From The Principal

Congratulations to all students on your personal achievements throughout 2012. I hope that your reports show that, regardless of result, you have given your best and have improved during the year. I look forward to congratulating many of you at the Awards Ceremonies on Thursday December 13. I also look forward to celebrating with our VCE High achievers at the function on Monday December 17.

Families should receive details of 2013 fees and levies in coming days. The College aims to keep student fees as low as possible and increases to a minimum. For 2013 the College Board has approved a rise in the base student fee in line with the Education Consumer Price Index (CPI). This was 6% which equates to a dollar increase of less than $400.

The Board has further taken the decision to alter the current allocation, but not the quantum, of bursaries and compassionate fee relief. Formerly a sibling discount was applied to families with more than one boy at the College, regardless of the financial means of the family. From 2013 the sibling discount will only apply to students currently enrolled in the College. It will not apply to students who commence in 2013 and after. The money currently providing support for families based on the number of siblings enrolled at St Bernard’s will be redirected to support families experiencing financial hardship.

I would like to acknowledge efforts of all staff throughout the year. Best wishes to those staff leaving the College. Rebecca Cracknell will take up a position at St Joseph’s College in Geelong while Carmel Saade will commence a new challenge at Ave Maria College. We wish them well and thank both for their contribution to St Bernard’s.

Bruce Wallace will retire at the end of the year after 16 years of loyal and dedicated service to St Bernard’s. Bruce has not only been a teacher but has served as Registrar and the executive role of Director of Property, Personnel and Services. Bruce has also been instrumental in supporting our relationship with Kenya and will continue to be involved in this area through involvement with the Edmund Rice Foundation. We will miss Bruce’s “can do” approach to his role and his fierce loyalty to St Bernard’s. We wish Bruce a long and happy retirement and sincerely thank him for his contribution.

Last Friday we welcomed Grade 6 boys who will commence at the College next year. Their nervousness giving way to excitement as they “practised” being in Year 7 was infectious. It struck me that this year orientation day almost coincides with the beginning of the liturgical season of Advent. There are certainly some similarities.

Advent is a time of expectancy and preparation for Christmas. It is also an opportunity to remind ourselves of what Christmas is really about, that is the gift of Jesus Christ who brings the presence of God to our world and our lives. I hope that in your time spent with loved ones over the Christmas break you have the opportunity to experience the presence of God and to be Christ to each other.

On behalf of the College staff I thank all families for the privilege of working with your sons during 2012. I wish all families a blessed and peaceful Christmas a restful, rejuvenating and safe holiday break and the peace and joy of the Christ child this Christmas.

Best Wishes

Tony Paatsch

2012 VCAA Results

Year 11 and 12 students who sat Unit 3/4 exams are reminded that the study scores are released on Monday, 17 December 2012. To access these results students should log on to resultsandatar.vic.edu.au any time from 7.00 am, Monday 17 December to 5.00 pm on Friday, 21 December 2012 (AEDST). This service is free and operates 24 hours a day and is available to students with at least one Year 12 VCE study and those who have qualified for an ATAR. To access results on this service, students will need their VCAA student number and PIN. Students who are VTAC applicants use their VTAC PIN. If not, they use the first four digits of their birthdate (e.g. 17 July = 1707) as a PIN. If having trouble accessing results, students can freecall 1800 653 080.

For registration to the SMS service to receive results via SMS, call 19 787 888. SMS access is available until 5.00 pm Friday 21 December. If there are any problems with SMS registration or results, students can call the helpline: 1800 501 083.

It should be pointed out that the school is not in a position to release results or ATARs to parents or other parties as the results are the property of the student.

Geoff Caulfield, VCE Coordinator

Awards Evening Notification

The celebration of academic achievement will be held on Thursday December 13 at 7.30pm. The Year 7 & 8 ceremony held in the gym and the Year 9 &10 proceedings in The Auditorium. This year families will be notified via email on Monday December 10. The email will be sent to both family and student email addresses. We ask that you RSVP your attendance by return email. If you are an apology for the evening please contact the College reception. Students are required to wear full college (winter uniform).

