



# Semper Paratus

**Newsletter of  
James Sheahan  
Catholic High School**

*Volume 24 Number 33  
Thursday 22 October 2009*

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Friday 23 October**  
Year 7 Medieval Day

Year 11 Reports issued to students

**Wednesday 28 October to  
Friday 30 October**  
Senior Retreat

**Wednesday 4 November**  
Years 7 - 11  
Parent/Teacher/Student Evening

**Monday 9 November and  
Tuesday 10 November**  
School Certificate Exams

**Thursday 12 November**  
Year 7, 2010 Testing Day  
Year 7, 2010 Parent Information Evening

**Friday 13 November**  
Year 12 Graduation Ball

**Tuesday 17 November**  
Grandparents' Day

**Wednesday 25 November**  
Year 7 Exams commence

**Thursday 26 November**  
Year 8 Exams commence

**Friday 27 November**  
Year 10 Presentation Assembly - 11.00am  
End of Year Mass

**Monday 30 November**  
Year 9 Exams commence

*Lord*

*Thank you for being present to me in all my senses,  
I can see you in the colours around me.  
I can hear you in the traffic going by.  
I can feel You in the warmth of the sun  
and in the gentleness of a breeze.  
I can smell You in the aroma of freshly baked bread.  
I can taste You in the coolness of water.  
And I sense the indwelling of Your Spirit.  
Thank you for my being.  
Amen.*

Welcome back to all for the last term of the school year. It will be a very busy and a very short term for students. Schools by their very nature are busy places, and ours is no exception.

Over the holiday period our Administration building has been painted, and is still in the process of being completed. We have also had new carpet laid and it looks very fresh and inviting. Work has also commenced on the staff study with most of the demolition already completed. The Science Labs have also been gutted and have had the gas and water disconnected, re-routed and the floor has been re-concreted.



Our HSC students commenced their exams on Tuesday this week and their farewell celebrations at the end of the previous term were beautifully done.

I would like to thank our departing Year 12s for the wonderful way in which they have taken their leave from

our school. They did so with grace and style!



On Monday this week we had the immense benefit of the wisdom of Dr Christine Richmond, whose speciality and passion is behaviour management in the context of student learning. Her minimalist approach is to provide classroom teachers with the opportunity to maximise teaching conversations, in minimising behaviour conversations (or management conversations). In this way, students have the best opportunities to learn. What was most valuable about Christine's presentation for me was the fact that her work is characterised by an intense love of teaching and of the work that goes on in schools. Students need to be given challenges to learn, but they also need to be managed in an environment that allows them to get the most out of their learning. Of course, this is an oversimplification of the very complex task of engaging, motivating, teaching and dealing with adolescents on a daily basis. Christine reinforced for me that teaching is more than a profession, indeed more than a career or even a vocation, but that teaching is a lifestyle!

I hope that all students have returned to school refreshed and ready for a term of learning, of doing well in end of year examinations, and of enjoying their time with each other.

## Advance Notice: Newsletter 2010

Our newsletter has been delivered to your inbox as an email for most of this year. We will continue with this practice next year, and in 2010, the newsletter will be a **fortnightly** rather than a weekly publication. This way, we hope to provide you with a meaty, informative, educational and interesting newsletter that contains all you need to know, lessening the possibility of the overlooking of a weekly publication.

Craig Wattam  
Principal

## AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

This year, 43 students from James Sheahan Catholic High School competed in the Australian Mathematics Competition. This is a challenging, problem solving based competition and congratulations are extended to all students who took part. The following students were awarded certificates of distinction or credit, with distinction certificates to be awarded at assembly. All other students will be awarded their credit and participation certificates in their Mathematics classes. Well done to the following students:

### Distinctions

Year 10: Natalie Lee

Year 11: Timothy Sergeant

### Credits

Year 7: Jack Aubrey, Jack Sharpe, Carol Casido, Katrina Nash, Emily Collins, Emma Crean

Year 8: Emily Taylor, Ashleigh Cunial, Sarah Geatches, Isaac Beath, Alexandra Staples

Year 9: Emily McFarland, Glenn Cardinio, Nicholas Benjafield, Kaitlin Harvey

Year 10: Maddison Turnbull, James Staples, Lachlan Jadzak, Ashleigh van Kemenade

Year 11: Shannon Fadaee, Nicholas Jadzak  
*Michael Roper*  
*Assistant Mathematics Coordinator*

## P&F NEWS

The P&F Fundraiser for Term 4 is the Krispy Kreme Drive. Order collection forms were sent home on Tuesday and will need to be returned on Tuesday 10 November. Don't hold back with your selling campaign - we need to sell over 500 dozen to make it worthwhile! If you think this sounds exciting, come and help us to distribute them on 19 November.

