

"Let Your Light Shine"

WEEK 6 TERM I, 2012

9 March 2012

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College,
"An Invitation to the Heart"

God help us. With great skill and energy we have ignored the state of the human heart. With politics and economics we have denied the heart's need. With eloquence, wit and reason we have belittled the heart's wisdom. With sophistication and style, with science and technology, we have drowned out the voice of the soul. The primitive voice, the innocent voice. The truth. We cannot hear our heart's truth and thus we have betrayed and belittled ourselves and pledged madness to our children. With skill and pride we have made for ourselves an unhappy society. God be with us. Amen.
(Common Prayer Collection:Leunig)

When students enter our College they are entering a Catholic Learning Community. Our faith community deliberately has not one charism but is built around the "Spirituality of the Heart" We invite every person who joins us, to come "to the heart" of our faith and to be open to the experience of faith in their lives.

The program begins in Year 7 with *"An Invitation to the Heart"* through a Reflection Day and culminates in the Senior Retreat Program. This week, our Year 11 students were in Camp Kedron with members of our teaching staff, as part of a three day spiritual experience designed to lead to a greater awareness of themselves as real people and to a greater intimacy with their family, peers, teachers and God. Parents have contributed too by writing letters to their children, letters from the heart that will be opened on Retreat. Br Pat, Father Peter and Father Noel have all taken time out to visit our students and teachers this week. The Retreat removes our students from the overwhelming 'busyness' or ordinary life and offers our students a unique and rich opportunity to immerse themselves in their own faith discovery and journey.

I would like to thank in particular, on behalf of our students, Mrs Melham and Ms Bissett, but also the large number of teachers who have committed themselves to our students in this way. Some of these people are away from their families for the entire week.

High Achievers Assembly

"That some achieve great success, is proof to all that others can achieve it as well."

(Abraham Lincoln)

A highlight last week was our acknowledgement of our High Achievers in the 2011 HSC and the 2011 School Certificate. This was the very first time in our history where we could draw on past success in the HSC to inspire our current students. Sadly, the rain meant that only our Year 10 and Stage 6 students could attend but the experience was most uplifting.



Kaitlin Maia, our Dux for 2011, attained an ATAR of 97.75 in her HSC, an outstanding achievement. Her goal, she explained to her peers, was an ATAR of 97. The pride in her achievement was palpable. She shared her learnings and advised that she had made many sacrifices in Year 11 and 12 in order to ensure that every assignment submitted was done to the best of her ability. She very wisely pointed out that she felt that commitment and hard work were the keys to her success. Matthew Caltabiano's (ATAR 89.35) result exceeded his own expectations. He praised the Clancy teachers for their support. He stressed in his address that self-belief was core to success.

Matthew and Kaitlin have many talents, they are both academically gifted but they both stressed determination, goal setting and listening brought them success. "It is the application, the listening, the sense in taking in all the College has to offer that brings this level of success."

(Matthew Caltabiano)

Thank you to both of these students for attending this Assembly. It's hard to measure the impact of their presence. Students commented that the experience was inspirational and a true motivator.

We are so proud of the outcomes for our inaugural Year 12 graduates, the achievements of our teaching staff, and in particular our students.

The following Year 12 students were also acknowledged at the Assembly for achieving one or more Band 6's. Congratulations to:

Karishma Prasad (ATAR 94.85)
Cassandra Steers (ATAR 91)
Kevin Armendariz
Josip Crepulja
Stephanie Gerges
Joshua Head

Mr Dooner led us in acknowledging our current Year 11 students who achieved overall School Certificate results over 90%. These students have great potential in the future should they continue to apply high expectations. Congratulations to:

Victoria Abreu
Morgan Davies
Madeline Morrison
Sarah Casha
Katrina Viray
Piotr Rutkowski

These Clancy high achievers are proof that Clancy students can achieve, and achieve well.

Iris Nastasi
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Silver Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been recipients of Silver Awards in the first half of the term as part of the College award system. This is a great achievement and we commend these students:

Kieren Thompson
Francesco Licastro
Nadia Acitelli

Parking in Carmichael Drive

In addition to the information regarding parking in the last Newsletter, the Police visited the College to inform us of recent complaints regarding parking and traffic flow at the front of the College. Police will be making regular patrols of a morning and afternoon. Please be advised the maximum time a car can be stopped in the parking bays where there are no parking signs posted is **two minutes**. Parking for longer than this will incur a \$147 fine and 2 demerit points.

The Thrive Program

The Rosemount Group who work with students in our feeder schools, Good Samaritan and our College will be running the Thrive Program and are based at our College. A brief introduction to this program and the staff can be found in this newsletter.

Craig Mooney
Assistant Principal

Curriculum Update

Firstly I would like to thank the many Year 10 and 11 parents and students who have attended our two Assessment Information Nights held over the past few weeks. It is hoped you found them informative and that they have helped set a firm foundation in these very important years as we strive for further academic success at Clancy.

One important thing to highlight from these nights is that the College Assessment calendars have now been published online on the College Website. These calendars will be kept up-to-date and will reflect any changes that may be made throughout the year due to unforeseen circumstances. Students will be given the option of subscribing to these calendars through iCal allowing them to have the most recent information on their computers.

