



Semper Paratus

Newsletter of
James Sheahan
Catholic High School

Volume 24 Number 23
Thursday 30 July 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

**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

*Help me give my children the best... not of trappings or toys,
but of myself, cherishing them on good days and bad, theirs and mine.
Teach me to accept them for who they are, not for what they do;
to listen to what they say, if only so they will listen to me; to encourage
their goals, not mine; and please, let me laugh with them and be silly.
Let me give them a home where respect is the cornerstone,
integrity the foundation, and there is enough happiness to raise the roof.*



Friends of James Sheahan

present

**Kathryn Handsaker
in Concert**

*Accompanied by
Craig Wattam and
featuring solo
performances on
cello by
Katherine Moses*



*Sunday 2nd August 2009
2.30pm*

*Orange Regional
Conservatorium
Hill Street, Orange, NSW*



Kate Handsaker Concert: Sunday 2 August 2009, 2.30pm at Orange Regional Conservatorium, Hill St Orange.

Kate is an ex-student of James Sheahan and will be performing for us this Sunday. It is a concert not to be missed. Kate is a wonderfully talented soprano who lives in Austria, and is making a name for herself there as an opera singer. Please come along and support local talent, and past students of our school. Tickets are \$15 Adult and \$10 Children and are available from the school or at the door.

A fresh term

During the holidays many of the corridors and classrooms in the school have been repainted. The school looks bright and fresh with new colour schemes chosen. During this term many classrooms will be recarpeted. A new PA system is in the process of being installed in the school hall. Many thanks to the generosity of the P&F, this new microphone and amplification system will be vastly superior to the old one. We have also purchased a new ride-on lawnmower for the school. Over this year we will spend more than \$300,000 on school maintenance and new resources.

Welcome

We welcome Mr Gerard Hannelly to the staff as our new D&T teacher. Mr Hannelly replaces Mr Chris Crowley who finished his time with us at the end of last term.

Development of the Strategic Plan

In the last week of Term 2, our strategic planning writing team worked for two days with Michael McDonald to arrive at our draft strategic plan. The strategic intent of our plan comes under five broad, key target headings which have been drawn up from the collated data that was produced by staff and students on the strategic planning day held in May. These five areas represent an outline, under which detail will be provided with specific targets and a timeframe for completion.

During this term, I will produce in this newsletter, detail of each of these 5 targets, suggesting a three year plan for the future development of our school. Please consider these targets as a draft for your comment. I welcome feedback on any and all aspects of the draft strategic plan. Feedback can be provided via email or in writing to the school. This will ensure that the strategic plan is indeed representative of all stakeholders in the school community, and is a vision that is a shared one.

I am genuinely excited by the work completed thus far, and commend the document to you as an energising and future-focused strategic plan that I hope will serve students, staff, families and the wider James Sheahan community extremely well.

The Five Areas are:

1. **Faith Life/School Tradition**

To continue to develop the faith life and traditions of the school community, building on the inspiration of our founders

2. **Students**

To facilitate the development of the necessary qualities and skills in our students so that they are prepared for a changing world

3. **Teaching/Learning/Staff/Professional Development**

To ensure that the staff at James Sheahan Catholic High School are provided with the appropriate training, support and expertise such that they are engaged in excellent teaching and learning

4. **Community**

To foster positive links and relationships within the school and wider community to encourage mutual enrichment

5. **Finance and Resources**

To engage in responsible financial and resource management to enable the school to meet its current and future needs.

Student attendance at the end of term

Despite my best efforts to encourage both parents and students about the need to attend school right up to and including the last day, there was a large number of students absent at the end of term.

Whilst I understand there were a number of State teams competing in matches across NSW and a deal of illness, this does not account for the number of absences.

I must stress that all absences need to be accounted for, and a letter of explanation must be provided. Students in Years 7 – 10 who were absent at the end of term will need to see me personally to collect their half yearly report. This, of course, should be taken home to parents, unopened.

*Craig Wattam
Principal*

YEARS 7 TO 10 PARENT/ TEACHER/ STUDENT INTERVIEWS

A reminder to parents that the Parent/Teacher/Student Evening for Junior Students will be held in the School Hall next Wednesday 5 August between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Bookings for the evening closed on Tuesday 28 July.

Due to the demand for interviews only bookings made by this date can be catered for. Confirmed interview times should have been returned home via your child. If you have submitted a booking sheet and have not seen confirmation times please ask your child or contact the Front Office on 6362 1422.

As mentioned earlier, this evening constitutes an important step in preparing students for success in their studies. The evening provides the ideal opportunity for teachers to recognise and affirm the achievements of your child, to discuss with yourself and your child any areas causing concern and to provide information on your child's overall progress. Questions regarding the content and structure of courses as well as assessment issues can also be discussed at this time. The input of your child in these discussions is actively encouraged and considered a vital part of this process. For this reason, the school strongly encourages your child to attend the interviews with you.

Your active involvement in interview evenings and information nights assists you to have an influential role in your child's education and sends a powerful message to your child regarding your continuing involvement and support in their educational growth and progression to adulthood.

