

## *"Let Your Light Shine"*

WEEK 2 TERM 2, 2012

4 May 2012

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Welcome Back!**

I would like to welcome you back after Easter and I hope that you had a restful and faith filled Easter holiday. I would like to share with you a few words by Ron Rolheiser OMI which really for me captures the optimism and great hope that comes from Easter.

*"To believe in the resurrection is to believe that there is not a grave of any kind that can hold you. Nothing is impossible for God and thus, impossible for you either – even today, right here and now!"* (<http://www.ronholheiser.com/columnarchive/?id+637>)

### **Catholic Schools Week**

Week 2 of Term 2 is Catholic Schools Week, a time where we get to celebrate who we are and what makes us distinct and effective as Catholic Schools. Everything we do in our school is about improving our students' outcomes, how well we motivate our students to do well, to engage, explore and excel is becoming a way we critique our work.

Our Assembly this week highlighted the great opportunities that occur in a Catholic School not just this week but every week. Performances by CASPA Festival representatives, speeches from students recollecting World Youth Day 2010, a call for participation in our celebration of Mary in the month of May. A wonderful snapshot of Clancy in action.



### **Debating**

One of the two things that has particularly captured my attention this term, is the number of students who have put their hand up for debating. Debating provides our students with an opportunity to articulate and develop an argument, something that quite reasonably will stay with them later on in life. It's about higher order thinking, it's about problem solving, it's about collaborating. It's also about succeeding. Our students in their Clancy uniform get to compete with other schools and often from that experience they grow in their own self-belief and they certainly make us very proud. Mrs McKell this week told me she has had a huge number of students wishing to participate. Many of these students are going to take supporting roles and attend debating at Clancy to support their peers. Thank you Mrs McKell and Ms Hasrouni for your input around this very important skill. Ms Hasrouni has been leading our Year 8 MISA Debating Team and we hope to also provide these students other opportunities in school to refine their Public Speaking skills.

### **Clancy University**

The second great initiative that's showing this term is Clancy University. We challenged our students to nominate themselves and submit a portfolio to show to us that they were independent learners, who are capable of excelling in a particular area of their interest. We accepted parent, teacher and student nominations, but at the end of the day, it was the student who had to put forward his or her snapshot of their ability. Mrs Drego, who is the brainpower and energy behind this initiative, has been overwhelmed by the extraordinary standard of portfolios that have been presented to her. It is affirmation that our Clancy students, given the opportunity, are happy to further improve, to drive their own educational futures.

The vision for Clancy University is to develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning skills amongst those students using the "flipped" classroom model. This is a philosophy which requires the students to capture the information they need for their projects at home, but engages them in applying this knowledge in the classroom under the expertise of teachers and mentors at school. Our facilities allow us to branch out into many new and creative ways of developing our students. Students have even put together websites to highlight their potential. They have sought affirmation from local Parish Priests, local primary school Principals, people who are able to affirm or confirm their strengths.

Our long term goals for our students at Clancy are that in developing their thinking and critical literacy skills, we will set up our Stage 4 and 5 students to achieve the greatest Higher School Certificate result possible for that student. When leaving Clancy and the secure environment that we provide here, these students are able to navigate a complex world and make informed decisions using thinking skills that have been developed early in their lives here.

Can I thank every parent who has nominated a child, considered nominating a child or supported a child in developing a portfolio which has provided the student the opportunity to identify his or her own strengths. Even if that student is not successful in becoming a part of Clancy University, the work that has led up until now has shown enormous potential in that child. Thank you Mrs Drego for turning your ideas into action.

### Communications

Parents are a key to the success of our students and how well we communicate with you is vital. Below is a link to a survey that asks you to comment on how well we link with you. It will inform us for the future. It has a particular focus on the newsletter so I would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete it.

<http://clancycc.wordpress.com/>

### Fees

Finally, as you would be aware, in order to produce such a dynamic environment here at school, we do rely on your contribution. One of the ways you can help us achieve our goals is to contact us regarding fees. There are a large number of people who still have either not made their payments or made contact with us to negotiate a preferred option or an option that is achievable.

Thank you as always for your support.

**Iris Nastasi**  
Principal

### From the Assistant Principal - Craig Mooney

During the week, the College received a letter from Green Valley Police regarding a suspicious vehicle approaching children. There has been a couple of incidences where a male offender in a white vehicle, four door sedan with yellow and black number plates has approached children after school in the local area. The police request students and parents be extra vigilant in the afternoons after school. If you see anyone in a car acting suspiciously, please contact **Green Valley Police on 9607-1799**.

