from the principal

**Reflection...** In this final newsletter before our students in Year 12 Graduate and sit for HSC examinations, we extend a sincere thank you and offer a blessing to them, for all they have contributed to the College over the past two years.

_May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul._

_May you realize that you are never alone, that your soul in its brightness and belonging connects you intimately with the rhythm of the universe._

_May you have respect for your own individuality and difference._

_May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique, that you have a special destiny here, and behind the façade of your life something beautiful, good and eternal is happening._

_May you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride and expectation with which God sees you in every moment._

_May you enjoy and delight in God as much as God does in You!_—Adapted from ‘Anam Cara” by John O’Donohue

---

**Parents and family...** of all Year 12 students are invited to join with us in celebrating their Graduation assembly (12.30pm) and Graduation Mass (7.00pm) next Thursday 20 September. There has been an extensive program of classwork and study in place leading up to next Thursday and beyond, and all students are urged to continue the outstanding effort already evident to achieve “one more mark”, in each of their courses. Punctuality to class is vital and any student who is late may be asked to make up the time in homework club straight after school. The support of parents in this work is greatly appreciated.

---

**Funding cuts to all non-government schools...** You have already received several communications regarding the extraordinary decision of the NSW Government to cut funding to education. Please see attached to this newsletter, the latest media release from Dr Dan White, Executive Director of the Catholic Education Office in the Sydney Archdiocese.

**Vale Brother Justin Joyce....** De La Salle Stalwart Farewelled. Br Justin Joyce passed away recently after a long courageous battle with illness.

In recent years Brother “Justy” had been living on site in the Brothers’ community and was a familiar figure in the college library, helping students with science tutorials. Br. Justin was the Physics teacher here in the 1980s and also the Religious Education Coordinator. He was famous for organizing retreats and many ex students would have fond memories of Br “Justy” playing football with the boys and jollying things along.

Brother Justin truly embodied the Lasallian spirit with his compassion and concern for his students, especially those who needed an extra helping hand.

---

Phil Gane
Principal
Congratulations Year 12 students... on your outstanding efforts both in and out of the classroom over the last few weeks as you work closely with staff to prepare for your HSC examinations and also the events around your completion of schooling. Earlier in the Year we took a whole group photograph of Year 12 and if students and/or Parents/Caregivers would like to order a copy they can pick up order envelopes from the school office and enclose the $15 for purchase and return to the College by Friday 12th October.

A reminder to parents/caregivers you are cordially invited to the following events as your son’s/daughters reach their final days of schooling:

1. Farewell Assembly and Presentation.
This will be held in Carmody Hall on Thursday, September 20, beginning at 12:30 pm. Special College Awards will be presented and Year 12 farewelled by Year 11 and staff. Students must wear full College uniform including blazers. Parents are most welcome.

2. Graduation Mass – St Aloysius Church, Cronulla – Thursday, September 20, 7:00 pm.
This is a most significant event as it provides the final opportunity for Year 12 students and their families to join the rest of the College community in celebrating their graduation with a sharing of the Eucharist. All students are expected to attend in full College uniform including blazers. All parents, family and friends who have assisted our students along their path to graduation are also invited to attend. A light supper will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

A reminder to Year 11 students that On Thursday 20th September all Year 11 students will be attending the English exam in full winter uniform (including blazers, stockings for the girls and boys to have their top button done up with their tie on and all students wearing the correct (polished) school shoes.

After the exam Year 11 students will have an extended lunch on the oval prior to the formal Graduation Assembly that begins at 12:30pm. This assembly marks the final formal school event for Year 12 and gives Year 11 students the opportunity to support and celebrate with them.

Congratulations to Year 11 on conducting themselves well during their final Preliminary examinations. A reminder to Year 11 that next term they will be in full summer uniform. The holidays may be an ideal time to revisit the condition of your school shoes and if necessary purchase new ones. Earlier in the Year we took a whole group photograph of Year 11 and if students and/or Parents/ Caregivers would like to order a copy they can pick up order envelopes from the school office and enclose the $15 for purchase and return to the College by Friday 12th October.

May I remind all students driving to and from school of their responsibility to act in a safe manner at all times especially in Cross Road and Gunamatta Street where there is traffic congestion and many pedestrians. Could parents please discuss with their son/daughter this issue of being a responsible driver.

From the RE Coordinator

This week Simone, our Lasallian Youth Minister spoke to the year 12 students about post school opportunities volunteering as part of the ‘Share the Mission’ program. The students were fortunate to hear of Simone’s experiences and also those of Ruby Crowe (HSC 2011) who worked at Balgo Hills, in an Indigenous community run by the De La Salle Brothers. Many students were interested in the various programs and they received appropriate information. Additional information may be obtained from http://www.delasalle.org.au/youth/sharetmission/.

