not take place and will now be combined with the Year 10 – 12 interviews on Thursday July 26 which is in week 2 of Term 4.

World’s Greatest Shave

I would like to acknowledge Matthew Germani 8D who raised $130 for the Leukemia Foundation. A great effort Matthew!

Winter Uniform

Thank you to all families who have supported us in our request to have all of our boys in their winter uniform from the beginning of the term. Please continue to provide written communication to us if there are any problems.

ACMA Cyber Safety

Last Tuesday our Yr 7 & 10 students took part in a Cyber Safety education session conducted by the Australian Communications and Media Authority. This was a great opportunity for our boys to explore the dangers of the internet and what they can do to ensure it is a fun and safe place to visit. For those parents unable to attend our parent forum I encourage you to view the resources discussed at http://www.cybersmart.gov.au

Dates to Remember on The Strand

Wednesday May 2 – Edmund Rice Day (Founder’s Day Walkathon)
Tuesday May 1 – 8J Retreat
Friday May 4 – Portrait photos for Year 7 – 11 students.
Monday May 7 – Yr 9 Retreats.
Monday May 14 – 9F Santa Monica Presentation Night at 7.30pm.
Tuesday May 15 – NAPLAN Testing begins for Yr 7 & 9 students.
Friday May 18 – Yr 7 Grandparents Day.
Monday May 28 – 9G begins at Santa Monica.

Parent Social Justice Support Group at St Bernard’s

The idea for a St. Bernard’s Social Justice Network (SBSJN) came into being at a Parents and Friends Committee meeting when a group of like-minded parents and staff were exposed to Edmund Rice Education Australia’s framework for educating for justice and peace. The committee envisaged that combining the skills and resources of parents, staff and students within a community such as St Bernard’s could actually make a difference in our goal of creating a more hope filled world for everyone and especially our boys.

The SBSJN would look to support the ongoing work of the various Edmund Rice ministries and other welfare agencies connected to the College through our community outreach programs. It is hoped that those involved would be constantly exploring opportunities to contribute in both a practical and sustainable way to College outreach programs and to encourage family participation where appropriate in current programs such as ‘Families Matter.’

As St Bernard’s Director of Mission I work across both College campuses and would be responsible for facilitating and expanding links between the social justice activities of the SBSJN and those of the wider St. Bernard’s community.

The first meeting will take place on the evening of Monday May the 7th in the College Boardroom in Building 1 at 7.30 pm. An agenda will come out closer to the date but the focus of the evening will be on what has pre-empted this meeting including understanding a little better about the Charter of Edmund Rice Education and in particular how parents can become more involved with their sons in the cause of social justice.

All parents when enrolling their sons into St. Bernard’s are asked to make a contribution, either financially or through the giving of their time, and this would be a most suitable way in which to get involved. If this appeals to you please contact me on 9289 1113 or at bdo douglas@sbc.vic.edu.au.

Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission

Western Front Information Evening

There will be an information evening for parents of students interested in attending the Gallipoli and the Western Front Experience in the September school holidays, 2013. The two week study tour will take students to the battlefields of Gallipoli and the Western Front. The evening is open to those who have already expressed an interest and those who are yet to register. The information evening will be held on Tuesday 1st May at 7:30pm in the College Boardroom. Any enquires, feel free to contact me at bsullivan@sbc.vic.edu.au

Brooke Sullivan, The Strand Humanities Coordinator

St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon

St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon is to be held on Wednesday 6 June at Ascot House, Ascot Vale. Invitations and Order Forms are available online at the Ladies Auxiliary website http://www.sbc.vic.edu.au/groups/la/la.php

Sharon Dodoro, President St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary
ANZAC Day
Two groups of students, family and staff braved the cold and rain to pay their respects to the Australians and New Zealanders both past and present who risked their lives for peace.

The thirty strong group met at school at 4:15am and set off for the city. They stood reverently in the crowd of 40,000 and as the service began listened and learned of the heroic actions of our diggers. After the service we made our way down to The Gunfire Breakfast and stood sheltering under trees with war vets from WW2, Vietnam and Afghanistan eating a hot breakfast and drinking war teas. One group then made their way back to school while the school captains stayed to march with the Vets from the 2/3rd Machine Gun.

