Principal’s Message

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of St Joseph’s College,

Welcome to Week 9 of Term 2. As part of the College’s reputation as a school of excellence in the arts, we feature two of our talented artists this week. Enjoy!!

Student Excellence – Ruben Stokes (Year 8): Reuben prepared the cover for the Year 8 Retreat Day, and he is featured on page 6 of this newsletter along with his moving sketch. After he thought about what the retreat was trying to achieve, he then drew a detailed sketch to capture the spirit of the retreat. Take a close look at and admire the detailed work of his sketch. See the people around the outside edge - all sizes and shapes, standing in a circle which is our world, the globe. Each continent is represented. Jesus is the large prominent figure holding us in right relationships with each other. ‘Right relationships’ is the true meaning of justice, the achieving of which produces peace as its fruit. Thank you Reuben for using your gifts to inspire us!

A full report will appear next week of the Year 8 Retreat.

Student Excellence – Alexandra Condon (Year 11): Congratulations to Alexandra Condon of Year 11 who has been accepted into the National Art School located in Sydney. Alexandra will participate in the intensive studio practice course during the July and October school holidays. Her work will form part of an exhibition that will showcase the applicants work on 17 October.

In order to be accepted into the course applicants must be achieving excellence in their visual arts course at school. She is one of a small select number of students from around the state to be accepted into this course. Alexandra is to be highly commended for her dedication to the Visual Arts and application to her art making.

The National Art School is the oldest art school in Australia, with a rich tradition of art practice and highly significant alumni. The course is a HSC board endorsed course and aims to extend the students technically, conceptually and intellectually within their Visual arts practice in a post-school setting.

Alexandra will be working in the specialised discipline of sculptor. She will have the opportunity to work with the direction of practicing artists. We congratulate her on this outstanding achievement and look forward to seeing the results.

Year 11 Reports have been posted, along with a letter inviting families to attend interviews regarding the progress of their son(s) and daughter(s), and a request to find some time to attend one of the ‘Principal’s Conversation’ timeslots.

Blessings for the week.

Alain Sauvage
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S NOTES**

**STUDENT ILLNESSES**

We are starting to see an increase in student absences with so many contagious viruses and the worry of the swine flu pandemic.

While we encourage good attendance at school, should your child be sick with an infectious or contagious illness, please do not send your child in to school.

The NSW Health website offers the best advice with regards to Swine Flu, and the fact sheet (http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp) is updated on a regular basis, offering the latest information.

**YEAR 11 SEMESTER 1 REPORTS**

Due to a computer ‘glitch’ in the report programme, the Year 11 Semester 1 reports went out with an incorrect date for the Parent / Teacher / Student evening. Please note this should read as Tuesday 30 June and accept my apologies for the error.

**YEARS 7-10 PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT MEETINGS**

Please note the following change to the College calendar for upcoming parent/teacher/student meetings. Originally we had set evening dates for each year group, however, we are now holding a single day for all students and their parents in Years 7-10, on Monday 10 August (Week 3, Term 3). A booking sheet for appointments is provided in your child’s College Planner.

**YEARS 7-10 SEMESTER 1 REPORTS**

Accordingly, the Semester 1 reports for students in Years 7-10 will now be posted on the last day of this term, Friday 10 July 2009.

**COMING EVENTS**

This week’s events are on the front page of today’s newsletter.

This Information is updated as new events arise, so please always refer to the latest Newsletter on the College website for the most up-to-date information.

