Reflection:... at the College’s Ash Wednesday service students were reminded during this time of Lent of how blessed they are to be living in a part of the world protected from many of the difficulties facing people in war torn countries, and places affected by drought and poverty. Students have been encouraged not only to make a sacrifice this Lent but to give so that the poor and hungry may be supported by their generosity.

He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them: for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.’ (Luke 21:1-4)

Compassionate God,
You bless us with the abundance of your love
and grace us with the gift of your eternal presence.

In this Lenten time give us the wisdom to recognise our poverty
and the compassion to share it’s treasure
with our brothers and sisters.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us.

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

The College’s Opening Mass… was celebrated by Father Tom and Father Julian on 18 February. It was a time for the College community to come together to ask for God’s Blessing on the coming year. Can I thank the parents, ex-students and De La Salle Brothers who attended this celebration. We were also privileged to have the Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools attend and speak to the community of his reflection on the Year of Mercy. At the conclusion of Mass it was also an opportunity to recognise and congratulate the high achievers from the class of 2015.

Parent/Teach Night
This week Year 12 parents were given the opportunity to meet with the teachers to discuss their son/daughter’s progress in their HSC year. Can I encourage parents to check in with their child on a regular basis and if you have any concerns about their progress or well being to contact the College so that we can work together for the betterment of your child.

Year 12 Half Yearly Exams
Year 12 students should now be preparing for their Half Yearly exams which are only three weeks away. The information shared on the Year 12 study skills day should assist your son/daughter in their preparation. Mrs Fraser has also developed a website to assist students with studying. (A link to this website was given to students in pastoral). They are also encouraged to revise using the syllabus dot points, writing practice responses and submitting these responses for feedback, discussing with teachers any areas of identified concerns and how to improve. Many students are to be congratulated on taking a very mature and dedicated approach to their studies. Students should be averaging three hours of work as a minimum per night in the lead up to these half yearly exams.

CONT.

Craig Mooney
from the principal

Supporting your child... below is a checklist with suggestions on how parents in Year 11 and 12 can support their child on their journey to the HSC.

Checklist: How to best support your child during their HSC

- Aim to build a support network of teachers, friends and families around your child for guidance and a helping hand.
- Talk to your child! Keep the lines of communication open at all times (especially during the most stressful).
- Stay informed by attending and speaking to teachers at parent/teacher/information Nights.
- Negotiate your expectations around study, free time and leisure activities. This may require some flexibility on your part.
- Celebrate successes throughout the year. This can be as simple as improving the result in a task or achieving a short-term goal.
- Aim to reduce the family stressors on your child, especially around examination time.
- Be realistic as to what your son/daughter may be able to achieve in the HSC.
- Provide as much practical, loving support as you can!

How Parents Can Best Support Their Child through the HSC
Kathryn Hardcastle (B.Ed, Dip. Transformational Life Coachin, Dip. Holistic Counselling and Life Care)

Craig Mooney
Principal

from the assistant principal

May I remind all students and parents... the College prides itself in providing a safe, friendly and inviting environment for students and staff to enjoy. To this end we continue to ask for your support in encouraging your son’s and daughters to follow our rules and policies around:

- Wearing the uniform correctly while travelling to and from school as well as during the school day. This includes tucking shirts in and wearing belts for the boys and correct length of skirt and white socks worn by the girls as well as all adhering to the correct footwear and appropriate jewellery (check school diary if unsure).

- Students are not allowed to be using their mobile phones during class (unless directed by staff for educational purposes) or they will be confiscated. To encourage appropriate social behaviour we are extending this to recess and lunch (except where necessary) but especially not putting ear phones in or texting, rather than speaking with their friends in the playground.

- We are still very concerned about the volume of traffic with the large number of P Platers we now have travelling to and from school. Parking around the College is congested and care needs to be taken not to park incorrectly. A reminder that no-one is to park in Grosvenor Crescent due to the narrow thoroughfare.

May I take the opportunity to... thank parents for your attendance at the Year 11 Information Night on Wednesday 17th February, and the Year 12 Student/Parent/Teacher interviews on Tuesday 1st March.

YEAR 12
Year 12 Half Yearly Examinations commence in Week 10 on Tuesday 29th March, directly following the Easter break, and conclude on the last day of term 1 in Week 11 on Friday 8th April.