A big thank you to all the students (Frazer Gatens, Joshua Monaghan, Patrick Hibbert, Keenan Gatens and James Hannah, pictured left) and families who supported the ANZAC’s by attending the service and to the staff who also came to share in the experience.

Alex Cometti

Kokoda
This year marks the 70th anniversary of the original walking of the Kokoda track by the ANZACs during their unyielding defense against an overwhelming Japanese onslaught. With the weight of this anniversary in mind and the spirit and valor of the ANZACs at heart, students from St Bernard’s College and Mount Alexander College in conjunction with Victoria Police and various sponsors, set out to conquer the track that holds such great importance in Australia’s history.

Training has been in full swing for a number of weeks now as the Kokoda group is progressively building towards the daunting trek we have before us. Even in training, we try to be exemplars of the ANZAC spirit by displaying the mateship and camaraderie the diggers possessed which saw them succeed against various challenges. Sprints up St Bernard’s’ 101 stairs and hikes up and down Mt Macedon have become the norm in preparation for the trek - sore legs are no stranger either.

As part of the Kokoda experience, we are also fundraising to improve the amenities of a developing Papuan school. We aim to raise 10,000 dollars and through relentless pestering for people to gorge themselves on sweets, our chocolate drive is slowly bringing in funds. However the main portion of our funds will come from a catered trivia night and silent auction we will be hosting at the College (see flyer attached). Every person that we can get involved in the night will bring us that much closer to our goal so don’t feel shy to talk to one of the Kokoda boys, Mrs. Roberts or anybody involved in the Kokoda trek about tickets, and come down to the pavilion on the night of Friday 18 May.

Seamus Webb, Year 11

Music News
Term 2 is the ‘business-end’ of the Music Department’s Semester 1 activities with the many concerts and events. They include:

- Senior Concert Band iProving music for the Founders Day Mass, May 2.
- The Show Band and Shazam! vocal quartet competing at the prestigious Generations In Jazz festival in Mt Gambier, May 4 – 6.
- The College hosting the ACC Vocal and Percussion Workshops, May 14.
- Semester 1 Soiree held in the Auditorium, 7:30pm May 15.
- Semester 1 Concert for established ensembles of the College held on Tuesday May 29 in the College Auditorium, 7:30pm. (This concert will feature Old Collegian Robert Simone and his professional Big Band.)
- VCE Performance Night, June 19.
- Year 7 Concert for 7A,B,C,D and H, Thursday June 21, College Auditorium 7:30pm.

We encourage all College community members to attend where possible to support the musical efforts of our students.

During ANZAC Day week, the College hosted renowned corporate and jazz musician Greg Spence. Greg worked closely with our Show Band musicians in preparation for their competition at Mt Gambier.

Seamus Webb, Year 11

Friends of Music Information
The SBC Friends of Music recently undertook their Winery Tour and Luncheon fundraising initiative. 25 participants enjoyed a day out at the Yarra Valley and had a great time while contributing financially in the process.

The SBC Friends of Music met for the second time this year late in April. A roster is currently being developed for FOM members and other helpers to assist at our concerts. We seek helpers for supper preparation, tickets sales and backstage help. Assisting in any of these capacities requires no prior knowledge and new helpers will be rostered on with parents who are familiar to the role. If you feel you can assist, please contact Renee Buhagiar at rbuhagiar@sbc.vic.edu.au.

Production News
With Jekyll and Hyde in week 7 of rehearsals the show is already promising to be one to remember. The cast members are working extremely hard and are showing very strong vocals from the chorus. As for the leads, they have been battling through some challenging vocals themselves, and just recently completed an acting rehearsal where they attempted to run through Act 1. With the performances approaching fast, it’s time for both the production team and cast to get their heads down in an effort to transform the college auditorium into the dark, 19th century streets of London. Come take part in the battle between good and evil, as Henry Jekyll attempts to escape the monster within, Edward Hyde.