**WEEK 10**

- Monday 29 June ...................................(Day 1)
  - Sports Teams Photo Day
- Tuesday 30 June ...................................(Day 2)
  - Diocesan Open Soccer KD Competition
  - Year 11 Parent/Teacher/Student Evening
- Friday 3 July .........................................(Day 5)
  - Year 12 ‘So You Want to Study Medicine’ Day (selected students)
  - World of Maths Day
  - Diocesan Surfing Competition
  - Year 9 Food Technology Incursion

**WEEK 11**

- Monday 6 July ......................................(Day 6)
  - Year 9 Food Technology Incursion
- Wednesday 8 July ...................................(Day 9)
  - Tweed Valley Finals
- Thursday 9 July .....................................(Day 8)
  - Year 12 HSC Science Day (12BIO & 12SCC students)

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**Weekend Mass Times**

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<td>9:00am (Kingscliff)</td>
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- Fr Michael Brady
- Parish Priest
- Fr Jim Griffin
- Parish Priest

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**CATHOLIC RETURNING HOME**

- Were you raised a Catholic but do not come or seldom come to Church anymore?
- Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from your Church?
- Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today?
- Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again?
- Would you like to help your children, grandchildren, nephews or nieces in their preparation for receiving the Sacraments?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter what reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church, through a welcoming and informative six week series that begins soon.

For more information, call the Parish Office on (07) 5536.7522.

**PARISH YOUTH MASS**

Our Next Youth Mass will be held this Sunday, 28 June in the Holy Family Chapel, St Joseph’s College, Doyle Drive, Banora Point commencing at 5:30pm

Youth Mass Dates for the remainder of 2009 are as follows:

- **TERM 2:**
  - Term 2 school holidays: 26 July
- **TERM 3:**
  - Wk 5 - 30 August and Wk 6 - 27 September
- **TERM 4:**
  - Wk 1 - 25 October and Wk 6: 29 November

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**Do you know the meaning of this word?**

**Friend:** (n.) a person known well to another and regarded with liking, affection, and loyalty; an acquaintance or associate; an ally in a fight or cause; a fellow member of a party, society, etc.; a patron or supporter.

**Friendly:** (adj.) showing or expressing liking, goodwill or trust; on the same side; not hostile; tending or disposed to help or support.

**Are you a good friend? Are you a friendly person? How would your friends describe you? What about someone who just met you?**

“Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies.” ~ Aristotle

“There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.” ~ Saint Thomas Aquinas

“An insincere and evil friend is more to be feared than a wild beast; a wild beast may wound your body, but an evil friend will wound your mind.” ~ Buddha
YEAR 12 NEWS

2009 TALENT QUEST FINALS
On Friday 5 June, Year 12 hosted the Talent Quest Grand Finale. This event would not have turned out to be such a success if it were not for the contributions and support of the College community.

This year we had 26 outstanding acts ranging from band, solo, duos, piano pieces and skits. The talent of St Joseph’s College community shone through and was revealed to the enthusiastic audience. On behalf of Year 12, we would like to congratulate each act for their spectacular performances, especially the winners on the night:

Band: Matthew Lesslie Thomas Monaghan Finn Davoren Nicholas Leighton
Solo: Patricia Edwick
Piano: Liam Kirk

On behalf of Year 12, a large thank you goes out to everyone who gave up their time to make the evening such a success: our music teachers, the sound technicians, the performers, the judges, the Year 12 volunteers, the supportive audience, Jasmine Farrelly and our presenters - Jacob Bush and Luke Wheatley - and last but not least Mr Rowland. The evening would not have gone ahead without all of you.

Daniella de Azevedo
College Captain

HELP WANTED with the BBQ on Reflection Days – Week 1, Term 3

Years 7 to 10 will be attending Reflection Days in the first week of next Term (Tuesday 28 to 31 July).

We are seeking assistance from parents and carers to help with the BBQ lunch to be held each day at the Salvation Army Centre.

If anyone can offer any assistance, would they please contact their child’s Year Coordinator.

Many thanks.

Here are just a few snaps - visit the College website to catch some more...

ENGLISH NEWS

On Saturday 13 June, 53 Year 12 students travelled to Lismore for an English HSC Study Day, where composers and experts in various texts presented their views on, and knowledge of, texts our students are studying.

All students gained something from the day; many received affirmation that their method of study is sound, while all came away with different perspectives to consider.

