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

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

Year 12 Graduation Celebrations…
Parents and families are invited to our Year 12 student Graduation Assembly and Mass, held next Thursday 18 September. The Assembly will commence at 12.30 pm in the College Hall, and the Mass will commence at 7.00 pm at St. Aloysius Cronulla. I suggest arriving early to be sure a seat!

While we have one eye on Graduation Day, I must congratulate our students on the way they are working in class. Attendance over the next week is crucial for the completion of HSC courses and for their preparation for the examinations. To maximize this opportunity and work, I encourage all students to remain settled, focused, and conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will bring credit to themselves and the College.

Year 12 students are reminded that some of our teaching staff will be providing tutorial sessions during the holidays. By arrangement, my recommendation is that these are a “must attend”. It is never too late to gain “one more mark”!

Notice for all Year 11 Students & Parents… The College has a tradition of every Year 11 student attending the Year 12 Graduation Assembly.

The same will be expected of this Year 11 when they are Graduating in 2015. Therefore, please ensure every student remains at the College on Thursday 18 September, which is their last day of term. As Friday 19 September is designated for Staff Development, the students are already given an “early break” from Term 3. I cannot grant early leave on top of this for the school holidays.

Term 4 Arrangements… Finally, I would like to wish every student, staff member, and families a restful holiday. I hope this time is a period of productive study (for Year 12 students), and also a well-earned break from the routine of school life. During Weeks 1 & 2 of Term 4 I will be taking some Long Service Leave. Mrs Michelle Morrison will be standing in as Acting Principal, Mr Tony Ginestra as Acting Assistant Principal, and Mr Michael Hutchinson will be the Acting Curriculum Coordinator. These very experienced educators and leaders will ensure the smooth running of the College in my absence.

Phil Gane
Principal
to 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:

1. Farewell Assembly and Presentation.
   This will be held in Carmody Hall on Thursday, September 18, 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 Winter uniform including blazers. Parents are most welcome.

2. Graduation Mass – St Aloysius Church, Cronulla – Thursday, September 18, 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 18th 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 help set up the Hall for our Farewell Assembly and 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

To 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.

Congratulations also to the Visual Arts and Design and Technology students who have submitted their HSC major works, as well as the Drama and Music students who have completed their HSC performances.

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.

School based assessment final marks and ranks have been collated sent to BOSTES. This mark will be used by BOSTES 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 written 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!’

ps. Also a final reminder to students to log onto 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 continue their preparations for their exams by undertaking a solid study regime 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.

If absent from an examination the following procedures MUST be followed:

⇒Phone the College and leave a message for the Curriculum Coordinator. This should be done on or before the day of the task. Failure to do so will result in a zero.

⇒Arrange a time to complete the task or a substitute task, during the examination period/block (this would occur on the student’s first day back at school)
cont. from the curriculum coordinator

⇒ On the day the student returns to school they should: report immediately to the Curriculum coordinator
⇒ complete an Assessment Task Absence/Extension form provided by the Curriculum Coordinator.
⇒ provide documentary evidence, e.g. a Doctor’s certificate, explaining the reason for the absence complete the task for which they were absent

Students have completed their final Confirmation of entry forms which are now being processed by BOSTES. Students have also recently been issued with Subject Selection for Year 12 2015 form. Students who wish to withdraw from a course and/or apply for an extension course in Year 12 must complete this form and return it to student services immediately.

Mr Tony Ginestra
Curriculum Coordinator

from the re department

This week... the Year 12 Catechists officially handed their classes to the year 11 students. Over the last two weeks Year 11 students have observed Catechist classes and received training from Father Sam and Cathy Sammut from St Aloysius Parish. On Monday the Year 12 Catechists joined for lunch at school, reflecting on the experience they shared for the last 12 months. I am very impressed by the sense of responsibility and the commitment these students have shown in delivering lessons on the Catholic tradition every Tuesday. Next Tuesday they will be joining Father Tom at the parish as he officially thanks them also.

