St Bernard’s College Newsletter
“Achieving Excellence by Learning and Doing”

From The Principal

Welcome to all families to the 2013 school year. The College experienced a smooth start to the year and I thank the teaching and support staff, along with supportive parents, for your work prior to students returning to ensure that this was the case.

This year within the EREA touchstones of “Gospel Spirituality, Justice and Solidarity, Liberating Education and Inclusive Community”, the priorities from our Strategic Plan 2011 – 2016 of “Community, Stewardship, Opportunity and Excellence” and the College Motto “to learn and to do”, the staff have chosen the theme “an inclusive community”. With this in mind I extend a particular welcome to those families new to the College and trust that your involvement with the St Bernard’s community is mutually fulfilling.

2013 marks the 50th year of classes on the West Essendon Campus, a milestone that will be touched on throughout the course of the year, culminating in a celebration on St Bernard’s Day in August. 50 years on the campus continues to develop and our newest building, the Visual Arts and Technology centre is close to completion. We expect to commence classes in the VATC on February 18th. Along with this new building much refurbishment of staffrooms and classrooms has taken place during the holiday break.

In addition to new students and new buildings we also welcome the following new staff to St Bernard’s: Hayley Allen, Steve Palmer, Catherine Bellair and Lisa Grass join the teaching staff while Glenn Walsh commences in the key role of Property Manager. We also welcome back from maternity leave Emma Robinson, Kate Torpy and Claire Hogan. Anita Dodson and Joanne Sabato join us in support roles as do Isabella Romanin, Shannon Kellerman, and Adam Slevin at Essendon, whilst Darcy Nolan takes up the role of assistant at Santa Monica.

As many of you would be aware, the Independent Education Union which represents teachers in Independent and Catholic Schools, is encouraging members to participate in a day of protest next Thursday February 14. The action is in support of the Australian Education Union, which is pursuing a claim related to wages and conditions for teachers and support staff in Government schools.

In Catholic schools, although bound by a different agreement, wages and conditions are closely aligned with those in Government schools. The State Government has commenced legal action seeking to prevent the AEU action, which may impact on the IEU action. In coming days we will liaise with teachers to determine those who will be taking action. If the day of protest goes ahead there will be some disruption to normal classes. We will do our best to minimise any disruption to your son’s learning and will make contact with all families when the situation becomes clearer.

I read with interest in recent days the results of a survey of school parents in the Australian Capital Territory. The research suggested that parent’s greatest priority in their child’s schooling is the quality of their child’s teachers, followed by literacy and numeracy. Other factors including class size appeared much less important. Attracting, skilling and retaining great teachers will benefit all students, including those at St Bernard’s, in the long term. I trust that this understanding, along with inevitable financial considerations and mutual respect, will see the matter resolved expediately and with minimal further impact on our students.

The school year commences with a number of significant functions, including the opening school Mass on Friday Feb 15, to which parents are most welcome. I look forward to meeting many of you again early in the school year and look forward to working with you in 2013.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

From the CECV - Government Funding of Catholic Schools

With a federal election due later this year and no new funding arrangements confirmed beyond 2013, fair funding for Catholic schools will continue to be an important issue for public discussion.

The Prime Minister has said school funding reform will be an important policy issue during the election. Details of the Australian Government’s plans are limited, and so the funding Catholic students might receive under the funding model is still unclear.

In the lead-up to negotiations between the Victorian and Australian Governments, Catholic schools have asked the Victorian and Australian Education Ministers for additional funding for our schools to close the funding gap with government schools. On average, Catholic students currently receive 20 per cent less government funding than if they went to government schools.

Catholic schools try to keep fees low, so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children. When parent fees are included, most Catholic schools operate on around 90 per cent of the cost of government schools.

With this in mind, government funding to Catholic schools will also need to keep pace with the cost of educating a child in a government school. If this funding is frozen, or fails to keep pace with government school funding, Catholic schools will be forced to increase parent fees. If fees go up, parents may have to take their children out of Catholic schools, putting pressure on government schools.

To make sure this does not happen, it is important that governments fund Catholic schools properly into the future.

You will receive more information about school funding in the next Catholic Education Today magazine, due out at the end of February - Stephen Elder, Executive Director - CECV

IMPORTANT

Please make sure ALL family details are current and up to date (including email addresses, phone numbers, mobile numbers, living arrangements etc.) It is vitally important that these details are 100% correct at all times in order for the College to best serve each family’s needs. If your details need to be updated please login to the Parent Portal and do so as soon as possible.
From the Campus Directors
As this is our first newsletter for the year we would like to take this opportunity to welcome all families to another exciting year at St Bernard’s College. We hope that everyone has had a restful holiday.