Pauline Thompson, Director of Learning
From the Campus Directors

Advent
This Sunday we begin the journey through Advent as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas. It is a time of expectation and hope as we await the birth of Jesus Christ and rejoice in all that this birth signifies about God’s love for us and the world. Christmas is a time for thinking about peace and the challenge of living peacefully in our world. We wish all St. Bernard’s families a happy and peaceful Christmas, a joyous New Year, and a safe and refreshing summer holiday.

A great aspect of Advent is the concept of giving. We would like to acknowledge the generosity of all our families in providing over 750 gifts for St Vincent de Paul to distribute to families in need this Christmas. Thank you to Mr Dennis Hobson for coordinating this project.

Thank you also to Peter Christodoulou (father of Zach 9E) for his donations courtesy of Willow.

Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship Program
Congratulations to all the boys who applied but especially Jack Stevens and Jameson Trainor who have been accepted into the University of Melbourne’s Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship Program. This is an academic enrichment program designed to support high-achieving school students in realising their full potential.

2013 Head Start Program
Congratulations to all boys who participated in the VCE Unit 3 Head Start Program. All boys will have received work to complete over the summer break and this is due for submission upon return in 2013.

Parent condoned absences
There is still much learning going on in all Year 7 – 9 classes. This week, we finish classes at 12.00pm following our final Campus Assembly. Whilst the vast majority of students will be working right up to the final day of school on assessment, there have been a number of students who have made themselves absent with parent permission.

We ask parents to ensure that the boys commit to their responsibilities and attend school right up to 12.00pm on Friday.

Year 7-10 Academic Awards Night
The Year 7-10 Academic Awards Night for parents and students will be held on Thursday December 13, commencing at 7.30pm in the College Auditorium (Year 9 & 10) and the College Gym (Year 7 & 8). Invitations to the evening will be sent out in the mail later this week.

Orientation Day
Last Friday our 2013 Year 7’s enjoyed their first day at the College on what is known as ‘Orientation day’. It was an exciting day for all involved, including the parents. The transition process from Year 6 to Year 7 can often be a stressful one for student and parent and is actually considered a major ‘change’ event in an individual’s life. I would like to draw your attention to the Year 7 St Bernard’s College Weebly (http://year7sbc.weebly.com/) that was developed by our current Year 7 Coordinators Mrs Charlene Landvogt and Ms Rebecca Cracknell. This is an outstanding resource for parents of junior students and I would like to commend Charlene and Rebecca for this initiative.

2013
This is our last Newsletter for the year. Classes start for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Thursday January 31 and for Years 8, 9 and 10 on Friday February 1.

Paul Shannon, Deputy Principal - Clairvaux

Damian McKee, Deputy Principal - The Strand

'Working on the St Vincent De Paul Soup Van in Maidstone: A parents reflection'
On Tuesday the 20th of November I attended the food van run by St. Vincent’s with three other mums and students from St. Bernard’s College. This truly was an experience that will stay with me for a long time. Even though it was confronting and sobering, it will not stop me from returning and helping again. I cannot imagine what the people who receive this service would do if these volunteers could not do it anymore. I am sure that the food they received was more than likely the only food they had consumed for the day and wonder: what happens if no-one could do the deliveries for a day, or if there was no food donated?; What has happened to these people in their life to end up relying on volunteers to feed them?; Where are their families and neighbours and do they realise that the person next door hasn’t eaten today?

Our last stop for the night was at the Whitten Oval in Footscray. We served people who were homeless, families with children (and there were children present), who wanted sandwiches for their children to take to school. One young lady told me that she and her partner had nowhere to stay that night and asked if we had any blankets with us because they were going to have to sleep in the park. The St. Vincent’s Food Van is looking for volunteers every day to help with this demand. As I mentioned earlier, this was an experience I’m going back for: the people who run this service are some of the nicest people I have met, they are non judgmental, they work hard to provide for the community and it’s often after their own work day has finished.

If you’d like to volunteer as well, or you’d like to become involved in the St Bernard’s Social Justice Network in 2013 please contact Brendan Douglas at SBC (BDouglas@sbc.vic.edu.au) or Nikki Deighton (nikki@dk2.com.au) to be included in the 2013 roster.