The Graduation Assembly and Graduation Mass, see the College officially farewell our Year 12 students. I commend all families on the wonderful sons and daughters and look forward to working with each of them in the lead up to their HSC, and celebrate their results at the completion.

Mrs Maree Cullen
RE Coordinator
Year 11 students... are currently sitting their end of Preliminary examinations. It is amazing to think how quickly the year went, and considering that after these exams the students will be returning to the College as HSC students. In one years time they will be ready to complete their final examinations. It is therefore important that students start setting an effective pattern of study to achieve the best results for the HSC. Consider the following:

⇒ Create a routine so that study is a regular part of the school week. Creating a study timetable is effective.
⇒ Minimise commitments to part time jobs. More than one-two shifts per week is not recommended.
⇒ Whilst sport and physical exercise is encouraged as part of a healthy lifestyle, make sure that it is balanced with study.
⇒ Make sure that students have a quiet environment to study in, away from interruptions. Have good lighting, a comfortable chair and desk.
⇒ Keep interruptions out of the study environment. That is, no phone, facebook, social networking.
⇒ Have regular breaks and reward the students when good results are attained.

Year 11 will be farewelling our Year 12 students at the Graduation Assembly in the last week of school. Our school captains will be making a speech to Year 12, and our leaders will be receiving their badges. Our school captain, Danny Wade has made his first speech, reading a citation for the Archbishops Award at St Marys Cathedral. Congratulations to Marijana Erceg as the recipient of this award.

As a year group, Year 11 would like to give their best wishes to Year 12 as they leave our College and complete their HSC examinations. When students return in Term IV, they are to return in summer uniform. One important date for their diaries is 17th October when the Rotary Club present “U Turn The Wheel” at our College. This is a formal education program to increase awareness to our students on safe driving habits. This will be a full day program.

Have a very safe and relaxing holiday.

Mrs Yvette Kennedy
Acting Year 11 Coordinator

from the year 11 coordinator

We have a very busy week ahead of us! It's so hard to believe that our beloved Year 12 will be leaving us at the end of next week. The coming days will see us celebrate this special time. We have embraced the warmer weather and enjoyed flavoured ices and, yesterday, paddle pops. We have a few sporting challenges at lunch time coming up and next week pizzas and icecreams.

We have been truly blessed to have spent two years with these wonderful young men and women. We wish them nothing but the very best.

Josie Raftery
Year 12 Coordinator

As an Indigenous student in the Catholic School system, I've been fortunate to receive a few opportunities throughout the year, supporting my completion of the HSC.

During the July holidays I had the opportunity to be invited to participate in the Winter School Program at UNSW for students of Indigenous descent.

At UNSW I was given the chance to visit the Business Faculty and talk to all the lecturers about my possibilities of further education after the HSC and what the university can offer me. Whilst I was at UNSW I got the chance to speak to Professor Harcourt of the Economics Faculty as well as other prominent figures such as the Dean of Business.

In August I received an award acknowledging that I would be finishing Year 12 as an Indigenous student. At the award ceremony I was photographed with Dr Dan White and MP Linda Burney along with other Indigenous students who received the same award.

At the end of August I was invited back again to UNSW by Nura Gili to see the university and explore the ideas of accommodation and the different courses available in more depth.

I would like to acknowledge the support of Mrs Jane Bridges, the CEO's Aboriginal Advisor for the Southern Region, and would like to thank her for her help and encouragement.

Written by student
Jennifer Bismire

from the year 12 coordinator
from the tas/vet department

Congratulations... to our Year 12 Design and Technology students for their Major Design Projects that were marked last Thursday. Some of the comments provided by our community included; Thursday evening was “a wonderful showcase evening. The D & T students were well supported by their Year group, and many friends and family. The Major Works were extraordinary, and the pride each student displayed in presenting their work was a privilege to witness.” “The D & T showcase was a knockout this year. It was a wonderful opportunity to see the many skills of our students”. Well done to all students and their families for supporting them so well over the year.