Welcome to the many Year 7 families to St Bernard’s and in particular those families who are beginning their time at the College in Year 8 – 12:

Year 8
8A – Neil Hariman (Caroline Chisholm Catholic College)
8B - Tayne Van Buuren (Rosehill SC)
8G - Alan Nguyen (Rosehill SC)

Year 9
9A – William Caris (Buckley Park SC)
9B - Jack Arceri 9B (PEGS),
9C – Lachlan Millett 9C (PEGS)
9E – Bailey Packham (Buckley Park SC)
9F – Finlay Durrington (St Edmund’s – Queensland)

Year 10
10C – Kevin Trinh (Mowbray & Brookside SC)
10F – Conor Cachia (PEGS)

Year 11
11C – Ryan Durrington (St Edmund’s – Queensland)
11F – David Caputo (PEGS)

Ash Wednesday
Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. We will gather in homerooms for a liturgy to commence the season of Lent. The Lenten Season is a reminder of the call to renew our personal relationship with God. As this is the beginning of Lent we are asked as Christians to commit to prayer, fasting and alms giving. These activities allow us to nurture this relationship with God. May Lent be a time of renewed friendship for all in our community at St Bernard’s.

Uniform
Can we please raise the issue of uniform as a reminder to all families? To assist in your understanding of the correct wearing of our uniform please refer to the following website for guidance regarding this: (http://year7sbc.weebly.com/the-uniform.html)

We would like to remind families that ear or body piercings are not permitted; that hair styles should be of a conservative fashion and that no jewellery is to be worn.

Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any concerns you have relating to your son’s schooling.

Year 7 Camp Dates
7E & 7F – February 25 to February 27
7D & 7G – February 27 to March 1
7B – March 4 to March 6
7J – March 6 to March 8
7C – March 13 to March 15
7A – March 18 to March 20
7H – March 20 to March 22

Information regarding the camp can be found at: http://year7sbc.weebly.com/year-7-camp.html

Information Evenings
The combined Year 8 & 9 information evening will be held on Thursday February 28 beginning at 7.30pm in the Auditorium. Come along for a brief information session and to meet your son’s homeroom teacher. I promise you all that it will be a fast, informative and enjoyable evening.

Male Mentor Games Night
Our very popular games night for Year 7 – 9 and their father/mentor/guardian will be held on Tuesday February 12 beginning at 6.00pm. It should be a fun night. Information regarding the evening has been mailed out to all families.

Absence Notification
We are sure you are aware that St Bernard’s College notifies parents of your son’s absence at school via SMS. If your son is absent, the following SMS is sent to the primary mobile phone of parents:

St Bernard’s records show XXX is absent FRI 22/7/2011. Pls reply by SMS or PH 92891105 with student name/reason/abs date

The message will arrive on the phone displaying the number, “0428937348”. Parents should store this number in their mobile phone under “St Bernard’s College” so that when the message arrives, the parent is aware the message has come from the school. Parents can then reply, preferably using SMS, or by phoning the school. Alternatively simply press the reply option on your mobile phone when you receive a message from the school and add your son’s name, homeroom, date of absence and the reason they are absent or late.

If your child is absent and a reason has been provided, then you will not receive an SMS. When you have prior knowledge that your son will be absent from school, we would encourage parents to notify the College via SMS as well. Please use the mobile number provided and include in the message, your son’s name, homeroom, reason for absence and date he will be absent.

Finally, if you have recently changed mobile phone numbers (or other contact details) please notify the College Reception on 92891105.
Year 7 and 12 Welcoming Mass

Last Tuesday, in a new initiative of the College, students and their families from Years 7 and 12 gathered in the college gym (left) to celebrate the start of this significant year in the lives of the boys.

Fr Tony Kerin and College Principal Mr Tony Paatsch spoke about the significance of the year for both Year 7 and 12 boys highlighting the commencement on the one hand of a journey into manhood as well as the beginning of a new life for those young men who will be in our graduating class of 2013.

The gym looked an absolute picture due to the efforts of Judd Vella, George Camilleri and Paul Pupillo while the solo effort of Luke Steward in providing music for the mass was quite lovely. Thank you to all who attended and participated so fully in the Mass.

Brendan Douglas, Director of Mission

Important Note from the Finance Office

A discount of 3% off the fee charge is applicable if this account is settled in full by the 25th February, 2013.

HOLDERS of current ie. 29th January, 2013 Healthcare/Pensioner Cards - please note that EMA applications forms must be lodged at the school by the 28th February, 2013. Eligible families will receive a further 10% off the fee charge.

Music News

The music program has started for 2013. Instrumental music lessons commenced on Monday February 4 with students enrolled asked to check the music department notice board or the on-line posting of music timetables for their upcoming lesson times. This can be done by following the links on the College website or directly at www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/instrumental-timetables.html. All students involved should be aware of the password required to access this information.

Some bands and ensembles have commenced for the year with many others starting in subsequent weeks of February. In 2013, we will be offering a saxophone ensemble and a percussion ensemble to cater for significant number of students engaged in playing these instruments. Both groups will rehearse after school on Monday afternoons until 4pm and 3:45pm respectively. Students interested in playing in these groups who do not get an initial invitation are welcome to enquire.

