



Semper Paratus

Newsletter of
James Sheahan
Catholic High School

Volume 24 Number 22
Thursday 9 July 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 10 July

Years 7 - 10 Reports
issued to students

Last day Term 2

Monday 27 July

Students return for Term 3

Friday 31 July to

Sunday 2 August

Year 11 Ski Trip

Sunday 2 August

Kathryn Handsaker
Concert
Orange Regional
Conservatorium, 2.30pm

Wednesday 5 August

Years 7 - 10
Parent/Teacher/Student
Evening: 4pm - 8pm

Friday 7 August

Years 7 - 10 Presentation
Assemblies

Monday 10 August

Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
commence

Tuesday 18 August

P&F Meeting, Kenna Hall

Reconciliation Prayer

Holy Father, God of Love, You are the Creator of this land and all good things.

We acknowledge the pain and shame of our history, and the suffering of our peoples, and we ask your forgiveness.

We thank you for the survival of indigenous cultures; our hope is in you because you gave your Son Jesus to reconcile the world to you.

We pray for your strength and grace to forgive, accept and love one another, as you love us and forgive and accept us in the sacrifice of your Son.

Give us the courage to accept the realities of our history, so that we may build a better future for our nation.

Teach us to respect all cultures.

Teach us to care for our land and waters.

Help us to share justly the resources of this land.

Help us to bring about spiritual and social change, to improve the quality of life for all groups in our communities, especially the disadvantaged.

Help our young people to find true dignity and self esteem by your Spirit.

May your power and love be the foundations on which we build our families, our communities and our Nation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mid Year Review

At this stage in the school year it is a good time to assess where our students and your children are with respect to their academic progress. All students in the junior school will receive their school reports by the end of term.

Some students have performed creditably in all of their subjects: I congratulate them for their success and hard work. Other students are doing reasonably well, and have obvious strengths in particular areas. Another group of students, it is fair to say, is not working hard enough.

With the predictions of unemployment rising in the next few years, high school students need to be fully aware of the fact that competition for places in the workforce will only increase. A set of school reports that suggest that students try their best and aim to improve their knowledge and skills is one of the best assets they can produce for an employer. I encourage all families to spend some time discussing the school report marks and comments with their child. Commitment to school work requires some self-discipline. This is something that is not innate in lots of young people: it requires practice and develops over time. The time to start committing to a program of improvement is always right now!

Senior Parent/Teacher/Student Evening

At the recent interviews 54% of Year 11 parents attended the night and 52% of Year 12 parents. I encourage **all** parents to make these interviews a priority in their calendars. The junior parent/teacher/student evening will be held on **Wednesday 5 August, 4.00pm to 8.00pm**. Interview forms must be returned to the school by 9.00am on Tuesday 28 July. Forms returned after this time will *not* be considered.

Please avail yourself of this opportunity to speak to staff about your child's progress.

Appointments with staff

I would ask that parents who would like to see *any* member of staff, make an appointment to do so. All staff at James Sheahan are timetabled on classes, including myself. In general, it is not possible for us to provide you with an instant interview without first booking a *mutually* convenient time. I appreciate your understanding with this matter. In this way, we can adequately prepare for an interview that best meets your needs.

I wish all families a safe and relaxing winter break. School resumes on Monday 27 July for all students.

Craig Wattam
Principal

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Late last term, in excess of 120 students from Years 8 to 10 participated in the annual Australian Geography Competition.

Whilst geographic in nature, the competition has a high component of current affairs and general knowledge and is a good test of students' understanding of topical issues.

In a competition that now sees over 87,000 entrants, our students did very well with four students achieving the top grade of High Distinction, putting them in the top 10% of the candidature. Congratulations go to Patrick Blackwell, Glenn Cardinio, Eugene Stone-Marques and Thomas Worley. We also had an additional eight students who achieved Distinction Awards (top 20%) and these students were Hamish Lander, Jessie Phillips, Cassie Skaines, Lauren Acland, Laura Bennett, Jeremy Culas, Nicole Goodman and Thomas Martens. In addition, another 41 students received Credits. Congratulations to all students who participated in this competition.