Thank you to Ms Vella for travelling to Lismore to support her students; and a very special thank you to Mr Connolly who drove the bus which allowed students without private transport to attend.

Mrs Janet Crouch
English Coordinator

On behalf of Year 12, a large thank you goes out to everyone who gave up their time to make the evening such a success: our music teachers, the sound technicians, the performers, the judges, the Year 12 volunteers, the supportive audience, Jasmine Farrelly and our presenters - Jacob Bush and Luke Wheatley - and last but not least Mr Rowland. The evening would not have gone ahead without all of you.

Daniella de Azevedo
College Captain

2009 Talent Quest Finals
The “Eco Warriors” group met last week to discuss world environmental issues that can be tackled at our own ‘local’ level, in our College community. One of the items that came up was the (not-so) humble plastic bag . . . and what damage it’s doing to our world . . .

Many plastic bags end up in the ocean and the effect on wildlife is catastrophic. Nearly 200 species of sea life, including whales, dolphins, seals and turtles die due to plastic bags. They die after eating plastic bags which they mistake for food.

The following information was gleaned from various websites dealing with the dumping of plastics in the ocean (scary stuff):

**Scientist to explore**

"plastic vortex" in the Pacific

**Plastic Trash Vortex Menaces Pacific Sea life**

Mon May 25 2009: 

**Voyage to the centre of the ‘Plastic Vortex’**

A group of conservationists and scientists is due to set sail for an obscure corner of the Pacific Ocean in the coming months to explore a vast swirl of waste known as the “Plastic Vortex.”

The giant gloop - which some scientists estimate is twice the size of Texas - has been gradually building over the last 60 years as Asia and the United States tossed their unwanted goods into the ocean. Everything from flip-flops to plastic bags have been slowly broken down by the sun’s rays into small particles, and ocean tides have meant much of it has settled in a spiralling pattern just below the ocean surface between Hawaii and the mainland United States.

After only coming to scientific attention in recent years, little remains known about the vortex, also known as the ‘Eastern Garbage Patch’, so the expedition hopes to find out if the plastic can be fished out of the sea - and what can be done with it.

Jim Dufour, a senior engineer at Scripps Institute of Oceanography in California, who is advising the trip, said establishing the extent of the problem was vital for the future health of the oceans. “Importance is an understatement, its imperative. It will take many years to understand and fix the problem,” he told AFP.

The United Nations Environment Programme says around 13,000 pieces of plastic litter are found in every square kilometre of sea, but the problem is worst in five ocean gyres, or spiralling ocean currents, the worst of which is in the North Pacific. The plastic has become so small most of it cannot be seen by satellite pictures, but the volume means the poisonous soup is being unknowingly vacuumed up by marine life and birds, and much of it is heavy with toxic chemicals, organisers of the trip say.

That means the little piece of plastic the fish eats is actually a little toxic bomb,” said Doug Woodring, an entrepreneur and conservationist who lives in Hong Kong and will lead the expedition. As a result, a lot of the toxins could be getting into the human food chain. Woodring said the location of the swirl - more than 500 nautical miles from the west coast of the United States - meant it remains a mystery for scientists. “It is like going to outer space,” he told AFP.

The 50-day voyage will head from San Francisco to Hawaii and back, passing through the vortex twice. It will be led by a 150-foot-tall (45-metre-tall) ship, the “Kaisei” - which means Ocean Planet in Japanese. Accompanying will be a fishing trawler, which will be trying out techniques to catch the waste without destroying too much marine life.

“You have to have netting that is small enough to catch a lot but big enough to let plankton go through it,” said Woodring. Ocean scientists and a documentary crew will be on the trip, which also hopes to examine whether the waste can be recycled or even used to create fuel. The mission -- which is still looking for funding to meet its two million US dollar budget -- has received the backing of the United Nations Environment Programme and sponsorship from water company Brita.

