



From the Principal . . .

God our Father,

in saying that you have written our names on the palm of your hands, you are telling us that each person is unique and special to you.

We pray that individuals may discover in themselves the treasures that you have given them, and develop and put to good use the qualities they hold in trust from you.

I pray and commit myself today to promote goodness and happiness, by treating others with respect and care and understanding.

May others treat me in the same way I treat them, and so may we all bring out the best in one another and grow in the way we look at ourselves and others.

Amen.

Most of us will encounter rough patches at some time in our lives. It might be that we are dragging ourselves through the last month of winter or that we're a little unhappy with the direction that life is taking us. We might have started the term positive and with clear goals but are still a long way from achieving them. Relationships with friends or family might be a little fractious because those around us are tired and stressed. There are expectations (our own and those of others) that we're not meeting. At times it feels that we have the weight of the world on our shoulders. Sometimes when we're going through a rough patch we take it out on those around us, both at home and at school.

The other day I came across a scrap of paper with a checklist someone wrote for getting through a rough patch in life. It comes from an unknown source but provides interesting 'food for thought'. The questions give some perspective and provide a lovely balance between thinking about 'me' and thinking about others.

1. Who can I help today?
2. What am I grateful for today?
3. Do I make time for prayer each day, maybe just to sit still with God or to say 'Hello God'?
4. Do I make time for regular exercise?
5. Am I eating some good food?
6. What am I looking forward to?
7. When did I last smile or have a good laugh?

SACCSS Interschool Chess

Congratulations to both our junior and intermediate chess teams who represented the College at the recent interschool tournament at Emmanuel College in Point Cook. The junior team finished 4th overall and the intermediate team was in 9th place. This is a terrific effort. We're very proud of the whole team who represented our school so well. Well done to all the students involved and to Tim

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Luong, their coach. Thank you to both Andrea Leury and Claire Lawang for their support of the team.

Chess is becoming a very important co-curricular activity at the school. Tim, one of our former students, runs Chess Club every Friday. His passion for the game is infectious and a great experience for the 20 or so students involved.

Round 2 of the Interhouse Chess tournament begins today. At this early stage in the competition all Houses are very evenly matched and we wish all competitors well.

A big day out at Tournament of Minds (TOM)!

Congratulations to the 40 students (5 teams) from all year levels who represented the College in Tournament of Minds (TOM) on Sunday. They performed exceptionally well in all categories and we're certainly very proud of them. Students spent many hours perfecting their solutions to the long term problem and honing their skills for the spontaneous challenge.

It's been interesting to watch our evolution as a TOM school. Over the years, students have grown in confidence, both as creative thinkers, as team players and as performers. It was great to catch up with one of our former students, Minh Pham, who is now a TOM judge.

On behalf of the TOM students and the school community I'd like to thank Elaine Apostolopoulos and Vanessa Musco (Year 10 2011) for all their work in preparing students for TOM. Vanessa is now at Uni and has been very generous with the time that she's given to our teams. Their time, enthusiasm and mentoring has been an invaluable support to the teams. We also appreciate the work of Sophie Salibi, Jessica Nguyen and Luke Scerri, both in the lead up and on the day.

Thank you to our cheer squad of past students, staff and families who were at Latrobe early on Sunday morning to support our teams.

Year 10 Students

The last six weeks have been a significant time for Year 10 students. They've had work experience, the Year 10 Social and have been busy making decisions about their course selections for Years 11 and 12. The stories of how they, as a group, have approached each task have been impressive. Well done to all involved.

A very big thankyou to Vince Iannuzzi (Year 10 Level Leader), Jacinta Dykes (Careers) and Year 10 teachers

who have supported the students. Lastly, thank you also to all families who have supported their children so well throughout this time. Your support was very much appreciated.

It's important that now all decisions about 2015 and beyond have been made, students focus on the present; particularly their Year 10 studies. Too often thinking about the future can be unsettling, and some students lose the routines and good habits that they've developed around study. They become too casual and do not apply themselves as well as they have in the past. **In many ways the only thing that you can do about the future is to do your absolute best in the present.**

An observation about reading.....

Over the past few weeks a number of Year 9 students have applied to include a VCE or VET subject in Year 10. In considering applications we look at a range of data including students' mid-year report, exam results, Pat Reading and Maths results, study habits, effort and behaviour, and discuss these with students.

One observation that has arisen out of these discussions is that many Year 9 students read very little beyond the minimum they need to do for class. Some have reasonable skills but do little to stretch and improve their reading whilst others have poor skills and avoid reading altogether. Both are a concern. Once you have the basics, reading is like a muscle, it will only improve if you practice, that is, if you actually read! Students need to read broadly and to challenge themselves with increasingly complex material. There are no easy options when it comes to reading.

Students might be surprised at the impact of swapping just 30 minutes a day of screen time for reading time.

Author in Residence

Throughout this year Myke Bartlett has been an author in residence at the College. He has been working with a group of keen writers to develop a story for publication as part of the Shared Stories project. Previously Myke has worked with the students as a whole group but he's been at the College each day this week to assist students with their story individually. We look forward to reading their final pieces in the next few weeks.

Year 9 Community Engagement Fundraising

Families with Year 9 students will know that the focus of the Trinity program this term is on community engagement. Each class has 'adopted' a different community group. As well as visiting and assisting their group in a very practical way, students have organised a series of mini fundraisers for their organisation. This culminates with a Fun Run and lunch with community partners next Tuesday. Well done to the Year 9 students and staff for the effort and energy they have put into this work.

Newsletter

The newsletter is published fortnightly and distributed on **Day 10 (Friday Week 2)**. Students will have a chance to read it before placing it in their diary to be taken home to parents that evening.