This week the Year 12 Catechists officially completed their work with the students at Burraneer Bay Primary School. They celebrated with a pizza lunch and on Sunday 23rd September they will be formally recognised by Cardinal George Pell at St Mary’s Cathedral.

To prepare for the hand over 20 Year 11 students applied for and were trained to be Catechists while in Year 12. Father Tom Carroll presented them with their ‘Catechist’ card and also shared his experiences with them. On Tuesday these students began their work as Catechists continuing in this tradition that started five years ago.

Michelle Morrison
Assistant Principal

Mrs Maree Cullen
RE Coordinator
from the year coordinator

Congratulations to 2013 Leaders... Student Body Elect their Leadership team.

Bailey Neate and Amber Bowles have been elected as College Captains for 2012. Bailey and Amber both represented the college in our 2012 Champion Debating Team and are formidable public speakers. David McCarthy and Courtney McCrohon are our Vice Captains. David is an accomplished sportsman and Courtney is a scientist. She has recently become a National Delegate at the National Youth Science Forum. We are very lucky as a community to have leaders of this calibre and the college staff look forward to working with them.

Peter Geaney and Yvette Kennedy.
Yr 12 team 2013

Bishop Brady Visits Our New Leaders... Bishop Terry Brady recently shared some of his experiences as a Church Leader with our newly elected student leadership team. He spoke engagingly of some of the challenges of Christian Leadership which includes speaking out for the Truth when many would prefer to not hear it. Our leaders had plenty of questions for the Bishop about the challenges facing the Catholic Church today. An important lesson that emerged from the day was that leadership is a skill that has to be learnt, partly from mentoring, but also from experience. Bishop Brady spoke of the value of speaking up for the truth but doing so with patience and humility. There was a consensus around the room that leadership was not a matter of power and personal ego but rather one of service and example.

The Bishop also enjoyed morning tea with the outgoing leadership group from 2012 and toured the “creative” classrooms congratulating students on their practical projects.

from the pdhpe department

Athletics... Congratulations to the following students who represented the College at the Southern Sydney Athletic Carnival. Year 12-Joel Elton, Jake Leavers, Jordan Rhodes, James Eccleston. Year 11-Gabby Moseley, Michaela Sergeant, Tamiah Gogic and Chelsea Robertson. Special mention to the Girls and Boys teams who got the Bronze in the relays. Also congratulations to Jordan Rhodes who came first in the 200 metres and will progress to the N.S.W.C.C.C. Championships.

Mr Greg Breen

College Fees:
Parents are asked to note any outstanding invoices for College fees. We have a considerable amount still to be paid for our Year 11 enrolment. Further, Year 12 students cannot be officially “signed out” of the College until all equipment, including laptop computers and textbooks are returned, and fee accounts are settled. Graduation and attendance at our Formal is dependent on meeting this agreement.
The end of our Year 12 HSC course approaches. Application to study is paramount. It is also however time for all students to be actively researching and refining their study/work plans for 2013. This is an exciting time – so many options!

The application process for some courses has already begun, or for others will begin soon. It is critical to know the specifics of application to each course of interest, e.g. when and how to apply (a form or online?), open and closing dates? Any pre-requisites such as an information session, aptitude test, portfolio, audition etc., when and where are these due? and so on. Ways to help locate this information include: ‘Going to the Source’ is one way to find this sort of information – i.e. **contact** the Educational Institution or Business directly – and ask!

The **UAC Guide** issued recently to students considering application to University – note: closing date for online application is **28/9/12**. These provide answers to most questions about – which uni offers what? how and when to apply? pin numbers? preferences?, costs?, important dates? etc. *The exception to this process is the University of Notre Dame (apply directly to the University itself).

This next month or two offers a number of **OPEN Days** and/or Information Sessions at Universities, TAFE and many of the Private Colleges with both students and their parents welcome. These are well worth attending – not only to gather specific course information (for later comparisons), and see the facilities (e.g. computer or science labs, creative arts spaces, sporting facilities, etc.) – but also an opportunity to get a ‘feel’ for the culture of each institution of interest. Exposure to the actual learning environments will assist the sorting of ‘preferences’ process for each student. Note: UOW Information Session at the Sharks Leagues Club Weds. 19/9/12 6.30pm.

