



This Bulletin is produced fortnightly for the information of College families and is distributed to students to take home.

Volume No. 12.

Monday, 3rd August, 2009

Finding Your Vocation

Our Year 10 students participated in workshops last week conducted by priests, nuns and lay people associated with specific Catholic Church ministries. These Vocations Awareness workshops are an annual event at Year 10 level and our College draws much praise from religious orders and Archdiocesan staff for organizing these informative and interesting presentations.

We all know that there has been a decline in vocations to the religious life in Australia and many orders are literally struggling to survive. The many great works they have undertaken in past years are being reduced due to lack of available personnel. Our own College is one example whereby we no longer have Good Samaritan Sisters on staff. Similarly, vocations to the priesthood have decreased though there has been a small resurgence in the Melbourne seminary in recent times.

Any growth in vocations to the priesthood and religious life is occurring in countries that are second and third world. There are many men and women in formation for these ordained and consecrated ministries in Africa, parts of Asia, and in South America. This is not the situation in first world areas such as Australia, the United States and Europe. It is ironic that those countries to which missionaries were once sent will now, in their turn, provide missionaries to our local Catholic communities.

One purpose of a Monican education is to empower students to find their individual and unique vocation in life. I am not referring specifically to employment though one's role in society is frequently determined by one's job. Let us pray that Monicans will embrace a life-long vocation of charity, compassion and care towards all those they encounter in their life journey.

It is increasingly important for our nation, Australia, to have citizens actively contributing to the national wellbeing. The same applies to our Churches whose work is often critical to health services, education, community support and crisis management. May Monicans of today and tomorrow be ready to give of their skills and talents so as to build a better, more just and more secure society. May they be fully alive to the opportunities and challenges that confront them!

We pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and we pray and persevere in our efforts that will see many Monicans becoming leaders and healers in this and possibly other nations.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

It is most important that students attend school daily unless ill or some other matter arises. The College does expect families to notify the school if your son/daughter will be absent that day. The College also requires a note of explanation upon the student's return.

ST MONICA'S WEEK

Sunday August 23rd

Board Mass & Commissioning Ceremony

Join members of the College Board and their families at 10.30 am Mass at St Clare's Church Harbard Street Thomastown West
Morning Tea will follow mass

Monday August 24th

Annual Oration

Featuring Gerard Koe
Centacare Catholic Family Services
"Living Life Fully"

Resilience Building- Managing the cult of materialism and individualism
The Gateway Room
Dalton Road Campus
7.30 – 9.00 pm

Tuesday August 25th

Sports Breakfast

Featuring leading sporting identities

Plenty Valley Ranges Convention Centre
Redgum Room
6.30 – 8.30 am
Tickets \$35

To purchase tickets please contact Jenny Cavallo on 9409 8860

Thursday August 27th

St Monica's Day

To celebrate the Feast Day
Mass will be celebrated by Abbot David Tomlins o.c.s.o.
of Tarrawarra Abbey, Yarra Glen
at 10.00 am in the Sports & Assembly Hall.

Followed by activities and amusements for all students

Lunch and treats provided

YEAR 7 PARENTS' AFTERNOON TEA

Our first afternoon was highly successful and enjoyable. Please note that the next afternoon tea will be hosted on Tuesday, 4th August. Please come at 2.30 pm to the Hospitality Centre at DRC. Afternoon teas for parents in other year levels will follow later this year.

THE WETLANDS

I am very pleased to announce that SMC received a permit to establish a wetlands precinct on DRC from Whittlesea Council. Work will commence soon. I thank Mr Paul Carney for his excellent work in this regard.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

Congratulations to the fifteen students who participated in the '2009 Principal's Award for Public Speaking' on Tuesday evening. It was an absolutely fantastic evening. The standard of speeches was of a very high standard. The winners on the evening are:

Overall Winner : Christopher Cardamone (Year 12)
Junior Winner : Jessica de Bont (Year 9)
Senior Winner : Theresa Chamoun (Year 10)
Encouragement Award : Astrid Mayne (Year)

Other contestants were:

Junior Division

Kurt Cauchi, Natasha Chand,
Alex O'Neill, Bethany Higgins

Senior Division

Haynes D'Souza, Adrian Muzzi, Benjamin Hodges,
Michael Camilleri, Laura Dempsey, Cardia Speziale, Elise Pulbrook.

Thank you to all the students and staff who attended on the evening. In particular, thank you to Ms Carly Parker and Mrs Catherine Devine for their outstanding hosting of the evening and to the judges: Mr Michael Hanrahan, Ms Bernadette Sheedy, Miss Angela Kittikhoun and Mr Daniel Porceddu.

