



3rd March 2011 Edition 3:1:11

God of our journeys, God of our dreams, you so loved the world that you gave your only son, the child you loved, and still you hold this world before us to summon us, to challenge us, to enfold us with its longing. Give us grace as we need it to hear, to see, to love and to act, and always to "go and do likewise." We ask this together in the name of the One whose name we claim, and by which we are claimed. Amen.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

You may have noted the page one story in the Age on February 28, 'Catholic schools' \$39m bonanza'. The article made a number of erroneous claims about Catholic school funding, based on an interview with Australian Education Union (AEU) lobbyist Trevor Cobbold. Unfortunately the claims ignore the fact that, like Government schools, Catholic schools pool government funding and distribute it to Catholic schools according to need.

Much of the funding attributed to the Catholic schools in the article is re-allocated to support schools with disadvantaged students, students with a disability, indigenous students, refugees and rural and regional schools.

This analysis appears to be part of an orchestrated campaign by the AEU and others to influence the Australian Government's review of school funding and secure more funding for government schools at the expense of Catholic schools. A number of organisations are likely to continue spreading misinformation during the funding review. It is therefore important that Catholic school parents understand the facts on Catholic school funding. These include:

- ◆ The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd estimate that total government funding to Catholic schools is less than 80% of the per student cost in government schools, although this percentage varies between schools.
- ◆ In the most thorough reconciliation available Ernst & Young reported that education costs in Catholic schools are 93% of per student costs in government schools in Victoria.
- ◆ 93% includes the fees paid by parents and any other sources of income that schools access such as fundraising.
- ◆ Like Government schools, Catholic schools pool government funding and distribute it to schools according to need.
- ◆ This has been the practice for many years and we believe this is the best way to meet the needs of schools and students which can vary from year to year with changing circumstances.

Catholic schools have nothing to hide and nothing to fear from the real story of school funding being widely understood and I encourage you to share the facts listed with your friends. Catholic education strives to welcome students from every background and walk of life and this is only possible with fair funding.

The recent state government bi-partisan commitment to fair funding recognised the right of parents to be supported financially in their education choice. We hope that the federal funding review will also recognise this right and ensure Catholic schools receive a fair share of government funding.

- ◆ Further information on school funding will be available in coming months. If you have any questions relating to school funding please contact the Catholic Education Office Melbourne via email at: director@ceomeb.catholic.edu.au

Families will have received a letter from me with their school fees last week. In the letter I notified you of a break in at the College and the theft of a dozen Apple Mac computers. Unfortunately on 1 March between 3.30 and 4.00am the College was broken into again. This time the offenders broke into and ransacked the main office and adjacent staff offices. It would appear that the criminals were looking for money. The College does not keep cash on the premises and so while little of value was stolen there was considerable mess and damage. The College is the property of the Parishes and the local Catholic community. It is because of the hard work and dedication of people from the Parishes over many years that we have such outstanding facilities. A crime such as this is therefore a crime against us all, those enrolled at the College, their families, the staff and those in the Parishes. Police attended and are continuing their investigation. I urge anyone who may hear or know anything about these crimes to contact the Police or the College.

On a more pleasing note, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg spoke to our Year 12 students last week on the topic of surviving Year 12. Michael visits many schools every year and we are fortunate to be one of these. At the conclusion of his presentation he asked for a tour of the College and commented that Catholic Regional College Sydenham has some of the best programs and facilities for students that he has ever seen.

Yours faithfully

BRENDAN J WATSON OAM—PRINCIPAL

1. HOW DO I CHOOSE A CAREER? Some people develop a career interest while quite young and stick with this idea. On the other hand, many find it a very difficult and lengthy process. A good starting point is to answer the following questions:

What are my **interests**?

What am I **good at** doing?

What do I **value**?