Looking at these calendars you will see the next 5 weeks are a peak time for Assessment Tasks across all year groups and it is important for every student to be aware of what they have due and plan accordingly. The secrets of success over these 5 weeks are:

- Creating a timetable of when tasks are due and keeping it in a central area in the home and at school.
- Making an early start on tasks.
- Asking questions in class about anything that does not make sense or that you don't understand.
- Reading the marking criteria so that you know how you can maximise your marks.
- Trying to finish some tasks early so that you can concentrate on others that are due.
- Attending class every day to ensure you hear all the tips and advice your teachers will give to the class.
- Preparing for exams by completing study notes and practising exam style questions. Remember you only really learn by doing so ask for some old exams or for work you can do to practice.
- Good, old fashioned hard work!

If you have any concerns or questions then please feel free to contact the Subject teacher as the first point of contact, then the KLA and Year Coordinators or myself. Best wishes go to all our students as they head into this very busy time.

Michael Dooner
Acting Curriculum Coordinator

Careers

Sydney Royal Easter Show

When: 5 - 18 April 2012

Volunteer program for 2013:

<http://www.eastershow.com.au/info/volunteers-home.aspx>
<http://www.eastershow.com.au/>

School Holiday Courses for Children Aged 6 to 17 Years

3D computer learning is combined with lateral thinking and problem solving activities.

Where: Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and New Zealand. <http://www.bubbledome.com>

2012 Higher School Certificate Rules and Procedures now online

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/yourhsc/hsc-rules-procedures-guide.html>

Sharyn Conneally
Careers Advisor

Linking learning to parents

Writing is more than just scratching words on a page. At Clancy, we are targeting students who are excelling in English, asking them to take the next step to enhance their writing. Please take a moment to encourage your child to go to the next level with their writing by taking part in our Advanced Creative Writing group.



Advanced Creative Writing Group

- Are you a 'good' writer but want to learn a few more skills to take it to the next level?
- Can you create stories, but are clueless about why you don't seem to get the maximum marks for your effort?
- Are you aiming for high marks in your English assessments, but don't seem to have the tools to get you there?

Then, this is the group for you!
Meeting every Thursday at lunchtime in D13.

Lauren Drego (Armbruster)
Leader of Diverse Learning

Study Skills

At Clancy Catholic College we subscribe to the **Study Skills Handbook**.

This is an excellent online resource designed to assist students with developing healthy study habits and has a wealth of useful information. The username and password is below. **Please Note: This password is for students enrolled in Clancy Catholic College ONLY**

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MARCH: 7 COMMON MISTAKES IN APPROACHES TO STUDYING

Every time you have a test, quiz or exam this year, refer back to this list during your preparation to ensure you are **not** making these common mistakes in your approach to studying:

1. Not making study notes on a regular basis, instead, waiting till just before the test or exam.
2. Not finishing the study notes early enough before the test so there is not enough time to learn them properly or do practice.
3. Not making the study notes brain-friendly and structured in a way that makes them easy to learn.
4. Not testing yourself to see if you know the content or not, just reading your notes over and over.
5. Not using a wide range of study techniques, being lazy and just using the same old techniques, regardless of whether they are working for you or not.
6. Not doing practice for exams under exam conditions (ie time limits and not looking at notes or answers).
7. Not doing questions from a wide enough range of sources.

The aim should be that by the end of the year you have eliminated any of those common mistakes that you are prone to.

To learn more about effective studying visit the Summarising and Active Studying unit of www.studyskillshandbook.com.au
Our school's subscription details are -

Username: forclancyconly

Password: 14results

Beth Cesaro
Librarian

Peer Support 2012 at Clancy: Weeks 4, 5 & 6



During Peer Support in Weeks 4, 5 and 6 students continued to develop their understanding of perseverance and resilience when facing challenges.

Students were involved in interactive activities that required them to work in teams and persevere to achieve the necessary end result. Students were encouraged to realise that to achieve success often requires perseverance. Being prepared to push on when things are challenging is a key feature of becoming a more resilient individual.

Students were challenged to consider a range of problems they may face, and to develop strategies they could use to respond in positive and resilient ways.



"On 5 March, 2012 Year 7 had Peer Support in period 5. In Peer Support we had to do an activity where we had to get newspaper and build the tallest tower possible. The teams were split and timed, which made it harder! The team with the tallest tower at the end won. We had lots of fun at peer support and can't wait until the next time!"

(By Isabella Tropea and Kristine Sventek 7.5)

Lorena Ghignoni and Katie Pearce
Peer Support Coordinators

SALAKA drums up a storm with Year 7

On Friday 2 March, Clancy Catholic College hosted SALAKA: The spirit of Africa, as part of the Year 7 Music curriculum. As the students entered the Theatre, they were greeted by Malin who introduced them to African drumming. There were a number of drums around the room and all the students had the opportunity to play their own drum and learn these vibrant and complex rhythms.



Now if you thought that Africa was just about drumming then you would have been surprised to see a large number of students and teachers dancing to the contagious rhythms.