A number of on-campus and off-campus events are looming. Of particular note is the music camp at Santa Monica for members of the intermediate band and show band from Friday Feb 22 – Sunday Feb 24. This camp will provide an invaluable opportunity to start the year off well. Documentation has been circulated amongst students with signed permission forms and payment due by February 13.

For nearly 10 years, the Friends of Music at St Bernards has supported the music program with tangible assistance and funds. We continue to offer parents this opportunity to support the music program, with the first meeting to be held on February 26 in the Music Department, room 302, at 7:30pm. All parents are welcome to contribute. Those wishing to offer support but are unable to attend meetings can help by taking part in the first fundraising event for 2013, being a Winery Tour and Luncheon Day in the Yarra Valley. Parents and their friends are most welcome to support this by booking seats on the coach. Further information is attached and can be accessed at http://sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com/winery-tour-and-luncheon.html.

Term 1 Events

Friday February 8: Brass ensemble performance at the Awards Assembly.
Friday February 15: Senior Concert Band playing for the opening school mass.
February 22 – 24: Music Camp at Santa Monica.
March 18: ACC Grade 1 Bands Workshop at St Bede’s College Mentone.
March 25: ACC Grade 2 Bands Workshop at CBC St Kilda.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Declan Gilbert of Year 11 (right) who broke the College Under 16 High Jump record at last weekend’s AV Shield competition at the Moonee Valley athletic track. Declan jumped 1.84 metres, breaking the record by three centimetres. Mitchell Mackenzie previously held the record. James Costello of Year 12 also performed well and he went close to breaking the Under 17 High Jump record, which is the longest standing athletic record in the college record book. His performance of 1.89 metres fell one centimetre short of equaling the 1989 record of 1.90 metres by T.Hunter. Declan and James will both play a major role as the ACC athletic team prepares to defend their athletic title later in the term.

Gerard Brown

St Bernard’s Junior Football Club Registration Dates

Sunday 10th Feb 11am – 1pm and Friday 22nd Feb 4:30pm – 6pm St Bernard’s College Oval.

NEW players need to bring a COPY of their birth certificate.
Fees – 1st child $220; 2nd child $130; Family $400.
EFT is the preferred payment method. Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000 Acc 147706535

Please insert your surname so we know who the payment is from and bring your internet banking receipt on the day.

Paul Dervan, St Bernard’s Junior Football Club Operations Manager
**St. Bernard's College Canteen Price List**  
January 2013

## Breakfast Menu
from 8.15am to 8.35 am

- **Cheese & Bacon Rolls with cheese**: 1.50
- **Plain Croissant**: 1.70
- **Croissant with cheese**: 2.00

Milk drinks, juices, yoghurt (when available) and bottled water are available for purchase

### Drinks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soft Drink Cans</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottled Soft Drink</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Water</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt Franklin Water</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up &amp; Go</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerade</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goulburn Valley milk</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nippy's Flavoured milk</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Water</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GV Fruit Juice</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up &amp; Go</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iced Tea</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hot Food

- **Pizza**: 3.50
- **Steamed dim sim**: .80 each
- **2 dim sims in a roll**: 2.00
- **Pies & Pasties**: 3.50
- **Sausage roll**: 3.50 (in a bread roll $4)
- **Cheese & Spinach roll**: 3.50
- **Hot Dogs**: 3.00

### Rolls, Wraps ...

- **Assorted Rolls**: 3.00
- **Assorted Wraps**: 3.00
- **Toasted Sandwich**: 2.00
- **Toasted Focaccia**: 3.00
- **Sushi**: 2.30 or 4.50 twin pack

### Snacks

- **Yoghurt**: 2.50
- **Cakes, donuts & muffins**: 2.50
- **Piranha/popcorn/Grainwaves**: 1.00
- **Fresh Fruit**: .70 per piece
- **Fruit Salad**: 2.50
- **Small lolly bags**: .80
- **Anacondas**: 1.00
- **Starburst packs**: 2.70
- **Chocolate Bars**: 2.50
- **Cough Lozenges**: 2.00

**Assorted icy poles & ice creams @ recommended retail prices**
2013 Hockey Registration and Open Day.

St Bernard’s Hockey Club is looking for players!

Come down to our Open Day & give hockey a go!

It might just be what you’re looking for!

Sunday 10 February 2013
11:00am – 2:00pm

SBHC Hockey Clubrooms (under SBC pool)

- Sausage Sizzle
- Social hockey games for all to play between 12 - 2pm
- Current & new members welcome to come & have a hit
- Players can complete registration forms and pay fees
- *Just Hockey* will be on site selling equipment & accessories

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
- A fun & friendly club atmosphere for all the family

For more information & to register your interest contact:

secretary@sbchc.com.au