We are commencing Week 4 of the term and while there are similarities between the start of this year and other years past, there are also differences. Changes have been made to the operation of the College because in education, as in any other undertaking, to stand still is to fall behind.

An important element of improving is the capacity to be reflective, to look for ways of doing things better and to learn from one’s mistakes. We ask students to do this and as teachers and leaders we aim to be models for this approach.

While reflection is a constant process, the College Leadership Team spends a day at the end of each year formally reviewing the year. We consider all the data available including formal reports and documentation, feedback from staff, parents and students, educational trends and the experience of other schools. Material used include results of the annual School Improvement Framework Survey, VCE results, Strategic Plan priorities, EREA reviews of Senior Leaders, EREA Renewal report, staff exit interviews and Year 12 student and family exit interviews.

One of the challenges identified in recent years relates to the faith dimension of the College. While our engagement of boys in the Religious Education Curriculum and social justice initiatives appears to be successful we discern the need enhance their involvement in, and understanding of, formal Liturgy and Eucharist.

To this end we have instituted the ‘Mass of Welcome’ for Year 7 and Year 12 students and families. During the course of this year there will be an increased number of year level, campus and class Masses and boys will be exposed to an increased range of contemporary liturgy.

Feedback received also emphasises how much families value the opportunity to be engaged with their sons’ secondary education. To facilitate this we have hosted a range of formal functions in the first weeks of the year and it was affirming to see so many parents in attendance. A further attempt to facilitate this engagement is through increased and enhanced electronic communication between teachers and parents. We have also tried to increase opportunities for engagement of fathers or significant males with initiatives including the overnight component of the Santa Monica Program.

We have retained our expectation for families to volunteer as they join the Community, hoping that this will continue beyond Year 7. Gatherings of Grade 6 students and families and events such as the Male Mentor Games night have been retained as valued opportunities for parents to engage with their sons’ education.

The task of continuing our development to be an even better ‘great school’ is an ongoing undertaking.

Last year the College Board agreed to seek a donation of $120 from each family to assist the work of the Edmund Rice Foundation who predominantly assist impoverished communities in the developing world. This contribution is requested on our fee statements on an “opt out” basis.

Last year 80% of our families chose to contribute, resulting in over $110 thousand dollars directed to Br Beausang School in Kenya via the Foundation. This makes a powerful statement to our boys about our commitment to social justice and I would like to thank all families who supported this initiative.

ACC Swimming, the first of the three Carnival sports, takes place tonight (Friday). The team have been training three times a week since early Term 4 under the guidance of teachers Bernadette Kirkwood, Chris Mannix, Carol Iannazzo and Dan Palmer. As is traditional, there has been significant assistance from Old Collegians, notably Alex Turner and James DelZoppo. The commitment to training and preparation demanded of swimmers is greater than most other sports and we wish all swimmers well and assure them of our support and our appreciation of their efforts.

Best wishes
Tony Paatsch

Please remember in your prayers
Mr Bernie Shannon, father of Deputy Principal (Clairvaux) Paul Shannon who passed away recently.

May He Rest in Peace

Target 100 Campaign Fundraiser
As part of the new Target100 campaign for 2014 whereby we as a school and greater community aim to collectively raise $100,000 for Project Kenya, the College Student Council are excited to announce that we will be holding a BBQ fundraiser at the Moonee Valley Festival on the 23rd of February at Queens Park, Moonee Ponds. The Student Council will be running this BBQ throughout the day and will be looking forward to raising awareness for our own Project Kenya. Anyone wishing to be involved in helping on the day or anyone prepared to donate meat, bread, condiments or other items, please contact me via College Reception. I look forward to seeing you in the Park for our charity Meat and Greet.

Jack Stephens, College Captain

After School English Assistance
After school English assistance is available for The Strand students every Tuesday in Room 431 (Year 9 Corridor) from 3:00pm – 4:00pm.

