from the principal

Reflection... The Year of Grace has been set as a time when Catholics of this nation are invited to join their Bishops on a spiritual journey, a time of listening to the Spirit, a space to recognise God’s grace in our lives and to encounter Jesus afresh. What better a time than our Christmas break to put this in place?

I wish everyone in our College community a safe, happy, and holy Christmas. Let it be a time of peace, love, and opportunity to contemplate the face of Christ.

Year 11 – 2012 Thanksgiving Mass... This will take place on the last day of student attendance for the year – Tuesday 18 December. Parents and relatives are most welcome to celebrate with us. I also remind everyone that student attendance is compulsory. I have been pleased with the noticeable maturity and focus developing in our students during Term 4 and their commitment to the St. Vincent’s de Paul Christmas Appeal has been outstanding. Bishop Terry Brady will offer the Mass and formalities should be completed by 11.30 am, at which time students will be dismissed for the Christmas holidays.

Sporting Excellence... Year 12 – 2012 student Samuel Cocokios is to be awarded a NSWCCC Blue for his achievements in Water Polo. Sam has successfully balanced his sporting commitments, academic studies, and student leadership responsibilities, and the College extends to him our thanks and congratulations on receiving this prestigious award.

Staffing for 2013... It is the time of the year when we acknowledge teachers who will be leaving us and welcome those commencing work here in 2013. Our sincere thanks and well wishes go to:

Mr Bill Rush for his contribution to our Mathematics KLA throughout 2012,

Mr Kieran Wakeling who will join the staff at John Therry College at Campbelltown teaching PDHPE and Religious Education.

Ms Simone McGill has worked tirelessly in Youth/Lasallian Ministry and has brought a strong model of student service to our community,

Our “Lab Assistant” Mrs Lois Janov for her support to our Science teachers.

Finally, Mrs Ruth Paske retires after a long and distinguished career as a Mathematics/RE teacher. Ruth is a wonderful educator with a great passion for Mathematics and the wellbeing of the students in her care. Any of those who were a part of her Extension 2 Mathematics classes throughout this year will happily testify to the high level of knowledge, guidance and professionalism Ruth has shown in her work with them. Our Catholic schools have been blessed by the contribution Ruth has made to Catholic education.

In 2013 the College welcomes...
Mr Christopher Pocock and Mrs Carol Wallace, who will be teaching in the Mathematics KLA,

Mr Michael Hutchinson who will be teaching English,

Mr Paul Buchanan who will be teaching in the PDHPE faculty and will be the Assistant Year 11 Coordinator.

Phil Gane
Principal
As I near the end of my first year at De La Salle Catholic College Cronulla, I would like to thank students and their families, as well as staff, for making me feel welcome and sharing their homegrown knowledge and expertise. This is a wonderful school in terms of both academic effort and achievement but more importantly the Catholic ethos is deeply embedded through the Lasallian traditions evident in this community. Each of us is encouraged to care for one another and challenged to follow Jesus example in serving the needs of those less fortunate. This has been abundantly evident recently with the ground swell of participation in raising money for the St Vincent De Paul Christmas appeal to support our local families in need in a joyous and generous manner. On Tuesday 18th December we will celebrate our final year mass together as a Catholic community where we will also acknowledge the academic success of our students who have completed their Preliminary Studies. Students are to meet in Munro Park at 9:15am for roll call in full school uniform. (No bags required). Students will be dismissed at the conclusion of mass.

Congratulations once more to all our Year 12 Graduates and I wish you every success in your future endeavours. To Year 12 2013, you have made a committed and focused start to your HSC studies so enjoy a well earned break and be prepared to take up the challenge of achieving your personal best when we meet back here again in January.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish students and their families a Happy and Holy Christmas season and look forward to working with you all in the New Year.

Mrs Morrison

Lasallian Leadership Encounter Day...Last Wednesday our school was host to a number of Lasallian schools across Sydney, who joined together to participate in a Lasallian Leadership Encounter Day. The day, facilitated by Lasallian Youth Ministry was a chance to gather together to celebrate our Lasallian charism. The day involved activities including ice breakers, reflections, chances to meet new people and share our faith. We had an opportunity to break into groups and create a proposal for a new Lasallian school that embodies the traditions and teachings of De La Salle: faith, service and community. The day culminated in a lively and enthusiastic sing a long. Thanks must be given to all the teachers and youth ministers involved as well as a special thanks to Mrs Kennedy and the year 12 Hospitality Extension Class for making our recess and lunch; Courtney, Adriana, Melanie, Evana, Isabella and Georgia.