### Police Tips to teach children to keep them safe:

- Make sure your parents or another adult you know knows where you are at all times;
- Always walk straight home or to the place you are walking to;
- Know where safe places are – a shop, Service Station, Police Station, library or school. If you are ever frightened you should go to one of these places and ask them to call the Police;
- Learn about safe adults you can look for and talk to them if you need help – police officers, teachers at school, adults you know and trust;
- Don't talk to people you don't know and **never** get into a car with someone you don't know. If a car stops on the side of the road and you don't know the person inside, **do not stop**;
- If you are scared or feel threatened, call 000 and tell them of your situation.

### Silver Awards

Congratulations to **Montana Luppino** for receiving a Silver Award at the College Assembly this week. This is a great achievement and we commend Montana for this achievement.

### Uniform

Many thanks to the parents for their support in ensuring students are correctly attired in the correct uniform. The students look very impressive as they arrive and leave the school each day and are a credit to themselves. Just a reminder students are in full winter uniform this term including blazers being worn to and from school.

### Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is a societal issue that can have a profound effect on the health and well being of students who are the target of such activities. The College has a cyberbullying policy on the College Website and is proactive in attempting to prevent these situations occurring at the College. Please find a fact sheet in this newsletter related to cyberbullying for your information.

**Craig Mooney**  
Assistant Principal

### Clancy Year Leaders for 2012

Congratulations to the following year leaders who were presented with their badges at Wednesday's Assembly.



Year 11	<b>Victoria Abreu</b>	<b>Dylan Villanueva</b>
Year 10	<b>Van-Anh Ho</b>	<b>Jordan Fuahala</b>
Year 9	<b>Giselle Sagredo</b>	<b>Andrew Lentini</b>
Year 8	<b>Susan D'souza</b>	<b>Jaig Calabrese</b>

### From the Acting Religious Education Coordinator - Melinda Melham

As we return from our holidays and begin another busy term, it is important that the Easter message continues with us. On Monday when our College community gathered in prayer, we remembered the Resurrection of Christ by reflecting on the biblical story '*The Road to Emmaus*'. This story details Christ's encounter with the disciples after He rose from the dead, His closest companions did not recognise Him, they were so focused on their grief of His crucifixion that they did not recognise His presence amongst them, even though '*their hearts burned within them*'. How true is this for us, God's presence is constantly with us, however we are often so busy, we do not recognise his presence amongst us.

The commitment of the students last term to Caritas Australia in raising money and awareness for the plight of the less fortunate is commendable. We are now challenged to continue this focus even though the season of Lent has passed. Term 2 is another busy Liturgical Time. In Week 3, in the lead up to Mother's Day, we recognise the mothers in our community by celebrating Mass. Fr. Peter Smith will join us on **Thursday 10 May at 11am** to lead us in Mass here in the **College grounds**, and all mothers and grandmothers are welcome. Please indicate if you are attending by completing the slip on the invitation and return it to your son or daughter's Pastoral Teacher. During May, we also devote time to remembering not only our own mothers but Mary, Mother of God. Students are invited to join in praying the Rosary each lunchtime in May, led by our student leaders.

Br Pat Hurley will continue celebrating Tuesday morning Mass at 8am each week in the Chapel. Pastoral classes support these Masses and families are welcome to attend with their sons/daughters. The schedule is as follows:

24 April – 11.4 Pastoral	1 May – 11.5 Pastoral
8 May – 10.1 Pastoral	15 May – 10.2 Pastoral
22 May – 10.3 Pastoral	29 May – 10.4 Pastoral

Finally, Year 12 will embark on their final Retreat in Week 4. They will attend a three day residential experience at Lutanda, Mt. Victoria with the staff. This is a significant part of their faith development as they prepare for the HSC and for life after school.

**Melinda Melham**  
**Acting Religious Education Coordinator**

### Diverse Learning News

We are very happy to inform you that we are in the process of receiving and assessing over 50 applicants for this year's Clancy University (Talented Students Program).



### What is Clancy University?

Clancy University is an enrichment program designed to specifically capture, engage and challenge our high achieving students to develop their skills in effective learning regardless of the subject. Based on the framework of Inquiry Learning and grounded by the goals for 21st Century Learners outlined by both the top corporate bodies in the world and the upcoming National Curriculum, the program takes a small group of naturally curious, self-regulated and talented students from a range of subject areas and challenges them to broaden and deepen their knowledge of academic subject matter and enhance their skills in self-directed and authentic learning.

### Who was selected to apply?

Students were identified by their Subject and Pastoral Teachers using a blend of academic achievement and personal attributes. Those nominated or identified, submitted portfolios and applications. Aptitude testing will then take place in Week 3 to help us determine suitability.

### What next?

We are currently in the process of assessing all applications we received. If your child recently submitted an application, you will be informed by Week 4 of whether they have been selected to begin our Clancy University journey with us.

