A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

By now the news of my departure from St Joseph’s will have circulated. The decision to apply for a new Principal’s position was not an easy one for me to make. I thoroughly enjoy my work at St Joseph’s but more importantly I love the school community. I thank you all for your contributions and support over the past 7 years. It is the girls, staff and families that I will certainly miss.

There are a few things however I will not miss after 7 years: the 5.00am alarm, the drive from home to school that includes the M7, M2, Pennant Hills Rd and the F3, especially Pennant Hills Rd on a Friday afternoon. This travel experience is not unfamiliar to so many of you who do the daily commute on the F3 into Sydney.

Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta is an Independent Congregational Catholic Girls school owned and run by the Sisters of Mercy. On telling Sister Jan Barnett rsj of my leaving St Joseph’s Jan commented jokingly: “Stephen you have gone over to the dark side… whilst you can take the boy out of a MacKillop school you cannot take the MacKillop out of the boy.” I have been so fortunate to have had the opportunity of leading such a vibrant and dynamic MacKillop school. More importantly though, I have been so blessed to have known so many wonderful young women, staff and parents over the past 7 years.

I truly believe in our College Mission: to empower young women shaped by their relationship with Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition and who are inspired by St Mary of the Cross MacKillop to make a difference in the world. Mary MacKillop said in 1873: “God’s will and glory and in these, the good of our Australian children, is alone what we seek”. Hopefully I will have the opportunity to speak with many of you at the farewell assembly being organised for Tuesday 13th August from 10.00am in the ERC.

Due to my prearranged long service leave starting from 9th August this therefore becomes my last day at St Joseph’s. The OLMC Board have asked me to commence at Parramatta from 21st October to work with the Sisters and College community on the planning of the school’s 125th Anniversary next year as well as transition with the outgoing Principal. I will take up the formal role of Principal from the beginning of 2014.

For the remainder of 2013 Ms Cheryl Merryweather has been appointed as Acting Principal, Cheryl is a wonderful woman and a great educator, so I know the College is in wonderful hands. For the period up to 12th October Ms Helen Love has been appointed as Acting Assistant Principal. The Catholic Schools Office will finalise details of this position for the remainder of the year very shortly.

So many things have been achieved over the past 7 years but for me it is the many memories I have of the students, the fun and laughter, the tears and triumphs, the memories of the young MacKillop women that I will take with me.
For the last time I quote St Mary of the Cross MacKillop:

“It is gratitude that is the memory of the heart”

May St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and St Joseph bless you all!

Stephen Walsh
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you had a wonderful break and were able to enjoy some time as a family.

This term has heralded a very important change within our College community with the appointment of Stephen to OLMC Parramatta. We are all very sad to have Stephen leave the College but we also wish him well in his new position. Stephen’s leadership has brought richness to the College community over the past seven years and he will be remembered for his many achievements not least among them the College Prayer and Song. As Stephen’s last day at the College is Friday 9th August we will be holding significant farewell events over the next two weeks (below) which were outlined in a letter emailed to families this week.

Staff Farewell
As the letter indicated Friday 9th August will be a Staff Development Day ending in a Farewell Luncheon for Stephen from the staff at the College. This will replace one of the staff development days at the end of the year and staff will work on programming for the National Curriculum.

College Farewell Assembly
There will be a formal farewell assembly for the entire community on Tuesday 13th August beginning at 10am in the ERC. This will be an opportunity for students, parents and the community to suitably farewell Stephen and will be followed by morning tea. All parents are invited so if you are able to attend please RSVP to the front desk.

Parent Teacher Evenings
It has been wonderful to catch up with so many of you at the parent teacher evenings this term. We completed Year 7 in Week 2 and this week we saw the first of the evenings for Years 8-10. The second evening for Years 8-10 will be held next week on Monday 5th August. If you weren’t able to attend this week please make an appointment to see your daughter’s teachers next week so that you have the opportunity to discuss her progress in each subject.