**TAFE** offer a diverse range of courses aimed not only at specific industries, but also offers courses focusing on ‘employability’ and more generic ‘work skills’ as well. Courses often allow students to build a study pathway e.g. Cert.III to Cert.IV to Diploma or Advanced Diploma (and in some instances combine with a specific university to culminate in a Degree). Entry levels will vary from course to course. Many TAFE Vocational courses offer ‘Nationally Recognised Training’ credentials, keep up-to-date with the relevant industry requirements, standards and technology, and are comparatively, financially good value. Note: Upcoming Information Sessions at Gymea, Loftus and St. George campus’ are a **MUST to ATTEND**.

So, lots to consider – but **the time is now**! Coming up are more Open Days (uni & TAFE & private colleges). Whether you want to consolidate your thinking or ‘have no idea’ where to begin, attending some of these events would be a very good start.

**UPCOMING EVENTS Include:**

- **Fri. 14/09**  UNSW Applications Close for “Minerals Summer School”-Jan’13  
- **Sat. 15/09**  Open Day Bedford College 9.30-3pm P’matta  
  [www.bedford.edu.au](http://www.bedford.edu.au)
- **‘yes’OPTUS Engineering Cadetship Applications close.**  
- **The Hotel School Sydney Open Day 9am-1pm Phillip St., Sydney [www.hotelschool.edu.au](http://www.hotelschool.edu.au)**
- **TAFE Petersham campus Open Day 10am-3pm ph.1300360601**
- **Tue. 18/09**  APM College of Business & Communication Info. Evening 6.30pm  
  Nth. Sydney ph. 85884732
- **Wed. 19/09**  ICMS Open Day 10-2pm Manly  
- **Sydney College of Event Management 6.30pm**  
- **UOW Information Night 6.30-8.30 Cron/Suth Leagues Club W’ware**  
  [www.uow.edu.au](http://www.uow.edu.au)
- **Thu. 27/09**  Macquarie Uni in a Day  
  [www.uniinaday@mq.edu.au](http://www.uniinaday@mq.edu.au)
- **Fri. 28/09**  **UAC Applications due in Online (for most universities)**  
  UNE Scholarship Applications close.  
  [www.une.edu.au](http://www.une.edu.au)

This list is a sample of events, but there may well be more – if an institution you are interested in is not listed – contact them directly and find out when you can attend or visit or make an appointment to discuss your own study pathway options with them. Good Luck!

Ms. Brown  
**Careers Adviser**
12 September 2012
For immediate release

“A sad day for education in New South Wales”

Dan White, Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools, says that he expects parents in all New South Wales schools to be bitterly disappointed with the education funding cuts that were announced yesterday by Minister Adrian Piccoli and Premier Barry O’Farrell.

“Yesterday was a sad day for education in New South Wales,” Dr White said.

“Students in all New South Wales schools and TAFEs will be the losers as a result of the announcement made by the O’Farrell Government yesterday,” Dr White said. “Make no mistake: this decision will hit hard right across the education sector. For non-government schools, the four-year funding freeze means a cut of $115m. This will certainly have an impact on the services that we will be able to provide to students in the years ahead. I believe that our children deserve better.”

Dr White believes that the cuts are short-sighted, and come at a time when there is widespread agreement that an overall increase in funding is needed for students in all Australian schools.

“The recommendations from the Gonski Review, which received widespread support (and were endorsed by Minister Piccoli) highlighted the need for more investment in education, not less,” Dr White said. “This is a blow to families,” Dr White said.

“The parents in our school communities have already expressed their deep concerns about proposed cuts to education, and although the cuts that were announced today are not as savage as first mooted, I am sure they will be angry about the government’s action. They realise that there will be an impact on the services that we will be able to provide for their children.

“Of course, there will always be the need to balance the provision of government services with financial restraint, but a decision to de-invest in education sends the wrong message about what we should value most as a society,” Dr White said.

#ends
For media opportunities, contact Mark Rix on 0417 442 018.
Parents are reminded that if for any reason family details change including email addresses and phone numbers that the front office is informed so that any communication from the College to the home can be guaranteed. If a family is concerned that they are not receiving emails etc. Please contact the office on 8522 1500.

---

**Year 12**

**LET’S CELEBRATE LEAVING SCHOOL**

Julie will again be at the school to purchase all items of your school uniforms that you no longer require. This includes; Blazers, shirts, trousers, blouses, skirts, jumpers, scarves, bags, ties and girls socks. As Julie will be revitalising them, there is no need for them to be spick and span.

**WHERE:**  Under the cover outside the Hospitality Room  
**WHEN:**  Mon 19th November 2012  
**TIME:**  8.30am – 11am  
**MOB:**  0466340264