FROM THE STAFFROOM

1. This week we welcome Mr Benjamin Tucker to the College. He is teaching English and Humanities on DRC.
2. Thanks are extended to Mrs Glenda Hay and Ms Michelle Miller for organizing and hosting the first parents' afternoon tea.
3. Welcome to Sister Ishrat Sadiq PBVM from Pakistan. Sister joins our College community for the entire month of August. Our fundraising efforts go to helping the Presentation Sisters in Pakistan.
4. Mr Fulvio Frijo, Deputy Principal and DRC Director, is undergoing a formal performance review by external consultant, Mr James Fabris. Any parent who wishes to make confidential comment to Mr Fabris can do so by forwarding written comments to Mrs Joanne DePetro in the College Administration building.

CHEWING GUM

Chewing gum whilst in school uniform is not permitted. Not only is it unacceptable for social reasons it often happens that chewing gum is literally spat onto carpet and external walkways. Offenders will be punished.

BISHOPS' LETTER ON THREAT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS

Soon this letter will be added to our website for a two week period. Visit www.stmonicas-epping.com

ST VINCENT de PAUL APPRECIATION

Mrs Mary Wood and Mr George Cairns recently visited to present SMC with a Certificate of Appreciation for our fundraising efforts associated with the February 7 bushfires appeal.

CAREERS CORNER

Year 12 Students

Students interested in applying for Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) or Scholarships through VTAC in conjunction with their course applications should download the information guides from the VTAC website at <http://www.vtac.edu.au/publications.html>

SINCE THE LAST EDITION

Activities and events have included: memorial service for Mr Victor Marchetti R.I.P.; Principal's Award for Public Speaking; MADD auditions; Term 3 assembly; DAV debating; Year 8 premier league; Music camp; senior SACCSS football; CAS Futsal; SACCSS senior round robin; Italian poetry competition; Anime Club; Primary Principals' luncheon; St John Cadets; National Chemistry Quiz; Year 7 visits to DSC; Year 12 individualized interviews; Vocations Awareness workshops; Morning Tea with the Principal; parents' afternoon tea; On the Edge; Uniquely Year 9; Student Council dinner; World Vision talk

OFF THE LIBRARY SHELVES

1. 2009 DRC Chess Champion

Congratulations to Alex O'Neill (Year 9 Silver) on becoming the 2009 DRC Chess Champion in the PCL. Congratulations also to Heshan Samarantunge (Year 7 Purple) on being runner up in this great, annual SMC Competition. Congratulations to Frank Lekkas (Year 12 Purple) on becoming the 2009 DSC Chess Champion. Frank Lekkas defeated Kristian Hiho (Year 11 Mauve) in the SJQ Library. Congratulations Kristian on becoming the runner up in this annual College event.

2. Scholastic Book Club

Orders for the Scholastic Book Club are now due. Anyone wishing to place an order needs to bring the order form and money to the Library. These orders will take approximately a week to return from Sydney.

3. Reading Club

The winner of the movie ticket prize for the Harry Potter competition is Shaun Elders (Year 7 Mauve). The owls were a welcome consolation prize. Many thanks to all who participated in our lunchtime Harry Potter celebrations.

ANIME CLUB

Are you interested in Japanese Anime and Manga? Do you want to meet with other people who are also interested in Anime and Manga too? If so, then the St Monica's Anime Club is for you! See Ms Palmer for details.

FREE LIVE MUSIC

'The Pillars' will be performing live in their first ever public concert at SMC.

When : Tuesday, 4th August at lunchtime
Where : Samaritan Square, DSC

Come prepared for a rocking good time.
Parents are welcome. Please report to Campus Reception.



GREAT NEWS FOR MATHEMATICS AT SMC

Our College has been successful in applying for and receiving a grant for \$10,000 under the Purposeful Teaching of Mathematics program. This will relate to improving teacher pedagogical content knowledge and raise students' performance in mathematics.

FEATURED WEBITE

youth.gov.au

youth.gov.au is a free federal government website that is the central hub of government information for young people. It contains links to:

Australian Youth Forum, Youth Week, Job Search, Job Guide, Career Advice Australia, Australian Apprenticeships, My Future, Office for Youth, Budget, Online Consultation on body image.

The site can be accessed through the Careers website on the Student Portal under Resources Youth Links.