Such an experience is vital to having students understand the importance that cultures have on Music. To have the students perform these rhythms was an absolute joy. This performance will remain in the minds of the students in years to come.

John Alvear
Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator

The Thrive Program

The Rosemount Good Shepherd Thrive Program is an exciting new initiative that aims to improve the wellbeing of students and families in the West Hoxton Catholic School Cluster. The program will primarily involve delivering early intervention and prevention programs to students at risk of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression, facilitating parenting workshops and providing referrals to outside services. The two caseworkers will be based at Clancy Catholic College for 2012.

Jessica Punch has recently joined Rosemount Good Shepherd after four years as a caseworker with the Young Parents-Brighter Futures Program, a program aimed at reducing and preventing child abuse within young vulnerable families. Jessica has also worked as a caseworker for the Department of Community Services and run after school programs for high school students. Jessica has a passion for International Development and regularly spends time in Africa teaching in schools and supporting local projects.



Jessica is looking forward to working alongside students, teachers, parents and service providers during her time with the THRIVE program.

African Proverb: It takes a village to raise a child.

Luana Siaso and has been working for Rosemount Good Shepherd for over three years as a caseworker assisting young people who have had time away from mainstream schooling to re-engage with education, TAFE or find suitable work. Luana has also worked as a primary school teacher in New Zealand and has a variety of experiences, working with children and families experiencing significant challenges. Recently she has returned from Thailand where she completed an emersion with the Good Shepherd Sisters and volunteers in Nongkhai. She is looking forward to working with staff and families to help prepare our young people for adult life.



Proverb 22:8

Train a child in the way that he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.



CALLING ALL GUITARISTS...

Places now available to join the Clancy College Guitar Ensemble.

Students must have intermediate to advanced guitar skills.

Practice to be held Wednesday's @ lunch.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1300 853 566 OR EMAIL mail@myguitarschool.com.au www.myguitarschool.com.au

Dates to Remember

Open Day

Sunday 18 March 10.00am-2.00pm

Blood Bank Visit

Monday 19 March

Year 7 GAT Testing

Friday 16 March and Monday 19 March

Parents and Friends Association Meeting

Wednesday 21 March

Year 9 Camp

Wednesday -Friday 21-23 March

IMPORTANT NOTICE COLLEGE SCHOOL FEES

Term 1, 2012 College Fees have been sent home via eMail and student hand out.

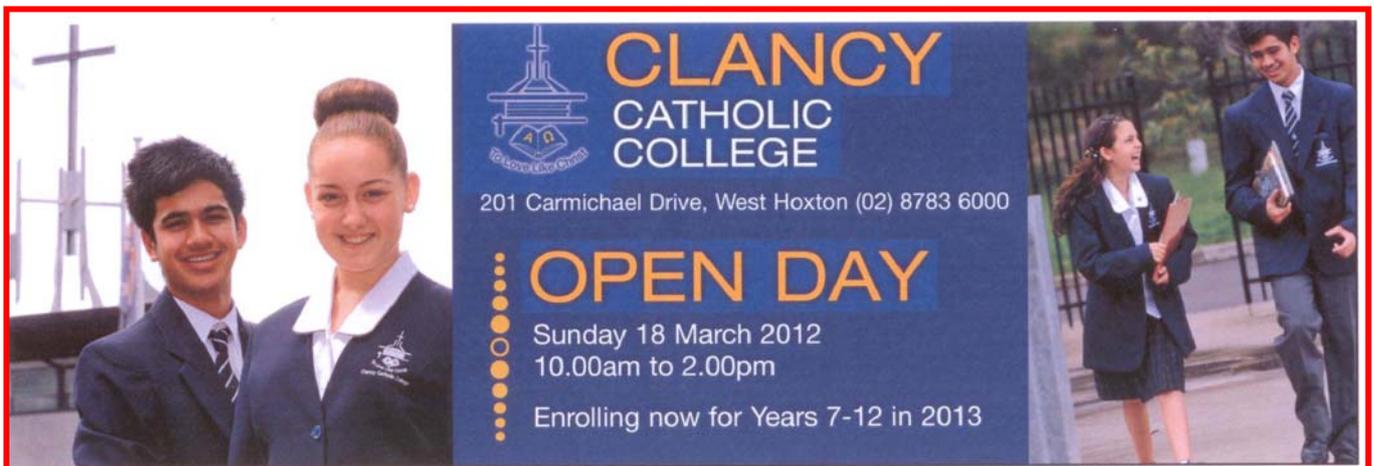
If you have not received your Fee Account for Term 1, please contact the College Office immediately or email accounts@clancy.catholic.edu.au with your preferred email address, child's name and pastoral class.

Thank you.

Donations for Open Day

Thank you to parents who have made donations towards the P&F BBQ on Open Day. We are still seeking donations for tea, coffee, milk, sugar, cakes, tomato and BBQ sauces, foam cups and napkins. Please note, we are no longer in need of donations of bread and sausages.

The P&F Association



CLANCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

201 Carmichael Drive, West Hoxton (02) 8783 6000

OPEN DAY

Sunday 18 March 2012
10.00am to 2.00pm

Enrolling now for Years 7-12 in 2013