Students presenting their Lasallian school
Archdiocesan Social Justice Day - The Gift of Family in Difficult Times... On the 21st on November a selection of our students attended a Social Justice Day at the newly developed Southern Cross Vocational College Burwood. The day focused on The Gift of Family in Difficult Times, consisting of speeches, workshops and reflection. Bishop Christopher Saunders began the day sharing a memorable statement about the importance of family and then handed the floor to a guest speaker from South Sudan. His inspirational life story taught an important lesson about appreciating and valuing your family. One of the workshops we attended was run by a non-government organisation called Shine for kids, this organisation supports children that have parents in jail. We were astonished to discover 18,000 children in Australia have parents that are placed in prison facilities. These kids may then be put in the care of a family member or enrolled in the foster-care system. Shine works with these kids to provide them a more stable childhood. The next workshop was about the amount of time we spend with our families and balances the challenges of work and family. The Time to Talk organisation identified the low number of days workers are entitled to that encourage family time. This organisation is fighting for our rights to spend special holiday periods with our families. Overall the day was a successful event that touched all our hearts. Lessons were learnt and ideas taken on board to ensure we spread the word about social justice.

Amber - Rae Cummings

Simone McGill

Amber and Courtney presenting on what they would do if they had more time

Art Exhibition a Huge Success... Big turn out celebrates the Art Class of 2012. The Eastern Shire’s Three Colleges of Catholic Education turned out in big numbers to celebrate the work of art students across the three schools. OLMC Burraneer and De La Salle Caringbah joined Cronulla students in a show that delighted both parents and grandparents of exhibitors. Father Andrew Benton, himself an art lover, joined with local families to enjoy the show and help select entries for next year’s Clancy Prize for religious art. He observed that the standard was a great credit to the students and even higher than last year. It was wonderful to see so many family members come to celebrate the students’ hard work and for the parents of the younger children to see the educational pathway in Visual Arts. The picture shows three generations of the Doran Family with Father Andrew examining Kate’s painting series depicting the youngest member of the clan.

Byron Hurst
Creative & Performing Arts

Congratulations to Taylor North for her selection in the popular Hazelhurst exhibition, ART RULES. Taylor is a graduate of De La Salle Cronulla in 2012 and finished at OLMC Burraneer in 2010.

Taylor’s HSC artwork is a huge street art style reinterpretation of the story of biblical heroine, Judith. Executed in gouache and pen, it tells the story of how Judith used “Girl Power” to defeat the enemy of the Israelites when the men of Israel were powerless.

Taylor’s work will be exhibited in Hazelhurst Gallery Gymea adjacent to the popular restaurant over the Christmas holidays.

The De La Salle Art Department would also like to congratulate Mrs. Furnari and her department for the grounding in art Taylor received at OLMC.

Each school brought in a box with prayers that were compiled to make this image.
Hospitality industry experiences - Term 4... During week 6 and week 9 this term, Hospitality students have participated in work placement opportunities at a variety of local and inner city venues. These have included Shangri la Hotel and Doltone House Pyrmont in the city and local cafes and restaurants such as Gymea Tradies, Summer Salt, Kareela Golf Club and Café Twelve. These work placements provide our students with fantastic opportunities to get real industry experience and further develop their hospitality knowledge and skills.

Reports from host employers have been very positive and reinforce the dedication to continued learning that our students display. Employers commented favourably about the mature and enthusiastic manner in which students conducted themselves in the workplace.

Both Mrs Kennedy and I, were very impressed with the level of involvement some students were given in the day to day running of the kitchens and food preparation and service. Students were often working at a standard of 2nd or 3rd year apprentices. Congratulations are extended to all students our for their outstanding efforts during this work placement period.

