



29 NOVEMBER 2007
NUMBER 37
TERM 4 CALENDAR

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WEDNESDAY, 5 DECEMBER
Year 8 Italian Lunch &
Sports Afternoon
12:45pm

**WEDNESDAY, 5 - FRIDAY, 7
DECEMBER**
SRC 2008 Camp

Canteen Roster Week 8

Monday:
P. Van Der Weshuizen
Tuesday: G. Vanderkley
Wednesday: Assistance
required please
Thursday: Assistance
required please
Friday: Assistance required
please

DATES TO REMEMBER
**WEDNESDAY, 12
DECEMBER**
End of Term for
Years 8 - 10

TUESDAY, 18 DECEMBER
Second Hand Book Sales
8:00am - 12noon

**TUESDAY, 18 -
WEDNESDAY, 19
DECEMBER**
Bookshop sales in
gymnasium
8:00am - 4:00pm

FRIDAY, 21 DECEMBER
Administration Office
and Uniform shop closed

PRESENTATION EVENING - PERTH CONVENTION CENTRE

The culmination of many months of hard work will be evidenced on Sunday evening at our annual Presentation Evening. The show will commence at 7:00 pm sharp so please be seated early. Our Concert Band will be playing from 6:40 pm for your entertainment. Apart from acknowledging our award winners, the evening will showcase the outstanding talents of our students in the areas of music, drama and dance. There will also be a special focus on the Year 12s.

This event is a sell-out. All students in Years 8 and 12 have been allocated seats, along with award winners and performers in other year levels. If your child who is in Year 9, 10 or 11 has not ordered a ticket, then unfortunately, we can not accommodate them on the night. This is because no ticket order form was submitted to the Office. Even though we are not able to seat these students, I would still expect a written note from parents excusing their absence on the night.

Presentation Evening is a live performance. While we plan to conclude the evening by 9:30 pm, there may be unforeseen events that may delay the finishing time. If parents are picking up their children from the Convention Centre, please be aware of this.

As Presentation Evening is a formal College event, all students (including those students in the audience) must be in full College winter uniform - blazer, tie, no jumper, long grey trousers for boys, grey skirts for girls with 70 denier grey tights. All normal grooming requirements apply. If a student is receiving an award and they do not comply with our uniform and grooming requirements, they will not be allowed on the stage. In order to avoid this embarrassing situation, please ensure that your son or daughter fully complies with our requirements.

At the end of the evening there will be a leaving collection to support Sr Frances Maguire in her work in Peru. Sr Frances is a former teacher at La Salle (1972 and 1977) and is one of our special guests at Presentation evening. She spent Wednesday at the College talking to the students about her work in Peru and illustrating to them how their donations help the poor.

Our other special guest on the evening is Daniel Vujcich, Head Boy 2000 and the 2008 Rhodes Scholar. Daniel will be presenting some of the academic awards during the evening.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The College's Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday evening. Along with reports from the Board Chair, Peter Naylor and the Financial Report from our Treasurer, Darryl Burton, elections were held for positions to the Board. I am delighted to announce that the following community members were elected:

Jacqueline Cooper - Two year term
Anne Lockyer - Two year term
Lou Muriale - Two year term
Peter Naylor - Final one year term
Keith O'Brien - Two year term

Congratulations to these people who have so willingly volunteered their services to the College. I would also like to thank our retiring Board Member, Anthony DeBarro, for his great service to the Board over the past two years.

NIGHT WITH THE NOBLES

Our Gifted and Talented students from Years 8 and 9 had the opportunity to showcase their talents on Wednesday evening. These students, who willingly give up time after school each week to be involved in academic extension programmes, presented their ideas and discoveries to a large group of parents and staff. I would like to record my thanks to Lindy Reger and Angela Johnson on their dedicated and untiring efforts to support our TAG students.

SAFETY FIRST - PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS

You would be aware from correspondence sent out by Michael Pepper, that there have been several reports of students being approached by people in cars attempting to get them into vehicles. The dangers associated with this have been explained to all students at assemblies. I echo Michael's request that you discuss protective behaviours with your children.

Mr Wayne Bull

Principal

FR ROMAN'S SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

SUNDAY REFLECTION ON THE WORD OF GOD - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44)

This Sunday we begin the season of Advent. We know Jesus is about to be born. With the birth of Jesus, light will shine on us, the Light of Christ. To get ready for the Light of Christ, our readings tell us to throw off the works of darkness. That we are surrounded by darkness, there is no doubt. Evil people do evil deeds. Words in our vocabulary point to darkness. Darkness is strange to us. God is Light and He dwells at the very centre of our being. We're naturally God-centred. Christians are accustomed to light.

Remember, God made us in his image (Genesis 1:26). And, God is love (1 John 4:8). The Trappist monk, Thomas Merton, even said, "Love is my name." Made in the image of God, our true identity is love, our most basic disposition is to love. Just like God is love, so are we love. Recall a baptism. The priest traces a cross on the baby's forehead, and says, "I claim you for Christ." Reborn in the waters of baptism, the child "puts on Christ."

Baptism makes us the adopted sons and daughters of God, temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). At baptism, we "receive the light of Christ." With God at the centre of our being, we have God the Holy Spirit to guide our lives. St Teresa of Avila calls God, "His Majesty." As St Teresa writes, His Majesty lives within our souls in an "Interior Castle." From His interior castle, God calls us to Himself. As we respond to God, His Majesty, God unites with our soul in a divine marriage. Our soul, at one with God, His Majesty, inflames our hearts with a fire of love. From within our souls comes an urge to imitate Christ, to love God, and to love neighbour.