But the swirl’s location in international waters meant it was difficult to get any government support to clean it up. “There is no jurisdiction, no government who is entirely responsible, so there has been no push to clean it up. The world doesn’t know it is out there,” said Woodring.

Several other trips have either made or planned journeys to the vortex, but Dufour says this will be the most scientific-focused venture. “It will be the first scientific endeavour studying sea surface pollutants, impact to organisms at intermediate depths, bottom sediments, and the impacts to organisms caused by the leaching of chemical constituents in discarded plastic,” he said.

But for everyone involved in the project, the phenomenon only highlights the wider issue of reducing waste. “The real fix is back on land. We need to provide the means, globally, to care for our disposable waste,” said Dufour.

**“THE IMPOSSIBLE MISSIONS ARE THE ONLY ONES WHICH SUCCEED.”**

-JACQUES COUSTEAU

So, how can you help? Use cloth bags - this will save, on average, six bags per person per week. Dispose of plastic bags or plastics that you do have in the correct manner - even better; get used to not using them at all! GET DRASTIC - SAY NO TO PLASTIC! . . .

Ms Gail Berry
Science Teacher

*Question: How many zeros are in a trillion?*

**Answer:** Wikipedia offers two answers: The standard answer is that there are twelve zeros in one trillion. i.e. 1 Trillion = 1,000,000,000,000. The other answer says, ‘It depends’ - A trillion in English-speaking countries, such as the United States: there are twelve zeroes (1,000,000,000,000). A trillion in other countries: eighteen zeroes (1,000,000,000,000,000,000). Either way, you do the sums!

Watch out for more startling facts in the coming weeks from the…
SPORTS NEWS

ANNUAL COLLEGE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
This Friday, 26 June

The College’s Annual Athletics Carnival will be held this coming Friday, 26 June 2009.

A REMINDER THAT THIS IS A COMPELLARY EVENT IN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please note that there will be plenty of events for ALL students to take part in on the day.

Support your house teams and proudly wear your colours for Dalton (Blue), Hanly (Yellow), Hoade (Green) and Reynolds (Red), but just remember to dress appropriately on the day!

Tweed Valley Sports Results - Round 4: Wednesday 17 June

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<th>Male Sports</th>
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<td>Brody Goldberg</td>
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<td>Byron Potts</td>
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Mr Peter McLaughlin
Sports Coordinator

ON THE FIELD WITH NICK AND NICK:

Super Strikers Blitz Banora

Joey’s Open Soccer team was led to the victory over Banora Point High School by fill-in ‘Super Coach’, Mr Connolly.

The girls, led by star strikers, Penny McDonald and Ailish Roach, scored 3 goals between them.

Backed by some excellent defence from Caitlin McGibbon-Goode and Sascha Webb, the team put in a rock solid performance.

If this form continues, there only one man to thank, Mr Connolly. Look out for us in the finals!

Nick & Nick

Tweed Valley Competition - more snaps

SPORT: Sport is an important part of the school and students are expected to attend sport each week.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

The nominated student is required to present herself to the College Principal before Friday of this week.

If this student does, she will receive a voucher to the value of $5.00 for purchases at the Canteen.

Could this be a picture of you?

The nominated student is required to present herself to the College Principal before Friday of this week.

If this student does, she will receive a voucher to the value of $5.00 for purchases at the Canteen.

KEEP WATCHING THIS SPACE - THE NEXT TIME IT COULD BE YOU!

Student Council

TERM 2 CONCLUDES ON FRIDAY 10 JULY 2009

Artist of the Week

Artist of the Week:
Ruben Stokes,
Year 8
Visual Arts

Year 8 have been working on self portraits and have just completed them. Ruben has created a fantastic self portrait. He has also been working on many of his own drawings outside of class, as well as poster designs for various events in the school. Ruben has developed his own creative style that encompasses caricatures of people he knows, as well as famous people. It’s a delight to see such dedication to the Visual Arts. Congratulations on a fantastic job and keep the good work coming!