English assistance is also available for Clairvaux students on Tuesdays from 3:00pm-4:00pm in Room 743 (Year 11 Corridor).

All students are welcome to attend.

Christine McGee, English KLA Coordinator
From the Campus Director

Last Thursday, 13 February was ‘National Apology Day’. It has been six years since the then Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, apologised on our behalf to the indigenous people of Australia. In saying sorry the Prime Minister placed himself, and white Australia, in a position of sympathy for the pain and loss that was inflicted on our indigenous Australians for past wrongdoings.

In Paul’s letters to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 8:5-6) Paul gives us an insight into accepting responsibility and reconciling our sins and mistakes in life:

20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Through saying sorry the feelings associated with being sorry lead to action: addressing the need that existed. Like Jesus, we are called to action, to take responsibility. During his life Jesus took on the responsibility for those who had become vulnerable. He did not judge. He accepted people from all backgrounds, all colours and races.

May we all live in a country that accepts people and allows them to grow and be the person that they would like to be.

Prayers

Please pray for Year 11 student Peter Vu who has experienced numerous surgeries to remove a brain tumour. Peter’s resilience under sufferance is an inspiration to us all. Peter maintains a positive outlook and it is always his wish to return to school and a normal life as a young man.

Bereavement

Please pray for Paul Shannon and his family on the passing to eternal life of his much loved father, Bernie, following a short illness. We pray for the soul of Bernie. May his family and friends come to know the consolation of God in the coming days.

Buses

We would like to remind all families of the legal requirement of boys ‘swiping on’ when getting on the bus for each trip to and from school. We have been made aware that boys travelling from Greenvale on the Tullamarine bus lines service are not swiping on in the morning. PTV records indicate that the bus is traveling from Greenvale without any passengers. This is of course not correct. Using this information PTV are then forced to consider canceling trips that have no passengers. I have reminded the boys on the bus that they are breaking the law by traveling on public transport without paying for the service.

Information Evenings

Year 9 – Thursday, 27 February to be held in the College Auditorium beginning at 7.30pm.

Sustainable School Shop

We are seeking feedback about the effectiveness of the second hand book buying and selling process. Please pass on any feedback to either Deputy Principal via email.

Whilst on the topic of textbooks we have been made aware of some families selling and purchasing pdf versions of our ebooks. We would like to point out that these pdf versions are a breech of copyright laws and the boys will not have access to any of the important interactive activities.

Male Mentor Games Night

Our annual games night was held on the evening of Tuesday, 11 February ( pictured). The night provided an opportunity for Dads/Mentors and sons to enjoy each other’s company. There were 250 boys and their mentors in attendance, which is testimony to the incredible sense of community here at SBC.

Thank you to the 30 staff involved on the night in the running of activities, the cooking of sausages and generally supporting the running of the evening.

Thank you also to the Senior Student Leaders led by Jack Stephens. We had twenty-nine of our thirty leaders helping out at various activities including cooking the BBQ.

It was great to be able to have an evening when the focus was on gathering together and having a bit of fun.

Year 9D Male Mentor Evening

I would like to thank the fathers and mentors of our 9D class who made the effort to attend the male mentor evening last Thursday, 13 February. It was a great evening where all the fathers and mentors were able to spend quality time with all the young men of 9D. Highlights of the evening were; our evening meal for 60; the men making their declaration of identity and values as a man to the boys; the boys sharing their vision of what sort of a man they want to be.

Thank you to the families of the 9D boys for their commitment and support of their son’s growth as a young man.

Damian McKee, Deputy Principal - The Strand

Secondhand Uniform Sale

The secondhand uniform sale will be running again on the 1st April in the boardroom from 3-7 pm so be sure to mark it in your diaries.

Renee Buhagiar, Uniform Shop
Finally, the Friends of Music seek small donations that can be used as raffle prizes at concerts and for fundraising. Any small or inexpensive items would be gratefully received. Interested in participating as a vendor at a car boot sale are asked to email a very short expression of interest to the Friends of Music Fundraising Coordinator, Mr Arthur Busuttil at archiebus@optusnet.com.au, in October (date yet to be determined) and seek expressions of interest to gauge its viability.