In the lead up to the upcoming half yearly examinations, students need to ensure that they are well aware of the rules governing examinations as outlined in the HSC 2016 Assessment Handbook. Each student was emailed a copy of this in term 4 2015, and a full version can also be found on the college website.

If a student is absent during the examination period it is their responsibility to:

Phone the College on the day of the task on 8522 1500 and leave a message for the Curriculum Coordinator – Mr Tony Ginestra (this is essential).

In cases of illness a medical certificate must be submitted with an Assessment Absence form on the day you return to school. These forms are available from the College website.

In cases of misadventure, appropriate documentation must be submitted with an Assessment Absence form on the day the student returns to school.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN A ZERO FOR THAT TASK.

Michelle Morrison
Assistant Principal
from the curriculum coordinator

Students should already be revising work from Term 4, 2015 as well as consolidating their knowledge and understanding of the topics currently being studied.

Students should continue to adopt any strategies (for example, from the study skills day as well as advice from student/parent/teacher interviews) that they feel will assist them in preparation for their examinations.

Without hesitation,

Term 2 begins on Tuesday 26th April. This first week of term is extremely important for Year 12 students as they will be provided with constructive feedback from their examinations as an essential part of their effective learning. This feedback helps students understand the course being studied and gives them clear guidance on how to improve their learning.

YEAR 11

Year 11 subject changes have now been finalised and all students should be well settled and aware of the expectations and requirements of each of their courses. It is the responsibility of each student who has changed subjects to ensure that any classwork and homework missed is completed and that assessment tasks are also completed.

Year 11 formal assessment tasks are well and truly under way in most courses. Students need to be aware of the rules and procedures governing Assessment, as outlined in the Preliminary 2016 Assessment Handbook. A student version of this handbook was emailed to all Year 11 students in recent weeks. A full version can be found on the college website.

Any issues relating to Assessment tasks need to be addressed with the class teacher and KLA Coordinator in the first instance.

WORK PLACEMENT

Good luck to Year 11 and Year 12 Business Services, Construction and Hospitality students who will undertake their first work placement in Week 9 and/or 11 from Monday 23rd March to Monday 4th April. Work Placement is a compulsory component of all VET courses. Absence from work placement will require students to provide the college with documentation to explain their absence. Alternative arrangements may be required to make up the hours lost due to absence. This may involve making up time in the in school holidays. It is the responsibility of each student on work placement to ensure that any school work missed is completed.

Tony Ginestra
Curriculum

from re coordinator

We are now in our third week of Lent... and as a community we are focusing on ways we can deepen our relationship with God and make an effort to help others in and beyond our community. Each pastoral class is collecting money for Caritas – the Catholic Australian charity that coordinates relief to identified communities within Australia and beyond. On Wednesday 16th March we will celebrate Caritas Community Day, giving students an opportunity to work together to help those in need. That afternoon we will join for a prayer and reflection on Lent, then support our students who have reached the finals in various aspects of performing arts followed by a picnic lunch on the oval. A gold coin will be collected, adding to the accumulation of Caritas contributions.

from the re coordinator

Lasallian Youth Leader training day is scheduled for the 21st March and I commend the many Year 11 students who have expressed an interest and volunteered to take part in the training and take on a leadership role that promotes Lasallian values of community, making a difference in the lives of those at the College and beyond.

On 22nd March we will gather in the College Hall for a reflection and Reconciliation Service in preparation for Easter. During this time the students will have the opportunity to individually receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. I thank Father Tom Carroll and the local priests for supporting our community.

Maree Cullen
Re Coordinator

The Clancy Prize 2016

Sydney Catholic Schools Religious Art Prize

The College has 3 students representing us at this year’s Clancy Prize. This prestigious exhibition at the McGlade Gallery at the Australian Catholic University showcases the best religious art from Catholic Schools across Sydney. Brittany Livingstone and Chris Koustoubardis from the HSC class of 2015 will represent us along with Rachel Johnston from this year's Year 12. Rachel (pictured) has created an icon of St Francis in the style of Italian Renaissance master Benozzo Gozzoli. This year's exhibition theme is inspired by the Canticles of St Francis of Assisi and Rachel has depicted him in a landscape which reflects the bounty of Creation. She has included references to his legendary preaching to the birds and his rebuilding of the Church.

The College has a proud record at the Clancy Prize, winning many major prizes over the last 12 years. A number of our student works have also been exhibited at the Sydney Catholic Schools head office and St. Mary’s Cathedral as result of winning the Prize.