We look forward to meeting parents and students on the 5th.

*Peter Meers
Assistant Principal*

PIERRE DE COUBERTIN AWARD



Congratulations to Duncan Young in Year 12 who has recently been awarded the prestigious Pierre de Coubertin award for 2009. Pierre de Coubertin was the founder of the modern Olympics and an award has been created by the NSW

Olympic Council to recognise the endeavours of students in the sporting field.

To be selected to receive this award, students must meet the following criteria:

1) Students must have represented the school in swimming, cross country or athletics and at least two sports on the Olympic program.

Duncan has covered this criteria easily as he has represented the school and the Bathurst Diocese in cross country, rugby union and soccer. Duncan has also represented the school in athletics, rugby league, and cricket.

2) Students must also display attributes that are consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic movement.

Duncan has displayed qualities of sportsmanship and fair play in all sports he has represented in whilst at James Sheahan. He has also shown a great deal of dedication and motivation to achieve his potential in all sports he has participated in. Duncan is indeed a great role model to all junior athletes at James Sheahan.

3) Students must complete a piece of literary or artistic work showing an appreciation of the Olympic movement.

Duncan completed an excellent essay that clearly showed how Pierre de Coubertin's ideals are still relevant in today's society.

Duncan is a most deserving winner of the Pierre de Coubertin award for 2009. The school congratulates Duncan for his outstanding sporting success to date and wishes him all the best in his future sporting endeavours.

*Greg Pell
PD/H/PE*

ICT NEWS

Online Assessment Tasks and Study Guides are now located in a password protected area of the Sheahan website. 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

A Special Offer for K – 12 Students

Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007 - Half Price until 31st October 2009!

Computelec is pleased to announce a special promotion from Microsoft for K – 12 students in Australian schools. Beginning 1st July 2009 and ending 31st October 2009, Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007 Student Select can be purchased through Computelec at half the normal price. Students can pick up the latest software for only \$74.90 inc GST including media and postage!

The 2007 Microsoft Office system is considered the essential software suite for home PC users. Allowing you to quickly and easily create great looking documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and manage your communication and information in one place. Office Enterprise 2007 is the most complete Microsoft toolset providing access to Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Access, Outlook, Publisher, One Note and Groove.

Who is eligible to purchase through this Academic Select Student License Agreement?

In order to be eligible to purchase Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007 there are a few simple criteria that must be fulfilled.

They are;

1. You must be a current full time student enrolled in an Australian school.
2. You must be able to provide Computelec with proof of identification via a Student ID card or equivalent.

3. Please note this offer is limited to 1 copy of Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007 per student and it not for school or commercial use.

How do students order a copy of Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007?

Parent or legal guardian (if student is under the age of 18) must simply;

1. Log onto www.computelec.com.au
2. Go to Client Log in at the bottom left hand corner of the home page. Select Microsoft Student Select from the drop down menu.
3. Enter user name and password as indicated -
4. USER NAME: **STCECNSW**
PASSWORD: **1cdd**
5. Download and print off the Order Form and Academic Select Student License Agreement.
6. Return completed forms to Computelec via fax (03) 9681 8344 or e-mail ccd@computelec.com.au
7. All orders must be received prior to 30th October 2009 to allow for processing.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Education Contact Centre on 1300 36 1988 or e-mail ccd@computelec.com.au should you require any assistance or further information.

*Darron Snare
ICT Coordinator*

NSW COMBINED CATHOLIC COLLEGES SOCCER KNOCKOUT

After winning the Bathurst Diocesan soccer gala day, the Open Boys' Soccer team travelled to Young to play Marian College Griffith in the Round of 16 in this competition.

Sheahan started well in the first half and were unlucky not to score within five minutes. A nice passing move resulted in Anthony Huysmans getting behind the Marian College defence and his shot beat the keeper but unfortunately hit the post. For the remainder of this half Sheahan lacked intensity and Marian College dominated field position and possession of the ball. The pressure eventually took its toll as Marian College scored a soft goal midway through the half to take a 1-0 lead into the break.

In the second half Sheahan played much better soccer and had the Marian College team pinned in their defensive end of the field.

However, despite creating a number of goal scoring chances Sheahan could not get an equaliser. Marian College were unlucky not to score late in this half as Sheahan pressed forward to score a goal but Duncan Young made a couple of important saves.

The 1-0 loss was a disappointing end to Sheahan's 2009 campaign in this competition as the boys did not play to their usual high standards, particularly in the first half. However, finishing in the last 16 of the state is not a bad effort. The best performers in this match were Grant Koch (3 points), Ryan Masotti (2 points) and Duncan Mate (1 point).



Thank you to Jesse Badger, Travis Roweth and Jakob Boulton for their work as officials for the match. Also, thank you to the parents who travelled to Young to support the boys on the day.

*Greg Pell
PD/H/PE*

GIRLS TENNIS

In Term 2, the James Sheahan Girls' Tennis team competed in the Diocesan Tennis Competition. The competition was hosted by James Sheahan and held at the Indoor Complex "Totally Tennis" in Orange. The team consisted of Year 12 student Stephanie Rusden, Tiffany Roweth - Year 11, Anthea Basha - Year 9 and young gun Kate Oliver from Year 7.

