At the end of Term 1 our Athletics team achieved victory in the Associated College Athletics Carnival. Brister, Richard Dowling, John Zappia, Jacqui Gail and Karen Dervan and hope that their work at St Bernard’s will be fulfilling.

We also farewell Sophie Gibney from the staff and thank her many years of contribution. We also welcome to the staff Siokhun and wish him well in retirement.

The St Bernard’s College Social Justice Network would like to invite you to be part of the social justice-focused panel session that will be held at St Bernard’s College, Essendon on May 29 at 7.30pm. The night is being hosted in order to promote social justice initiatives within the College and to further understand how we as parents can break open social justice issues in our families.

For full details please see the flyer attached to this newsletter.

Last Friday the College Foundation inducted four Old Collegians into the Hall of Fame. Each individual has made a wonderful contribution to the community. I would like to publicly congratulate Michael Arnold, Garry Foulds, Stefan Romaniv and Br Bill Wilding on their award. The night was also the final formal function presided over by Michael Perrett (top left) as a member of the College staff after 22 years. Both the College and Foundation are indebted to Michael for his outstanding contribution and wish him well in retirement.

We also farewell Sophie Gibney from the staff and thank her many years of contribution. We also welcome to the staff Siokhun Brister, Richard Dowling, John Zappia, Jacqui Gail and Karen Dervan and hope that their work at St Bernard’s will be fulfilling.

At the end of Term 1 our Athletics team achieved victory in the Associated College Athletics Carnival (above). This was the 11th consecutive victory. Unlike other years there was not a single “head coach” to thank and congratulate. David Waters, Gerard Brown, Tony Waters, Patrick Fitzgerald, Brian Hall, Michael McIntyre, Lisa Grass, Xavier Cox and Eddie Stoikovich provided a wonderful example to the squad of the power of team as they shared the role. I acknowledge the coaches and all involved in the athletics on this outstanding achievement.

This morning we welcomed the grandparents of many of our Year 7 boys to the annual Grandparents Day Mass. After Mass, the students hosted their grandparents to morning tea and took them on a tour of the school. The pride shown by the boys in their school and the pride shown by guests in their grandsons was a pleasure to see.

Next week many of our talented artists will have their work displayed as part of the Associated Catholic Colleges Visual Art Exhibition at the Yarra Gallery at Federation Square. The exhibition opens on Monday night (29th) and will be open until 6pm Tuesday to Thursday and until 4pm on Friday. I hope that many families will have the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful event.

Beside the TV at home our family has a much loved photo. It shows me crossing the finish line of a marathon beside my son who had run the last few hundred metres with me. I looked at it last week and realised that he was about 8 years old at the time. I thought of this photo as I read reports of the bombings in Boston and the death of an 8 year old boy watching his father compete in the Boston Marathon. It is difficult to comprehend a scene of joy and celebration turning to such despair and suffering in a matter of seconds. I hope that you spare a thought and a prayer for all who suffer from this and other forms of our human capacity to visit “inhuman” acts on one another.

We may not be able to directly have an influence on the causes of such acts, however it is relatively easy to contribute to an improvement in the life expectancy, education and employment prospects of young people in Kenya. Edmund Rice Day is next week. I thank all families in anticipation for your generosity in helping support the Br Beaussang school in Embulbul Kenya.

I trust that the term will be a happy and productive time for you and your family.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

Supporting students to do their best

At St Bernard’s we foster an environment that encourages students to do their best at all times. We are also focusing on developing the students’ skills as independent learners. It is an expectation of all staff that students will attempt any assessment task to the best of their ability. We have formalised a process to support students in this endeavor. All assessment tasks in all year levels are now graded on an A+ - UG (ungraded) scale. It is expected that all students should achieve a “C” grade or better on any task. If this grade is not achieved or if the task is not submitted by the due date, then the student will be issued with an Academic Redeemer Session. In this session the student will have an opportunity to complete the task again, taking into account the feedback given by the teacher on the first task. Please note:

• An Academic Redeemer Session will not be issued if the assessment task is considered to be the students’ best effort.
• Medical certificates will be considered to excuse late work.
• The original grade will appear on the report, the revised tasks will be used to report on the VELs or AusVELs progression.

