

SPORTS REPORT

CAS futsal

On Tuesday 21st July the college competed in the 2009 Catholic All Schools Futsal (indoor soccer) Championship. The following results were achieved:

The girls made up of Jelena Brkljacic, Samantha Camilleri, Marina Kasalo, Ashleigh Gunn, Lauren Malizia, Sheridan Sikic and Kristina Anic had 1 win, 1 draw and 1 loss to finish 2nd in their pool. They played off against Penola in the Semi Final but unfortunately lost in a close battle. A big thank you goes out to Adam Ray for coaching the girls.

The boys made up of Mitchell Hales, Dominic Zielinski, Matthew Falvo, Mario Krajina, Justin Camilleri, Nicholas Scerri, Peter Konjevic, Anthony Topic, Jake Grech, Christopher Hili and Michaele (our exchange student from Italy) had a sensational day out. With 2 wins and a draw the boys also finished 2nd in their pool. They came up against St Monica's an extremely talented team in the Semi Final so the pressure to perform well was definitely high. After a slow start the boys came back with a vengeance winning the match 5-2 with Nicholas Scerri scoring a hat-trick and Mitchell Hales scoring the other 2 goals for the match. In the Final against Mackillop the boys took control from the start and dominated on the court. Matthew Falvo (keeper) had a great game and was supported by great defence to keep Mackillop scoreless for a 4-0 victory, resulting in the boys taking out the championship. Single goals came from Chris Hili, Peter Konjevic, Anthony Topic and Nicholas Scerri. Congratulations to all of the boys who contributed to the success of the team throughout the tournament, it was an excellent win for Sydenham.

SACSSS Boys AFL – Round 5

The boys unfortunately went down to Penola in the last round for the year with final scores 7.8.50 to 12.13.73. Goal kickers: Matthew Falvo (3), Matthew Azzopardi (3). Best players: Nathanael Smith, Ben Maud and Damien Jones. A huge thank you to all the boys that contributed to the team this year and thanks to Andrew Adam and Peter for their assistance with training, coaching and transport.

CAS netball (report from Catherine O'Neil)

On Monday 27th July 9 girls represented the college at the Catholic All Schools Netball Championship. Our first game against Mackillop we lost 32-12. Our second game against Salesian we also went down 36-14. During our third game against St Columba's B side we began to play more consistent as a team and won 13-12. Our last game was against St Columba's A side, another tough match but the girls gave their all only going down by 1 goal final scores – 15-14. Overall we played our best and had an enjoyable day out. Thanks to Julieann for coaching us and being supportive throughout the day.

ANNUAL REPORT

A copy of the College Annual Report is now available on our website under the Newsletter section

CHANGE OF NAME FOR ENTER TO ATAR

Since the late 1990s each state (except Queensland) has used a common measure to rank Year 12 students for university admission. In each state this measure has had different names:

- * ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) in Victoria
- * TER (Tertiary Entrance Rank) in Western Australia, Northern Territory, South Australia and Tasmania
- * UAI (Universities Admission Index) in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

The Australasian Conference of Tertiary Admissions Centres (ACTAC), of which the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) is a member, has agreed that all states and territories (except Queensland) will replace these different names with a common name, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), during 2009 and 2010.

In Victoria the term ENTER will be replaced with the term ATAR in 2010. This is a name change only. **There is no change to the calculation** and it will have no effect on students' ranking or the selection process.

The adoption by all states and territories (except Queensland) of the name Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) over the 2009 and 2010 period reinforces that the measures of overall achievement of Year 12 students in these states are the same.

MEMORIAL GARDEN DEDICATION

A dedication will be held in the College Memorial Garden to honour the memory of Phillip Vrkic on Wednesday 19 August. The short ceremony will commence at 2pm with guests asked to gather in the College Multipurpose Hall. We ask that those wishing to attend complete the attached reply form and return it to the office no later than Monday 17 August.

