Dear families,

It is a great privilege to be able to undertake the position of Acting Principal while Stephen is on leave. Stephen’s journey along the footsteps of St Paul is an important one as he will gain a new insight into St Paul’s incredible faith journey. My reflection upon the faith journey that each of us takes began last week when my niece received First Eucharist. The Parish Priest talked to the children about the significance of this sacrament in their faith journey. He stressed that this was the beginning of the next part of their journey where they would learn more about themselves and God through their participation in Eucharistic celebrations. The children were all so excited to be part of the Church community enthusiastically carrying out their particular ‘jobs’ throughout the Mass.

Community enthusiasm is easy to see at the College as we work with the girls, not just in Religion and Pastoral classes, but across all aspects of school life on what it means to be Catholic. So many of our students are willing to give of their time to assist with our community days and JJAMM afternoon was a wonderful example. Under the leadership of the Leaders of House each Pastoral Class was responsible for running a stall offering food, games, beauty etc, and so, with their teachers there to help, a myriad of food vendors and activities continued throughout the afternoon. The girls left for the buses with faces painted, henna decorated hands, polished nails and having experienced a variety of ‘Minute to Win It’ games. It is often easy to simply give a gold coin (no matter what your age) but our girls did so much more than that, and they are to be commended. The funds raised will go to the Warmun Indigenous Community in Western Australia that a group of our Year 11 students will visit from Sunday 16th June to Monday 1st July.

It is always humbling as a school leader to be part of a school community where both staff and students are so willing to help others. Our community is a wonderful example of one that actually “walks the walk” and lives by our mantras of ‘Act Justly’ and ‘never see a need without doing something about it’”. There will be other opportunities as we enter the second part of the year for the girls to be involved in a variety of activities to benefit themselves, the College and those in the community that are less fortunate. We all work together for as St Paul said we are “all one in Jesus Christ” (Galatians 3:28).

On a very different note the staff began working with Newcastle University this week regarding the Innovative Teaching Project that we are undertaking. Our Staff Development Day was very successful and we all came away energised and enthusiastic to begin. Thank you to all those families that returned the Student Consent Forms. The next step will be to provide those students that have agreed to be involved information regarding the online survey that they will complete. We are working on the most effective method for the girls to complete the survey and so further information will go home later. Some families have also consented to allow their daughters to be part of the focus interview groups and we are hoping to have those completed by the end of term. Once we have negotiated dates with the University we will also send information home. If you have any questions please contact either Kathy West or me at the College.
Finally surveys for my Contract Renewal should be received by a random sample of parents this week however if you do not receive a survey but would like to comment on my leadership as Assistant Principal please call Bernadette Lee at the College. If you would rather have an electronic version, again contact Bernadette.

I’d like to thank you all for your support both as Assistant Principal and in my current Acting Principal role.

God bless,
Cheryl Merryweather
Acting Principal

FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

This term is a busy one and the end of term approaches very quickly. The students in Years 7 to 10 have been involved in half yearly exams. Those exams seem to have run smoothly and much of the credit must go to the girls and their mature approach to those exams. After the long weekend and the Staff Development day on June 11th we have returned to our usual pattern of classes.

Year 11, 2014 Information Evening
We look forward to an opportunity to meet with parents and students of Year 10 students on the evening of 12th June at 7.30 pm. It will be an important opportunity to obtain relevant information about subject selection for Years 11 & 12.

Dates for Term 3
Parent Teacher Evenings
As Kathy West indicates elsewhere Year 7 to 10 Parent Teacher evening are coming up early next term.

Years 7
This evening will be held on Tuesday 23rd July from 3.30pm.

Years 8, 9 and 10
These interviews will take place over two evenings Wednesday 31st July and Monday 8th August and interviews on both occasions will begin at 3.30pm.

Trial HSC Examinations
Year 12 will begin their Trial HSC Examinations on Monday 29th July and the exams will conclude on Monday 12th August. The girls will only attend the College for exams during this period.

Kendall Perriam
Acting Assistant Principal

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Year 7 - 10 Parent Interviews
Parent Teacher Interviews for Years 7 - 10 will be held in weeks 2 - 4 of Term 3. This is a valuable opportunity for Parents and Carers to meet with teachers and discuss your daughter’s progress. Semester One, Half-Yearly Reports for Years 7 - 10 will be issued early next term. This year we will be using a new online system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO) to book interview times. In the weeks leading up to the interviews you will receive a unique PIN and a letter with detailed information about how to access the online bookings.

Year 11 Interim Reports
Year 11 will receive their Term 2 Interim Reports indicating their commitment to learning in the last week of this term.