HSC Trial Exams
The Trial Exams began this week on Monday 29th July and will continue till Monday 12th August. If your daughter is ill or suffers a misadventure on the day of an exam please contact Mrs West or Mrs Parsons at the College. The procedure for Illness/Misadventure is outlined in the Year 12 Assessment Handbook but if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us at the College.

Year 9 2014 Subject Selection Evening
This evening will be held on Tuesday 13th August beginning at 7pm in the Dewey Centre. All parents are encouraged to attend.

Disco
The next College disco takes place on Thursday 29th August (Week 7). The disco cannot run without the assistance of parents so if you can give a little time on the evening please leave your name, available times and phone number with College reception (43244022). We ask that you call the College in person or send a written note with your daughter as we cannot take verbal information from students without parent confirmation.

School Zones
A reminder to all our parents that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families. School zones operate on all gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

Have a lovely fortnight.
Cheryl Merryweather
Assistant Principal

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Year 12
Term 3 is exceptionally busy for Year 12 with the Trial HSC examinations commencing on Monday 29th July and with HSC practical performances and major projects due to the Board of Studies over the next few weeks. Effectively preparing for exams and performances is important. It is also recommended that all girls eat a balanced diet, including moderate amounts of caffeine, and get an adequate amount of exercise and sleep. If your daughter in Year 12 becomes ill or suffers a misadventure on the day of an exam please notify the College (Mrs West, Ms Merryweather or Mrs Parsons,) and follow the appropriate procedure as outlined in the Assessment Handbook. Students must ensure that they have a medical certificate in cases of illness. On return to school students must also see Mrs West, Ms Merryweather or Mrs Parsons and submit an illness/misadventure form.

Parent Teacher Evenings Years 8 - 10
The second of these evenings will be held on Monday 5th August. This will be an opportune time to meet with your daughter’s teachers to discuss progress throughout Semester 1. Bookings are made through the PTO link on the College website and further details including logins were sent home last term. Please contact Mr Kirk Mercer at the College if you are experiencing any difficulties with
making appointment times. Just a reminder that appointments are seven minutes in length and other parents will be waiting, so if you would like longer please arrange an additional time with your daughter’s teacher when you are speaking with them on the night. If you cannot attend this evening please contact your daughter’s teachers by phone.

Year 9 2014 Information Evening
This evening will be held on Tuesday 13th August in the Dewey Centre from 7pm. The evening will provide current Year 8 parents and students with information regarding elective choices for next year and the Record of Student Achievement (RoSA).

Australian Curriculum implementation for NSW
Teaching of the new NSW syllabuses incorporating the Australian curriculum will begin in 2014 for Years 7 and 9 in English, Mathematics, Science and History. In 2015 these four new syllabuses will be introduced in Years 8 and 10. Staff are currently planning, programming and developing resources for the new courses in preparation for implementation next year.

The NSW Board of Studies have published video resources and guides to help support parents understand the new K–10 syllabuses and these can be found on the Board of Studies website at http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/ and by clicking on the heading: NSW syllabuses for the Australian curriculum. The site includes the Parents Guide to the new NSW K-10 Syllabuses which gives clear information about the implementation of the Australian curriculum in NSW, what children will learn at school using the new syllabuses, cross curriculum priorities and general capabilities.

Kathy West
Leader of Learning and Teaching

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER
Fee Payments are now due
If you are paying your school fees by standard instalments your final instalment is now due. If you have opted to change your payment plan to fortnightly or monthly payments you still have 2 monthly payments to finalise your account. If your account is overdue please contact the College as soon as possible to make payment or to discuss payment options available.

Fee Statements
You should still be receiving your fee statements each month – they are being sent electronically. If you have not received a statement over the past few months please contact the College to confirm your email details.

Volunteers Needed
Do you have a spare few hours through the day to help us in the Canteen? Lesley, Karen & Denise would love some extra help to prepare lunches and serve food. You do not need to have chef talents to be involved. Your support would be much appreciated. If you would like to know more about what is required in the canteen, or to offer your time, please contact the College for more details.