Yes, I will be attending the Memorial to honour the Memory of Phillip Vrkic on Wednesday 19 August

Name _____

Important Dates & Excursions	Important Dates & Excursions
Thursday 6 August Twilight Open Evening	Wednesday 12 August Yr. 11 Outdoor Education (B) trip to Mt Stirling
Monday 10 August Yr. 11 VCAL Excursion (A) to Highpoint Industries Yr. 11 Biology Excursion to Melbourne Zoo	Thursday 13 August Yr. 11 Outdoor Education (B) trip to Mt Stirling
Tuesday 11 August CAS Volleyball Carnival Yr. 11 VCAL Excursion to Sydenham Park	Friday 14 August Yr. 11 Outdoor Education (B) trip to Mt Stirling



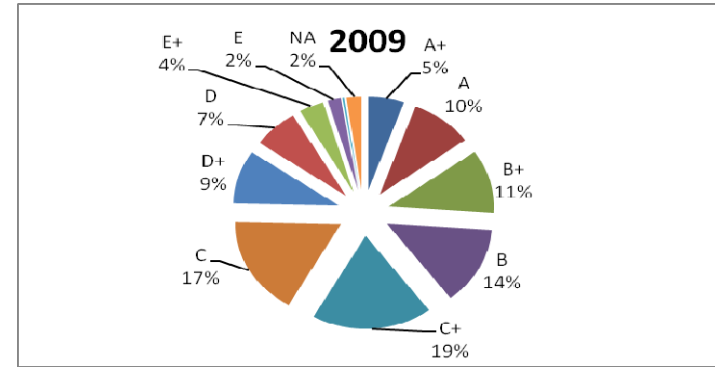
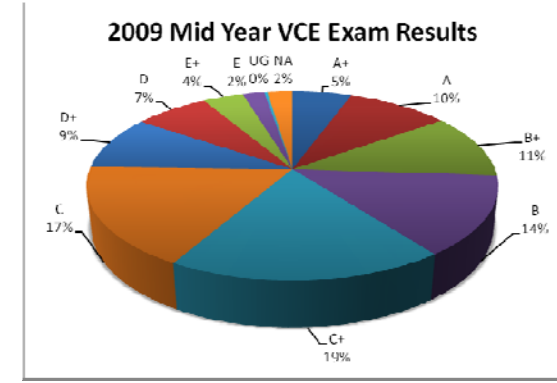
*God, washer of feet
Through the example of your servant Mary Mackillop, you reveal to us a model of service and social responsibility. Increase our faith. May we imitate your Son, Jesus Christ, and be prepared to humble ourselves through selfless service of our sisters and brothers in their need. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen*

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

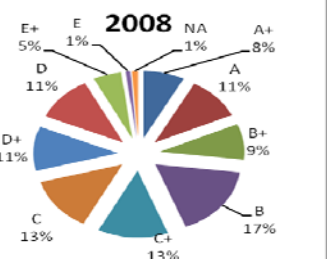
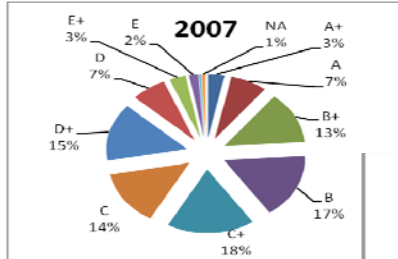
VCE RESULTS

This week we received the mid year VCE results for the examinations that students sat. There were many pleasing results and over the last few years we have seen an improvement in exam outcomes. Nonetheless, it is clear from the data that more work needs to be done in order to prepare students for exams. Our students do very well in their School Assessed Coursework and School Assessed Tasks but when it comes to the exams, they do not always achieve what the GAT and their other grades indicate they are capable of.



In order to achieve in the VCE, students must achieve in their exams. In order to achieve in their exams, students must work throughout the year. They need to complete the required amount of home study which for Year 11 students is 3 hours per night and Year 12 students is 4 hours per night. This is an enormous commitment and one which parents often find challenging to support their children with particularly when they are told that there is 'no homework tonight'. The College has produced a set of study guides for each subject area. These study guides are available on our website, I commend them to parents as a resource that can assist you in supporting your son/daughter through the VCE.

Not all students sit a Unit 3 mid year VCE exam, only those studying Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology with student in Studio Arts having the SAT assessed. In 2007, we had 110 students achieve a B grade or above in their mid year VCE results. This has been steadily improving and this year saw 137 students achieve a B or above in the mid year results for Unit 3. We have also analysed the results from the Year 11 exams held in the middle of the year. There has been great improvement in these grades as well.



This year we will introduce compulsory trial exams for all subjects in Year 12. These will be held in early Term 4 and are crucial in providing our students with an opportunity to sit an exam and be tested on the content they should know before they face the real examination period. These trial exams should be used by students to ascertain the deficit in their knowledge that will be required for the real VCE exams in November.