Year 11 2014 Information Evening: Stage 6 Subject Selection
This important information evening will be held on Wednesday June 12 for all current Year 10 students and their parents. On the night information packages containing Stage 6 Curriculum Handbooks, subject selection sheets and other relevant information will be distributed to each Year 10 student. There will also be an initial presentation detailing the NSW Board of Studies and the College Stage 6 requirements. Parents and students will then have the opportunity to meet with Leaders of Learning and teachers to discuss Preliminary and HSC courses in various locations around the College.

Kathy West
Leader of Learning and Teaching

FROM THE LEADER OF STUDENT WELLBEING

Pastoral Program – Term 2 highlights
Students in Year 11 recently attended a very valuable seminar on protective behaviours for young women. Brent Sanders from Winning Edge Strategies explained to the students the importance of controlling the way they think in a conflict situation and provided some insights into how potential offenders think. Brent presented several conflict scenarios and the protective behaviours for ‘getting out of the situation’. Year 11 students rated this seminar very highly.

Year 9 students are attending a Girl essential seminar this week presented by Danni Miller from Enlighten Education. Workshops focus on friends - making and maintaining them, letting them go, helpful and harmful friendships; personal safety – partying, texting, friending; loving the skin you’re in – how to evaluate the media’s messages and respond intelligently and objectively. These workshops recognise the diverse
interests of students and present them with non-commercial, age appropriate and empowering content.

Options & opportunities is the main theme of the Year 12 pastoral program. In Term 1 several former students of the College spoke to Year 12 about the career path they chose after their HSC and what they did to achieve their goal – nursing and midwifery, police officer, fire-fighter, physiotherapist, teaching were some of the career pathways presented. These ex-student forums in Term 1 have given way to presentations by 3 universities this term. Newcastle University, Australian Catholic University and University of Technology in Sydney talk to the students about different programs of study, entry requirements and live on their campus. Year 12 students have been encouraged to attend Open Days at the universities at which they hope to study.

SRC – World Environment Day initiatives
The Student Representative Council have focused on ‘the environment’ for most of this year. They have been encouraged by a visit to the College by the Take 3 organisation and the College’s new Mission Statement launched on St Joseph’s Day in March. Take 3 spoke to Year 9 and attended an SRC meeting to explain how each of us can make a difference to the environment by taking 3 pieces of rubbish every time we leave the beach or park or any other place we’ve been. The new Mission Statement of the College begins...... “The St Joseph’s Catholic College community empowers young women who are shaped by their relationship with Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition and inspired by St Mary of the Cross MacKillop to make a difference in the world.” It refers to the many qualities of the young women who attend the College including that they “act with courage, strength and gentleness in the service of others and in the stewardship of our earth”. As stewards of our earth, the SRC have nominated Wednesday June 19 as Joey’s World Environment Day. To celebrate this day, the SRC will be promoting a ‘nude food’ day – a day on which students agree not to use cling wrap or single-use plastic for our recess and lunch. Lights will be turned off in classrooms where possible on the day and a ‘minute to bin it’ competition will be held at lunch time. The SRC have been working on another very significant environmental initiative and hope to announce details soon.

Student Achievement Awards in Term 2
This award recognizes significant achievements, contribution to a community service or the arts, and success in sport outside school. The following students were presented with this award at College Assemblies during the term:

- Charlotte J (Yr 12) for securing an apprenticeship in commercial cooking for 2014 because of her outstanding application during her recent work placement
- Dana H (Yr 11) on qualifying as a fire-fighter with the Rural Fire Service of NSW; Dana is one of the youngest in NSW to qualify and one of very few young women
- Abbey T (Yr 7) and Jaymi T (Yr 10) who performed together in the local young talent evening at Lizottes
- Gia R-C, Kellie Ann G and Chante W from Yr 10 who represented the College in the recent MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) event
- Katelyn S (Yr 11) and Keely B (Yr 8) for outstanding swims at the National Age Swimming Championships in Adelaide
- Mimosa H and Nicole C from Yr 8 on selection in the U14 NSW Waratah Water Polo team
- Lauren S (Yr 11) on selection in the U18 NSW Cricket team

The term has been exceptionally busy with NAPLAN, Years 11 and 12 Retreats and Semester 1 examinations. As all students wait anxiously for Reports, Year 10 students will be thinking about the subjects they hope to study next year and some of our Year 11 students are packing bags to leave next week for the trip to the Kimberley to support the Warmun community. I hope the term ends on a high for all. Contact your daughter’s Leader of Year should you have any concerns and please don’t hesitate to contact me if you need to.