Nicole Murphy
Business Manager

FROM THE LEADER OF MATHEMATICS
Year 7 World of Maths Day is on Wednesday 7th August, 2013. This is an incursion for all of Year 7. Students will discover and explore games and problem-solving activities relating to the world of Maths.

Ruth Hayes
Leader of Mathematics

FROM CAREERS CORNER
Dates for your Diary
Deakin University Open days
Warrnambool Campus Sunday 4 August 9am – 2pm
Geelong Waurn Campus Sunday 11 August 9am – 3pm
Geelong Waterfront Campus Sunday 11 August 9am – 3pm
Melbourne Burwood Campus Sunday 25 August 9am – 4pm

The University of Newcastle Open days
Newcastle Campus 24 August 10am – 4pm
Central Coast Campus 17 August 10am – 3pm
Port Macquarie (The Glasshouse) 29 August 3pm – 6pm
A full program of Open Days events, tours and presentations is available at www.newcastle.edu.au/opendays

Students are encouraged to visit the website to register and plan their day – in doing so they will go into the draw to win an iPad mini.

International College of Management, Sydney
ICMS Open Day gives students’ (domestic and international) parents the chance to:
• Meet with current students and talk to Heads of School in a relaxed and informative environment
• Tour the campus facilities and accommodation and get a feel for the ICMS student experience
• Attend course specific information sessions for an in-depth look at our degrees
• Learn about our unique Industry Training program and the career options available to graduates
• Find out more about applying to ICMS including UAC applications and “High Academic Places”

Date: Sunday 18 August 2013
Time: 10am to 2pm (registration open from 9.30am)
Location: ICMS Manly Campus 151 Darley Road Manly
Parking: Free parking available at St Paul’s Catholic College opposite the college grounds
Catering: Complimentary lunch will be served from 12 noon
For more information visit www.icms.edu.au/openday
Macleay College
Open Day Saturday 24 August
Level 2/28 Foveaux Street Surry Hills.

The industry focused learning culture at Macleay College ensures that students graduate job ready in just 12 months with the skills, work experience and portfolio that employers need.

UTS: School Outreach U@Uni Summer School Program
Available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Year 10 the opportunity to attend a free 2 week summer school in January.

Students have the opportunity to select from Design, Business, Film Making, Science, Health or Engineering and Information Technology summer schools to work alongside academics and UTS students in a fun and engaging project based experience.

Students are invited back on campus for a series of workshops in Years 11 and 12 in school holidays to assist them in the HSC and beyond. Free travel, meals and a payment to subsidise any part time work will be provided.

Who: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students currently in Year 10
Where: University of Technology Sydney
When: 13th – 24th January 2014
Times: 9.30am – 3.30pm Monday – Friday
Cost: Free
Register before 20th September 2013
Call Lisa Aitken on 95141134 or Lisa.Aitken@uts.edu.au

Early Entry at UNE
Early Entry gives current Year 12 students (or gap year students) the opportunity to receive an offer of a place at UNE, based on their school’s recommendation of their potential to succeed at University, rather than their final results. High achieving students who are not eligible for an ATAR should also apply through this program. Applications Close 30 September 2013.

For further information about UNE’s Early Entry program please contact our Future Student Team on 1800818865.

Sydney University Open Day
Saturday 31 August 9am to 4pm
For further information visit Sydney.edu.au/openday.

Automotive Modern Apprenticeship Program
Vantage Automotive Pty Ltd is a major provider of government funded vocational learning and outsourced services to major vehicle manufacturers with an extensive client list across Australia.

Applications are now being sought from people that are interested in joining the motor trade.

Both males and females from all over Australia are invited to apply for the Modern Apprenticeship Program and if selected will be offered full time employment at a dealer close to your home and flown to either Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane for block training. Flights and accommodation, where eligible, are also included.

