FROM THE PRINCIPAL - Mr Peter Riordan

Dear Parents,

As Term 1 draws to a close, Simonds Catholic College continues to be a vibrant and very busy school community.

Recently we celebrated the Mass of the Installation of Fr Anthony Bernal. He was officially installed as the Parish Priest of Saint Mary’s Star of the Sea, West Melbourne on March, 1 2013, by Most Rev. Denis J. Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne. Fr Anthony, Fr Max Polak, Fr Joseph Pich, Fr Edward H. Barry and visiting priests concelebrated the Eucharist with the Archbishop. Simonds Catholic College was well represented by Staff, Students and Altar Servers who welcomed Fr Anthony into the Community.

Catholic Education Week was held between 10 – 17 of March and is now in its 16th Year. Catholic Education Week encourages school communities to celebrate together. The celebration of the feast of St Patrick, patron saint of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, was celebrated by the Most Rev. Denis J. Hart DD, Bishops and Priests at a Eucharistic celebration at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, East Melbourne. The focus was “Entrusted with Something Precious” which comes from the passage in St Paul’s second letter to the young disciple, Timothy. Simonds Catholic College was well represented by Year 10 students and Altar Servers from Years 8 – 10. Following the Mass at St. Patrick’s several students attended A Young Speakers Colloquium in East Melbourne. The Year 7 Camp Program – organised by Mr Ramos and held on 12 – 15 March at Toolangi State Forest was extremely successful with students involved in many diverse outdoor activities. The enthusiasm of the students on camp was quite exemplary.

I wish all families a safe, happy and Holy Easter – may you enjoy the upcoming holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Riordan
PRINCIPAL

EARLY FINISHING TIMES FOR Yr 7 – 10 Students

On the following days students at the St Mary’s campus will be finishing 15 minutes earlier

- Monday 22 April – Dismissal time - 2.45 pm
- Monday 6 May – Dismissal time - 2.45 pm

On these days as part of the introduction of iPads at Simonds Catholic College, teachers at the St Mary’s campus will be attending Information Sessions.
Project Compassion

Caritas Australia’s annual fundraising and community engagement appeal, Project Compassion began in 1966. Project Compassion 2013 carries the message ‘Open doors into the future’ taken from Pope Benedict’s XVI’s 2007 encyclical Spe Salvi, 35, ‘We work towards a brighter and more humane world so as to open doors into the future’. Year 10 Student Leaders for Social Justice, Alfonso Zampogna, and Liturgy Leader, Gabriel Gomez, were instrumental in organising a ‘Sausage Sizzle’ for students at St. Mary’s Campus. The Social Justice and Liturgy Committee assisted by Year 10 Student Leaders, worked diligently towards creating a memorable fundraiser for students from Years 7 – 10, who were able to enjoy barbequed sausages and cold drinks for a small cost. Following a successful barbeque and fun filled lunch time, left over sausages and bread were transported to Ozanam House, North Melbourne, a shelter for homeless men. Simonds Catholic College Community continues to support Caritas through donations to Project Compassion during Lent, in order to help build a better world for the poor and oppressed. It is through our faith in God we find courage to take action and work together to open doors into education, sustainable livelihoods and hopefully a safe environment for children in Mozambique, Bangladesh and Indigenous Australia to have hope for the future.

Mrs M Krall – Religious Education Coordinator

Social Justice News - Oxfam's 'Close the Gap Day'

Oxfam’s 'Close the Gap Day' is on Thursday 21st March 2013. On Average, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Australians die 10-17 years younger than non-Indigenous. Oxfam’s 'Close the Gap Day' is about raising awareness about addressing the disadvantages in Australia of life expectancy and health care faced by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Australians. Simonds College will use this day to raise awareness of the campaign.

Mr D Barnett – Head of Science

Chemistry News

Year 11
The Chemistry Education Association and the School of Chemistry at the University of Melbourne are pleased to offer a Chemistry Olympiad Training Program for Year 11 students who intend to register for the Australian Science Olympiad Examination in Chemistry that will be held on Wednesday 8 August 2013. In 2012 two Year 11 Chemistry students from Simonds Catholic College attended this program and found the tuition valuable. The Training Program is intended to challenge the most able students, and so students registering should be achieving high grades in Chemistry. The training program covers topics in Chemistry to the end of first year university standard in 12 weeks, as well as covering all Year 12 concepts. Length of training program: 2 hours weekly for 12 weeks
Time: 5.30 - 7.30 pm, Tuesday evenings
Dates: 16 April - 11 June and 16 July – 30 July 2013
Location: School of Chemistry, University of Melbourne
Cost: $300.00 (no GST)
Any Year 11 Chemistry students who would like to attend the Training Program should see Mr Barnett for an application form.

Year 12
Our year 12 Chemistry students had a taste of University life while attending an excursion to Melbourne University on Wednesday 20th February. The ‘Instrumentation workshop' gave students a 'hands on' opportunity to use expensive, modem, analytical instruments only available to universities or chemical industrial laboratories.