The Academic Flowcharts, Year 7-10 and VCE, are included with this newsletter and also available from the College website.

Social Justice Network Event

The St Bernard’s College Social Justice Network would like to invite you to be part of the social justice-focused panel session that will be held at St Bernard’s College, Essendon on May 29 at 7.30pm. The night is being hosted in order to promote social justice initiatives within the College and to further understand how we as parents can break open social justice issues in our families. For full details please see the flyer attached to this newsletter.

Best Wishes
Pauline Thompson, Director of Learning

Supporting students to do their best

At St Bernard’s we foster an environment that encourages students to do their best at all times. We are also focusing on developing the students’ skills as independent learners. It is an expectation of all staff that students will attempt any assessment task to the best of their ability. We have formalised a process to support students in this endeavor. All assessment tasks in all year levels are now graded on an A+ - UG (ungraded) scale. It is expected that all students should achieve a “C” grade or better on any task. If this grade is not achieved or if the task is not submitted by the due date, then the student will be issued with an Academic Redeemer Session. In this session the student will have an opportunity to complete the task again, taking into account the feedback given by the teacher on the first task. Please note:

• An Academic Redeemer Session will not be issued if the assessment task is considered to be the students’ best effort.
• Medical certificates will be considered to excuse late work.
• The original grade will appear on the report, the revised tasks will be used to report on the VELs or AusVELs progression.

The Academic Flowcharts, Year 7-10 and VCE, are included with this newsletter and also available from the College website.

Social Justice Network Event

The St Bernard’s College Social Justice Network would like to invite you to be part of the social justice-focused panel session that will be held at St Bernard’s College, Essendon on May 29 at 7.30pm. The night is being hosted in order to promote social justice initiatives within the College and to further understand how we as parents can break open social justice issues in our families. For full details please see the flyer attached to this newsletter.

Best Wishes
Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission

Pauline Thompson, Director of Learning

Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission
From the Campus Directors

ANZAC Day

“Goodbye Cobber, God bless you.” These haunting words are attributed to Trooper Harold Rush of the 10th Australian Light Horse Regiment as he prepared to charge to his death as part of the third wave of Australian soldiers at the battle of the Nek at Gallipoli in August 1915.

On ANZAC Day yesterday, many Australians reflected on the lives of soldiers like Trooper Rush as they gathered at Gallipoli or at the many cenotaphs around Australia. Trooper Rush’s words compel us to ponder what confronted these troops as they faced the near certainty of death. The lessons that should have been learnt at Gallipoli were repeated again and again on the Western Front as ANZAC troops charged to their death against overwhelming firepower in battles from Fromelles, Pozieres, Bullecourt and Passchendaele. The same poor leadership and disregard for human life meant that some 50,000 Australians lost their lives in battle.

What were their thoughts and words as they waited for the order that would propel so many to their deaths? To whom did they speak? Of whom did they think? How did their faith, or lack of faith, affect them as they faced the prospect of not returning home? How did they deal with their fears? Did they laugh off the dangers they faced? These are just some of the intriguing questions that we can ponder from yesterday.

In addition to this perhaps we could also consider our recent celebration of Easter Sunday and the sacrifice Jesus made for us. It was Jesus who once said, “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no person than this that they lay down their life for theirs friends” John 15:13.

In order to bring peace between God and humankind that’s exactly what Jesus did. He gave his life. He was willing to pay a very great price; the price of peace – his life for ours. As we honour those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom, so too must we honour and worship and serve Jesus.

Edmund Rice Day

Friday May 3 is a significant day on the St Bernard’s College calendar. This is the day that we celebrate the feast day (May 5) of Blessed Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers. Quite simply, if not for Edmund’s work our school would not exist. Edmund gave up a wealthy lifestyle to educate the poor and hungry boys of Callan and Waterford in Southern Ireland. As a school in the tradition of Edmund Rice, it is crucial that we continue his great work in the best way that we can. We can do this by utilising the day to reinforce to our boys what it means to be socially just in the comfortable world that we live in.