*Louise Baker*  
*for the P&F Committee*

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Over the past 3 years we have had quite a few students complete the Bronze level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and some of these students have continued to the Silver level. We would like students who are 14 at the beginning of next year to consider joining the program in 2010.

If you already do any of the following, you could be using these activities to obtain the award:

- Play and train for a sport or other physical activity for at least 1 hour per week.
- Learn and practise playing an instrument for at least 1 hour per week.
- Learn and practise driving a car for at least 1 hour per week.
- Do voluntary work for a community organisation like the PCYC, The Red Cross Blood Bank, RSPCA, St Vincent De Paul or a nursing home.
- Hiking and Camping

If students haven't done these things, but are willing to try a new skill and/or physical activity and do some voluntary community service, then they could participate in this award.

Any student who is 14 can start the program. They will need to complete at least 3 months of each activity under the guidance of an approved adult (usually not a parent). They will also go on 2 overnight adventurous journeys and learn navigational, first aid and survival skills. Ideally, all components would be completed within a year. However, they can be registered with the program up to the age of 25.

This award is highly regarded all over the world. It can be of great benefit when going for a job and can help you get a university placement. The main idea behind this program is that you set yourself goals to extend yourself and make a weekly commitment to achieve

them. Students aged 14 would start at the Bronze level, and there is an opportunity to continue to Silver and Gold levels for very enthusiastic 'Dukes'.

We are particularly hoping for interest from Year 8 students going into Year 9 next year, however, any students 14 and over are eligible.

If your child is interested in this program please discuss it with them and ask them to collect a note when it is offered at their Year Meeting. Mrs Rusden and myself will be starting a new group that will kick off in Term One, 2010.

Check out the website: [www.dukeofed.org.au](http://www.dukeofed.org.au) for lots of inspiration!

*Trish Moran and Tania Rusden  
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinators*

### **MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS - MATHS CHALLENGE STAGE**

Congratulations to Emily Taylor in Year 8 for being awarded a Distinction in the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians. Emily was required to solve six very challenging problems over a three week period in her own time, with only very limited help from her teachers. She was also required to do this while studying for her Half Yearly Examinations. Well done, Emily!



*Michael Roper  
Assistant Mathematics Coordinator*

### **CLOTHING POOL**

As the clothing pool will be closing at the end of this year (2009), the old uniform for Year 10 2010 and Year 12 2010 is available at reduced prices for anyone who requires extra pieces.

Would Year 12 students please hand in their uniforms by the end of the year if they don't want to keep them.

All second-hand uniforms left in the clothing pool at the end of Term 4 will be sent to a mission school. If you would like your uniform back, and not sent to a mission school, please

collect it from the school on Tuesdays between 10.30am and 1.30pm.

*Marg Young*

### **ST MARY'S SCHOOL MARKET DAY**

**WHEN:** Saturday 31 October  
9.00am to 2.00pm.

**WHERE:** Cnr Byng and Park Streets  
Orange



Stall holders welcome.  
Please contact Nicole Downey on 0423135574  
or [downeyfam1@dodo.com.au](mailto:downeyfam1@dodo.com.au).

### **OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND - BLAYNEY**

St Joseph's Central School, Blayney are holding an Open Garden Weekend on 7 and 8 November.

There will be 8 gardens and 2 historical churches on display from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Garden entry is \$3.00 each or you can purchase a Garden Passport for \$10.00 and see all 8 fabulous gardens. It is free entry for children 15 years and under.



Tickets are available at each garden or from Blayney Newsagency

For further information, please contact Louise Hamer on 63681137 or email [hamerearthmoving@bigpond.com](mailto:hamerearthmoving@bigpond.com)

### **DATE FOR THE DIARY**

The JSCHS Music Support Team will again be hosting a night of musical excellence featuring the musical genius of local musician Louis Ortiz on double bass, supported by JSCHS staff, students and parents.

Write **Friday, 4 December** in your diary NOW.

Further details will be available Week 1 of next term.

*Trish Aumuller*

# FAREWELL YEAR 12, 2009