### BUT:

If your child was not nominated or is not successful in joining the program this year, don't despair. Every year the selection process will be conducted, earlier in Term 1. We believe that students should be able to let their light shine and will always be on the lookout for students who:

- \* have a passion for learning (whatever they are interested in);
- \* have great communication and teamwork skills, especially using technology;
- \* show diligence and commitment to pursuit what interests them;
- \* value their Clancy education and;
- \* are authentically interested in and show excellence in their chosen fields.

All students who continue to show these values and those who are able to see this process as a challenge to rise to, will be invited to be part of Clancy University in 2013.

### An opportunity: University of Wollongong Enrichment Program (Learning Labs)

Learning Labs is an academic enrichment program for students in Years 7-10. The University offers a range of

seminars to cater for a range of interests. The workshops are developed and presented by University lecturers. The topics include:

Graphic Design, Philosophy, Creative Writing, Theatre and Drama, Historical Investigation, Physics and Evolution of the Universe and Blogging and Communication Future Engineering.

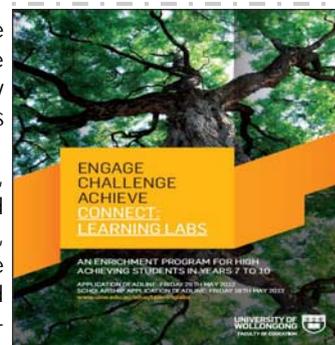
**Duration:** 2 Days

**Date:** Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th July (8.30-3.00pm)

**Fee:** \$135

**Where:** University of Wollongong Campus

**Cut off:** 25 May, 2012.



Students require an application form and a recommendation from the school to apply. If you are interested, please email [lauren.drego@clancy.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lauren.drego@clancy.catholic.edu.au) for more information.

**Lauren Drego**  
**Diverse Learning Coordinator**

### Career News

Important information regarding careers in Medicine and related health sciences is available at the Careers office including the UMAT examination information:  
<http://umat.acer.edu.au>

Visit the careers office for new information on Apprenticeships and Traineeships in a variety of fields.

University of NSW Law faculty has a Parent and Student information evening Thursday 10 May 2012 from 5.00pm - 8.00pm. Visit the careers office for more information.

**Anne Weeks**  
**Careers Advisor**

### Uniform Shop

Blazers are now in stock and ready for collection. In Term 2 our opening hours are every **Thursday** from **12.00pm to 4.00pm**.

We regret we are no longer able to accept cheques in the Uniform Shop and that payment options are now Cash, Eftpos and Credit Cards.

### On Campus Schoolwear

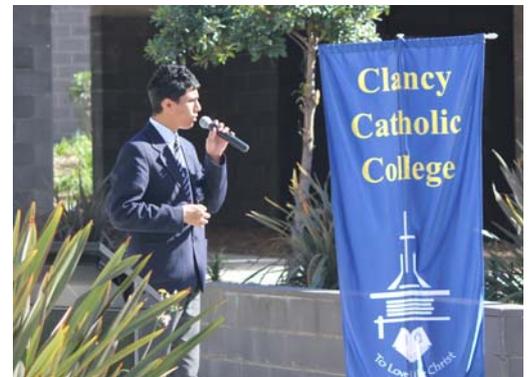
### 'Mary's Conspiracy' Reflection Day

Speaker is Br Tony Leon. Come to a Reflection Day at St Patrick's Church Hill within the Crypt on **Saturday 5 May** from 10.00am to 3.00 pm. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea provided. For more info go to:

[www.maristlaityaustralia.com](http://www.maristlaityaustralia.com) or the graphic found at:  
[http://www.maristlaityaustralia.com/calendar/marys\\_conspiracy](http://www.maristlaityaustralia.com/calendar/marys_conspiracy)

# Catholic Schools Week

## Celebrating everyday life in a Catholic School



### Dates to Remember

Mother's Day Mass  
Thursday 10 May at 11.00am at the College

Year 12 Retreat  
Monday - Friday 14-18 May

Stage 4 and 5 Assessment Week  
Monday - Friday 14-25 May

NAPLAN Exam  
Tuesday 15 May

Year 11 SLR Excursion  
Wednesday - Friday 16-18 May

### Collection of student data

The Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) has requested that the school provide them with details of all students' residential addresses (not student names) and students' level of education (primary or secondary). This information assists DEEWR in administering funding to our Catholic Systemic Schools.

As we do not provide family or student names to DEEWR, we can assure you that the data provided will in no way identify either the student or the family.

A notice from DEEWR that provides further information on this data collection is attached. If you have any questions after reading the DEEWR notice, please call the DEEWR SES Funding helpline on 1800 677 027 (Free Call)