Ms Jenna-Lee Mepstead
Visual Arts Teacher

EXPLORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM!

Learn all about student exchange, WEP Australia and the 2009/2010 exchange programs available at one of WEP’s information sessions in Sydney this winter.

Information evening: Student Exchange, 8 July & 19 August, 7.30 - 9.00pm
Bowlers Club of NSW, 95-99 York Street Sydney

Students can choose from over 20 countries to live and study with the support of a host family, school and community. Explore new opportunities beyond the classroom!

“Don’t hesitate if you’re thinking of a student exchange program. Take the challenge and experience something exciting and different.”
- Charlie Rendell, year program to Belgium

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments.
Helping Your Anxious Child

- Does your child fear being separated from you?
- Does your child worry about sleeping on their own?
- Does your child express fear about attending school?
- Does your child constantly worry about things?
- Does your child worry what other people think of them?

Childhood anxiety is becoming more common, and if you have a child who experiences anxiety, it can be challenging and stressful for parents.

Parents and carers are invited to attend an information session which provides parents with information on:
- What is anxiety;
- What are the different types of childhood anxiety disorders;
- How to identify anxiety in your child; and
- How to help and support your anxious child.

Presenter: Dr. Karen Plant
Clinical Psychologist

Date: Monday, 29 June, 2009

Time: 6.30-8.30pm

Venue: St. Joseph's Primary School
Tweed Heads

RSVP: 55362519 by Friday, 26 June
(Supper provided)
Helping young people make smart decisions

Decision-making like anything requires practice.

The difficulty for most parents is knowing when to make decisions for young people and when to stand back and allow them to decide. Decision-making can be broken into three areas:

1. **Parents Rule:** these are decisions where there is no negotiation. E.g. going to school, bedtime

2. **Work it out together:** these are areas where you and your child negotiate outcomes. E.g. when to come home from an outing, TV programs

3. **Kids Decide:** give your children full authority in some areas. E.g. choose the sport they play, school activities

As young people grow and show the ability to make sensible decisions allow them more authority over their lives. Increasing independence involves greater freedom to choose, which demonstrates trust and faith in their ability to make good decisions. It also promotes confidence in children and young people.

Increased choice needs to accompany increased responsibility. If young people choose their clothing then it makes sense that they can take more responsibility for buying and maintaining their clothing. With increased independence must come greater responsibility.

Young people often can’t see the long-term consequences of their decisions so it helps to give them information to help them make smart choices. Information about alcohol, sexuality and relationships will help young people make sensible decisions about these areas that often present dilemmas.

All decisions that young people make have a consequence – whether positive or negative. A young person can use the following three questions to help him or herself assess the consequences of a decision they may make:

Is this behaviour safe for me?

Is this behaviour fair to others?

Is this behaviour smart and in my long-term best interests?

Decision-making is hard work for parents as we are always treading a fine line between being too protective and allowing young people more independence. If young people are to learn how to make smart choices adults need to equip them with knowledge and skills as well as opportunities to do so.

Talking Point

A question to ponder and discuss with your young person:

What decisions do you currently make that your young person can make for himself or herself?

Bright idea

Don’t interrupt them when talking

There are times when teenagers will open up and tell you everything you want to know about…everything you want to know. When this happens one part of you may think, "Enough! That's too much information." But don’t say a word. Just listen. Parents can close down communication easily when they become judgmental or just don’t want to hear when an adolescent is willing to talk.

Did You Know?

Young people are more likely to go to mothers rather than fathers with personal problems.

Young people believe parents favour a sibling over another when discipline occurs.

Rural parents are more likely to believe their children are sexually active than city dwelling parents.

What is the biggest single consumer market in the world?

a) 20-30 year old single males
b) 13-19 year old females
c) 13-19 year old males
d) 20-30 year old single females

Answer b) 13-19 year old girls who spend their money on consumer goods and entertainment

"Anyone who can perform at their best every single time hasn’t much of a best."

Kimberly Burton