

St Clare's Catholic High School

Term 2, Week 2

Friday, 9 May 2014



Clare Connection

From the Principal.....Mr R Muscat

Dear St Clare's Community,

Term 2 marks the commencement of the 2015 enrolment period. The first round of interviews will be held on Saturday, 10th May and we anticipate further interviews throughout the term. Those families that arrange a time earlier rather than later will most probably be guaranteed a position for next year. If current families have younger siblings I ask that you organise a time as soon as possible.

During the latter part of Term 2 parents will be receiving their child's Semester 1 report. We have included a new section which gives recommendations as to how your child can improve

over the coming Semester 2 period. We have also added a second Parent/Teacher evening early in Term 3 to reinforce these recommendations.

As a member of the Catholic Church the Bishop of Parramatta, Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP has requested that all Catholic schools participate in the Diocesan Works Fund (DWF). Therefore, during the week commencing Monday, 19th May, your child will bring home the DWF envelopes for any donations. The Fund assists the Diocese in supporting initiatives such as the Catherine Villa which houses and cares for young pregnant women and the Epheta Centre which provides support to the deaf and learning impaired. Your generosity would be greatly

appreciated.

I wish all mothers have a well-deserved Mothers' Day this Sunday and I leave you with a Prayer dedicated to our Holy Mother, the Virgin Mary:

Dear Mary, on this day when we honour all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. Amen.

God Bless.

Enrolment for Year 7, 2015

If you have a child in Year 6 and have **NOT** enrolled your child, you need to pick up an enrolment form from the school office or download the enrolment form from the school website as soon as possible.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, 12 May	Year 10 (10.4, 10.5 & 10.6) Coastal Excursion
Tuesday, 20 May	Year 9 War Memorial, Canberra
Wednesday, 21 May	Years 7 & 9 Vaccinations
Friday, 23 May	School Mass at Good Shepherd Parish, 11am
Wednesday, 28 May	Parent Forum—Student Advocacy Model & Challenge Program. 6-7pm
Thursday, 3 June	Year 11, 2015 Subject Expo /Information Evening, 5-9pm at Loyola Senior High School

175 Buckwell Drive HASSALL GROVE 2761/Locked Bag 1412 Plumpton 2761

Phone: (02) 9830 2400 Fax: (02) 9835 2539

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From the Assistant Principal..... Mr M Whitton

I hope that all of the mothers in our St Clare's community have a wonderful day with their families this Sunday. Within the busy lives we all seem to be leading these days, it is important to slow down and take stock of what is really important every now and then, and Mothers' Day is the perfect opportunity for this!

Some reminders about aspects of School life:

We ask for all parents to support us in ensuring that students are wearing their uniform correctly. Recently there have been a number of instances of inappropriate jewellery, makeup and hair accessories, as well as boys not tucking shirts in or wearing ties. In addition, many students are not wearing their blazer to and from

school, including into Learning Group in the mornings.

Our uniform is one of the most powerful ways in which people identify with St Clare's Catholic High School. We need all students to realise that they are representing St Clare's wherever they may be in their uniform, and to send the right message, which is that St Clare's is a fantastic school that our students are proud to be a part of.

We appeal to all students to be very careful when making their way to and from school. When crossing roads, they need to use the pedestrian crossings and check for the traffic around them. We ask that parents reinforce to their children the

importance of taking care on the roads.

In the recent rainy weather, there were some incidents where students did not take due care and accidents could have easily happened. We also ask that parents, friends and students who are driving follow the 40km/hour rule to protect our students and themselves from dangerous situations.

The Parent Forum is coming up, on Wednesday 28th May. Mr Muscat and myself will address the parent community on initiative's that are happening at St Clare's with particular reference to our Student Advocacy Model and our Learn to Learn program.

From the Religious Education Coordinator.....Mr M Vella

Month of May

With Mother's Day so near, it is hoped that we, once again, say thanks in practical ways. It would be a much better world if we said thanks more often. *"Thanks mum, that really tasted good. Thanks for changing the sheets and picking up after me. Thanks for being there for me every day."*

Why do we have to wait till it's too late to say those easy words? It is so easy to say and carries so much force, it is a pity we don't use our power to make people feel good about themselves more often.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks explains this complicated verse from Genesis 3:20-21 *"Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become mother of all life. The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them."* Adam finds out that he is mortal and the way of defeating death is to pass ideas on the hearts of our children. Without Eve, human life would cease, so Adam, which means

"human" names Eve which means "she who gives life" and through love create new life. Eve is no longer just a companion but an equal who is co-creator like the creator God, Elohim creator of all nature. Woman were blamed by Adam for his irresponsible actions but later he realizes her importance.

All mothers have passed on new life and should be respected for their role. Mothers however are more than that, not only have they loved us into existence but mothers are there for us in our youth and throughout our lives if we are gifted enough with their presence.

Fathers, brothers, sisters and friends all need to use these words of thanks and empower our mothers. Being the month of May, we also could spend a little time thinking about the Mother of Jesus as she is also our mother in faith.

The Diocesan Works Fund

The Diocesan Works Fund helps around 20,000 people each year as it assists

youth, families, single mothers, the disadvantaged, the indigenous, the elderly and persons with a disability. It also provides funds for the training of seminarians, deacons and catechists. When Jesus said "Blessed are the poor, for theirs is the Kingdom of God" he challenges us Christians to do something about helping those marginalised in our society. We are called to help the poor as he also said, "When I was hungry you gave me to eat."

Students and parents have been extremely generous in helping out CARITAS which helps mostly those less fortunate overseas. We are now asking for contributions to "The Diocesan Works Fund Appeal". Any donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

In Week 4 this term envelopes, will be given to each family and it is hoped that contributions, as a one off donation, can be made by returning the envelope that week.

