From The Principal

St Bernard’s turns 75

Welcome to 2015: the 75th year of St Bernard’s providing Catholic Boys’ Education to the young men of the Essendon Area. I look forward to another year of outstanding achievements and a wonderful celebration of all that has gone before. College stationery and electronic communications during 2015 will include the 75th anniversary logo as a reminder of the significance of this year.

Major celebrations scheduled for the year include:
• Opening of the refurbished PB Murphy Oval on Wednesday April 15 when our 1st XVIII play the first match against Parade for the annually contested Madden Bedford Shield.
• Anniversary Dinner on Friday June 19 at Flemington Race Course for the entire community
• Whole school Mass on August 21st at St Patrick’s Cathedral celebrating St Bernard’s feast Day followed by a concert and activities day at the College
• Open Day at the College on October 25 welcoming all members of the community to the College

You can look forward to hearing a great deal more throughout this year about our 75th anniversary celebrations.

Staff news

Teaching staff commenced earlier this week and it was a pleasure to welcome new staff to our learning community and assure them of a warm welcome. Our new teachers are Jacob Sweeney (Science, RE, PE), Paul Menta (Science, Maths), Edwina Hurley (English KLA), David Congdon (Maths, Science, Yr 7 YLC), Chris Knauf (RE, Director of Identity), Eleni Glouftsis (PE, Science, Maths), Kristian Davies (Maths, Science), Marnie Caldow (Student Support Coordinator, Edmund Rice Pathways), Arancha Joulian (Art), Shaun Blevins (Geography, Humanities), Nick Brudennell (English, Yr 10 YLC), Scott McNulty (Agere, RE), Luisa Lipsia (Legal Studies, Humanities).

We also welcomed Gap Year students Josh Rice (Santa Monica), Ryan Durrington (Arts), Christian Giglia (I.T.), Declan Gilbert (Sport), along with Canteen assistants Catherine Morris and Helen Catterall who will share responsibility for running our ‘satellite canteen’ and Ben Kelly (Auditorium manager) and Jeremy Webb (Part time Music assistant)

Works during the holidays

During the holidays substantial progress has been made toward the completion of stage two of our landscape and building master plan.
• Landscaping of the oval bank and pedestrian path has been completed (as far as we can go until transfer of land abutting the Buckley St cycle path is completed)
• The oval surface renovation is substantially complete and will be ready for use at the start of term 2. This development includes substantial water harvesting provision.
• Widening and resurfacing of the road to the oval is underway and will be finished by the third week of school.
• The demolition work to make way for the gym extension is well underway and construction will commence in coming weeks.
• Work on the Senior Science Agere and Discere facilities has commenced.

Managing parking and traffic on the property will be challenging during this year particularly during the first two weeks. I ask that boys consider making their way to school by public transport, walking or cycling. If students must be driven to school please consider dropping them off outside the school. Above all I ask that we all be patient, cooperative and obey all traffic and parking directions.

I look forward to welcoming all students back over the next two days and catching up with families at College functions in coming weeks.

Best Wishes

Tony Paatsch
From the Deputy Principal

The Strand

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 to the families of the students listed below who are beginning their time at the College in Year 8-12

YEAR 11: Michael Cvetkovski - (11A)
YEAR 10: Tomas Egan - (10F), Ethan Seiderman - (10B)
YEAR 9: Liam Jensen - (9A), Keeghan Lyons - (9B), Luke Karapetsas - (9C), Nicholas Vadnjal - (9E)
George Karapetsas - (9F), Aden Anger - (9F), Luke Pannunzio - (9G), Martin Nguyen - (9J)

Year 7 & 12 Welcoming Mass:
On Thursday, 12 February at 7.30pm our Year 7 & Year 12 students, and their families, will gather in our College gym for our annual welcoming mass. This will be a wonderful and joyous introduction to our school community for our Year 7 families, and a celebratory one for our Year 12 families as they begin their final year at this great College.

Academic Assembly:
A reminder to parents that our annual academic assembly for Year 11 & 12 students from 2014 will be held on Friday, 6 February at 10.00am in the College gymnasium.

Uniform:
A reminder to all families regarding uniform. To assist in your understanding of the correct wearing of our uniform please refer to the following website for guidance regarding this. In particular we ask all students to wear their summer uniform in term one and four. In the past some boys have worn their winter uniform regardless of the term. We ask that parents support us with this expectation: http://year7sbc.weebly.com/uniform.html
We would like to remind families that ear or body piercings are not permitted; that hairstyles should be of a neat and clean fashion and if long tied back. There should be no artificial colour or head shaving, and that no jewellery is to be worn.