Students were able to see all instruments in operation and were able to conduct a chemical analysis of iron in a mineral supplement, calcium in sea water, caffeine in coca-cola, or alcohol in wine. The instruments students used were: UV-Vis Spectrophotometer, Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer, High Pressure Liquid Chromatography and Gas-Liquid Chromatography.

Simonds Catholic College Chemistry laboratory has acquired some old laboratory instruments for students to look inside. These analytical instruments were once used by Melbourne Pathology in their Biochemistry laboratory. While no longer working, they provide a great opportunity for our students to look inside and see their various parts.

Mr D Barnett – Head of Science
Mathematics News

The past few weeks have been a buzz in the mathematics faculty with many new activities taking place. As we say in the mathematics faculty it has been Mathstastic! The mathematics faculty is constantly striving to create a positive supportive classroom environment that meets the needs of all our students. Too often we see students give up on ‘maths’ because they can’t quite keep up with the pace of the classroom. This is particularly evident at the VCE level.

Taking inspiration from our recent professional development session presented by Andrew Douch the mathematics faculty has been busy trialling various technologies in the hope that we can improve our students' experience of mathematics and build opportunities for them to seek extra support.

This year all Further Mathematics classes are invited to sign up to www.edmodo.com and join the Simonds Catholic College 2013 Further Mathematics Group with code: 1ll8bi. Joining this group gives students the opportunity to view video lessons presented by Ms Sinis, post questions to other further maths students as well as ask for assistance from their teacher online.

Students who are studying Mathematical Methods CAS and Specialist Mathematics are invited to subscribe to Mr Law’s and Mr Anastasio’s youtube channels where they will have the opportunity to view a video lesson. This might include their teacher explaining a particularly difficult problem or a video of a previous lesson.

We encourage all students who are studying a mathematics subject to take up the extra support offered and strive to achieve their best.

Ms D Sinis - Head of Mathematics

School Fees

We are pleased to inform you that annual School Fees for 2013 have increased by only $30 for all year levels. This represents a 1.5% increase in years 7-10 and a 1% increase in VCE. At Simonds, we aim to provide quality education and facilities at an affordable price.

Would you please note that fees pay for tuition costs, materials in practical subjects, transport to and from Sport, entrance fees to Sport venues, a camp at Years 7, 8 and 9, Retreat Days in Year 10, all compulsory school excursions and the cost of visiting speakers and performers. To support the iPad program a computer levy of $120 will be charged to families of students in years 7, 8 and 9. The college endeavours to look at ways to reduce the cost of the booklist.

If your son is in Year 11, under 16 years of age and you are eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance a discount will apply. When your son turns 16 years of age, he may be eligible for the Youth Allowance which is means tested. Please contact Centrelink regarding the Youth Allowance.

Fees for all families would normally be paid at the office of the St Mary’s 710 Campus. EFTPOS facilities are available on this campus only. Cheques or cash will be accepted at the St Brigid’s VCE Campus if parents are unable to pay at the West Melbourne site.

Mr A Watts - Finance Manager

Murdoch Children’s Research Institute Study

This study investigates brain function and structure in neurodevelopmental disorders. Previous research has suggested that there may be similar difficulties paying attention, sustaining attention and shifting attention in neurodevelopmental disorders such as Attention-deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Dysthymic Disorder (DD) and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). This project will contribute to a better understanding of how the brain works in these childhood disorders. It will hopefully help to develop more specific psychological and medication treatments and better monitoring of these treatments in the future.

We will ask a total of 30 children with ADHD, 30 children with DD, and 30 children with OCD to take part in this project. To gain a better understanding of how children with these neurodevelopmental disorders differ from healthy, typically developing children we will also recruit 30 children that do not have any of the above disorders who may act as control group in this project.
Do you want to apply for Australian citizenship but think it might be too hard?

Remington Neighbourhood House and St. Brendan’s Primary School in Flemington are offering a 10 week course to help you prepare for the citizenship test. Courses will be offered during Terms 2 and 4 this year.

Classes will run on Fridays 10-12 (for 2 hours), commencing April 19.

Child care will be provided.

Hurry, numbers are limited

Call Moira Mullumby – Family School Partnership Convenor, to discuss when this course would suit you.

Telephone: 0439 951 019

Bookings close on April 12

Participation involves a visit to the Royal Children’s Hospital lasting no longer than 90 minutes. During the visit participants undergo a MRI scan lasting no longer than 60 minutes.

After receiving the flyer interested children/young people and their parents/guardians contact the research team who arrange an initial interview. Following an initial screening interview to assess their suitability for the study by a member of the clinical unit informed consent is obtained.

For more information visit our website www.mcri.edu.au or contact Veronika Vilgis Ph: 9345 9129 email: veronika.vilgis@mcri.edu.au

2013 Parent Seminar Series

The Parent Seminar Series is offered by the Catholic Education office Melbourne as part of a continuing effort to support family-school-community partnerships and achieve improved student wellbeing and learning.