Byron Hurst
Art

from the year 12 coordinator

2016 is well underway for Year 12... many students have begun their study preparation for the upcoming Half Yearly Examinations. Students should aim to study for 3-4 hours each night. This is not excessive as most students are completing HSC courses in 5-6 subjects. Any student requiring help with creating a Study Timetable, stress management or with organisation of study notes are encouraged to make a time to see me for assistance. It is very important that students balance their study time with some type of physical activity, a healthy diet and quality sleep time.

Mr Buchanan and I would like to wish all the students in our care the very best.

Josie Raftery
Year 12 Coordinator
from the Year 11 Coordinator

I’m pleased to report... the Year 11 cohort are now settled into the rigours of Senior School. Dealing with and completing Assessment Tasks is a challenge for many of our students and I encourage you to support your children at home to complete these tasks on time. How much time are they devoting to study? Homework and study are two different things. We suggest they study for two hours, five nights a week throughout Year 11 and three hours in Year 12. If you feel they don’t know how to study, we have plenty of experienced staff to assist. They just have to ask. If they would like to set up a ‘Study Timetable’, I’d be pleased to help.

The Caritas Community Day is coming up on 16th March 2016, where we have a communal lunch and watch our talented musicians perform. Mrs Fuller has been busy with rehearsals and we thank her for her outstanding contributions.

Please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Fuller if you have any concerns.

Peter Geaney
Year 11 Co-ordinator

Lasallian Youth Leadership

“Touching Hearts”
The response that we have received from our newest members of the school community to becoming Lasallian Youth Leaders is extremely heart warming. This is an extremely important leadership role within our school and one where our youth will become the ‘voices of action’ both in the school and in the wider community in raising awareness of social justice issues and actively becoming part of initiatives to increase faith and spirituality in a truly Lasallian way.

Notes have been sent home outlining the details of the training day that will take place on the 21st March at Elouera Surf Club. This day will address what it means to be Lasallian and explore the qualities needed to be a leader.

Any student who is still interested in becoming a Lasallian Youth Leader and have not yet put their name down, are encouraged to see myself or the Lasallian Youth Minister, Holly Johnston.

Brekky Van Training
Last Thursday, myself, Holly Johnston (Lasallian Youth Minister) and Mr Paul Wallis (Lasallian Facilitator) attended an in-service in Lewisham on how to become involved in the Brekky Van initiative run by St Vincent de Paul Society. Brekky Van is an initiative where volunteers provide breakfast for the homeless in Prince Alfred Park near Central Station. Not only does the service provide food but it also gives much needed companionship to those who attend. In this ‘Year of Mercy’ never has it been more important to feed the hungry. Those students who have put their hand up to be Lasallian Youth Leaders will be trained in Brekky Van at their Leadership day. This opportunity will be offered to the whole school community throughout the coming year.

Rachel O’Connor
Lasallian Youth Minister

from Hospitality

YEAR 12 Food Technology... enhanced their classroom learning with an authentic experience at Brasserie Bread on Tuesday 16th February 2016. The students gained valuable insight for the unit they are currently studying, Food Manufacture. They were hands on in creating a bread plait and then used an authentic sourdough as the base for individual scrolls, which they were then able to take home. After a tour of the bakery facilities students were able to ask questions of the bakers to assist in completing their assessment task, including production methods, raw materials and HACCP specifications.

Mrs Chidzey
Food Technology Teacher

World Youth Day... the finalisation of details for World Youth Day are quickly approaching. Itineraries and newsletters have been distributed and the air of excitement is increasing. This is an important time as a school community to support those students who are traveling to World Youth Day. Throughout the next few months, there will be opportunities for final fundraising to help these pilgrims on their way. The students themselves will have various opportunities to meet their Pilgrim Group Leader, the bus Youth Ambassador and also the bus Chaplain. Students are required to partake in 3 sessions of faith formation to help prepare them for the trip. The dates for these sessions are yet to be confirmed and will be announced as soon as possible.