This is why we ask the boys to think about the great work that the College community does in Kenya. It is a sobering thought that the Br Beausang Catholic Education Centre in Embulbul, Kenya exists largely due to the support of our community.

This great work must continue. Families can support this great by:

- Supporting and encouraging your son to collect donations for the walkathon. The minimum $40 is not much. We would like to think that this donation comes from outside the family and that the boys make the effort to reach out.
- Discuss the day in the lead up to May 3 and encourage your son to find out more about our relationship with Project Kenya.
- Ensure that your son attends and participates on the day.
- Consider sponsoring a student of Br Beausang Catholic Education Centre. Refer to the following link: 
- Continuing to support the Edmund Rice Foundation through the voluntary contribution via fees.

Last year the $61,000 that we raised made an incredible impact on the Embulbul community. We hope that we can raise a similar amount this year. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The format of the day will be:

8.45am – 9.10am - Extended Homeroom: Collection of money and donation cards from students.
9.15am – 10.15am - Mass in the gymnasium.
10.30am – 12.30pm - 10-kilometre Walkathon along the banks of the Maribyrnong River.
12.30pm – 1.45pm - Lunch and activities.
1.45pm - Homeroom and roll marking before 2pm dismissal

Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all parents who attended the interviews over the last two weeks. We encourage you all to stay in touch with your son’s subject teachers via email. If you have any feedback from your experience we would appreciate it if you could forward this to either of us via email.

Year 8 Mother-Son Evening

The Year 8 Mother and Son night will be held on Monday May 6, in the College Gymnasium.

Mothers and female mentors of our Year 8 boys are invited to take part in what promises to be a special evening. The purpose of the night is to stop and acknowledge the journey both you and your son are taking as he has moved into his teenage years. With the assistance of the St Bernard’s College community, mothers will be led through an engaging evening which involves both discussion groups and a significant ‘one on one’ time with your son. Our facilitator is Bill Jennings, who is a published researcher in boys’ education and his findings show that programs like this strengthen relationships between boys and their parent/mentor. This stronger sense of connection in important relationships, improves the conditions for boys to excel as students.

Details regarding the evening including registration have been emailed out, however you can also register by emailing: sbc.mums@time-space.com.au or visit: http://bit.ly/SBCMUMS13. For further information, or if you have issues in booking, please call Damian McKee directly at the school on 9289 1127.
Music News
Students and parents will be hearing more about the new house points system that has started at the College. As part of this system, students have over 30 ways in which to earn house points by being involved in the music program. The easiest way for any student to get involved is to participate in either the Shout vocal ensemble (Clairvaux) or the SYNC vocal ensemble (The Strand). These groups are open to any and all students from their respective campuses. Rehearsals are Wednesday mornings at 7:45am for Shout and Wednesday afternoons 3 – 4pm for SYNC. Those interested or are after more information are asked to contact Mr Steward or Mr Puglisi.

We are in the final preparations of sending members of our Showband to Mount Gambier on Founders Day to represent the College at the Generations in Jazz Festival. This festival attracts over 3000 students from all over the country. We wish our students the best of luck in their competition division. We also wish Mr John Zappia the best of luck as he joins the Music Department full-time and will lead the Showband’s performance in Mount Gambier.

A reminder that our Semester 1 Concert has been moved to Tuesday May 21 to accommodate the SBOCARTS production later in the month. This concert will feature SBC Old Collegian Ashley Naylor who will present his own solo performance as well as performing with our students. We encourage a big crowd to attend at 7:30pm in the College Auditorium.

