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.

May you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride and expectation with which God sees you in the façade of your life something beautiful, good and eternal is happening every moment.

May you enjoy and delight in God as much as God does in You!

Adapted from “Anam Cara” by John O’Donohue

St. John Baptist De La Salle . . .
Live Jesus in our hearts . . .

Last week... I had the privilege and pleasure of celebrating with students and families’ significant achievements within our College community. Tuesday 3 September saw the annual presentation ceremony of the Archbishop’s Award. This ceremony provides a wonderful acknowledgment of the children who attend our Catholic schools in the Sydney Archdiocese. Our recipient for 2013 is Courtney McCrohon (Year 12) and Year 11 student Haralembos Kotrolos read her citation for the award. A copy of the citation was distributed in an earlier Newsletter, but I would like to again congratulate Courtney on her outstanding contribution to our College and Parish life.

On Tuesday... afternoon our Rugby League team played St. Patrick’s College in an annual game in memory of Shaun Simpson – a former St. Patrick’s student who died of cancer not long after leaving that school. The game was played in great spirit, and afterwards at the presentation of the trophy, Shaun’s brother Nathan spoke passionately about his time at school.

He urged our boys to value and appreciate their schoolmates, and the opportunities that come from working together and establishing lifelong friendships.

At the College assembly last week I announced the Captains, Vice Captains, and College student leaders for 2014. Already I am encouraged by the capacity, initiative, and deep commitment to the College life that these future leaders display. Their commitment to De La Cronulla is very evident, and will ensure we continue to work together to build an even stronger educational and faith community in the future.

While all this has been going on, our Year 12 HSC students have been presenting Major Works and Practical pieces for examination by Board of Studies markers. Thank you to parents who have visited the College to view the displays and to act as a “friendly audience” as our Creative and Performing Arts students honed their skills.

PTO...
from the principal cont.

Additionally, as many parents commented to me, we are most fortunate to have an extremely dedicated staff and the work of our TAS and C&PA teachers in guiding and supporting these students has been extraordinary.

As I take some time to reflect on the happenings above, and think about a future full of hope and promise, I feel a great sense of pride in our College. Congratulations to all!

Support for Parents... In the business of school life we often forget to do two very important things. Firstly, to stop, reflect, and ensure we are actually enjoying this exciting time. Too often we focus on the “stress” around examinations and this can manifest into difficult family situations at home and poor behavioural choices from students. Secondly, we can forget the principle that some stress, and the challenge to simply do our best, can offer very rewarding outcomes and personal growth. As we work hard to finish Term 3 well, and join together in community celebrations for Year 12 Graduation, let’s all strive to appreciate the moment and achievements of your son/daughters. Parents might like to access the “Safe Schools Hub for Parents” website: http://www.safeschoolshub.edu.au/for-parents which can offer some helpful guidance to support you and your children at this, and in future challenging times.

Phil Gane
Principal

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

- Farewell Assembly and Presentation. This will be held in Carmody Hall on Thursday, September 19, 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.

- Graduation Mass – St Aloysius Church, Cronulla – Thursday, September 19, 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 19 September 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.

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. Please be aware that the Parking Inspectors frequent the streets surrounding the College and a number of parents and students have been booked for illegal parking and picking up or dropping off students in areas that are deemed illegal, especially the bus stop at the front of the College.

To all Year 12 students... I extend my fondest wishes for your future success as you begin the next phase of your lives. May God bless you and your families and we thank you for the wonderful contribution you have made over the past two years to this rich and valued history of our Lasallian College.

To all Year 11 students, I wish you a safe and happy holiday and look forward to welcoming you back as Year 12 students next term.

Michelle Morrison
Assistant Principal

Attention Year 12 Parents

Please keep in mind that Julie Taylor from Smart School Seconds will be offering to buy back your child’s school uniform. I will be outside hospitality on Monday 18th November 2013, 9.30 - 12 noon. If you would like more information please contact Julie Taylor on 0466 340 264.
from the re coordinator

As we draw... closer to the end of term there are many areas of College life that need to be mentioned. The Year 12 Catechists have been both ambassadors of the College and role models to the students they have worked with at Burraneer Bay Primary School for the past year. Sadly our students had their final lesson last week, but they have also helped the current Year 11 volunteers in the transition process as they take over this role this week.

