



# The Catholic Learning Community of Blessed John XXIII



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# NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Dear parents and friends,

Last week, we had the pleasure of hosting a gathering of our Executive Director Greg Whitby, some of the Heads of School Service, diocesan principals and visiting educators from Canada. Part of the day's agenda included a walk around the College learning spaces, both primary and secondary. It was a great pleasure to be able to show our visitors the quality of facilities and resources that our students and staff enjoy but it was more satisfying to witness the great learning and feeling of community that exists in the learning spaces, whether brand new or more established. Our visitors complimented our students on both their friendliness and their understanding of the learning processes in which they were engaged. This does not happen because of the facilities and the technology alone; engagement in a community of learners happens because of the quality of the relationships that underpin the learning and teaching.

Last Sunday, we heard in Luke's Gospel a strong warning against putting all our energies into accumulating material possessions, reminding us of what is really important. The parable describes the rich man who is busy working and planning for a comfortable future life – he has it all organised only to find out that God wants his soul that same day. All that planning and effort for someone else to benefit!

Luke reminds us that focusing on the possession of things and people leads to us being possessed and driven by our wants. If we look more at life in terms of the *needs* of ourselves and others, we

are no longer slaves to keeping up with various fads and fashions which don't last. While no one denies it is good to have state of the art facilities in which to learn, the human relationships in our community are what will sustain us and provide what really matters in this life and the next.

This week is being celebrated as MacKillop Week as the Church prepares for the canonization in October this year, of Mary of the Cross. As has been previously advertised, there will be a fundraising focus on charity organisations and financial support for the Sisters of St Joseph with *Crazy Hair Day* on Friday in which all students, Kinder to Year 10, will be encouraged to participate and make a gold coin donation. The week will also have a strong prayer focus around the person of Mary MacKillop as a role model for all Christians. Certainly, Mary's schools did not have all the gadgets we enjoy and yet they revolutionised education in Australia and pioneered the way for all children to be able to be transformed through knowledge.

In the Arts, the student leaders and Ms Audova have launched the short film festival which will be open to all students from Kinder to Year 10. There is a great deal of excitement around this initiative and I am told there will be a red carpet screening event at Rouse Hill Cinemas later in the term to showcase to the community the talents of our budding directors, actors and production crews. Prizes will be awarded across a number of categories but the ultimate beneficiaries will be the members of the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **Wed 4 August**  
P & F Thinkuknow Presentation
- **Thurs 5 August**  
9am Parish Mass Yr 2
- **Fri 6 August**  
Crazy Hair Day
- **Sat 7 August**  
P & F Trivia Night
- **Mon 9 August**  
9am Parish Mass Yr 7
- **Tues 10 August**  
Trophy Day 3W & 3G
- **Fri 13 August**  
Hills Zone Athletics

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

RE NEWS	2
SECONDARY NEWS	3
PRIMARY NEWS	4
P & F NEWS	5
SPORTS NEWS	6
COMMUNITY NEWS	7
TRIVIA NIGHT	8

## Quality Education

Investing in our children's future

ALL Australian students deserve an equitable share of State and Government funds to support their education.

Council of Catholic School Parents  
Advocacy and Support for all parents  
www.cccsp.catholic.edu.au No.6

(Continued from page 1)

College community as we strive to make this a place for all to feel welcome, safe and productive.

This Wednesday evening the Parents and Friends Association will hold their regular meeting and all parents are invited to be present to hear information about cyber safety, an increasingly present challenge for us all. There will also be further planning for the annual fete, our major College fund raising event as well as more information on the Trivia Night to be held next Saturday August 7.

Finally, the oral reporting program for Semester 1 concludes with a second evening of interviews for Years 7 to 9 students on Tuesday August 2.

Enjoy your week,

*Jayne Campbell*

Assistant Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



*Week 3 is Mary MacKillop Week at St Marks & John 23rd.*

This week is MacKillop Week. During this week we remember the deeds, hardship and the courage Mary MacKillop displayed throughout her life. Her works in creating the Sisters of St Josephs, creating schools and acts of caring for those who are less fortunate are something to be admired. On Thursday during assembly, we will be having a pray focus in honour of Mary MacKillop.

In order to raise money for the works of Sisters of St Joseph and to support them in the canonisation of Mary MacKillop in October, the Student Ministry Leaders have organised a Fundraiser. They have organised a Crazy Hair Day on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of August. Students for the Learning Community of John XXIII are encouraged to dress their hair up in Crazy Hair Styles for a gold coin donation. The Ministry Leaders have also organised prizes for the students who have the best hairstyle for each Learning Circle.