By how God created us, we Christians are divine. So noble in the eyes of God, the psalmist calls us "little less than God" (Psalm 8:6). We're naturally God-centered. As a child of God, we live in light, not darkness. Our task is to let God dwell within our souls, to echo through into all of our life. In writing to the Romans, Paul said, "put on the Lord Jesus Christ." The prophet Isaiah told us to "walk in the light of the Lord." Paul gives us three guidelines for putting on the armour of light. First, Paul writes, avoid "orgies and drunkenness."

Next, Paul reminds us, proper conduct avoids promiscuity and lust. Now, we're into the deadly sins. Long before St Augustine became a Christian, he kept a mistress. Augustine called himself "a slave of lust." He wanted the sexual pleasure, but he also learned that lust leaves a person very lonely. Lust hunts for a bed partner for the few moments of fun. Lust is so self-centered. Self-gratification is the number one priority.

Another counsel from Paul, avoid rivalry and jealousy. Again, a deadly sin. When you think of it, envy or jealousy is so silly. The jealous person resents what another person has and desperately wants that same thing. A better idea is to count your own blessings. Each one of us is gifted by God with a set of talents.

Christians never get jealous. Our thoughts are: what gifts has God given to me? What do I enjoy doing? What am I good at? Then, we praise God for our own unique set of talents. And, we enjoy others using their skills, their gifts from God.

We are to walk in the light of the Lord, to put on Jesus Christ, to let God echo from our souls into all of our lives. Christians are neither drunks nor lustful nor jealous. When do we let God into our lives? When do we put on Christ? Right now! Jesus tells us, "Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

It's Advent. We wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. When Christ comes, we want God to see us acting like Christians.

Have a blessed and fruitful Advent Season.

Yours in Christ Jesus, our Saviour.

Fri Roman
College Chaplain

FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAY

On Tuesday, 250 Year 7 students entering Year 8 in 2008, spent the day at our College to learn a little about our procedures and familiarise themselves with the College and some of the key staff. A special thanks to Mr Elloy and the House Coordinators for all their efforts as well as Ms Flower for all her organisation prior to the day.

ST BRIGID'S YEAR 7 IMMERSION DAYS

Next Thursday and Friday, sixty two students from St Brigid's Catholic Primary School will spend two full days at the College immersing themselves in our environment to facilitate a smooth transition into Year 8 next year. We look forward to their attendance and hope that they will enjoy their stay.

Ms Natalie Calleja
Assistant Principal



THE ADVENT SEASON - BEGINS THIS SUNDAY

Holy seasons, like Advent, reflect the Church's cycle of time. The 'new' year for the Church begins with the preparation period for Christmas. During Advent we prepare our hearts for Christmas - the celebration of God-made-flesh in the birth of Jesus.



It is a time to unburden ourselves of unhealthy habits, sinfulness and regrets. It is a time to get in touch with our loved ones, our true self, our church family and our God. One way to celebrate this holy season is to take small, achievable steps in faith. Try reading Scriptures and praying as a family, talk about Advent and the plans your family has for the celebration of Christmas and 'do' small actions like visit the nativity crib in your local parish.

VISIT BY SR FRANCES MAGUIRE RSJ

During the week we had the privilege of a visit to our College by Sister Frances Maguire. Sr Frances, a past staff member of La Salle College, now works with the poor in Peru. She belongs to the order of Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, the order established by Blessed Mary MacKillop. Sr Irene McCormack was also a member of this community. Sr Frances spoke to all students about her work in Peru and how some of the funds raised on Mission Aid Day assists the people there.

Students have a further opportunity to help raise money for the people in Peru by purchasing a wrist-band (\$3.00) or card (\$2.50) made by a group of women Sr Frances assists in Peru. Students will be allowed to wear the wrist-band, as a sign of solidarity for the poor of Peru, until Friday, 7 December.

SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This week, La Salle students presented the St Vincent de Paul Society with gifts for their Christmas Appeal. Instead of collecting food, each PCG made up a Christmas package for a single gentleman living in Vincent Care. At Wednesday’s assembly Alisha Roberts read a letter on behalf of Rebecca Callaghan, the youth worker for SVDP.

Rebecca said:

I have had the wonderful task of coordinating school donations for the Appeal for the last four years and in all that time I have never seen a donation come through the doors that is as compassionate, thoughtful, and generous as that which came from La Salle this year.

The men have never received this level of support from the community at Christmas; too often middle aged men are overlooked. Thank you for not losing sight of their needs this Christmas. On behalf of the Society and especially the guys, thank you for your donation. It has truly added dignity, hope and joy to their lives this Advent season.

The Young Vinnies would like to thank everyone who supported the Appeal. We felt very proud of the efforts of students at La Salle.

La Salle Young Vinnies Conference



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY ALLOWANCE SCHEME, HEALTH CARE CARD DISCOUNT AND ELIGIBLE CARD HOLDERS

Available at the Administration Office are applications for:

GOVERNMENT SECONDARY ALLOWANCE SCHEME
(\$115 uniform allowance and \$235 towards fees)

HEALTH CARE CARD DISCOUNT

ELIGIBLE CARD HOLDERS	
State Government secondary allowance (students must be born in 1990 or later) Eligible cards must be current in term one 2008	Health Care card discount Eligible cards must be current in term one 2008
Centrelink Pensioner Concession card	Centrelink Pensioner Concession card (PPS and NS only)
Centrelink Family Health Care card	Centrelink Family Health Care card
Veterans’ Affairs Pensioner Concession card	

REGIONAL DISCOUNT

(\$30 discount from school fees per semester for families with one student at La Salle and sibling/s at another Catholic primary school in the region).

Mr Richard Truscott
Accounts Manager