Newsletter Days for Term 3 2014:

Fri 5th September, Fri 19th September

The newsletter can also be accessed on Friday morning (Day 10) on the College website at:

<http://www.crcstalbans.catholic.edu.au>

Applications for Year 7 2015

Enrolments are now being taken for Year 7 2015. Application forms and College Information packs can be obtained from the front office at any time. The application form can also be downloaded from the College website at www.crcstalbans.catholic.edu.au.

Since our last newsletter.....

Over and above the day to day activities of the school since our last newsletter students, families and staff have participated in the following:

Year 9 Premier League

Track and Field try outs

Year 9 Community Service

Author in Residence program

Tree planting project

Year 8 Rotations

Year 9 Media Sci-Fi film making

Loaves and Fishes Food Bank

Interschool Chess competition

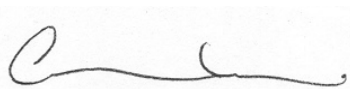
Year 8 Maths Games Day

Year 10 course planning day

Tournament of Minds

Year 10 Ski Trip (Outdoor Education)

I am sure that students and their families are very appreciative of all these opportunities and the time and energy that staff put into organising and offering these experiences.



CHRISTINA UTRI
PRINCIPAL



Questions for thought

Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

Greg Sunter

Q. How would you answer Jesus' question, 'Who do you say I am?'

Wednesday Morning Mass Roster

Thank you to 7Yarra and 7 Wimmera for leading us in mass on Wednesday 20th August. It is so nice to see so many students and staff at mass on Wednesday. We invite everyone to come along every Wednesday at 8:30am

TERM 3

27th August	Sacred Heart
3rd September	CRC 10 Little - MGN
10th September	Sacred Heart
17th September	CRC Year 8 Level Mass – TMD and 8 RE Teachers

Reflecting on the Gospel

Mt 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Jesus on the corner!



On Wednesday 30th it was 7 Snowy's turn to lead mass. Father O'Reilly mentioned that the statue of Jesus was vandalised and that the church community was contributing to the refurbishment of the statue. Because he mentioned it in our mass, Ms

Calafiore and 7 Snowy knew they wanted to help. Father O'Reilly spoke about the history of the statue and how it soon became a landmark here in St Albans. "People would organise to meet Jesus on the corner". Many years ago the parish decided to have the statue as a dedication of their faith and love of Jesus. We gathered as much money as we

could and donated the money to the repair of the statue. We all hope to be part of the future of this icon and landmark. Kenny, Martin and Princess presented the donation to Father O'Reilly who was very pleased with our thoughts and kindness. We raised \$72 towards the statue repair.

- *Kenny Elliot and Martin Nguyen*



family Matters

KEY DATES 2014

Please mark these important college dates in your diary.

TERM 3

Tuesday 26th August:
 Year 10 Reflection Day
 Year 7 Zoo excursions
 Year 9 Fun Run

Tuesday 9th September:
 Year 10 VET Dance night

Tuesday 16th September:
 Interschool Track and Field.

Wed 17th – Friday 19th September:
 Year 9 Camp

Friday 19th September:
 Last Day of Term 3
 Normal finish time : 3:05pm

SACCSS Chess Competition

Last Friday the school chess team played in the SACCSS Chess competition at Emmanuel College in Point Cook. The students took part in a lot of training in the lead up to the competition and this showed in their participation on the day. Congratulations to the junior team on finishing in 4th place and the intermediate team finishing in 9th place. Thank you to Miss Lawang for taking the students on this day and **Tim Luong**, a past student of CRC St Albans, for coaching the team.



CHINA TRIP

A reminder to students taking part in the trip to China; payments are now overdue and need to be finalised as soon as possible.

祝你在中國旅行愉快

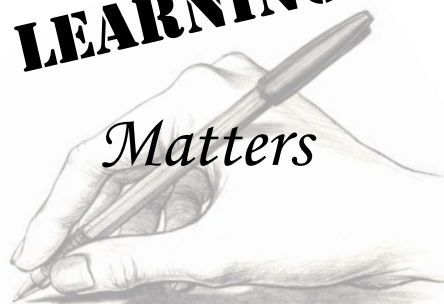
Someone Once Said . . .

“Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up every time we fail.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

LEARNING

Matters



Maths Quiz

A solid, four-inch cube of wood is coated with blue paint on all six sides.

Then the cube is cut into smaller one-inch cubes.

These new one-inch cubes will have either three blue sides, two blue sides, one blue side, or no blue sides.

How many of each will there be?

English Quiz

Rearrange the letters of the word *partisan* to form the single anagram of that word.

Science Fun Quiz

If a cork is put into a glass of water, the cork will almost always drift to the side of the glass. **There is one simple way, however, to get the cork to float in the center of the glass** (the horizontal center, not the vertical). **What is it?** Water, the glass, and the cork are all that is required.



Sounds of a lot of fun could be heard on the night of the Year 10 Social with the non-stop line to the Photo Booth, a sparkling, colourful, 'smoke' filled dancefloor and wonderful evening attire. The night was supported by a large number of staff and Year 10's had a memorable time, as the above photos show.

Year 10 Social 2014



Marian College Sunshine West **COMBINED REUNION**

Former Marian College students who graduated in years 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994 and 2004 are invited to attend a combined reunion gathering. This event will involve a viewing of the art exhibition, tour of the college and afternoon tea.

Please join us in the gymnasium (followed by a tour of the college) on:
Saturday 22 November 2014
3:00 - 6:00 pm

You are also encouraged to 'spread the word'.
Enquiries to Julie Heaney (Tues or Wed) or RSVP: jheaney@mariansw.catholic.edu.au / tel: 9363 1711