Furthermore, the Friends of Music are considering the viability of running a car boot sale in the school’s main car park on a Sunday in October. Those interested are encouraged to contact the director of these groups, Mr Jack Stewart at jstewart@sbc.vic.edu.au.

Starting Thursday February 20, Music Theory Classes operate from 3pm – 4pm in the Music Department, room 302. These optional classes prepare students to sit theory examinations administered by the Australian Music Examinations Board. There is an initial cost of $100 per student which covers the examination enrolment fee and theory work book.

Information on all of these opportunities can be found at www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com or indirectly via the link at the bottom of the College Webpage.

Mathsonline
All students taking a Mathematics subject will this year have access to the Mathsonline program. Each student from Yr 8 to Yr 12 already has a login but the new year 7 students will be given their login shortly. Mathsonline is a 24-7 maths site that has podcasts and worksheets and even tests on all topics covered in primary and secondary schools. It is like a private tutor or self help place for all Maths students. Throughout the year teachers will direct students to the site in order to revise work or as a homework assignment.

From the Finance Office
HOLDERS of current i.e. 28th January, 2014 Healthcare/Pensioner Cards - please note EMA applications forms must be lodged at the school by the 28th February, 2014. Eligible families will receive a further 10% off the fee charge.

Echoes from the Archives
The College Crest
The crest of St Bernard’s College was designed by Br Greg Smith in 1947. Br Smith had been a member of the Moonee Ponds community for 12 months in 1940, this being the first year St Bernard’s commenced operation separately from St Monica’s Boys’ School.

He returned to St Bernard’s in 1947 as Principal and was concerned that nothing had been done in the interim to give the school separate school symbols.

The centre-piece of the crest is the shield. Incorporation in the school badge should remind us that in the spiritual armour of a Christian, it is our faith that is the shield.

Dividing the shield is the double chevron. Inverted V’s represent strength. “Chevron” is French for “rafter”. It is said that a chevron often symbolised the founding of a family, in this case, the numerous family of the school’s past and present students.

The cross at the top of the crest shows that St Bernard’s is a Christian school. The Greek letters displayed on the upper ribbon Alpha and Omega symbolise both God (the Father) “the beginning and the end” and Christ “the first and the last”.

The school motto is printed in Latin on the upper ribbon: “Discere et Agere” - “to learn and to do”. An expanded translation of “Discere et Agere” is “to learn what is right and then to put it into practice”. 

Echoes from the Archives
The School Motto
The school motto is printed in Latin on the upper ribbon: “Discere et Agere” - “to learn and to do”. An expanded translation of “Discere et Agere” is “to learn what is right and then to put it into practice”.

Maureen Kavanagh, College Archivist
CAREERS NEWS FEBRUARY 2013

MEDICINE AT MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS – Monash has two medicine/surgery (MBBS) degrees. One is an undergraduate degree at Monash Clayton campus, the other is a Graduate-entry program run at Gippsland campus. The Clayton undergraduate degree selects students on the basis of their Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT) results, an interview, and the ATAR. Applicants for this program cannot have commenced another university degree.

The Gippsland Graduate-entry program currently selects students on the basis of undergraduate degree results in an appropriate degree and Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT). However, from 2017, at least 50 of the 75 domestic places available into the Graduate Entry MBBS will be reserved for students who have completed Monash University's Bachelor of Biomedical Science. The remaining 25 places in this program will be open to students who have completed the following Monash University degrees: Bachelor of Biomedical Science (including double degrees), Bachelor of Pharmacy, Bachelor of Physiotherapy and Bachelor of Science (dependent on the completion of designated units). Selection of students for the Graduate-entry MBBS will include a multiple mini interview; the GAMSAT will not be required.