**PARENT HELPERS WANTED
ST MONICA'S DAY
THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST, 2009**

Parent help on St. Monica's Day is always greatly appreciated
if you are able to assist or would like further details
please contact Mrs Hay on 9409 8854

MONICANS OUT & ABOUT

- Years 11 and 12 visitors to Moira Kelly's 'Homestead': Nhi Pham; Matthew Bennie; David Pham; David Ujmaia; Lauren Giusti; Josephine Fouache; Giordano De Marco; Adele Zacharias; Samantha Deriu; Matthew Casilli; Natasha Cadou; Rebecca Ricupati; Cardia Speziale; Stephanie Lai.
- Year 9 assistants at the St Peter's Literacy program: Kelly Tran; Amanda Tran; John Romeo; Giuseppe Corigliano; Stephanie Curra; Julie Ho; Rachel Walker; Ebony Zappone; Luke Mamone; Rhys Antonio; Cassandra Faccin; Claudia Giorno.
- Year 10 St Vincent de Paul community service: Carla Soccio; Amy Vong; Andrea Debono; Stephanie Lo Piccolo; Huy Truong; Justin Penzo.

MUSIC NOTES

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Tuesday 4 August – Lunchtime concert at DSC, featuring the Senior Jazz Combo & SMC Rock Band, "The Pillars"

Monday 10 August – Lunchtime concert at DRC, featuring the Percussion & Vocal Ensembles

MELBOURNE SCHOOL BANDS FESTIVAL

Sunday 16 August - Year 7 Band

Monday 17 August - Stage Band

Wednesday 19 August - Intermediate Band

Saturday 22 August - Concert Band

PRINCIPAL'S CUP FOR SONG

Congratulations to the finalists. This event will be held in the DRC Sports and Assembly Hall on Monday 7 September, at 7.30 p.m. Entry is free.

Brooke Kotsos (7 Green), Madeline Perrone (9 Mauve), Jessica de Bont (9 Silver), Michelle Eagles (10 Silver) Kiralee Mladenis (10 Indigo), Samantha Zammit (10 Indigo) Benjamin Hodges (10 Green), Emily Vincent (10 Green) Celeste Mitsiou (10 Green), Paula Kapolitsas (10 Gold) Theresa Chamoun (10 Blue), Emelia Addo (11 Gold) Amanda Ciorra (12 Emerald), Liana Colaluca (12 Indigo) Jordyn Annetta (12 Indigo)

WORLD OF SPORT

CAS Futsal

Congratulations to the Junior Girls, Intermediate Girls and Intermediate Boys on winning the Catholic All Schools State Futsal Championships.

Senior Girls were runners up with the Senior Boys and Junior boys being knocked out in the semi finals.

Victorian All Schools Cross Country State Championships

Gerard Sutton competed in the Victorian All Schools Cross Country State Championships at Bundoora Park. Gerard ran a fantastic race and was 5th at the half way mark and came home strong in the second half to comfortably win the race and in the mean time become the U/15 state champion. The Victorian side is a combined U/15 and U/16 side and Gerard is the only U/15 year old in Victoria to be picked for this side to compete at the national championships at the end of August on the NSW coast.

This is a fantastic effort. Please congratulate Gerard when you see him because as far as I am aware this is the first time at SMC that we have a State Champion in cross-country.

Year 8 Premier League

Thursday, 16th July, 2009

St. Monica's V Kolbe

SPORT	SMC	Kolbe
AFL	18.9.117	0.1.1
Netball	62	0
Basketball (Boys)	50	36
Basketball (Girls)	84	0
Volleyball (Boys)	3	1
Volleyball (Girls)	1	3
Football (Boys)	12	0
Football (Girls)	7	0

Year 8 Premier League

Thursday, 23rd July, 2009

St. Monica's V Penola

SPORT	SMC	Penola
AFL	7.3.45	9.8.62
Netball	57	2
Basketball (Boys)	38	31
Basketball (Girls)	34	36
Volleyball (Boys)	3	1
Volleyball (Girls)	3	0
Football (Boys)	1	2
Football (Girls)	4	0

Year 8 Premier League

Thursday, 30th July, 2009

St. Monica's V Emmanuel College

SPORT	SMC	Emmanuel
AFL	15.3.93	5.7.37
Netball	57	11
Basketball (Boys)	48	27
Basketball (Girls)	No	Game
Volleyball (Boys)	3	0
Volleyball (Girls)	3	1
Football (Boys)	6	0
Football (Girls)	No Game	

**CAS Netball Tournament
Monday 27th July 2009**

Junior teams represented by the following girls played to the best of their ability. The A team finished equal first in their group but third on percentage, therefore missing out on semi finals; this was disappointing as they had only lost one game in the preliminary rounds. The B team made up of Year 7 girls who were representing SMC for the first time won two matches but were outplayed by bigger and stronger players in the other two rounds. They also finished third in their group. Details of all matches follow.