John Mealings
HSIE Coordinator

NEWS FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

Year 12 SOR excursion

Last Tuesday and Wednesday, Year 12 students were given the opportunity to take part in the Studies of Religion excursion to Sydney. The excursion is an opportunity for students to experience the different places of worship from the five major world Religions. Students travelled to the Hindu Temple in Mays Hill, Lakemba Mosque, The Great Synagogue, St Mary's Cathedral, St Spiridon's Greek Orthodox Church and Nan Tien Buddhist Temple. At each place of worship the students were given the chance to have a tour, discussion and questioning session and/or experience a religious worship activity.

The excursion is a wonderful opportunity to experience people of different faiths and

observe how these faiths are practised in person. It brings together, in a tangible way, the study of Religion that many of these students have been doing for their entire time in high school.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the excursion. It has been recounted as an eye-opening, once in a lifetime experience that is beneficial to their completion of the Studies of Religion course.

On behalf of Year 12, I would like to thank Mrs Mary Russell and Mr Peter Meers for leading the excursion.

Year 10 Retreat

Last Friday was the Year 10 Retreat. It involved an extended day at school and was facilitated by staff as well as Chris Doyle from Karis Ministries. The theme of the Retreat was *Stepping into the Light*. Students were given the chance to analyse their life's journey, looking specifically at how they were going to be *stepping into the light* in the years to come. Year Ten is a pivotal year for all students. Some will leave to enter the workforce or other forms of study whilst some will move into senior schooling. Either way, they are reaching a new level of maturity and are required to make important decisions all of which will have a large impact on their future.

Chris Doyle started the day by having students consider where they have been. Through music, games and group activities Chris helped them to see that the past is important in guiding the future. They were assured that past mistakes are important as a learning tool to assist them in not repeating



previous errors in the future. Chris's use of personal experiences to prove this message was touching and insightful.

Lee-Ann Kervin led the students in activities which encouraged them to look at where they are now. She was able to illustrate that the students need to be careful of who they allow to influence them and who they follow. Following one's inner voice, as guided by God, is vital.

Mary Russell then looked at the troubles and concerns that a Year Ten student may have in their life. Peer pressure, drugs, alcohol and fighting with parents were all issues that were raised in a survey taken on the day. These issues were then discussed using Gospel values and mime as a starting point.



As the evening came to a climax, students were invited, through the celebration of the Eucharist, to *step into the light*. They were asked to move forward, as one of Christ's disciples, into a life filled with concern for others, a life of which they could be proud. It was a fitting

conclusion to a day concerned with the need to journey towards a destination that fulfils their purpose in life as one of God's children.

On behalf of all of Year 10 I would like to thank Mrs Russell, Ms Bastick, Mrs Kervin, Mr Tilston, Ms Bongini, Ms Nieuwendyk, Mrs Watson, Mr Christopherson, Mr Roper and Mrs Kidd for their assistance in making the Retreat a success.

Amber Calleja
Religious Education Coordinator

RUGBY LEAGUE

On Thursday 2 July, the Opens and Under 15s travelled to Dubbo for the Western Region finals of the Country Cup.

Under 15s

The 15s played three matches against Delroy from Dubbo, Red Bend Forbes and Bathurst High School. The results were as follows:

Delroy

Unfortunately the boys started slowly and never really got into the match and went down 24-0 after trailing 10-0 at half time.

Red Bend

This match was a much improved performance from the boys and, with an intercept try early in the game to Ryan firth, converted by Jed Beasley we took a 6-0 lead. Red Bend was the first to score in the second half and the scores were locked at 6-6 until Cameron Jones scored an unconverted try to take the lead 10-6. Red bend scored again late to level the scores at 10 all. Sheahan were the winners however, as they scored first.

Bathurst High

This game was a very even contest with teams going try for try until Bathurst scored the final two tries to take the match 24-10. Try scorers for Sheahan were Kyle Connolly and Cameron Jones.