CONGRATULATIONS

I wish to recognise and congratulate the Senior Boys Futsal Team who are now State champions after winning the Catholic All Schools Futsal State Championship held at Albert Park on Tuesday 21 July. Well done and congratulations to Mitchell Hales, Dominic Zielinski, Matthew Falvo, Mario Krajina, Justin Camilleri, Nicholas Scerri, Peter Konjevic, Anthony Topic, Jake Grech, Christopher Hili and Michele Caramaschi it is an exceptional achievement.

BRENDAN J WATSON OAM—PRINCIPAL

TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

During the 2nd term over 70 Yr 11 and Yr 12 Technology students had the opportunity to visit the Top Designs Exhibition in at the Melbourne Museum. Students studying the subjects of Food Technology, Design and Technology Fabrics, and Design and Technology Wood all had the opportunity to see the SAT work of last year's top students. By visiting the museum students were able to view and gain ideas from the innovative and imaginative works created by previous VCE Technology students. The exhibition is one of outstanding student works and is presented by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and Melbourne Museum as a component of the VCE Season of Excellence. Exhibited works are accompanied by folios and design plans that document the development of ideas, production stages, client feedback and evaluation of products. Hopefully our students will be inspired by what they have seen other students achieve.

Top Designs Exhibition



EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

In the coming months the Design & Technology Fabrics students are attending the 2009 Apex Australia Teenage Fashion Awards for which they have entered various categories. Students are currently working diligently in after school sessions to create their winning outfits for the event.



They are to be congratulated on their commitment and skill level that allows them to enter such an event and showcase their innovative garment designs. Entering these events also allows students to extend their learning experiences and obtain an idea of the workings of the fashion industry. We wish them the best of luck.

Information Technology students also have the opportunity to enter the National Computer Science School Challenge 2009. It begins on 10 August and runs for 5 weeks and enables students to develop their programming skills in a competitive yet supportive environment.

IN THE CLASSROOM

In IT Applications students are working with electronic communications where they develop their own blog site and explore other social software (eg. podcasting) which is available to them through the web. In IT Software Development students are currently working on the first of their SACs for unit 4 which involves using the software products Excel, Dreamweaver and Inspiration to create a solution to a realistic major project for an imagined company.



Food Technology students continue to excel in their development of new food production techniques, as well as exploring creative ways to present their dishes.

In the coming weeks many of the Technology students will be completing their large compilation of folio (SAT) work that they embarked on at the beginning of the year. These projects have involved hours of planning and implementing. We wish them the best of luck with these endeavours, and are sure there will be a great sigh of relief when they are finally completed and submitted.



The Technology faculty would like to congratulate all of their students on their achievements in the subjects of Information Technology, Design & Technology – Fabrics, Design & Technology – Wood, and Food Technology so far this year.

SCOPE 2009



This year for community service David Szostak, Steven Massiol and Justin Sepe chose to help out at Scope. Scope is an organisation which involves support and care for differently-abled people. They provide a day service that really helps the clients to feel included in society. They are an amazing organisation with the best spirits and great ideas for the future. Our journey this year so far has been amazing. The things we have experienced while being with Scope have forever changed our outlook on the disabled community. Working with the clients we have realised they are just like any other person. They love to interact, listen to music, jump around and even play sports. But they do experience a harder life compared to so many others who take it for granted. We experienced a day in their life where each of us where blindfolded, muted, unable to walk and unable to move. We were placed either



ourselves with the fan on full blast and loud Spanish music. The problem was that we couldn't complain if we didn't like where we were and what was happening. This really gave us an insight into what they go through their whole lives and how hard it is. We could barely last 45 minutes and they have to carry the disability with them their whole lives. But they do it and even though they are so burdened they still live and laugh and smile. During our time at Scope we managed to form close bonds with the clients there. Jeremy, Anne, and Karen have become our closest friends and we definitely plan to keep going to Scope after our community service has ended. The satisfaction of just being able to make them smile really makes you feel like you've done something special and will keep you with a smile on your face for the rest of your day.

THE WOMEN OF TROY - 2009 PRODUCTION

Rehearsals for the CRC Sydenham Production of *The Women of Troy* have begun to gather momentum and tickets are now on sale. The story is set directly after the destruction of the ancient city of Troy. We see the fate of Troy's women and their cruel treatment by the Greek soldiers. Despite being oppressed, the strength of this play's female characters shows us the turmoil experienced by the real victims of war. It is a play about hope, revenge and the futility of war that has been brilliantly brought to the stage by CRC Sydenham's most talented performers. Tickets prices are: \$15 Adult and \$5 concession. Season dates are Friday 21st August and Saturday 22nd August at 7:30pm. The production will be held in the CRC Sydenham's new Multi-purpose Hall.