Below are Seminar’s dates and topics:

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<tr>
<th>Topic: Raising Mighty Boys</th>
<th>Topic: Girls Rules</th>
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<tr>
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<td>21 May</td>
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<td>23 May</td>
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<td>10 September</td>
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<td>12 September</td>
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<tr>
<th>Topic: The Secrets of happy, creative, confident &amp; competent kids</th>
<th>Topic: Building resilience in children &amp; adolescents</th>
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<td>DATE</td>
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<td>5 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 October</td>
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<th>Topic: A for Attitude to Positive Parenting</th>
<th>Topic: How to stay in Touch on the Adolescent Roller Coaster</th>
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Registration/Further Information – Contact Catholic Education Office Melbourne, Parent Seminar Series Coordinator Dough Standiford on 9267 0258 or dstandiford@ceomelb.catholic.edu.au - Cost $10 per person payable in advance.

Term 2 Commences
- Tuesday 16 April
- With Week 1 Timetable
- First school assembly @ St Brigid’s Campus
- Students from the St Mary’s campus will either be dismissed from the St Brigid’s Campus or return to the St Mary’s Campus by bus, as requested by parents through permission slip.
Parents are invited to nominate themselves as a parent representative on the Simonds Catholic College Board. The Simonds Catholic College Board would like to invite parents to nominate themselves for the College Board. There are currently vacancies available. In particular, we are looking to have parent representatives from a cross-section of our school community which is quite diverse. The College Board meets approximately twice each term at a time convenient for the members of the Board. If you are interested in nominating for the College Board please fill in the reply slip below and return it to the school office.

- There are a minimum of two vacancies for a position as a Parent Representative
- Appointments are for 2 years
- Meetings are held twice each term on a day and time suitable to all members. During last year meetings were held on Thursday evenings 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- Further information about the College Board may be obtained from either Mrs Helen Koutoulogenis or, Mr Robert Anastasio or any of the current members of the Board.

Responsibilities of the Board

The Responsibilities of the Board are:

1. To support actively Catholic education as described in "The Code of Canon Law" and in the directions and guidelines determined by the Archbishop, by:
   1.1 maintaining the Catholic nature of the College;
   1.2 ensuring that the "To Know, Worship and Love' Religious Education texts (Archdiocese of Melbourne 2001) are used as the essential resource for Religious Education in the Archdiocese of Melbourne and other additional or revised directives/ guidelines are followed;
   1.3 promoting the development of a Christian Community within the College;
   1.4 sponsoring a comprehensive curriculum which underpins the specific Catholic ethos of the College;
   1.5 becoming involved as appropriate in other Catholic adult education initiatives within the local community.
2. To establish, ratify and review regularly the objectives of the College.
3. To select and determine policies in consultation with appropriate parties which will assist the Canonical Administrator, Principal and staff in working towards these objectives as stated in 1 above.
4. To evaluate the effects of the Board's decisions in achieving these objectives.
5. To ensure on behalf of the college community that the curriculum and educational standards are adequate to meet the needs of the students.
6. To plan, implement and evaluate the financial and building programs necessary for the recurrent and long-term effectiveness of the College in accord with its responsibility to consult appropriately with various diocesan and civil authorities.
7. To manage the College's finances.

Membership of the Board

- The Parish Priest of West Melbourne
- The Principal, who shall be the Executive Officer of the Board
- An Honorary Financial Adviser (or the College Finance Manager)
- One Assistant to the Principal
- A member of the staff of the college, elected by the staff
- A minimum of four parents, elected by parents with boys at the college
- Up to three members nominated by the Board for specific purposes and for a limited time and approved by the Canonical Administrator.

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REPLY SLIP

TO BE RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE ADDRESSED TO
Mr Peter Riordan, Principal - Simonds Catholic College
NO LATER THAN - FRIDAY, 8 APRIL, 2013

Nomination to the College Board

I _______________________________ nominate myself as available for a position on the Board.

Son's Name: ___________________________  Year Level: ____________

SIGNED: ___________________________
Students are invited to be altar servers at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, the mother church of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. The Archdiocese offers a scholarship to assist with the fees of students attending Simonds Catholic College.

The expectation of the altar server is that he serves at Sunday Mass once every two weeks. At times students will be required to serve at special occasions such as feast days, confirmation, Easter and Christmas ceremonies.

If altar servers fulfil these expectations they will be eligible to join the Guild of Saint Stephen. The Guild of Saint Stephen was established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference to acknowledge the vital role performed by altar servers in the celebration of the Eucharist.

If your son is interested in being a server at St Patrick’s Cathedral please complete the reply slip below, together with a copy of your son’s Certificate of Baptism and a reference from your Parish Priest. This form is then to be returned to the Faith Development Coordinator at Simonds Catholic College.

Mrs M Krall - Religious Education Coordinator

ALTAR SERVER REPLY SLIP - Mrs Maryanne Krall

SON’S NAME: ____________________________ CLASS: __________

Previous Experience in Altar Serving (if any)

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: ________________________________