Year 7 team SMC B

Tanisha Bergamin, Michelle Kieu,
Tiana Owen, Alyssa Pagano,
Tayla Parnis, Renee Pitruzzello,
Kathryn Slater, Julia Villani.

Year 8 team SMC A

Emma Dinakis, Rachel Kemp,
Natalie Licovski, Ashleigh McFarland,
Adele Schifitto, Renee Toniolo-Cataldo,
Lois Vergol, Hollie Wilson.

SMC A

SMC A 17	vs	St Columbas Essendon B	4
SMC A 17	vs	Loyola College Watsonia	16
SMC A 9	vs	St Columbas Essendon A	23
SMC A 18	vs	Marymede South Morang	8

SMC B

SMC B 16	vs	CRC Melton	2
SMC B 4	vs	Salesian Sunbury	40
SMC B 20	vs	Penola Broadmeadows	15
SMC B 4	vs	McKillop Werribee	43

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Education Tax Refund – Don't forget to claim How do I claim the Education Tax Refund?

- In your tax return.
- If you don't lodge a tax return, claim on a separate form or over the phone.

If you use a tax agent, make sure you ask them to claim for you.

The Education Tax Refund lets you claim up to 50% of eligible education expenses for school children. If you are eligible, you can get back up to \$375 for each primary student and up to \$750 for each secondary student.

You can claim things like text books, stationery and even internet costs.

If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A for a child at primary or secondary school, you will be eligible. Some other people are eligible too, to find out more about this and other information such as what you can and can't claim go to australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund or call the Tax Office on 13 28 61.

Education Maintenance Allowance 2nd Instalment 2009

The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to eligible parents/guardians of students under 16 years of age. The EMA is paid in two instalments, \$155.05 to both the parent and school in April, 2009 and \$66.45 to the parent and school in September, 2009 being a total of \$443.00.

To be eligible the applicant must have:

- ** A valid Health Care Card/Pension Card or Veterans Affairs Card.
- * Be a Foster Parent and apply for the Foster child only.
- ** Card must be valid on the 13th July, 2009 for the second instalment.

EMA forms are held at both DRC and DSC Admin receptions and need to be lodged at Davisson St Campus only no later than 7th August, 2009.

Please note: no late applications will be accepted after the 7th August, 2009 as requested by DEET.

Any queries can be directed to Andrea Moon on DSC Campus Tel 9409 8800.

When paying fees directly at the DSC Office.

For parents paying fees directly to the DSC office, could those parents please present your most recent fee statement to allow for an accurate and speedy process.

EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

Ms Bernadette Sheedy, Gifted & Talented Coordinator, has information on two exciting competitions: The Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize 2009, and the Future Leaders' Writing Prize, 2009. See Ms Sheedy for more details and criteria.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM UPDATE

Developments and Implementation update

The writing of the national curriculum in the first four subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and History has now commenced. The VACC plans to hold consultation forums late in Term 3 to seek feedback on initial drafts of these documents. It is expected that final drafts will be completed by the end of the year with extensive trialing and validation taking place during 2010.

It is expected that implementation of the national curriculum will commence in 2011. However, the full timelines and processes for implementation have not yet been determined. The VCAA will be working closely with the new Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and Victorian sectorial authorities to ensure that the timelines and processes associated with the national curriculum provide both adequate planning time and strong support for the transition to the national curriculum for all schools. Schools are advised not to make pre-emptive decisions about curriculum planning and associated resources based on assumptions about the implementation of the national curriculum. The VCAA will work with sectorial authorities to ensure that timely advice is provided to all schools to support a planned and structured transition to the national curriculum. Current ACARA publications are available at: www.acara.edu.au/default.asp

For further information contact David Howes, General Manager Curriculum on (03) 9651 4524.

MARVELLOUS MONICAN

Anthony Cardamone was selected to rehearse with the State Honours Choir and an orchestra at the State Music Camp during the recent school holidays.

He performed with both ensembles, as a vocalist and French horn player. The State Honours Choir performed in the opening concert for the *Sounds Great* Statewide Music conference, for national music educators and visiting international musicians. Anthony was described by the conductor of the Choir as an excellent ensemble member, with a great vocal talent. Anthony is a fine musician who has represented the College at significant music events in the wider community.



B.E. Hanley
College Principal



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