We would like to congratulate the Ministry Team for the planning that has taken place over many lunch times to organise this Friday's Fundraising event. All the money raised at our Crazy Hair Day goes towards the Mary MacKillop Canonisation preparations. So please support this

event by coming to school with crazy hair and a gold coin. We look forward to seeing those crazy hairstyles!

### Sacramental News

The Parents Meetings for First Reconciliation (the start of our Sacramental program) will take place at Blessed John XXIII Church on **Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30pm or **Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30pm.

Enrolment forms will be handed out at these sessions. The children will bring the enrolment forms back to Mass with a copy of their Baptism certificate attached on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> September. They will take part in an Enrolment Ceremony at these Masses.

For further details about Sacraments please refer to the Sacramental notice board in the Church foyer or the parish website [www.john23rd.org.au](http://www.john23rd.org.au)

### Fr Dave

Each Wednesday our Parish Priest Fr Dave is available to have a chat to between 11:15 – 12:15 in the school office. If you wish to see Fr Dave during this time please go to the student foyer and see the office ladies to book a time.

### Parish Mass

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August Year 7 students will be attending the 9am Parish Mass.

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August Stage 3 students will be attending the 9am Parish Mass.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to parents and guardians to join your child at the Parish Mass.

**THURSDAY 12TH  
AUGUST 11.15AM  
YEAR 10 WILL BE  
HAVING  
RECONCILIATION.**



## NEWS FROM THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

### St Marks Hat Buy-Back

With the implementation of the updated uniform policy, where hats are no longer a compulsory uniform requirement for secondary students, the school is funding a buy-back program of secondary hats.

The refund will be credited against any outstanding school fees. Where school fees are paid in full, a cheque will be issued at the end of August and mailed home. The value of the refund will be determined on the condition of the hat which will be assessed as follows:

- 1) \$50 pristine condition and less than 12 months old.
- 2) \$30 good condition – No tears, no significant marks and no more than 24 months old.
- 3) \$15 all other hats – Including hats with noticeable marks or stains; tears or creases in the hat or the head band or frayed. However, the hat needs to be in a usable condition to qualify for a refund.

This offer is only available for a limited time by presenting your hat to Kellie Coyne at the Uniform Shop between 9<sup>th</sup> August and 20<sup>th</sup> of August during normal uniform shop trading hours.

Patrick McHugh

**Business Manager**

### Traffic Flow & Kiss and Drop

Parents are reminded that the speed limit inside the school grounds is a clearly indicated 10kms.

Please observe this limit as there are many children around. Secondary students being dropped before school SHOULD BE DROPPED at the kiss and drop zone found just a short distance inside the main gates.

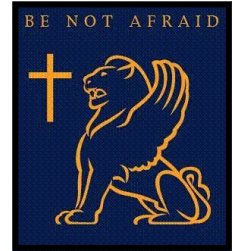
ALL Parents are asked NOT to drop their children in the bus bay areas. It is extremely unsafe with the movement of buses and also the reversing of cars out of areas.

Parents using the Kiss & Drop zone are reminded that the obstruction of Perfection Avenue is a traffic violation. Drivers unable to enter due to a back up of traffic should never block the roadway but continue up Perfection Avenue, do a U-turn at the roundabout and then attempt to enter again. At peak times, drivers may have to do this several times. A recent episode of *road rage* inside the grounds was very unacceptable behaviour in our community.

Your courtesy and patience is appreciated in keeping you and your children safe.

Attila Lendvai

**Assistant Principal**



Tyler Smith, Jaiden Selwood, Samuel de Guzman, Jayden Deefholts, Chelsea Zadravec, Luke Medic, Lillian Murdoch, Erin Driver, Nicholas Attard, Shelyce, Leon Faria, Rhys McDonald, Tehnan Alexander, Sanaa Vhora, Aleisha Pappallo, Yashi Kotala, Rafia Kazi, Sabina Arnold, Emily Gough, David Baker, Harveen Kaur, Timothy Le Roy, Julian Laxamana, Jaime Meaker, Simon Aquilina.

## NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Traffic Flow & Kiss and Drop

Parents are reminded that the speed limit inside the school grounds is a clearly indicated 10kms. Please observe this limit as there are many children around. Secondary students being dropped before school SHOULD BE DROPPED at the kiss and drop zone found just a short distance inside the main gates. ALL Parents are asked NOT to drop their children in the bus bay areas. It is extremely unsafe with the movement of buses and also the reversing of cars out of areas.

Parents collecting primary students in the afternoons are asked to always remain on the undercover area due to child protection legislation. All students being collected by parents should be collected from the undercover area or from Kiss & Drop only. Please do not jeopardize the safety of your children by asking them to wait in any other unsupervised area. Parents who park in the carpark should always walk down to the Kiss & Drop area rather than calling their children across the carpark.