This week Father Tom will be sharing lunch and thanking them for their efforts. On the 22nd September they will be formally recognised at St Mary’s Cathedral by Archbishop George Pell. Thank you Ally Cameron, Nathan Cartwright, Annie Crowe, Jelena Erceg, Jenaya Hardy, Tanika Hartwell, Lauren Hodsdon, Grace Hughes, Jade Jenkins, Melanie Kirton, Adriana Maras, Courtney McCrohon, Jasmín McNeany, Jai Mellor, Rosie O’Neill, Georgia Pare, Jansen Pocklington, Breanna Polson, Michaela Sargeant, Breanna Urquhart, Bianca Vitale and Kurt Vella.

I would also like to thank our 20 new volunteers in Year 11, who have observed lessons, receive training from Catechists at St Aloysius. Thank you also to Sarah Gamsaragan and her mum for also spending lunch time with our students this week sharing your enthusiasm for Catechism.

Last week... members of St Aloysius and teachers and students met to discuss a number of Social Justice initiatives. There were many interested students who were very keen to sign up to the ongoing Blood Donor program on Tuesday afternoons, the Brekky Van that operates out of Prince Alfred Park to name a few. There will be more specific information to follow on these projects. I applaud our students for their enthusiasm in making a difference in the lives of others. Afternoon tea with the Brothers was attended by staff and students. This begins with prayer in the chapel, followed by cups of tea and biscuits and interesting conversation.

Maree Cullen
Religious Coordinator

from the year 12 coordinator

After 13 years of schooling... your children have a matter of weeks before its ‘fait accompli’. It’s now important to stay focussed with just one more hurdle to jump. With your encouragement and their commitment to study, they should do well.

I would like to thank you all for your support and working partnership with the College staff over the last two years. Getting the best possible marks is important, and so too is our underlying goal of producing good citizens. I believe De La Salle College Cronulla has provided both. I would also like to thank Mrs Yvette Kennedy, the Assistant Year Co-ordinator, for her relentless work making sure our students are given the best possibilities for a stable education. Her dedication and love of our students is second to none, and anyone of you who has met Yvette will know what I mean.

You are all welcome to attend our Graduation Assembly in the College Hall on Thursday, September 19 at 12:30pm. And of course our Graduation Mass that evening where our Students must assemble no later than 6:30pm. The HSC starts on October 14th and then we can all celebrate at the Formal on November 15th.

Mr Peter Geaney
Year 12 Coordinator
Leadership Training Day... Our newly elected Student Leaders for 2013-2014 took part in a Leadership Training Day at Cronulla Surf Club on Thursday 29th August. The program included a liturgy, icebreaker games, speech making, displaying of talents, lots of fun and laughter and working together as a team.

We were joined on the day by our Lasallian Minister Ruby who ran the games and Michelle Morrison. The students were very impressive in their enthusiasm, sensitivity, creativity, initiative and their ability to work together. I am very excited about working with our Student Leaders- they have so many great ideas and the energy to follow these through. The Student Body is in very safe hands!

Catholic Studies... I have had the great privilege of teaching two Year 11 Catholic Studies classes this year. Both classes have been a joy to teach. Students have embraced the topics we have studied with great enthusiasm and have completed some very impressive assessment tasks. What has also made these classes special is the meaningful discussions we have had around the meaning of life, the importance of helping others, making a difference no matter how small, kindness and gratitude. We have discussed the importance of going out into the community and practising compassion and of providing some cheer to others. With this in mind one of my two classes has started to visit Stella Maris Nursing Home. We have been made very welcome here and my students have delighted in being able to provide some company for the elderly residents. I am very proud of their gentleness and their genuine care. We will continue these visits next term with both classes.

Knitted Blankets... One of our most popular activities on Founder's Day was knitting blankets for young Ethiopian women in hospital. Mrs Wallace ran this group and many students who had never picked up a pair of knitting needles found a new passion. Students have continued to meet and knit. It takes quite a long time to knit blankets and two very beautiful ones have been completed with a third on the way. Mrs Wallace's enthusiasm for this project had been infectious as more and more students have joined the knitting circle. A big thanks also to Mrs Cannen who has knitted many squares. We are looking for donations of 8 ply wool of any colour (our finished blankets are very brightly coloured). We are also accepting any knitted or crocheted squares of any size. Anyone interested in joining this group should see Mrs Wallace. We also welcome any parents who are interested in knitting squares for this very worthwhile cause.