Further info: www.med.monash.edu.au/medical/gippsland/mbbs-pathways.html; ph 1800 MONASH (666 274) or email future@monash.edu.

NOTE: Other institutions in Victoria offering medicine degrees are: University of Melbourne (post-graduate) and Deakin University (post-graduate). Many applicants for medicine degrees apply for interstate universities, and sometimes for NZ universities (Universities of Auckland and of Otago), to increase their chances of being accepted into a medicine degree, as competition for places is fierce.

WHAT IS THE UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST (UMAT)? Results from this test are used as part of the selection process for some Australian and New Zealand university degrees. In Victoria the only university degree now requiring this test for Year 12 selection is Medicine at Monash Clayton (physiotherapy no longer requires it). However, some interstate and NZ universities also use it. Registrations for UMAT2014 are now open, and close at 5pm (EST) on Friday 6 June. The test will take place on Wednesday 30 July 2014. The UMAT Information Booklet is available from the UMAT website: www.umat.acer.edu.au.

NOTE: Practice materials are available through the UMAT website and can only be completed online. There are currently three full-length tests available. There are also some ‘how to’ clips and a quiz available on the UMAT website. Watch the videos and complete the quiz questions before registering for the test. Further clips will be released over the coming months.
FINDING OUT ABOUT STUDYING AT MONASH UNIVERSITY - Prospective students have a great opportunity to find out more about courses which interest them. Monash is, once again, holding the ‘At Monash’ seminar series, where you can hear from current students, graduates and staff. The ones coming up shortly are (all 6.30-8.00pm):

• Business and Economics at the Peninsula campus, Tues 4 March
• Nursing, Midwifery and Emergency Health at Peninsula, Thurs 6 March
• Business and Economics at Clayton, Wed 12 March
• Science at Clayton, Thurs 13 March
• Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy at Peninsula, Tues 18 Mar
• Information Technology at Caulfield, Wed 19 March
• Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Parkville, Thurs 20 March

More dates to follow in the next Newsletter, or check out dates for other seminars and register your attendance at: www.monash.edu/seminars. Information: 1800 MONASH.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE? RMIT offers an array of short courses and single courses taught by experienced lecturers and established artists. Some examples are in: drawing, painting, photographic screen printing, lithography, sculpture, casting, jewellery and audio technology. Further info: Short and single courses: ph 9925 8111, www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au.

David Rosel
9289 1159
drosel@sbc.vic.edu.au
The Friends of Music at SBC undertake a number of fundraising initiatives each year. Getting involved with these is a great way to get to know other parents and to learn more about the school. We encourage you to get involved in our first event for 2014:

**S.B.C. Friends of Music Winery Tour and Luncheon**

All SBC parents and their friends are welcome to join our bus trip to the Yarra Valley for this great day out. Sunday March 30, 2014 from 9:30am. $75 p/p.

First Stop:
Chocolate and Gelati: 10:30am (40 minute stop)
Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery - 35 Old Healesville Rd, Yarra Glen

Second Stop:
Wine Tasting: 11:30am (30 minute stop)
Long Gully Estate Winery - Long Gully Road, Healesville Victoria 3777

Third Stop:
Lunch and wine tasting - Killara Estate - Cnr Warburton Hwy & Sunnyside Road Seville East. Approx. arrival time: 12:30 (Approximately 3 hour lunch)

Return to St Bernard’s College – by 5pm.

Please submit to the St Bernard’s College music department office or school fees office by March 17 2014 with payment.

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**S.B.C. Friends of Music Winery Tour and Luncheon Reply Slip**

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Please submit to the St Bernard’s College music department office or school fees office by March 17 2014 with payment.
St Bernard’s Junior Football

Early Bird Discount
Register Before 21FEB14

Registration for 2014 Season
U9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16

Sunday 16th February 2014 11am – 1pm
Friday 21st February 2014 4:30pm – 6:00pm

St Bernard’s College Oval.

Please visit our website for further information


All enquiries please email
junioradmin@stbernardsfc.com.au