Parents using the Kiss & Drop zone are reminded that the obstruction of Perfection Avenue is a traffic violation. Drivers unable to enter due to a back up of traffic should never block the roadway but continue up Perfection Avenue, do a U turn at the roundabout and then attempt to enter again. At peak times, drivers may have to do this several times. A recent episode of *road rage* inside the grounds was very unacceptable behaviour in our community. Your courtesy and patience is appreciated in keeping you and your children safe.

### Promotion of Music

Promotion of the Arts has always been important at our College. The primary choirs, drama lessons and dance groups are developing and the secondary Creative Arts showcase (MAD night) is approaching. Recently we have begun discussions with a number of possible music tutors regarding the development and strengthening of choir, music and band across the college. It is our intention to

develop elite choirs from primary and secondary students as well as further develop the existing choirs run by Miss DeBono-Cullen. We would also like to give the opportunity for students to undertake professional instrument tuition probably piano, keyboard, singing, guitar and band. This tuition would occur in school time (probably 30 min lessons) and would be under a user-pay system dealing directly with the provider. More details will be forthcoming as our discussions develop. Development of speaking opportunities is also under consideration with plans for increased debating and public-speaking. Our newly formed student-led Arts group is exploring this area.

### Spirituality Day for Staff

Parents are advised that Friday 3rd September will be a pupil-free day when no staff will be on-site. Our entire staff will be working with our pastor, Fr David Hume at Clarendon, to develop our college's mission statement.

### Premiers Reading Challenge

A reminder that the final date to enter books online is 25 August. If you require assistance please have your list to Mrs Reincastle by 18 August to allow her time to enter them.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Students Stephen Limcangco & Luke Perez competed in the Taekwondo State Championships at Homebush on Sunday 1st August!

### MCCAIN VEGGIE PATCHES

Kindergarten & Year 3 are participating in the McCain School Veggie Patch promotion. Please send any barcodes from McCain frozen Vegetables or Purley Potato packs to your teacher. The more barcodes the more points we earn towards equipment for our veggie patch! You can visit the website for more information, games etc.

[www.mccainveggiepatches.com](http://www.mccainveggiepatches.com)



Sacha Anderson,  
Darraght Nugent,  
Molly Hayes, Jack  
Hobbs, Aviraj Singh,  
Bailey Christoffel,  
Jordan Puleitu,  
Izabelle Padjan,  
Finlay Evans, Antonia  
Ballas, Kieran Bowie,  
Jacob Farrugia,  
Chloe Nguyen, Oscar  
Whittles, Emily  
Melwnewycz.



**Q.** What do you say on a roller coaster?

**A.** Ice-cream!

*By Molly, 1R*

**Q.** Why is a pirate a pirate?

**A.** Cause' they go Aaaaarrrrrrr!!!

*By Zoe, 1N*

KINDERGARTEN  
JOKE DAY  
MONDAY 9  
AUGUST!



**THINKUKNOW PRESENTATION**  
**THE LEARNING COMMUNITY OF BLESSED JOHN XX111**  
**T O N I G H T**  
**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AT 7.30PM.**  
**ALL WELCOME!**

This presentation will form part of the P&F Meeting and will be held in the Year 8 learning space. **ThinkUKnow** is an Internet safety initiative which aims to raise awareness of the issues which young people face online and whilst using mobile phones. **ThinkUKnow** is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Microsoft Australia. All parents, carers and teachers of both primary and secondary children are encouraged to attend. This presentation will cover topics such as how young people are using technology to have fun, online grooming, cyber-bullying, inappropriate content and e-security. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about how young people **have fun** online, how you can help them to **stay in control** on the net, and how to report a problem.

For more information, you can visit the ThinkUKNow Australia website at [www.thinkuknow.org.au](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au)

Darren Godwin. P & F President

P & F Fundraising Committee



## NEWS FROM THE PARISH

## BLAZE

Youth Ministry

**YOUTH MASSES**  
**(1st Sunday of the month**  
**6pm - 7pm followed by**  
**supper)**

Sunday 5th September 2010

Sunday 3rd October 2010

Sunday 7th November 2010

### BLAZE YOUNG ADULTS – CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS AT HEART!

Calling all young adults aged 18 and above. Come join us at our next gathering in the Youth Space on the 1<sup>st</sup> August. We will be exploring the theme “Young Adults view on Interfaith and its relevance in our society today” We welcome all new comers to our YAG group, please come and say hello to us after the 6pm mass on a Sunday!