Please be aware of the following expectations regarding the wearing of PE / Sport uniform:
• Year 7 and 8 students may wear PE / Sport uniform to and from school on days when they have Sport and when they have PE classes.
• Year 9, 10 11 and 12 students may only wear sport / PE uniform to and from school on their designated Sport day. On days that they have scheduled PE classes and PE electives, each student must wear their correct uniform and change before and after PE classes in their homeroom.

Please ensure that your son’s PE/Sport uniform is the current version and we ask that your son wears all components of the uniform. The presentation of our uniform in public is very important to our reputation as a school that has high expectations of our students.
Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any concerns you have relating to your son’s uniform.

Attendance:
A parent can report their son’s absence via SMS 0428937348 or by calling the student attendance centre on 92891128.
If you know that your son will be absent from school in the future please call the student attendance centre directly. The centre will be open from 8.15am on school days.
7A & 7H -- 25th February to 27th February
If you know that your son will be absent for an extended period of time please make contact with your son’s homeroom teacher and Year Level Coordinator to discuss the absence.
If your son is absent at the time that his homeroom roll is marked (between 8.46am – 8.55am) we will notify you regarding your son’s absence via SMS. The following SMS is sent to the primary mobile phone of parents:

St Bernard’s records show John Citizen is absent FRI 22/7/2014. Pls reply by SMS or PH 92891128 with student name/reason/abs date

The message will arrive on the phone displaying the number, “0428937348“. Please store this number in your mobile phone under “St Bernard’s College“ so that when the message arrives, you are aware it has come from the school.
Parents can then reply, preferably using SMS, or by phoning the student attendance centre. 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 son is absent and a reason has been provided in advance, you will not receive an SMS.

If you require your son to leave school during the day he will be required to organise a leave pass from the student attendance centre prior to the commencement of homeroom. Your son must be provided with a signed note from you for the pass to be issued.

If your son arrives late to school, after homeroom, he is to report to the student attendance centre for a late pass. This pass will be issued and he will then present the pass to the subject teacher.

If you require your son to leave school during the day for an unexpected reason you can make contact with front reception to arrange for your son to leave class. Front reception will arrange for him to leave class. Your son then reports to the student attendance centre for a leave pass. The student attendance staff member will then verify this absence with front reception before issuing the leave pass.

**Sick Bay Protocols:**
Our sick bay will remain at front reception. This service deals with illness and injury that may arise during the day. The College has neither the staff nor the facilities to cope with the ongoing treatment of student throughout the day. Please consider the following points:

- Parents are asked not to send a student to school if the student is feeling unwell or has a communicable disease symptom.
- If a student reports to sick bay requiring medical treatment and/or long periods of rest, we will contact you and ask that your son be picked up from school.
- In case of an emergency, an ambulance will be called as a first response. In school initiated ambulance callouts, the College school accident insurance cost covers any cost incurred. When parents and emergency contacts are unable to be contacted and treatment is necessary, the sick bay attendant will make the decision whether to call an ambulance.

**Year 7 Camp Dates:**
- 7E – 2nd February to 4th February
- 7F – 4th February to 6th February
- 7D – 9th February to 11th February
- 7G – 16th February to 18th February
- 7B – 18th February to 20th February
- 7J & 7C – 23rd February to 25th February
- 7A & 7H – 25th February to 27th February
- 7F – 4th February to 6th February

**Gallipoli and Western Front Study Tour 2016**
A reminder to those interested families in years 8-11 that the deposit payment for the trip is due on Friday 20th February. Please contact myself or Charlene Landvogt if you have any questions.

**Music**
As the year commences, I draw the attention of all students and parents to the music department website. The website has just been updated with all concert dates for 2015 as have the many resources required by our music students. For new members to our learning community, links to all details concerning starting music lessons can be found on the site also. The website can be navigated to from the links at the bottom of the St Bernard’s College homepage or directly at www.sbcmusicdepartment.weebly.com

I encourage all our ongoing musicians to check the website as rehearsals for our many groups start on Friday January 30. This information will be communicated by email to relevant students also. Instrumental music lessons commence on Monday February 2 and students are to advised to check instrumental music timetables as soon as possible.

**Friends of Music:** I invite all parents to the first Friends of Music meeting for 2015 on Tuesday March 3, 7:30pm in the Music Department, Room 302. Furthermore, I encourage all parents and their friends and colleagues to support the Friends of Music in their first fundraising venture for 2015 – A Winery Tour and Luncheon Day on Sunday March 22 2015. For further information please see the flyer below and online booking is available through the music department website.
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 2015:

**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 22 2015 from 9am. $80 p/p.

First Stop:
Wine and Cheese Tasting: 10am
De Bortoli, Pinnacle Lane, Dixons Creek

Second Stop:
Chocolate and Gelati: 11:15am
Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery - 35 Old Healesville Rd, Yarra Glen

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

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

Registration can be submitted online at:

Please submit to the St Bernard’s College music department office or school fees office by March 13 2015 with payment.