Positions are already available for 2014. For more information please visit www.vantageautomotive.com or see Mrs Wilkinson for further information.

Open Day at Macquarie University
Saturday 14 September 2013 10am – 4pm
Further information openday.mq.edu.au

Le Cordon Bleu 2014 Scholarships Application Form
2014 Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism Education Professional Scholarship
$500 tuition scholarship for education professionals towards the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism Program - In partnership with Southern Cross University.
Applications close on Friday 1 November 2013. For further information visit www.lecordonbleu.edu
Email: Australia@cordonbleu.edu

University of NSW will be conducting their annual open day on Saturday 7 September. The School of Mining Engineering will be hosting sessions during the day and I have included their program below for your reference.

The open day is run to provide information to students not only about a university choice, but a longer term career pathway of which the university decision is just the first, but very important, stepping stone.

If you have any queries about the program, please contact Sabrina Tande, Marketing Officer, School of Mining Engineering on tel 02 9385 5039 or email s.tande@unsw.edu.au

Christine Wilkinson
Careers Adviser

FROM LITERACY SUPPORT

Great Book Swap

Win, Win, Win!
Back by popular demand the St. Joseph’s annual ‘Great Book Swap’ will be held on Tuesday 20th August 2013 (Week 6).
The aim of this activity is three-fold. Firstly, students donate pre-loved books and in the process receive a merit, gain points for their Pastoral House and ease the pressure on the book shelves at home! Secondly, students have the opportunity to purchase a ‘tried and tested’ book for a gold coin donation and increase their exposure to some wonderful books. Thirdly, in purchasing at The Great Book Swap students raise money for the Warmun Community School in The Kimberley which allows this community to buy appropriate books and resources for their school.

It’s a win, win, win situation. Last year students raised over $500 for the Warmun Community School and had lots of fun reminiscing about books they had enjoyed reading and recommending them to their friends.

So, please go through the bookshelves at home, donate books you have enjoyed reading and bring your gold coins on Tuesday 20th August.

Parents are also welcome to attend ‘The Great Book Swap’ in the Seminar Room of the Library on Tuesday 20th August.

Ms Rachael Grassi
Literacy Support

Growing Future Leaders with Max Potential
My name is Dani B. and I am a Year 11 student at St. Joseph’s Catholic College at East Gosford. In 2013 I have been participating in Clubs NSW and Future Achievement Australia Foundation's Max Potential program, focusing on the personal leadership of potential leaders in the community. The Max Potential program, which I have had the fortune of receiving a scholarship to participate in, has offered me coaching to grow me as a leader through targeting my weaknesses and growing my existing strengths. My coach for the 2013 program is Debbie Payne, who has assisted me throughout the course of the program, offering guidance and support unfalteringly.

A component of the Max Potential program is to create and carry out a community service project in the local community. I have chosen to create an environmental action coalition within my school community, encouraging girls of high school age to actively use their passion for the environment to make a difference in the school, local and wider community. With the support of my coach, I am looking forward to growing the group to a point where it can turn from a spark to a flame in the St. Joseph's community. I strongly hope to create an engaging, positive group whose decisions and initiatives create success for the College.

Through both working towards my community support project as well as Max Potential itself, I have learnt to balance aspects of my life harmoniously as well as recognising that parts of life will be a challenge. These challenges and obstacles, however, are an inevitable part of life and that it is how an individual addresses them that make all the difference.

Max Potential ‘Media Article’
Your Background
Gabrielle D
Year 11
Max Potential is a youth leadership program, encouraging young adults to maximise and realise their full potential. I am keen to be a part of this program because I heard the Year 12 leaders talk about it and this made me want to aspire to be a better person and a leader in my community.
Coach, April Holmes

Maximising The Youth Of Our Community Through Duke Of Ed.

What is it about? Encouraging the youth of the community to become involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award program.
Who are you targeting/helping? Young teens – around 14
What is the need it is addressing? Community involvement and young people learning valuable skills which will assist them in the future and make them responsible future leaders of the community.

