



4 March 2010 ~ Edition 3 :1 :10

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. (Matt 16.24)

May the power of the cross inspire us to endure the harsh realities of life and to see through them to the bright vision of a world transformed by the power of God's love.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

College Theme 2010

This year our College theme is Take, Bless, Break, Give. This series of four words appears in two stories in Luke, and several other New Testament stories. They are at the heart of the story of the feeding of the five thousand—that day Jesus was teaching thousands of people and they stayed until dinner time and out of five loaves and two fish everyone was fed. Everyone was fed *after* Jesus took the bread and fish, blessed them, broke them into pieces, and gave them to the people.

This term, we are focussing on the word TAKE. Take is kind of a sharp word, isn't it? Kind of pointy, kind of pointed. A little aggressive. I remember one of my teachers saying that in worship we should never announce we are going to "take" the offering; it sounds too much like the congregation is going to be handing over their wallets at gunpoint. We were supposed to announce, instead, that we would "receive" it.

So when we wonder why Jesus didn't receive bread in all these stories instead of taking it, I am lead to think that maybe the word "take" is used because it implies an act of will. A person has to reach out to take something that is offered. I'm recalling countless scenes in movies and TV shows in which someone who is in need stands before someone who has what they need. Say it's money; the empty-pocketed one looks down at the ground while the one who has plenty to share stands there with a hand outstretched, holding a roll of bills. "Take it," he urges. Often there is a kind of reluctance on the part of the empty-pocketed party. To take the aid offered requires humility; he'll have to admit he's not self-sufficient in order to accept help.

We have been in it, each and every one of us, where our relationship with God is concerned. We always stand empty-pocketed before our Creator who gives us everything—life, love, food, oxygen, purpose and

direction. God offers us abundance. We are often curiously reluctant to take it and thereby signal our dependence on someone other than ourselves. But humbling ourselves in order to reach out and take the blessings God offers, is part of our spiritual journey. Just as God took the earth, blessed it and made it in His image giving it life.

Another way of looking at the 'Take' part of our theme for this year is through the story of the loaves and fish where we see a little boy taking up all he has and offering it to Jesus for the good of all gathered. Likewise, each of us is called to take our own personal gifts forward to share with the community each year, this is an action we can all do. To take ourselves forward and offer what we have to assist our community.

Staff Recognition

I am pleased to announce that Nick Weiler, Chef de Cuisine and Director of the Trade Training Centre has been appointed as the VCE – VET State Reviewer for Hospitality by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. Nick will continue to work at Catholic Regional College Sydenham while he undertakes this important role. This is one example of a member of our community taking their gifts forward and sharing them. Congratulations Nick.

Science

I am pleased to announce that late last year I received written advice from The Minister for Education and Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard, that Catholic Regional College Sydenham would receive a Commonwealth grant through Catholic Education for \$1 million. This money will be used to renovate and extend the Science facilities in the College which are almost 30 years old. I am very grateful to the Commonwealth Government for their investment in education which Catholic Regional College Sydenham has been fortunate to receive.

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Buses

I am acutely aware of the problems with buses from Melton and Bacchus Marsh in the mornings. I had written to the State Minister and Department for Infrastructure earlier this term and have received letters acknowledging my correspondence. To date no resolution has been forthcoming. Copies of these letters are included in this newsletter for parents to read. I take this opportunity to remind families that this is an election year for Victoria and as such I encourage all Melton and Bacchus Marsh families to write to your local State Member indicating your displeasure at the lack of services and infrastructure investment by the State Government in our Region. I also encourage our Year 12 students to enrol to vote so that they may have their say in our democratic system.

Yours faithfully



Brendan J Watson OAM—Principal

Catholic Regional College Sydenham
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telephone: 9361 0000 facsimile: 9390 2096
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abn: 22 394 397 639

5 February 2010

The Secretary
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local Government
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

To Whom It May Concern,

Catholic Regional College Sydenham is the senior secondary school for students from Catholic Regional College Melton. Catholic Regional College Melton has classes to Year 10 and as such students must travel to Sydenham to complete Years 11 and 12.

In recent years, enrolments at Catholic Regional College Sydenham from the Melton -Bacchus Marsh areas have grown as has the population of these areas. The provision of buses from Melton to Sydenham is no longer adequate as the numbers of students requiring transport to Sydenham from Melton - Bacchus Marsh is in excess of the capacity of the buses provided.

This week, the first week of school for 2010, students have been left behind and unable to attend school because of the inadequate provision of bus services. I write to ask that the Department of Infrastructure address this issue urgently so as to allow students to be able to travel to school each day.

I wait in anticipation that the Department of Infrastructure will address this matter expeditiously.

Yours faithfully,



Brendan J Watson OAM
Principal



Minister for Public Transport

Received on
19 FEB 2010

PO Box 2797 Melbourne
Victoria 3001 Telephone:
(03) 9655 3300 Facsimile:
(03) 9655 3313
www.vic.gov.au DX
210410

Ref: DOT091746

Mr Brendan Watson OAM
Principal
Catholic Regional College Sydenham
380 Sydenham Road
SYDENHAM VIC 3037

Dear Mr Watson

BUS SERVICES FROM MELTON TO SYDENHAM

Thank you for your letter dated 5 February 2010 regarding the above matter.