Helen Love
Leader of Student Wellbeing

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER
School Fees
If you are paying by 3 instalments your 2nd instalment is now overdue. If you are paying under a monthly or fortnightly payment schedule please continue according to your payment schedule.

If you have outstanding fees could you please contact the Finance team to correct this as soon as able or to set up a personal payment arrangement that we can document on your account file.

Please note that you should be receiving your Monthly Fee Statements by email now. If you have not received one recently could you please contact the College and check your details are correct and that the statements may be being directed to the most appropriate email address.

Thanks very much.

Nicole Murphy
Business Manager

FROM CAREERS CORNER
MedEntry
MedEntry is an internationally trusted educational institution providing UMAT preparation in Australia,
New Zealand and Ireland. MedEntry is the only provider which is a Registered Training Organisation and which offers a Government Accredited UMAT course. The UMAT test is a prerequisite for entry into most health science courses such as medicine. MedEntry has been training students for tests such as UMAT for over thirty years. Most health science students have been trained by MedEntry. MedEntry is the leader in UMAT preparation and is the only program run by doctors and academics. For more information, please visit the website: www.MedEntry.edu.au.

HSC in the holidays
3 ways to ACE the HSC - Trial HSC lectures – July holidays
Learn essential content and methods from the most qualified teachers in NSW. This is the most effective way to prepare for the HSC Trial exams and boost your internal mark.

Lecture features
• Gain insights into the secrets of the HSC marking process
• Detailed handouts and practice questions/solutions
• Held across multiple university campuses in Sydney/Wollongong
• All presenters in every subject recognised as the best in their field
• Ongoing support and advice leading into the HSC exams
• Prices for these 2 hour lectures begin at just $15!

Free HSC resources
Resources include:
• Study notes, past assessment tasks and sample essays
• Practice papers, worked solutions and answers to past HSC questions
• Reports written by senior HSC Teachers/Markers
• Checklists, templates, study tips and tricks
• New resources included weekly!

HSC workshops – September holidays
Small, interactive workshops guaranteed to improve your results. Unlock the secrets of the HSC exams to gain an unfair advantage!

Workshop Features
• Sit for a full day with expert HSC teachers to cover every aspect of the syllabus
• Unique and innovative program that is guaranteed to improve your knowledge, skills and confidence in the lead up to the final HSC exams
• Individual assistance and support provided to each student
• Gain additional exposure to highly probable exam questions
• Comprehensive workbooks supplied to all students containing subject notes. Practice questions and exemplar solutions/answers

Subjects offered

Venues:
University of Technology Sydney. Broadway Campus, Kuring-gai Campus (Lindfield)
Macquarie University
University of Wollongong
Main Campus (Wollongong) and Southern Sydney Campus

Contact E: info@hscintheholidays.com.au
PO Box 2236 Woolooware NSW 2230
Free call 1300677336

The University of Newcastle School Visit day
Wednesday 17th July 2013 9am to 3pm - Newcastle Campus Callaghan.
Year 12 students are invited to attend the University of Newcastle’s Annual Schools Visit Day. The day consists of a varied program of presentations and tours. The event offers Year 12 students a unique opportunity to speak to our academic staff and current students about their study options, and to get a taste of university life on the Newcastle campus.

School Visit Day Ourimbah Campus - Friday 7th June 9am – 3pm.
Visit www.newcastle.edu.au/schoolsvisitday

To help students make informed choices as they prepare to leave secondary school, the Australian Government provides a number of resources. The My Skills website aims to connect students with the training that best suits their needs. The MyUniversity website offers students a broad range of information about Australian universities and other higher education providers, including student satisfaction and graduate outcome surveys. Students can search a database of thousands of courses and compare details such as fee and entry requirements. The Study Assist website provides information to students about the Higher education Loan Program (HELP). The HELP schemes assist eligible students to pay their student contributions (HECS-HELP) tuition fees (FEE-HELP or VET FEE-HELP) overseas study expenses (OS-HELP) and student services and amenities fees.
If you have any further enquiries about these please email external.comms@innovation.gov.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

Shopping Tour
The Social Committee at OLR Wyoming are organising a Bargain Buyers Warehouse Shopping Bus Trip

Date: Saturday 6 July
Cost: $60 - includes Bus Trip and Lunch (main meal, dessert, tea/coffee).

Please call Carla 0404 017 922 or Jo 0401 721 489 for more information or, for a list of all warehouses and booking form, visit http://www.dbb.org.au/schools/olrwyoming/ourschool/Documents/OLR%20Bargain%20Buyers.pdf