Year 11 students... have made a great start to their exams. Students have arrived on time and have used their time productively to complete examination questions. I urge all students to keep up their study and to do the best they possibly can. Not everyone can or will come first but everyone can aim for their own personal best. I am confident that we will see some very impressive results.

Happy Holidays!!!...Wishing all Year 11 students a very happy and relaxing holiday. I hope that students give themselves the opportunity of spending quality time with their families and friends.

Congratulations to our newly elected Student Leaders for 2013-2014.

Captains: Heloise Hurst & Carter Quinn
Vice Captains: Chloe Miller & William Stratford
Leaders: Liliana Brogan Phebe Dutton
Bronte Howell Victoria James
Holly Johnston Maggie Mahoney
Lara Moses Bronte Wood
Adam Burg Juan Gutierrez
Benjamin Kennedy Angus Lambie
Paul Lucas Daniel Nikitaras
Nicholas Palamara Caleb Smithers

Our Leaders are very impressive young men and women and I am sure that they will serve the College with great enthusiasm and dedication.

I would also like to acknowledge the many students who nominated themselves for possible leadership. Thank you for taking up the challenge and wanting to share your gifts with others. There are a number of initiatives open to all and I hope that many of our students will become involved and work together to make their two years here very memorable.

Josie Raftery
Year 11 Co-ordinator
from the curriculum coordinator

**Year 12...** May I take this opportunity to congratulate all Year 12 students for their hard work and continuing commitment to their studies in the last few weeks of term. Final Year 12 reports are being collated at the time of writing and I encourage all students to ‘take on board’ report comments as part of the overall teacher feedback since the Trial HSC exams.

Once final internal, school based assessment marks and ranks have been collated they will be sent to the BOS. This mark will be used by the BOS to form part of the final HSC mark.

I encourage all students to work together, in a spirit of collegiality, collaboration and cooperation, in the lead up to the HSC examinations. Now is the time for solid revision and consolidation of work. It is the time for students to reaffirm their commitment to the HSC and to strive to achieve their personal best. The college will continue to support students in many practical ways, from extended library hours, to one on one ‘tuition’.

I wish all students the very best in their HSC examinations and beyond. ‘Never underestimate what you can achieve and never, ever give up!’

NB: All students need to log in to schools online on the BOS website, to check the accuracy of their HSC course details, and see me immediately if there are any problems.

**Year 11...** I wish all Year 11 students well during the Preliminary examinations, which began this week. I encourage students to be well prepared for their exams by undertaking a solid study regime in the lead up and throughout the exam period.

A reminder that if students are absent from an assessment task, they must ensure that they abide by the College Assessment policy. This is located in the student diary, as well as the College website. Students were also provided with a hard copy of the policy at the beginning of the year.

Tony Ginestra
Curriculum Coordinator

If you have recently changed your email address could you please contact the office on 8522 1500 or send an email to info@dlscronulla.catholic.edu.au

from the capa department

**American University Art Department Visit De La Salle...** Students and academic staff from the Illinois State University recently visited art classes at De La Salle College Cronulla to discover what the NSW Art Curriculum looks like in action. The American pre-service teachers came from across the State of Illinois and it’s major city, Chicago, which is a dynamic capital in the world of art.

The study tourists are guests of the Australian Catholic University’s Faculty of Education, one of Australia’s key providers of Visual Arts teachers. The American pre-service teachers met senior art students, who are busily finishing off their HSC artworks, and sat in on art theory classes given by art teacher Byron Hurst.

Cronulla student, Bianca Vitale, said it was a great opportunity for international exchange of ideas about art, and to get feedback about her HSC artwork from a range of very experienced, and very new art educators. “I’m hoping to become a teacher myself, so it was really interesting to hear how Americans approach education,” said Bianca.

Byron Hurst
CAPA Coordinator
Most of us would agree... that the two years you are at DLS Cronulla pass very quickly indeed. Good luck to Year 11 students beginning your final Preliminary Exams next week. This time next year it will be you facing your own HSC - and the world beyond - somewhat scary, but at the same time, very exciting.