Upcoming dates
14 March 2016 confirmation of final details for WYD pilgrims. (document will be sent home shortly)
21 March 2016 Lasallian Training Day, Elouera Surf Club 8:45 start.
21 March 2016 Combined faith formation for WYD pilgrims.
De La Salle Cronulla 4:00pm - 6:00pm (to be confirmed)

Rachel O’Connor
Youth Minister
On Friday 19 February 2016... the De La Salle Tennis Team including Jeremy Hall, James Vincent, Matteo Dal Vera, Kai Pfrengle and Bradley Slee competed in the first round of the NSW CCC Tennis Tournament. Due to an unfortunate draw allocation, the boys were up against one of the top teams from the previous year, Aquinas College. The two doubles games were nail biters with Matteo and Kai too strong for their opponents while Jeremy and James played some excellent shots but just fell short of victory. Unfortunately, the boys were outclassed in the four singles games and therefore losing 5-1. The girls’ team won on forfeit and will play the winner of St Patricks, Sutherland and St John Bosco.

A belated welcome... to our not so new Year 11 students and welcome back to Year 12 students who are already immersed in their HSC studies - no need to remind you - it's a very 'short' year.

For new students - the careers noticeboard, racks of Course Guides etc, and the careers office itself are located in the corner of the school Library. Keep an eye out for study and career pathway information which will be available here for you to look at. I am available in the Library to discuss these with students &/or their Parents.

Current Year 12 students should by now be beginning to investigate possible post HSC study/work options for themselves. You can do this by looking at the hard copy material available - going online to the websites of TAFE, individual Universities, Private Colleges, etc., and also investigating individual businesses within the Industry of interest. RESEARCH is the key to making good choices - whether it is:

Which Course (how and when to apply)
Where you might do these kinds of courses (identifying your preferences)
Employment (including Apprenticeships/Cadetships/Traineeships where you can ‘earn while you learn’)

Open Days are on offer at many of the various Educational Institutions, these are well worth attending to assist your enquiries too.

Note: the ‘Job Guide’ website is no longer Online. Instead, this very useful tool can be accessed via www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au (by clicking the ‘Careers’ tab).

This is a really good way to start comparing ‘jobs’ - what they are, training required and contacts. An excellent starting point for everyone. There is a hard copy available in the Library.

Upcoming Events:

Tertiary (Information) Day 2016 - Excursion for Year 12 students - well worth attending if you are considering study at University after your HSC. This information ‘market’ opportunity is run annually by Careers Advisers in the Shire and provides an opportunity for our students to speak directly with representatives from many of the major Universities (and some other tertiary institutions) offering courses. It will be held in the first week of Term 2 - and numbers will be limited - for booking information, watch the Careers Noticeboard and Daily Notices.

Commercial Pilot Careers Information Seminar, 6pm Thurs. 10/3/16, Sydney go to www.professionalpilottraining.com.au for details.


Australian Defence Force Careers Information Session, Wed 16/3/16 Wollongong to rsvp email: cptwollongong@dfr.com.au

Study in USA Fair, 10/3/16, 5-7pm Redlands School, parents welcome to rsvp go to www.trybooking.com/KJVA

There are plenty of possibilities for both study and work - but you have to start researching, so many opportunities. Come and see me to discuss your ideas and possible options.

Ms. Brown
Careers
THREE COLLEGES – ONE TEAM

Experience education at its best!

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic College Burraneer
(YEARS 7-10 GIRLS)
82-86 Dominic Street, Cronulla NSW 2230
(02) 9544 1966
E: info@olmburraneer.catholic.edu.au
W: www.olmburraneer.catholic.edu.au

De La Salle Catholic College Caringbah
(YEARS 7-10, BOYS)
399 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah NSW 2229
(02) 9524 9139
E: info@dlscaringbah.catholic.edu.au
W: www.dlscaingbah.catholic.edu.au

OPEN DAY
Please join our Principal Mr Christopher Agnew and staff and take a comprehensive tour of our College and experience boys’ education in the 21st century.
WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 6.00PM–8.00PM

De La Salle Catholic College Cronulla
(YEARS 11-12, CO-EDUCATIONAL)
2 Cross Road, Cronulla NSW 2230 (02) 8322 1500
E: info@dlscronulla.catholic.edu.au
W: www.dlsacronulla.catholic.edu.au

SPECIALIST GIRLS’ EDUCATION 7–10

SPECIALIST BOYS’ EDUCATION 7–10

INFORMATION NIGHT
Please join our Principal Mr Craig Mooney and staff for an Information night for prospective students and parents for Year 11, 2017 in Carmody Hall
TUESDAY 3 MAY 7.00PM–8.00PM

FOCUS ON HSC SUCCESS AND STUDENT WELLBEING

Visit the Catholic Secondary Colleges in the Eastern Shire