I have sought advice regarding the issue raised in your correspondence and will respond to you shortly.

Yours sincerely



MARTIN PAKULA MP
Minister for Public Transport

Parent Information Session

Results, Scaling and the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)

Are you confused about Year 12 results and the calculation of the ATAR? On Wednesday 24 March parents will have an opportunity to attend an information session covering information about results, the impact of scaling, the calculation of the ATAR (Previously called the ENTER), and destination data for our 2009 Year 12 graduates.

To ease the burden of having to attend the College on two separate nights, this session will take place on the same day as Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews for Term 1.

Date: Wednesday 24 March
Time: 6pm-7pm
Venue: Room A1 & A2 CRC Sydenham

GTAC EXCURSION REVIEW BY DYLAN MORRISON

On 23 and 25 February the Biology classes were privileged to attend the Gene Technology Access Centre or GTAC as it is otherwise known. It was an extremely enjoyable day where we delved deep into the field of protein and enzyme functions with trained scientists and medical scientists. We performed a variety of analytical and experimental activities in preparation for our SAC when we returned to the College. The class had a wonderful lunch at Melbourne University where the commencement of 'O' week or Orientation week occurred, participating in the festivities and eating lunch from various cultures.

On behalf of the Biology classes, I would like to sincerely thank Suzanne, Paul and Leanne for organising the excursion and accompanying us to the venue.

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

Owing to the closure of the College on Monday we have rearranged the date for the remainder of the school photographs. These will be taken on Friday 5 March at 2pm. All students who did not have their photograph taken on 11 February must have one taken on this day, even if you are not purchasing a set. All students need an I.D. photo taken. Full, correct summer uniform with blazers must be worn. Photographs may be ordered online at www.arphotos.com.au/schoolorders.

CATHOLIC ALL SCHOOLS TENNIS REGIONAL DAY

Seven illustrious tennis stars left CRC Sydenham on Monday 1 March bound for glory in Sunbury. The players were; Jack Norman, Matthew Camenzuli, Daniel Messina, Frank Griffo, Sarah Giannetta, Stana Anic and Matisse Guarino. All represented the College very well.

Jack, Matthew, Daniel, Sarah and Stana made it through to the quarter finals, with Stana and Matthew going through to have a win in the semi final.

Both Matthew and Stana will go on to represent the region at the Regional Championship Day played at Booroondara Tennis Centre on Monday 15 March. We wish them all the success.

By Elio Menegol

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Parents' Association Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 18 March, 2010 commencing at 7.30 pm. All parents are most welcome.



Call Peta on 0410413265

EFM Health Club
at CRC Sydenham



Experience the Personal Touch!

<i>Monday</i>	6am-9am 3.30pm-8pm
<i>Tuesday</i>	6am-10am 3.30pm-8pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	6am-9am 3.30pm-8pm
<i>Thursday</i>	6am-10am 3.30pm-8pm
<i>Friday</i>	6am-9am 3.30pm-8pm

COLLEGE FEE PAYMENT DATES FOR TERM 1

Full fees paid by 23 March will receive \$100 discount. If you experience any difficulties making payments by the due voucher dates, please call the Business Manager - Cheryl Howard on 9361 0000 to discuss options.

Fortnightly	Monthly	Term
26 February	20 February	2 March
12 March	20 March	
26 March		

ST. DOMINIC'S DEBUTANTE BALL

The St Dominic's Debutante Ball for 2010 will be held at Luxor on Friday 17 September 2010. That is the last Friday of Term 3. We still have some vacancies for this ball.

There are nine practices from 6-8pm on Thursday nights at Luxor. The cost for Debutantes and Partners is \$260 each.

Any young ladies wishing to be presented at this ball can phone Sue 97432941 or Robyn 97433174 by March 5.



PARENT SEMINAR SERIES 2010

A non-threatening program for parents, carers, guardians and grandparents of students in Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools.

What's On In March

Topic: Emotional Intelligence
Presenter: Cathy O'Brien

Emotional intelligence enables young people to make the links between how they feel and how they function in the world. It covers the skills of self knowledge and self management and knowing how to relate well to others. Resilience is a connected area. Discuss important aspects of your child's development and learn some ways to assist them.

17 March Our Lady of Victories 7pm – 9pm
Reserve Road, Camberwell
Ref: Mel. Map No 59 J2

Registration/Further Information - Contact Mrs Shirley O'Sullivan (Catholic Education Office) on 9464 5225 or email shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au

Seminar Cost: \$10.00 per person (To be paid in advance)

LOOKING AHEAD

Important Dates

Friday 5 March	Year. 12 Group B Outdoor Education trip to the Glengl
Wednesday 10 March	Wellbeing Afternoon - Year 11 All Year 11 students to attend. Year 11 students will be dismissed at 3.30 pm Year. 12 Drama Excursion Year. 12 Geography Excursion
Thursday 11 March	Year. 12 Geography Excursion
Friday 12 March	Year. 12 Geography Excursion

Important Dates

Tuesday 16 March	All students dismissed at 1.30pm for Intercampus Mass for staff.
Wednesday 17 March	Year. 11 Outdoor Education trip Group A & B
Thursday 17 March	Year. 11 Outdoor Education trip Group A & B Parent's Association AGM - 7.00pm



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