Mrs Hook/Mrs Kennedy
Hospitality Teachers

BAYVIEW RESTAURANT

On December 5th, the Hospitality Specialisation (Year 12) class opened up the Bay View Restaurant for an evening of fine food, which included a 4 course menu. Under the direction of guest head chef, Aaron Crossin (Hospitality Est, Caringbah), the students were organized into different work stations to prepare and present quality food to customers. The following menu was prepared:

- Cajun Spiced Prawn Avocado and Mango Salad with honeyed walnuts
- Panko Crumbed Chicken Tenderloin with rocket aioli

APPLE GRANITA

- Crispy Skin Atlantic Salmon Fillet with lemon butter sauce and tossed green beans, blistered cherry tomato and radicchio
- Eye Fillet STEAK with carrot puree, herb battered enoki mushroom and red wine caramel
- Raspberry and Double Cream Mille Fiulle with pistachio soil

The restaurant was filled to capacity, with parents and teaching staff. I was most impressed with the skill displayed by our Hospitality students, and the enthusiasm with which they devoted themselves to the task.

Mrs Kennedy
Hospitality Teacher
Although it is well into Term 4 and 2012 is fast drawing to a close, our current students have begun their Year 12 courses and this time next year, these same students will have completed their own HSC. The ‘clock is ticking’. With this in mind, I would like to suggest to all students that over the summer break, if not sooner, is a very good time to begin researching the options for Jobs/Career Training/Courses etc. Starting this process now is a very good idea – it does not make sense to leave it till later next year – that just leaves less time to do the same thing! Application to your Year 12 studies will also make more sense if you have a clear goal or plan.

Where to start? Look at your own individual ‘strengths’ see how you can capitalize on them and put them to good use. Use the JOBGUIDE (hard copy in the Library or online) to read about different jobs. Look into what training is required – then who provides that training. After this you can start comparing (e.g. a B/Business at several different Universities can have vastly different subject and course options) – which one will best suit your job or career pathway?

Look into Apprenticeships, Cadetships, Traineeships – EARN while you LEARN. Go to the Professional Body that oversees the Industry (e.g. Master Plumbers Assoc., for plumbing) – or in some cases a large company (e.g. Price Waterhouse) for information. Investigate either online or in person for your enquiries.

Don’t underestimate ‘on-the-job’ training – skills, experience, promotion, an income, superannuation & leave entitlements accruing etc., are also worthwhile and could lead you to additional training (e.g. TAFE or Uni) later when your thoughts on further education (which courses etc.) are clearer.

So, lots of options! True, this process can take some time to sort out but the effort will be well worth while. There are many questions to be asked and comparisons to be made. This is where you finally get to choose what you learn and what life path it will take you on - learning really gets interesting. Once ‘sorted’, you will know when and how to apply for courses of interest. Have ‘a plan’ and then ‘a back-up plan’ (e.g. if I don’t get into Uni straight up there is a related course at TAFE that will lead into the degree later).

Ask people about their jobs, read (e.g. Jobguide, Uni/TAFE Course guides), go online and investigate educational institutions, businesses, government departments etc., see what is on offer for employment and training. All students are welcome to see me in the Careers Room in the Library to discuss study/career pathways and options. As I said, starting now is a really good idea.

C. Brown
Careers Adviser

NB: "Office Junior." position. - with 'ChromeCo'. - Contact Jamie Stadwick Ph. 9210-4410

Merry Christmas...

Year 11, 2012 have been busy the last few weeks of term raising money for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. De La Salle Cronulla has a strong connection with Vinnies and we have always contributed to local families who are experiencing difficulties at this time of the year. This year we have been asked to donate money to purchase cinema and K-Mart vouchers that will be part of hampers given to these families. Our students have been creative in each pastoral class, in an effort to raise as much money as they can. To this date, classes have been involved in cake stalls, pizza days, chocolate hampers, raffles, money tossing games, ice-cream days and ‘photos with santa’. In a great team effort, we have raised over $1,000 to purchase vouchers. We thank all students and their families for their support this year, and wish you all a holy and happy Christmas.

Mrs Kennedy and Mr Geaney

Ellie Rose, Kitty Cheater, Jemison Luke, Natalie Ryan
Fundraiser for McCauley