#### The details are:

**Date:** THIS Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 after mass from 7.00pm-8.30pm

**Venue:** Youth Space

For more information call Colin Lee 0433 333 217

# SPORTS NEWS!

## Primary—Sports Fun Day

Congratulations to all the children who participated in our Sports Fun Day last term. It was a great day, thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you to all the parents who came along on the day to cheer the children on and support the teachers. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Last week we held the trials for our field events. Thank you to all the children who tried out and had a go. It was great to see so many children involved.

Now that we have completed all the events, I am pleased to announce the following children as age champions for 2010:

	<b>BOYS</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>
8	Matthew Hayhow	Mya DeBono
9	Bailey Liddicoat	Eilish A'Court
10	Daniel Harris	Maddison Smart
111	Jackson Sharp	Taylor Speechly
12	Lachlan Guyer	Bethany Tracey
13	Billy Dangar	

Congratulations to these children, I am very proud of your efforts.

The house colour points competition turned out to be a very close race. On adding the final points to the totals, these were the results:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Red House
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Gold House
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Blue House
- 4<sup>th</sup> Green House

Congratulations to all.

Miss Holz



# News from the community.

## Parramatta Marist 190th Anniversary Dinner

On Friday 29 October, Parramatta Marist High School, Westmead is holding its 190th Anniversary Dinner at Sarah Grand Ballroom, Le Montage, Lilyfield. Tickets: \$90 each. Corporate sponsorship available.

Contact the school (02) 9635 7066.

## St Josephs Primary School Schofields Family Fun Day Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2010.

10am until 3pm.

Our entertainment kicks off with two dance troupes from 10.30am, followed by a Martial Arts Display at 12.45pm.

Our main attraction is at 11am, an interactive reptile display,

There will be roaming clowns, performing magic tricks and handing out treats.

Great Rides, show bags, homemade cake stall, tea and coffee, plants, face painting, craft /food baskets, BBQ and Hot Chips.

We would welcome anyone interested in holding their own stall. Contact the school office on T: 9626 1328.

There is a \$50 fee for each stallholder. So come along and join the fun.

## Quality education for ALL children

67% of all NSW students are in Government schools

33% of all NSW students are in Non-Government schools like yours

**Council of Catholic School Parents**  
Advocacy and Support for all parents  
[www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au) No.3

Source: NCEC 2008 Annual Report, p35, Published 2009. Productivity Commission, Review of Government Service (Australia), Report on Government Services 2009, Volume 1, Part B 'Early Childhood, Education and Training'. Report published January 2009. Note: Non-Government schools include Catholic and other Independent schools.



## ST MARKS COLLEGE SHORT FILMS FLIXFEST

Competition open to all students from Kindergarten to Year 10.

You can enter individually or in teams.

Films can be from 30 seconds to 5 minutes long.

**Great prizes for each category!**



Competition closes  
Week 6, Term 3



See Ms Audova, Mrs Spoljaric, Emily Medic, James Baker or any member of the Ministry of the Arts for more information and entry forms!



# Trivia Night BLESSED JOHN XX111



Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens  
Fancy Dress Theme 'Living in the 70's'

(Prize for the best dressed table, man & woman!)

**Venue:** Blessed John XXIII School

**Date:** This Week !! Saturday 7 August 2010 **Time:** 7.00pm

**Cost:** \$10 per person **BYO Food & Drinks**




Gather your friends and brains trusts together for a night of fun, trivia questions & music. Make up a table of 8 friends or come on your own and we will put you on a table with others.

To secure a table please complete the form below and return it to the school as soon as possible. All enquiries can be directed to Liz Gough on 9250 7478 (w) or 0410 459 406 (A/H)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Class No: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to purchase \_\_\_ tickets @ \$10 ea or \_\_\_ tables @ \$80 per table I enclose cash/cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Kindergarten and Year 3 are participating in the McCain School Veggie Patch program.

McCain School Veggie Patches is a great way for primary school children to learn more about the goodness of vegetables. McCain School Veggie Patches show that veggies are natural and come straight from the goodness of the earth.

To lend a helping hand, McCain is giving away over \$500,000 worth of veggie patch equipment to primary schools during 2010. The children will grow their own veggies with equipment and advice from McCain when they purchase products from the McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato range.

Like home-grown veggies, McCain frozen vegetables and the McCain Purely Potato range are harvested from the goodness of the earth and simply frozen to lock in the flavour.

Our School Community can collect barcodes from McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato packs. The barcodes are simply handed into our school so that we may redeem them for veggie patch equipment.

**POINTS FOR PRODUCTS**

- All McCain frozen vegetable 1kg, 1.2kg and 2kg packs are worth 10 points.
- All McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato 500g, 600g, 750g and 800g packs are worth 5 points.

**The more points our school receives, the more veggie patch equipment we can redeem.  
Barcodes = Points!**

**Thank you for your help and support with this project.**