Tracey Mastronardo (Mother of Nick in Year 8 and Josh in Year 7)

Seasons Greetings
On behalf of Mary and myself we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year. We look forward to seeing many new faces in the canteen next year and for those old ones unable to continue canteen duty next year or want to change their days could you email or contact me prior to December 12.

Carolyn Holland, Canteen Manager
World Youth Day 2013. An experience of a lifetime!

We have been invited to nominate a Year 10 or 11 student (2013) to join a party of students organised by the Catholic Education Office Melbourne to World Youth Day in Rio De Janeiro, July 13-20, 2013. The Catholic Education Office Melbourne will subsidise the $6000 costs by $2000.

As a part of St Bernard’s commitment to the Church and the EREA touchstones of Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community and Justice and Solidarity, St Bernard’s will contribute $2000 while the student’s family would need to cover the third $2000.

World Youth Day is a remarkable experience and it would be expected that the student selected would commit to sharing his experience with the school community and take an active role in leadership around the college. To apply for the chance to go on this pilgrimage, please contact Mr. Douglas at the college at your earliest convenience for further details.

Applications close Tuesday December 4th.

Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission

Japanese Cultural Immersion

The Japanese Department has had a busy two weeks as we wind up another year of language learning. Last Tuesday Year 8 students tried their hand at making their own futomaki (hand-rolls) with great success. They also participated in a taiko (Japanese drumming) incursion (pictured) and were able to collectively play some traditional festival music. Year 9 students finished the year with a trip to a Japanese restaurant in the city (pictured), where they were able to try a delicious variety of traditional Japanese foods. Everyone persevered with their chopsticks down to the last grain of rice and it was a great taste of things to come for those heading to Japan on the study tour in 2013. We have enjoyed seeing the students’ enthusiasm this year and look forward to doing it all again in 2013. Akemeshite omedetou! (Happy New Year)

Sarah Brens, Japanese - The Strand Campus

Music News

Thursday evening saw the students from 7E, F, G and J undertake their concert for the year with all classes doing well in their singing and band presentations. As mentioned at the concert, the music program is an important ‘taster’ for all students in gaining an understanding of what it means to develop musical skill and perform. We encourage students who had a particular affinity with the experience to consider furthering their musical involvement at the College. Further music lessons can be arranged via the application process found on the music department website at www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/enrolment-information.html and www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/on-line-enrolment.html. It is asked that this is completed ASAP to ensure instrumental music teachers can be organised for all students. A further reminder that this is unaffected by a student’s choice in undertaking, or not undertaking Music Enhancement as a Year 8 in 2013, however those who have elected to undertake Music Enhancement must be enrolled in private music lessons.

We currently have a number of trumpets, trombones and clarinets for sale that we are retiring from our music program. A number of these instruments do require maintenance and servicing and are priced accordingly. Those who may be interested in purchasing an instrument are encouraged to contact me.

Our final music presentations for the year will occur at the pending Awards Night. The SYNC vocal ensemble will present at the Year 7 and 8 evening which will cap-off a very productive year for this group.

Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission

Business Directory

For the past fifteen years the College has circulated a Business Directory to all current students, current families, all on our enrolment register and all on our Old Boy Register - approximately 10,000. Response to the Directory has been very enthusiastic and many businesses have reported good results from their advertisements. The Directory includes useful College information for parents and, as such, is a worthwhile reference for the entire year.

The 2013 Directory will be forwarded in late January and if you are interested in having your business associated with the larger St. Bernard’s community please contact the Development Office, 9289 1106, or email to mperrett@sbc.vic.edu.au by December 7th. The Directory is open to all friends of the College.

2012 Italy Study Tour Reunion

A reunion for all participants in this year’s Italy Study Tour has been planned for Tuesday 11 December 2012 in the College Boardroom, commencing at 7:30pm. All participants and their families should have received an invitation to the reunion via email. Please RSVP by Wednesday 5/12/12 regarding your intentions and numbers of people attending. Grazie mille!!