Opens

The Open Boys' team only had two games, which was possibly a blessing in disguise. Unfortunately we were struggling for a team and on departure time from school we only had 7 players. Luckily for us we ended up with thirteen players for the day but this proved too difficult for the boys to overcome. They played their two matches against Kelso High School and Red Bend Forbes.

The first match was a 24-6 loss to Kelso High with the second a 38-0 loss to Red Bend Forbes.

This signalled the end for both teams in the Country Cup competition. Thank you once again to our Coaches - Steve Beasley (15s) and Wade Judd (Opens) who have looked after the boys for the season. Without their help it is very difficult for us to compete in such competitions.

David Hurst
PD/H/PE

COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

From the start of Term 3, 2009 Online Assessment Tasks will be located in a password protected area of the Sheahan website. This will bring us in line with current copyright reproduction and communication laws. The link to the Assessment Task page

login can be found on the top right of the Sheahan home page. Examination study guides will also be contained in this area of the website.

The username to access this area = jschs
The password = assessment

*Darron Snare
ICT Coordinator*

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Our Silver Duke of Edinburgh participants will be eagerly watching the weather forecasts for the weekend as they prepare for their three day hike in the mountains. Bill Dowler, William Clark, Jack Fogarty and Shannon Maloy-Armitt will be hoping the predicted showers don't fall on them as they navigate their way along the Cox's River for their Silver trial expedition.

Joining up with students from Oxford Falls Grammar, the walk will commence at the Explorer's Tree and finish at the end of the Megalong Valley Road where hopefully we will be met by parents who just want to get us home for a relaxing two week break!

Recently, Stephanie Rusden completed her four day Gold trial expedition with Brigidine College, walking from Yarramolong to Wondabyne (60kms) and this group did walk in pouring rain each day swatting mosquitoes and forever scraping off leeches. They will certainly be hoping for a better alpine experience later this year when they complete their Gold journey.

Bronze participants should be busy completing their components and getting fit for their final trek which will be held later in August.

Tania Rusden



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CWN11/ORG9206 Monday 20 July
9:30 AM-11.30 AM
2 sessions

TRIVIA NIGHT AT ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, ORANGE

Tickets are now available for the St Joseph's School Trivia Night on Saturday 1 August.

Cost per table of 8 is \$120.00, payable either on booking or on the night.

Contact St Joseph's School on 6361 3344 for bookings or more information.

YEAR 11, 2010 UNIFORM

It's time to order the NEW School Uniform for Year 11, 2010.

Orange Clothing Company has made it easy with an Optional Progressive Payment Plan

5 Simple Steps

1. Call Now and make an appointment
2. We will assist with fittings
3. Place your order (20% deposit required)
4. Pay progressively (This is optional)
5. Final payment & pick-up

To guarantee availability, orders must be placed.

Summer Uniform delivery into store will be November 2009.

Fittings will commence 13 July and continue until 24 July 2009 and will be by Appointment only

To make an appointment
Call Bernadette or Teresa
On 02 6361 1512

Orange Clothing Company
33-35 Sale Street, Orange NSW 2800

**Friends of James Sheahan
present**

Kathryn Handsaker in Concert

Sunday 2nd August 2009

at 2.30pm

**Orange Regional
Conservatorium**

Hill Street, Orange



Kathryn Handsaker has performed many oratorios, concerts and masses in both Europe and throughout Australia. She has an extensive and ever growing operatic repertoire, and her roles have included Carmen (with Co-opera), Dorabella from Cosi Fan Tutte, Prince Orlofsky in Die Fledermaus and Rosette in Manon with the Landes Theater in Austria.

Kathryn will perform a variety of items from composers including Mozart, Bizet, Handel, Schönberg and Gershwin.

Kathryn will be accompanied by

Craig Wattam on piano.

Also performing an item during the concert will be Katherine Moses, a Year 11 student. Katherine will perform a cello solo.

Tickets

- Adults: \$15.00
- Child: \$10.00

Available from the
school office

James Sheahan
Catholic High School
PO Box 146
Orange NSW 2800

Phone: 02 6362 1422
Fax: 02 6362 0776

E-mail: jshadmin@netwit.net.au

