coming events

**Newsletter Term 4 Week 3**

**15 November** 6:30pm Year 12 Formal

**3 December** Year 11 2014 Orientation Afternoon

**17 December** Thanksgiving School Mass

**17 December** End Term 4

**18 December** Pupil Free Day – Staff Development

School Uniform Buy
Back 9.30am—12.30pm

**19 December** Pupil Free Day – Staff Development

HSC/ATAR Brunch
10.00am

**29 January 14** Term 1 Begins

from the principal

Lord, pour out your Spirit of wisdom on all students doing exams at this time. Help them to remain calm, to attend carefully to the questions asked, to think clearly, to remember accurately, and to express themselves well. Grant that they may reflect the best of the work they have done, and the best of the teaching they have received. When the results come out may they be satisfied that they did their best, and may whatever path they choose in life bring them happiness. May your love be upon them O Lord as they place all their trust in you.

Amen.

http://www.newbridgeparish.ie/2010/05/prayer-for-those-doing-exams/

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

Welcome back... to all students and their parents as we progress through the final term of 2013. Can I begin by acknowledging the warm welcome I received from staff and students as I join the College Community for the remainder of the year.

As you receive this newsletter our current year 12’s are in the middle of completing the Higher School Certificate examinations. Could I ask for your continued prayers for these young men and women as they progress through this stressful and challenging time.

By now our year 11 students... would have begun to receive valuable feedback from their teachers on their performance in the end of preliminary examinations. We hope they were rewarded for the hard work, time and effort they put in to their preliminary studies. It is also time to reflect on their study habits and application during the preliminary course and seek ways to further improve especially if the results do not reflect their ability. Let this be the catalyst to spur them on to greater things as they commence their HSC year.

Craig Mooney
Acting Principal
This term...the library has been filled with students working individually and in small groups, who have been supported by numerous staff making time to go over work, all in an effort to help them achieve their personal best. Congratulations to our Year 12 students on the way they are conducting themselves during their HSC examinations: the College is very proud of your commitment and effort.

Our new Year 12...students have also started the term well receiving the feedback from their final Preliminary exams. Year 11 reports will be issued Week 5 of this term. Students need to acknowledge and celebrate their successes and reflect on the challenges ahead to improve and achieve their personal best during their HSC year. With this goal in mind I talked to the students on their first day back about filling their bucket. Teaching and Learning is not an object to be gained merely of the asking; it relies on building positive relationships between the learner and the teacher for growth to occur. I likened this journey of growth to filling the bucket as high as we can to achieve our PB (personal best).

So how do we do this?:

- Listening and acting on teacher feedback
- Working together with teachers and peers in class to create and maintain the best learning environment
- Studying regularly at home and in the school library
- Taking care to respect our beautiful school environment and one another
- Relying on family and friends for support - especially if or when you hit a rough patch with your studies

If we all work together on this HSC journey in the true spirit of a Lasallian Community we will not only fill our own bucket but those of our peers.

To this end, let me make it quite clear that no student’s behavior that infringes on the learning in a classroom will be tolerated. Year Coordinators and KLA Coordinators will be supporting all classroom teachers in their teaching and learning.

REMINDER...I wish to again 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 Gunnamatta 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 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.

I look forward to working with our Year 12 students over this term as we set our expectations high and work together towards their achievement.

Mrs Michelle Morrison
Assistant Principal

On...Thursday 19th September we officially said farewell to our Year 12 students with the Graduation Assembly, marked by the hand over of leadership to the newly elected team. As a community we joined in prayer and looked back at the journey of the Year 12 cohort. One special inclusion was the HSC Success Pack that families from St Aloysius and St Francis put together for each Year 12 student. Included was a personalized message and promise to pray for each student during the exam period.

Thank you to the Family Educators Lisa Overton and Gina Dickson for this meaningful initiative.

The Graduation Mass... for Year 12 saw the completion of their formal schooling at the College. Thank you Father Tom and Father Andrew for co-celebrating and making this a significant occasion for all. We continue to keep the year 12 students in our prayers as they complete the exams over the next two weeks.

On the 22nd September... a number of our Catechists, their families and Mr Gane celebrated Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, where Archbishop George Pell presented them with certificates and a blessing for their work in teaching the children of Burraneer Bay about the Catholic faith.

This term...began with a training day for staff and students to volunteer to help on the Brekky Van, an initiative to feed and support the homeless on weekends at Prince Alfred Park. Kaye Joyce, Youth Officer of St Vincent de Paul spoke to 20 Year 11 and 12 students and 10 staff members about the issues of homelessness and provided the necessary requirements to enable us to be part of this initiative. Thank you Ruby Crowe and Mr Pocock for your help and organization. In November Kaye will return to speak to the Catholic Studies classes about current issues the society deals with. This will also coincide with our work to support the Vinnie Christmas Appeal. I commend our students for all their efforts to make a difference.