2013 Southern Italy Tour – 31/03/13 - 12/04/1

A 13-day tour of Southern Italy is being organised for the Term 1 Easter Holiday break. Parents and family members are welcome to participate. For further information, please contact me at bspiller@sbc.vic.edu.au

Bruno Spiller, Italian - Clairvaux Campus

School Holidays Tennis Clinic

DECEMBER 2012 : Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th and JANUARY 2013 : Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd

Little Joey (4 – 6 years) 9.30am to 11am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - Cost 3 days $60 or daily $22

Hot Shots (7 – 17 years) 9.30am to 12.30pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 3 days $110 or daily $40

Hot Shots (7 – 17 years) 9.30am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - Cost 3 days $180 or daily $65

North Park Tennis Club – Gladstone Park Tennis Club – Kensington Banks Tennis Club

FOR PROGRAM ENQUIRIES CALL 0418 178 328 OR ftpt@optusnet.com.au
St Bernard’s & Friend’s Community Christmas Carols

7pm December 20th
St Bernard’s Forecourt

Come along to hear your favourite carols, grab a bite to eat and relaxing with family and friends.
5th KEILOR SCOUT GROUP
FRESH XMAS TREES

9AM – 3PM
SATURDAY 1ST, 8TH & 15th
SUNDAY 2ND, 9TH, & 16TH
DECEMBER 2012

PICK UP AT
AJ DAVIS RESERVE
FULLARTON RD AIRPORT WEST
MAP 15 G9

$5 DISCOUNT ON PRESENTATION OF THIS FLYER

ALISON- 0418 141 127
PAUL- 0401 484 826
St Bernard’s Old Collegians Hockey Club is looking for players for the 2013 Season!

We offer -

• Participation in the Hockey Victoria outdoor competitions
• Training and home games at St Bernard’s College
• Male and female players welcome
• Junior and Senior teams/age groups available
• Coaching, fitness & skills training

For more information & to register your interest contact: secretary@sbchc.com.au

2013 Hockey Registration and Open Day

Sunday the 10th of February 2013
10:00am – 3:00pm

SBC HC Hockey Clubrooms (under SBC Pool)

• Sausage Sizzle
• Social Hockey games on the pitch for all to play.
• Current & new members welcome to come & have a hit.
• Player Registration & fees payable on the day.
January Cricket Camps 2013

Since the Summer of 2000 the Clever Cricket camps have become a permanent fixture on Melbourne’s cricket calendar. Over 1500 young players have attended and enjoyed a great 3 days of coaching and cricket activity.

We don’t use Test cricketers and don’t have to charge a high price for our camps. In fact at less than $6.50 an hour the Clever Cricket Camps are the best value for money camps in Victoria!

Our camps feature . . .
* Safe camp policies
* 3 full days of cricket
* Structured coaching program
* Great coaching ratio’s
* Qualified coaches
* Boys and girls
* Ages 6-16

Venue: □ HAWTHORN □ STRATHMORE
Dates: Jan 14, 15, 16, 2013 Time: 9.00am to 3.00pm

Fee $119.00
Less than $7.00 an hour!
"Big on quality small on price"

To book call Clever Cricket 9464 6664 or go to www.cricketcoaching.com.au

2013 BOOKING FORM

Name..................................................................................................................Age........................................
Address..................................................................................................................P/code........................................
Telephone (h) ........................................................................... (w) ........................................... (m) .................................................................
Email address ........................................................................................................

Parents consent: I hereby authorise the staff to act on my behalf should my son/daughter require medical attention, and release Shaun Brown’s Cricket Coaching from any liability for injury incurred by my child at the clinic.

Parent/guardian (if under 18) ..........................................................................

Signature ..............................................................................................................

Special medical conditions..............................................................................

☐ Cricket Camp Caps $17 ☐ Mini Bats $11

PLEASE NOTE: If you have already paid for the Camp over the phone please do not enter your credit card details below.
Visa □ MasterCard □ (Please circle)

Expiry date .................. Name on card ......................................................... Amount paid ........................................

Credit card number ........................................................................................................

Paying by cheque? Please make your payment to Shaun Browns cricket coaching.
Send bookings to 59 Mercedes Drive Thomastown 3074 or Fax to 9464 5552
Shaun Brown’s Cricket Coaching

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Fun, Safe environment
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January 17, 18
Parade College

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