TEACHING STAFF

Catholic Regional College Sydenham, as a committed provider of quality education, tries to instil in its students a sense that learning is a journey and that it lasts a life time. The College prides itself on the expertise of its teaching staff acknowledging that the changing face of education requires staff to also be lifelong learners keeping abreast of recent trends and current research findings. In 2009 we would like to recognise Janet Doolan for completing Master of Education – Teaching English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL).

In a complex and dynamic global society, the challenges that students face are not static. As more and more students are choosing to complement their skills and knowledge with vocational education, the College has a professional obligation to encourage staff to update their pedagogical "tool box". We recognise the following staff who have completed their Certificate IV in Training and Assessment:

- David O'Brien,
- Andrew Mollica,
- Emma Mahoney,
- Julianna Paci,
- Joseph Gemayel,
- Richard Goodman
- Shirlee Charles.

For a full list of teacher qualifications, please refer to the 2008 – 2009 Annual Report located on the College web site.

STAND AND DELIVER BY JUSTIN L WEJAK

Stand and Deliver is a film portraying a dynamic saga of a Math teacher at East Los Angeles' Garfield High who refused to let his inner-city students to become failures. Instead, he encouraged and inspired them to excel.

He was very creative and innovative in his teaching. He approached each student with genuine understanding, respect and compassion. He prepared them for the toughest level of Math examination, resulting in all passing the exam with impressive results. The success of his students was evidence of his dedication and excellent work as a teacher and also what students can achieve when someone inspires them to believe in themselves and work towards a goal.

The teacher faced many challenges including discouragement from the school leadership and colleagues. They were, at first, doubtful of his ability to teach the students whom they considered unable to cope with fractions let alone calculus.

For example, at a school staff meeting, it was mentioned that the school was about to lose accreditation because of the poor performance of its students. Some teaching staff responded by resigning. One teacher even put all the blame upon the students, saying that the students were illiterate.

The school was low-funding and rough. Problems included burglary and vandalism, fights, no computers, and the students were of non-English speaking backgrounds.

The teacher was new to the school, he knew no one. He taught not the subject he was employed to teach. He spoke with a strong accent. At his first lesson, the students were rowdy and uncooperative and no teaching was achieved. After all this, his car was burgled. Nevertheless, he really wanted to become a school teacher, leaving his former job with an IT company. He was undeterred by the challenges of his first day on the job, returning the next day ready to tackle them. His teaching style was fun and stimulating. For example, at his second lesson, he dressed as chef to grab students' attention. He chopped apples into portions and asked questions. He also made jokes to establish connections with the students.

At this second lesson, the teacher was, however, confronted by two students who came late to the class. They were very defiant, and seemed to be the gang leaders. They actually threatened the teacher. They wanted to pass the subject, but did not want to do any work.

This experience during the second lesson led the teacher to think that he needed to use some humor to pick on students' bad attitudes at his next lesson, which he did.

At the third lesson, the teacher highlighted the needs for Math. He showed mathematical concepts using real life examples. He, for instance, highlighted the history of Mayan people in a concept, with the aim of trying to build self-esteem. The teacher was very patient in explaining concepts and formulas. He remained positive and optimistic. He even proposed at a school meeting that he could teach more subjects.

He wanted to teach Calculus, which would require students to do summer school. In reply, the School Principal said that students couldn't handle it. "If they try and don't succeed, it'll shatter what little self-confidence they have."

Despite the lack of confidence by the school leadership in the students' ability, the Math teacher continued to convince his students for the need of *ganas* or desire to gain success. The teacher's desire and passion made him endlessly work very hard, and this made his wife become upset and concerned. He, in fact, once collapsed at night school, and was not allowed to work for one month. During this time in hospital, however, he wrote notes for his students. The students were excited when he returned to class two weeks before the examination. In the end, the students exceeded all expectations, so much so that it even raised the suspicions of the examination authorities who investigated the results.

The story about the Math teacher highlights some key issues, which include poor funding, discipline and classroom management, respect, poor motivation to learn – not interested, bullying of the teacher, racial and social discrimination, socio-economic factors, and academic expectations and performance.

No matter what a student's background is, with belief and hard work, anything is possible.

Justin Wejak currently teaches Year 11 Ethics, Year 11 History, and Year 12 Religion and Society, at CRC Sydenham.