- ◆ THINK ABOUT: What do I enjoy doing with my **spare time**? What are my **hobbies**? What subjects do I enjoy most at **school**? In which **subjects** do I obtain the best results? Which subjects seem the most **relevant** to my life? Do I **value** making lots of **money**? Do I value **assisting** others? Am I a **creative** person? Am I fascinated by **science**? Do I enjoy **studying**? Try to answer questions such as these and you will be on your way to coming up with suitable career ideas.

2. WHAT IS THE ATAR? The **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank** is an overall measure of how well a student has performed in VCE studies. The ATAR is calculated solely for the use of tertiary institutions to compare overall achievement of students and select students for courses. You will receive an ATAR after satisfying requirements of the VCE and having study scores for an English and at least three other studies. Students in all Australian states except Queensland receive an ATAR. The ATAR was previously known as an ENTER. ATAR and ENTER are calculated in the same way – it is a change in name only.

3. INTERESTED IN PURSUING MEDICINE AND OTHER HEALTH COURSES IN 2012? If so, you may need to complete the **Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT)** as part of the application process. Monash University requires your ATAR, UMAT result and an interview when selecting students for their **medicine and physiotherapy** degrees. **Pharmacy and Commerce/pharmacy** at Monash also require completion of the UMAT. It is also required for medical courses in other states. Check out the UMAT at <http://umatweb.acer.edu.au/>. The test will be held on 27 July, 2011; registrations open on Fri 1 April (on -line). NOTE: Some organisations run courses to assist with UMAT preparation. It is up to you to decide whether to complete one.

4. CAREER EXPO'S – If you want to obtain careers information from a large variety of sources at one location, Careers Expos are a great way to go. Several are held each year. Find out about university and TAFE courses, independent colleges, and so on. Coming up:

- ◆ The **National Careers & Employment Expo** will run Fri 25 - Sat 26 Mar at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

- ◆ The **'Age' VCE and Careers Expo 2011** will run Fri 6 - Sun 8 May at Caulfield Racecourse, Station St, Caulfield

- ◆ The **Eastland Future Options Careers Expo** will be at 6-8pm, Tues 2 Aug at Eastland Shopping Centre

- ◆ Information about **other Expos** as it comes to hand.

5. WANT HELP WITH FOLIO PREPARATION AND CAREERS? Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at RMIT City & Brunswick campuses, mainly designed for Yr 11/12. **Info:** www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au, ph 9925 8111. (Note: These courses do not influence selection of students into RMIT award programs nor are they a requirement for gaining a place in an RMIT award program).

6. CAREERS ROOM OPEN

If you have any questions about your career, the careers room (located in the Student Services building) is open every recess and lunch time.

Josie Albano, Pathways Coordinator.

'MARCH OFF TO BED EARLIER IN MARCH'

As Brendan indicated in his article our Year 12 students had the pleasure to listen to Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg last week. He shared with them a number of ideas that were scientifically tested, one being that students needed 9.25 hours of sleep a night. After talking to many of our students it is evident that they are similar to their counterparts in the United States. A National Sleep Foundation survey conducted in the United States of adolescents aged 11 to 17 found that 80% don't get the recommended 9 hours of sleep a night.

In an attempt for our students to feel rested, more energetic and perform better at school, we have started an initiative for the month of March. It is called "March off to bed earlier in March". Posters will be placed up in classes and around the College to encourage more hours of sleep and in the next newsletter I will write to you informing you of some of the research and tips regarding the advantage of sleeping 8 - 9 hours per night.

Leo McInerney - Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing

RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email? If so please complete and return the following slip to the Administration office at the College.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Students Name: _____

Student's Tutor Group _____

OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Yr 12 Mt Stirling Bushwalk

Recently our Year 12 OES class participated in a 3 day bushwalk at Mt Stirling. Students researched the local area, looking at interactions and relationships with the natural environment over time. Specifically, students studied the impacts of the Taungurong (Mansfield Indigenous people), stories from Banjo Patterson about the high country cattlemen and the recent impacts of tourism and skiing.



ALICE IN WONDERLAND

The 2011 College Production is *Alice In Wonderland*. We have decided to use a modern script by Australian playwright Les Winspear. In addition, the production will be produced by the Yr 11 and 12 Theatre Studies students.