Special mention must be made to our feeder schools at De La Salle Caringbah and Our Lady of Mercy College Burraneer who have prepared these students so well with the skills they brought into this course.

Ron Matthews
TAS-VET 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 10th November 2014, 9.30 - 12 noon. If you would like more information please contact Julie Taylor on 0466 340 264.
from the careers advisor

As the momentum of our year continues to build, I want to take this opportunity to wish Yr.11 students well as they currently undertake their Preliminary exams. As always, consistent application to both class work and study tasks will pay off. Good Luck.

I will begin the Careers Interview process with current Yr.11 students in Term 4. This enables us to either, begin, or further develop, each student’s thoughts or plans for their own individual study/work pathway options after their 2015 HSC. Starting this research earlier rather than later allows for more thorough investigation of all the possibilities. There are lots of exciting options, as well as numerous ‘ways to get there’ - it pays to have a good look - enabling you to make sound choices. Having a clearer focus during Yr.12 will give ‘purpose’ to the work required for a successful HSC for every student.

Yr.12 students should now be focusing on their HSC revision etc., and I congratulate many students who have - in a mature fashion - been utilising the Library space for both individual and group tutorial work as part of their exam preparation.

Some final points:
- **TFN forms** are available from Ms. Brown in the Library (only whilst you are still enrolled here at School).
- The **UAC** website is of course now OPEN for University Application.

This should be done **ONLINE by Tues. 30th Sept.**
Refer to the UAC Guide for any questions.

(Exception: University of Notre Dame - go to the unit itself for Application details).

**TAFE enquiries** can be made either online, or initially at the Local TAFE Campus.

Appointments can be made with the **TAFE Course Counsellor** at each campus to discuss individual course/application enquiries. Applicants must know - in advance - what the **application process** is for each course and when the specific **deadlines** are. ASK or you risk missing out.

TAFE is also an excellent alternative offering a **diverse range of vocationally based courses** which in turn can lead to further vocational &/or university study. In short - good value and a good starting point to make you both qualified and skilled - employable! With further study also an option to build on to your career.

Finally, a balanced Study program in the run up to the exams is highly advisable. Keeping fit and healthy, with adequate sleep and a sensible diet will assist your focus in the weeks ahead. Good luck - I am available in the Library if you have last minute questions.

Cheryl Brown
Careers Adviser
The underlying theme promotes students taking individual responsibility for the choices that they make as drivers.

The "U Turn the Wheel" program is a one-day in-school program delivered to Year 11 students. Young drivers who are just starting their driving experience.

The program reinforces the messages that parents are trying to get their young drivers to heed - that the decisions and actions made by drivers on the road are their responsibility alone, and can often lead to unforeseen and tragic consequences.

Keeping Your L's and P's
Local Highway Patrol Officers discuss the methods and consequences of enforcement.

Are We There Yet?
Youthsafe present an interactive session on managing distractions. The presenters discuss the real-life consequences of being involved in an accident. The main goals in identifying potential in-car distractions and talking about how best to deal with them.

Buying a Safe Used Car
The NSW Roads and Services Roadside Assistance Officers give advice on how to buy a used car and the things to look out for. The session includes a hands-on session which covers hands-on maintenance.

Picking Up the Pieces
NSW Ambulance Service presents on the results of crashes and how driver attitudes affects crash risk. The theme of personal choice is integral. The Paramedics have extensive personal experience at crash scenes and the students are always interested in what causes crashes and how they can be avoided.

Being Fit to Drive
Students learn that there is no "safe" amounts of drugs or alcohol. Includes a how different substances can impair driving ability.

New Driver Survivor
Emphasize the hazards, distractions and risks that challenge safe driving outcomes. Discussion occurs based on the types of decisions made and skills and techniques needed to avoid crashes, within various crash scenarios.