Evidence of Success and Outcomes or Planned/Anticipated Success and Outcomes
We are looking forward to getting young people involved. Being a part of a local community, learning skills, connecting, volunteering, giving back to the community, learning what community involvement is. Success, achievement, encouraging leaders, and increase a passion in the community.

The outcomes we expect to see happen are to have a few Year 7 girls take an interest in this great opportunity and create an option as something they might want to consider doing next year (as minimum age is 14).

Personal Learning
Through this Community Project I hope to achieve a way to get young people involved in the community, through a
fun and exciting opportunity. And also show help others become involved and boost community awareness and involvement.

Through the Max Potential Program so far I have learnt what to focus on as a good leader. Learning ways to change your own attitudes, beliefs and commitments so you can work towards and gain success, creating a life of significance and positive impact.

Rite Of Christian Initiation Of Adults
St Patrick’s Parish, East Gosford will commence a programme for those interested in becoming Catholic. You are invited to an Information Evening on Monday August 12, 7:30pm at the Parish Admin Centre. Enquiries to Ian McGuinness on 4363 1039.

Kincumber Parish - Community Dinners
Did you know that there are lots of people who eat alone every night? They may have family and friends, or not, but these may be a distance away. The Pastoral Council of Kincumber Parish are launching a project with the working title “community dinners”, which will be a free weekly meal to be shared by parishioners and by the wider Kincumber community, both Catholic and non-Catholic alike. This will be less like a soup-kitchen, and more like a big family meal with extended family and friends. We know from experience that there are many generous people who would like to cook, serve, welcome and make these dinners happen so we’re having a planning meeting on Tuesday August 6th, 7:30pm in the Holy Cross School Hall at 55 Kincumber St. Come along if you’d like to help build community and reach out to people in need.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Catholics Returning Home Programme @ St Patrick’s Parish, East Gosford
Are you a Catholic who now feels apart from your Church? Would you like to know more about today’s Church? Would you like to feel at home in the Church again? No matter how long you have been away or for whatever reason, you are most welcome and we invite you to renew your relationship with the Catholic Church.

Please join us for an information evening on Monday August 12, at 7:30pm at the Jordan Room, adjacent to the church building.
For further information contact Neil Murphy on 4325 0416.
Seeking: Volunteers with big hearts
Do you have office experience and the time to help a local charity? Are you looking to learn some new skills or perhaps just want to lend a helping hand to a good cause?

Coast Community Connections is a local charity based in Woy Woy that provides a range of services to children, young people, families, people with a disability and elderly citizens across the Central Coast.

We're looking for volunteers in a couple of roles to help out on a weekly basis.

We need two friendly faces to assist with front-of-office administration. If you're good with people and have some computer skills, and you're looking for a way back into the workforce, we'd love to hear from you.

We also need two or three volunteers for our Monday Madness service, a weekly program for adults with disabilities. You might have previous experience working with children, the aged or disabled but it's not essential. What you will need is a sense of humour, patience and creativity.

Current first aid would be desirable but not essential.

If you think you'd like to get involved in either of these positions, please contact Michelle Remy on 4341 9333 or email michelle.remy@coastcommunityconnections.com.au

Wanted: Monday Madness volunteers
Coast Community Connections is looking for two or three volunteers with big hearts and a sense of humour.

Monday Madness is our weekly program for adults with disabilities and we're looking for new volunteers who can give up their time to help with this important service.

You might have previous experience working with children, the aged or disabled but it's not essential. What you will need is a big smile, patience and creativity.

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If you think you'd like to get involved, please contact Michelle Remy on 4341 9333 or email michelle.remy@coastcommunityconnections.com.au

Wanted: Volunteer administration assistants
Do you have office or customer service experience? Looking for a chance to learn some new skills or perhaps just want to lend a helping hand to a good cause?

Coast Community Connections needs two volunteers to assist with front-of-office administration. If you're good with people and have some computer skills, we'd love to hear from you.

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