The performance dates are August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th and 11th. Tickets will be on sale soon, so keep an eye out for news regarding their purchase.

Brooke Sullivan
Students gain employment experience in industry and preferential access to key industry employers. (www.rmit.edu.au/propertyconstruction/employe rchoice). International study tours are available, and many students go on exchange to a range of overseas universities as part of their degree.

What about Medical Sciences at RMIT? RMIT offers a range of medical science programs:

- Biomedical science
- Exercise and sports science
- Laboratory science
- Medical radiations
- Pharmaceutical sciences
- Pharmacy
- Physical education

3. CAREERS EXPO COMING SOON – “Don’t forget to put the dates in your diary. For many years ‘The Age’ newspaper has conducted the VCE and CAREERS EXPO. There will be 190 exhibitors with VCE resources, tertiary courses and career information. There will be presentations on VCE subjects, tertiary courses, career and study advice. When: Thurs 3 & Fri 4 May, 9am-3pm; Sat 5 & Sun 6 May, 10am-4pm; Where: Caulfield Racecourse; Admission: $10; Info: see ‘The Age’ on Monday 30 April or see vceandcareers.com.au.

4. WORK EXPERIENCE – The deadline for returning forms is 25 May. Boys understand that by missing the deadline, they will automatically incur a detention. Please keep in mind that they have had since mid 2011 to organise a placement!

5. FUTURE LAW: EVENTS FOR FUTURE LAWYERS. Interested in studying law at Uni Melbourne? Then Future Law is for you. Registration to Future Law entitles you to quarterly newsletters, invitations to Law School events and activities and information related to key dates for admission. As a Future Law member, you also have the opportunity to attend special events that are usually only available to current Melbourne JD students. For more details and registration refer to the Melbourne JD Future Law website www.law.unimelb.edu.au/jd/future-students/future-law

David Rosel
drosel@sbc.vic.edu.au
9289 1159
TRIVIA NIGHT
FRIDAY 18th MAY, 7pm
The Pavilion @ St Bernard’s College
41 Rosehill Road, Essendon

A FUNDRAISING EVENT AS PART OF THE VICTORIA POLICE KOKODA PROJECT 2012
“Connecting the Community”
Raising money for the Dave Cavell School in Papua New Guinea

- LUCKY DOOR PRIZE
- RAFFLES
- SILENT AUCTION
- PRIZES, FUN AND GAMES
- FOOD PROVIDED
- DRINKS AVAILABLE
- $20 PER PERSON
- REGISTER YOUR TEAM NOW via
  Kokoda.trivianight@gmail.com
- For more info call Marcus on 0449 162 091

Proudly hosted by:
Kokoda Project sponsored by:
INFORMATION REQUIRED TO HELP DETERMINE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

PRIVACY NOTICE

This notice is from the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), to advise you that DEEWR has requested your child’s school to provide the following three pieces of information to DEEWR:

- Students’ residential addresses (not student names)
- Students’ level of education (primary or secondary)
- Students’ boarding school status (boarders or day students)

DEEWR is bound by the provisions of the Privacy Act 1988 (the Privacy Act). Section 14 of the Privacy Act contains the Information Privacy Principles, which prescribe the rules for handling personal information about individuals. DEEWR will not use or disclose the information provided by your child’s school other than in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Purpose of collection

DEEWR is collecting this personal information for the purpose of administering funding to non-government schools, and to determine payments of Australian Government assistance to non-government schools, including under relevant legislation such as the Schools Assistance Act 2008 (Cth). DEEWR will only use this information for this specific purpose.

Disclosure of information

The information provided by your child’s school may be disclosed by DEEWR to contractors working for DEEWR for the purposes of verifying the information. The contractors will not use the information for any other purpose.

DEEWR may also provide this information to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). ACARA will use this information in developing and evaluating Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) formulas and school values.

In other instances the information will not be disclosed without your consent, unless where authorised or required by law.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this Privacy Notice please phone the DEEWR SES Funding helpline on 1800 677 027 (free call) or send an e-mail to: SAAMailbox@deewr.gov.au.