In the first round the girls had a bye, then were very convincing winners over Red Bend Catholic College winning all 6 sets played. Thus it was with some confidence they went into the final against MacKillop College. As the boys marched into the Indoor Centre after being washed out at Wade Park, perhaps the girls lost a little focus and despite Steph Rusden winning her opening singles match 6-0, it wasn't

enough. The defending champions were defeated by MacKillop 5 sets to 1.



Many thanks to Year 12 students Stephanie Rusden and Amy Symons (first reserve) who have represented the school for the final time in tennis. Stephanie has been an integral member of the team every year since she commenced school at James Sheahan in 2004. During that time her fine all round game has resulted in many wins for the school team and she was often a liked but feared opponent. Good luck to both girls and we hope you continue to play and enjoy tennis beyond your school years.

*Jo Kingham
PD/H/PE Coordinator*

NATIONAL SCHOOLS TREE DAY

On Friday 31 July the Environmental Group and Year 10 Agriculture will be planting trees to help improve our natural environment. The trees will help rehabilitate land affected by salinity and soil degradation in our wetland area.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Toyota and the SRC, for providing the resources needed for us to carry out this important project.

Mrs Humphrys/Mrs Eyb

STUDENT TAX FILE NUMBERS

The tax file number (TFN) is an essential part of interacting with the tax system. It isn't compulsory to have a TFN, but it is an advantage to have one. Without a TFN, students may:

- have tax taken out of their wages at the highest rate
- not be able to get some Centrelink payments, and
- not be able to defer their university fees.

Why we have the school leavers program

Many school leavers find it difficult to prove their identity to the standard needed to get their TFN. However, as secondary school students, they can take advantage of the secondary schools TFN program and apply through their school.

The advantage is they don't have to provide any proof of identity documents because the school verifies their identity. However, it is only a valid way to apply for a TFN whilst they are still at school. After they leave school they will need to provide full documentation when applying. Ideally, the student will associate their need for a tax file number in the future with the ease of getting one whilst at school and lodge an application.

In particular, anyone considering going to university should be encouraged to take advantage of the program so they can provide their TFN to the university to defer their HELP fees on enrolment day.

See Mr Mealings for TFN Application Forms.

ST MARY'S & ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Mary MacKillop Parish Pilgrimage to celebrate the centenary of her death.

Saturday 15 August - Assumption Feastday.

- * The Pilgrimage will journey 13km to Lidster (formerly German Hill) Convent School site (and now the tennis courts) for morning tea and prayers at 10.00am near the tennis club house.
- * 11.30am at old Borenore convent and church buildings for DVD reflections on Josephite Sisters history and their current ministries.
- * 12.00noon Mass celebrated by Bishop McKenna
- * Lunch - either BYO with tea/coffee provided or \$15.00 for soup & bun, dessert/sweets and tea/coffee. BYO folding chair for Lidster.
- * RSVP to the Parish Office for morning tea at Lidster and lunch at Borenore for catering purposes.

All Sisters of St Joseph ministering in the Bathurst Diocese and beyond have been invited with some able to be with us for our time of remembering and celebrating their history and ours. Several Sisters are even travelling from Lightning Ridge. Please come and be their hosts.

- * Bishop McKenna will stay in Orange and on Sunday 16 August celebrate the 8.00am Mass at St Joseph's Church and the 9.30am Mass at St Mary's Church with a dozen youth Confirmations.
- * A welcome to our new Bishop, for all parishioners to attend, will be held in Kenna Hall at 11.30am for 12.00noon on the same day with 'Soup in a Cup' and finger food for a light lunch. Please bring a plate to share.

Fr Carl Mackander

MOVE OVER MASTER CHEF - KATE TOPS AT HOSPO!

Year 12 2008 student, Kate Thurtell, was absolutely "stoked" recently to find out she was the winner of the 2008 Australian Vocational Student prize.



Nominated by Mrs Jane Edwards, and supported by Hospitality teachers Kerry Kidd and Sally Hyland as a student showing outstanding passion and ability during the two year Hospitality course, Kate's talents were recognised by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education, Julia Gillard.

Targeting high achieving students in all areas of Vocational Education, the \$2000 prize is going to be put to good use by Kate, who plans to travel before joining the Army next year to train as a chef.

"I didn't expect to win the prize, but I'm absolutely stoked that I did," Kate said. Hospitality teacher Kerry Kidd said Kate certainly deserved to win the award given her commitment to her Hospitality studies while at school.

Kate also obtained outstanding work placement reports from her work place employers during the two weeks work placement at school. The secret to Kate's success – a love of her studies.

"Right from Year 7, I really enjoyed all aspects of the work and found it really interesting," Kate said.

"The teachers were always ready to help you and explain what we were learning, and they spent a lot of extra time with the students that they didn't have to."

"I would really like to thank Mrs Edwards and all the Hospitality staff for everything they have done for me."