Year 12 students hopefully now understand that good preparation is the key - both for your exams and your plans for the future.

A reminder email was sent to all Year 12’s earlier this week, some points included:-

Open Days & Information sessions for Universities, TAFE and Private Colleges continue - tonight (Loftus TAFE), and this weekend, e.g. Macquarie Uni. You SHOULD attend. Its well worth the effort to clarify specific course details, subject options, the application requirements, fees, etc., as well as a chance to ‘check out’ the facilities and find your way around.

UAC Applications are NOW OPEN and should be completed online. Your ‘Preferences’ for 2014 should be submitted by Fri. 27/9. Refer to your UAC Guide for details.

TAFE Applications should be submitted ONLINE. Enrolment is not complete until you have PAID and confirmation of a place confirmed. Course Information sessions are now underway at individual campuses and you would be wise to attend for specifics as details can vary for different courses. The new TAFE Course Guide is available to look at in the Library - I am happy to photocopy any information of interest from these for you - otherwise, go online to www.sydneytafe.edu.au (note: TAFE Degree courses require BOTH an Application to TAFE AND a UAC Application - all due 27/9).

You all need to know - ‘what’ to do, and ‘when’ to do it - and you need to know this NOW.

Anyone still unsure - is welcome to see me to discuss options etc.

Tip: get all the above sorted, then focus on your revision work to give yourself the best possible HSC results (and subsequently, post HSC options).

*** You will all need a TFN for future work &/or study. Forms are available from me in the Library - whilst you are still enrolled here at school. (Or you will need to do it later through the ATO itself).

Upcoming Events now include:
11/09 TAFE Loftus campus Open Evening - 7-8.30pm
12/09 ACU Law Information Night - Nth.Sydney - 6-7.30pm
14/09 Macquarie University Open Day – Ryde
14/09 William Angliss College Open Day – City
15/09 St. Patrick’s Inst. – Open Day – City
24/09 UND Nursing Open Night – Darlinghurst site
27/09 UAC Applications due in (online)
30/09 UOW Scholarship Applications close.

There may be more, go to the website of the Institution of interest and check their website for information specific to your course interests. Also, any special revision sessions run by your teachers, and School Holiday HSC Study/Revision sessions, e.g. ‘HSC in the Holidays – September HSC Workshops run at UTS, UOW & Macq.Uni (go to hscintheholidays.com.au) may be helpful to assist with exam preparation too.

Cheryl Brown
Careers Advisor

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Excellence Awards...The following students have each received an award from Sutherland Business Education Network for excellence in their VET course. They were presented with this award at a breakfast ceremony last Wednesday morning, 4th September 2013 at the Sutherland United Services Club in front of a large audience. This award was presented to a Year 12 student from each VET class that has consistently worked at a high level in all class activities and completed all assessment tasks to an excellent standard.

Congratulations to; Samuel Venn, Annie Crowe, Sarah Turner, David Jesney, Nathan Cartwright and Tayla Pagliuca.

Ron Matthews

from the careers advisor

from the tas/vet department
From The Elevate Team

Exams are now only a few weeks away! As your Year 12 students make their way down the home straight, we thought we would put together a little exam guide to provide your students with a boost of motivation and inspiration. We asked our presenters across Australia to share their most important exam tips that got them through Year 12 and continue to help them now at university. We have collated these tips into a booklet called “Almost There!”. It includes tips for exam preparation, practice papers, stress management, maintaining perspective and hopefully, it gives them a little lift to get them through these final weeks.

New –daily exam preparation video tips!

Also, to help give students that final extra edge, we will be hosting a daily exam preparation tip for students over the 30-days leading up to exams. These video tips have recently gained a lot of media attention in the UK. Your students can follow along and stay up to date by:

- Following Elevate on Twitter @elevateed
- Like Elevate Education on Facebook
- Logging into the student website

New practice questions and tips on the student website

Finally, we have a range of student content such as practice questions and student tips being updated in the lead-up to exams.

To get online students should:

Go to www.elevateeducation.com
Enter the username ‘exams’
Type in the password ‘pacco’

We wish all your students the best of luck in their exams and whatever else the future has in store for them in the coming year.