The season will be earlier this year, running from May 26 to May 27. Make sure you mark these dates in your diary!

LUNCH ORDERS

This year students will have the opportunity to order their lunch from the College Cafeteria. Orders must be written on a paper bag (paper bags will be available from the Cafeteria) and placed in the lunch order box with their name and order clearly written. Orders must be in the box by 9.00 am. Collection will be from the Cafeteria at lunchtime.



SACCSS SENIOR GOLF

On Monday the 14th of February, the CRC Sydenham golf team consisting of Anthony Lombardi (Captain), Matthew Velcek, Anthony Zovak and Josip Jurjevic went out to Werribee Park Golf course to compete in the SACCSS Senior Golf Tournament. Our boys played extremely well and were fortunate to come away with the victory.

Anthony Lombardi shot 76, Matthew Velcek 89, Anthony Zovak 92 and Josip Jurjevic 102 and with those scores we were the winners by 7 strokes.

Congratulations boys.



Anthony Lombardi



Matthew Velcek



Anthony Zovak



Josip Jurjevic

Adam Ray - Sport Coordinator

SECOND HAND BOOKS

Each day I will put in the bulletin which books may be collected from the second hand store. Books left over will be put out for re-sale at the end of semester and at the end of the year.

BUSES

I have been in contact with the Department of Infrastructure/Transport who deal with school buses. Hopefully a solution will be reached regarding the over crowding on the Melton (Sita) bus. I have recommended that the Bacchus Marsh coach does a drop off and pick up at Mac's Hotel, thus alleviating the problem.

Hopefully the Department will organise this by next week. Once this is rectified, students will be given school bus passes to state which bus they are to travel on.

Alison Mahoney - Daily Organiser

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Kick start your
New Year with
EFM Health Clubs**



EFM HEALTH CLUBS Be Quick Offer Ends 28th Feb!
*Conditions Apply



SYDENDHAM HEALTH CLUB TIMETABLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MORNING SESSIONS					
6.00am- 10.00am Fitness Coaching	6.00am- 10.00am Fitness Coaching	6.00am-8.30am Fitness Coaching	CLOSED <small>Specialist sessions Coming soon</small>	6.00am-8.30am Fitness Coaching	8.00am-10.00am Fitness Coaching
EVENING SESSIONS					
4:30pm-8:00pm Fitness Coaching	4:30pm-8:00pm Fitness Coaching	5:00pm-8:00pm Fitness Coaching	4:30pm-8:00pm Fitness Coaching	4:30pm-8:00pm Fitness Coaching	*PT available via appointment*
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Name

Rodney McDaniel

Phone Contact

0410 413 265

Email/Web

rodney.mcdaniel@efm.net.au

ACADEMY UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is located at the rear of the College. Access is via Pecks Road, Sydenham.

Uniform Shop Hours

- ◆ Monday 2.30 pm ~ 4.30 pm
- ◆ Thursday 8.00 am ~ 10.00 am
- ◆ Saturday 9.00 am ~12.00 pm

LOOKING AHEAD

Important Dates

Tuesday 8 March	Year 12 Theatre Studies Excursion SLG Leaders Forum at Moonee Valley Racecourse
Wednesday 9 March	Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Wilson's Promontory
	SACCSS Sports Day
	Year 11 Wellbeing Afternoon. All Year 11 students to attend. Year 11 students will be dismissed at 3.30pm
Thursday 10 March	Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Wilson's Promontory
Friday 9 March	Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Wilson's Promontory

Important Dates

Monday 14 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 15 March	Staff Professional Development and Intercampus Mass - Student Free Day
Wednesday 16 March	Further Mathematics - Graphs and relations assessment task - all Further Mathematics students must attend.
Thursday 17 March	St. Patrick's Day Mass at the Cathedral

Important Message to all parents/guardians - It is highly advisable that all students at the College are covered under an ambulance subscription in case of any medical emergencies.