Maree Cullen
Religious Coordinator
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 year 11 coordinator

St Vincent de Paul Brekky Van...Recently some Year 11 students together with teachers attended an after-school information session on manning the St Vincent de Paul Brekky Van. Kate from St Vincent de Paul led a one and half compulsory training rundown on what is involved in being a volunteer for this very worthwhile cause. There will be further training sessions soon and shifts for the Brekky Van will be organised in the next few weeks. Please see Ruby or Mr Pocock for any further information.

Cambodia...Ruby- our Lasallian Youth Minister will be going to Cambodia in December to work amongst the poor, particularly children. Ruby would like to be able to buy necessary supplies for the school and the children. Pencils, stationery, books, puzzles- the list is endless. We will be helping Ruby to raise this money over the next few weeks. If anyone in our parent or wider community would like to make a donation please call Josie Raftery on the College number. A little bit will go a long way.

Student Leaders Lunch...Last Wednesday our College Leaders met for lunch with Acting Principal, Mr Robert Nastasi and Father Tom Carroll, Parish Priest of St Aloysius Cronulla. The Student Leaders were inspired by both Mr Nastasi and Father Tom's words of counsel. We have a very dynamic and capable group of Student Leaders who will be organising many activities and social justice ventures in the coming weeks.

Pastoral Lesson – Redesigning the Brain...Last Wednesday students were involved in a Pastoral Lesson that proved that the brain can indeed be redesigned. After watching a 20 minute clip by Todd Sampson, students' memories were put to the test. A day later students were further subjected to a brief recall in Roll Call class with half a dozen students winning prizes for their ability to memorise material from the previous day.

Josie Raftery
Year 11 Co-ordinator

from the curriculum coordinator

Congratulations...to all our current Year 12 students on a very successful start to the Higher School Certificate Examinations. If the heightened level of activity in the college library and surrounds during the holidays and the first week of term is any indication, students can be confident that their diligent preparation together with the tireless support and commitment of their teachers, will serve them well indeed! Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes to all students and their families during this exciting time!

May I also congratulate the Year 12 2014 cohort who have begun term 4 the way that they left term 3, that is, with a strong commitment to their studies and a preparedness to achieve their personal best.

The dates of assessment tasks in all courses are now available on the college calendar. The College Handbook, which includes College rules and procedures in relation to all things curriculum, as well as assessment schedules for each course, should now be available on the College website.

Most courses will issue their first HSC assessment task to students in the next few weeks. It is the responsibility of each student to comply with BOS requirements and complete each assessment task to the best of their ability. I wish all student well as they embark on their HSC studies this term.

Tony Ginestra
Curriculum Coordinator

from the youth minister

On Sunday 29th September...a handful of Year 11 and current Year 12 students joined in on an outing to Moore Park Entertainment Quarter with a group of disabled youth from the Cronulla Parish. At Moore Park we were paired with a buddy and acted as their temporary carer for the day. From there, we had lunch, played a game of bowling, two games of laser tag and ended the day with some very entertaining karaoke. I would like to thank Anna Sammut, Marjana Erceg, Madeline Bulmer, Jessica Jandric, Amber Bowles, Natalie Ryan and Adriana Maras for taking the time out to join us and making a difference in the lives of others. Everyone had a great time and we can’t wait to hang out again!

Ruby Crowe
Youth Minister
from the careers advisor

Good luck...to all our current HSC candidates.

At this stage, just a couple of quick reminders from me:

University applicants – The UAC Guide has all the answers, read it or contact them if you need to. ‘Preferences’ can only be changed online and deadlines, ‘Offer’ dates, etc., are all listed in the Guide. Any enquiries regarding Course details or Scholarships etc., contact the individual universities themselves.

(For UND – refer to their Prospectus, or contact the uni directly.)

TAFE applicants – Look online, but you can visit any TAFE campus and seek course information. It is also possible to make an individual appointment to speak with a TAFE Course Counsellor. TAFE offer a wide variety of courses, varying entry levels, as well as pathways to further study at both TAFE and university levels. For anyone ‘unsure’ – beginning with a TAFE course is a good option and will definitely make you more ‘employable’ at the very least.

Apprenticeships – You usually have to ‘find’ these yourself. However, some of the industry ‘Group Training companies’ can be of assistance – contact them (eg.MTA, HIA, NECCA, Tony & Guy, etc.). Otherwise, ask around, contact local businesses, check local papers & career websites.

Private Colleges – Often more industry specific in their focus, these can offer worthwhile study pathways and often do not rely on an ATAR. Investigate just what they do offer, courses, costs etc., at the individual Colleges or you can go to www.privatecollegesaustralia.com to locate and compare.

Work – Getting a job, working in business, hospitality, any industry, not only provides you with some income – it should give you ‘on the job training’ and work skills, some experience, and, time to figure out just what it is that you might like to do and source relevant courses for later.

Lastly, Yr. 12 students can still apply for a Tax File Number through the ATO Schools Program – only while you are still enrolled here at school. After you ‘sign out’ you must apply through the normal ATO process, via the ATO itself.

Cheryl Brown
Careers Advisor