On Tuesday June 4, we will be holding a Soiree in the College Auditorium. Any student at the College who can play a musical instrument is welcome to register to perform, giving them the opportunity to perform for a live audience in a wonderful venue. More information available at www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/soiree-registration.html

Kokoda Trivia Night
This year the College will again participate in the Victoria Police Kokoda Project. The project, which is in its 7th year, will see a group of Year 11 boys travel to Papua New Guinea and tackle the Kokoda trail. As part of the program the boys are challenged to raise $10 000 to support the Dave Cavell School, which is situated just outside of Port Moresby and provides disadvantaged children the chance of an education. Over the past few years the support provided by the project has seen the construction of two new classrooms commence with the hope that this year’s funds will enable the classrooms to be finished.

The boys in partnership with students from Mt Alexander College will be hosting a Kokoda Trivia night supported by a silent auction/raffle. If you are able to assist the group by donating an item to be raffled/auctioned please contact Thomas Howard (howart09@sbc.vic.edu.au) or Nicholas Kelly (kellyn09@sbc.vic.edu.au). Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Xavier Cox

Juventus Soccer Clinic
On Tuesday March 26th the years seven to nine ACC soccer boys had the extraordinary opportunity to have a clinic with coaches from famous Italian soccer club Juventus (above). Gian-Carlo, Lorenzo and Mattia marvelled on arrival prior to 8am at the commitment of the staff and Year 7 boys training before classes had commenced. They were impressed to learn that this reflected the passion for and participation in sports across the board at our school.

Also joining us on this special occasion was St Bernard’s Old Collegian and current State Labor Member for Niddrie Ben Carroll who proved a delightful and delighted guest. Ben joined the Juventus coaches in admiring the expansive and beautiful grounds and was most interested to see the extensive changes and additions to the school since he finished in 1993.

The boys worked hard in the heat at the drills that the three coaches set up for them and impressed with their participation, enthusiasm and gratitude. In offering tips for refining techniques the coaches made references to such Juventus soccer greats as Roberto Baggio and Alessandro Del Piero and one couldn’t help but wonder if maybe, just maybe some of our young men might one day join the ranks of such revered players.

After photo opportunities at the end of each of the three training sessions the boys left the field tired but happy with a few tricks of the trade and plenty of encouragement from men associated with some of the best in the world.

Volleyball Club
Australian Junior Beach Championships: Congratulations to Anthony Williams (Year 12) who along with his partner placed 9th, Luke Fletcher and Jameson Trainer (Year 11) who narrowly missed medal matches placing 5th and the Year 9 team who missed out on the Gold medal but took home Silver - Matt Arena, Callum Trainer, James Berry and Jordan McLaughlin.

Australian Junior Volleyball Championships - Canberra, July 2013: Congratulations to the boys that trialed and secured places on the State Team training squads for 2013. U17: Matt Arena, Mackenzie Lowe, U19: Daniel Allison and Alex Ielo, U23: Old boys Trent O’Dea (12’) and Pat Kirley (12’).

School Sport Victoria - 15 years and under - Queensland, August 2013: Congratulations to Mackenzie Lowe, Matt Arena and Callum Trainer who have made the squad.

Earlier this month we entered 4 teams in the Geelong Junior Tournament and the boys did very well. The results were; U15’s: Year 8 Blue - Gold, Year 8 Gold - Silver, U17’s: Year 9’s - Silver and Year 10’s won Gold.

Congratulations to all of the boys and good luck for the upcoming State Titles.
Q&A NIGHT WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE LEADERS
How Can I Foster Social Justice Values In My Son?
Wednesday, 29 May 2013 7.30pm

THE PANEL
Hutch Hussein  Dane Stammers  Moira Kelly  Catherine Scerri
Grace McQuilten  Francis Leach  Brigid Arthur  Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann

Hosted by St Bernard’s Social Justice Network
RSVP: www.sbc.vic.edu.au/St Bernard’s Social Justice Network
0418 246 209 or email: sbsjn@sbc.edu.au
Donations Welcome
Monday - Friday
4:30pm - 6pm

JUNIOR LEAGUES
U 12 - U16
FREE
REGISTRATION
FOR ALL PLAYERS
& NO BOND FOR ALL TEAMS

8 Louis St
Airport West
(03) 9338 7800