From the Head of Learning....Mr D Wales

Dear parents, carers and students of the St Clare's community

As many of you would know, our Years 7 and 9 students will undertake this year's NAPLAN tests from next Tuesday 13 to Thursday 15 May. These tests, which have the support of all state and territory education ministers, will allow for the literacy and numeracy skills of students, across Australian schools, to be tested, the results of which will provide important information to our school about what each student can do. Moreover, these results will help to inform future directions in our students' learning, and will be conducted, according to the following timetable: Additionally, please note that every Years 7 and 9 St Clare's student is expected to complete these tests.

As always, please feel free to contact me, should you have any questions about this process.

TEST DATE	TEST NAME	INCLUDES
Tuesday 13 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Language ConventionsWriting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">spelling, punctuation and grammara persuasive text OR a narrative
Wednesday 14 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">reading
Thursday 15 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">number, algebra, function and pattern; chance and data; measurement and spacetwo numeracy tests: one, in which a calculator is allowed, and one, in which a calculator is not to be used
Friday 16 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a 'catch-up' day (for students, who missed a test or were absent on a test day)

Thank you for your continual support of learning at St Clare's.
Best wishes and prayers

From the Head of Teaching, Innovation and Learning....Ms S McManus

In preparing to educate our students at Saint Clare's, teachers use a variety of data to assess our students' critical point of need. Mr Wales and myself, used writing data we have collected from Year 9, to form the basis of a writing workshop that we recently conducted.

It was wonderful to witness the dedication and interest exhibited by all students who were involved. The days were structured into three areas, in preparation for not only the upcoming Naplan examination but to enhance life long writing skills.

Section One: Narrative Writing

Section Two: Persuasive Writing

Section Three: Test and Marking activities

Students actively participated in activities that included text structure, engaging an audience, spelling, vocabulary, sentence structure,

creating character and setting, how to plan a narrative and paragraph writing. Furthermore, students read a variety of exemplar samples and worked collaboratively, using technology.

Like any skill, writing is a matter of practice and developing skills so that all ideas are clearly expressed and understood. The ability to effectively communicate is essential in our world.

"Writing has laws of perspective, of light and shade, just as painting does, or music. If you are born knowing them, fine. If not, learn them. Then rearrange the rules to suit yourself."

— Truman Capote

Kind Regards



From the Business Manager.... Mrs K Parker

Uniforms required

With the weather cooling down so rapidly we are in need of uniform items for students of families with genuine needs.

If you are willing to donate any clothing, please note that items will be gratefully accepted through the front office.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

School Fees

School Fees Statements for Term Two have now been issued.

Payment is due Wednesday, 4 June.

Your prompt attention to the payment of fees is appreciated.

If you have any concerns in meeting fee payments please contact Mrs Sandra Bourke in the Finance Office immediately on 9830 2400 (Select Option 2). Please be assured that all information provided is held in strict confidence.

Year 10 Food Technology.....Mr B Chhabra

Year 10 Food Technology class currently learning deficiency diseases related to lack of nutrients in children.

As part of their assessment, class researched a particular deficiency disease and prepared a suitable meal which can assist in improving their deficiency.



Year 10 Update

It is tradition at St Clare's for each Year 10 cohort to be given the opportunity to purchase a commemorative Year 10 jersey. Mrs Cefai, Serena Salameh and I designed a shirt to mark our final year at St Clare's. It has been a real learning experience. From contacting the supplier to negotiating prices, fabrics and samples as well as organising fittings during lunch time. It has been a great pleasure to work with Mrs Cefai and Serena and we can't wait for our fellow Year 10 peers to wear

the shirts proudly as the graduating class of 2014.

Krystelle Quartermaine.



Canteen Services

Students and Staff,

Please note that meal deals were introduced to the canteen, at an introductory price, to test the demand for these items.

Now that we know that they are items that you want, we have found to keep them on the menu, it is necessary for us to increase meal deal prices by \$0.50 - \$1.00 (still a great saving on buying the items individually).

Also, due to supplier price increases it

is necessary for us to pass on increases on another two items:

Fish & Chips and Chicken & Chips will also increase by \$0.50. Prices on all other items remain unchanged.

Price increases will take place only once per year and, in the future, will be issued at the beginning of each school year.

We would also kindly like to remind students and families that purchases cannot be put on credit.

i.e. all items are to be paid for at time of purchase.

It seems, by all accounts, that our canteen services have been well received. We do, although, welcome your feedback. Please feel free to contact us through the school office.

Kind regards,

***The staff of
Total Canteen Solutions***

Busways Update



Dear parent/student

Commencing Monday, 19 May 2014, there will be change to the time of the afternoon school bus 5 departing from St Clare's Catholic High School at 2.51pm to Bougainville Road and Luxford Road.

School Bus 5 will now depart from St Clare's at 2.46pm (5 minutes earlier) then travel via normal route to Bougainville Road and Luxford Road.

There are no changes to the directions.

There are no changes to the morning service.

For further information, please contact Blacktown Depot on 9625 8900 or visit our website at www.busways.com.au

Yours sincerely,

BUSWAYS BLACKTOWN PTY LTD

SH 388B—Sch Bus 5—28/04/2014

2014 Anzac Day Assembly



From the Communication Leaders

Welcome back, parents, teachers and students, to the explosive start of Term 2 and the beginning of the end of Semester 1. We are nearly halfway through the school year for 2014 but this involves a full nine weeks packed with hard work from both teachers and students.

The term has had a busy start with students diving right into their work. A great way for students to learn is through excursions. The Years 9 and 10 Photography and Art classes had an excursion on Tuesday to the Museum of New South Wales and the Museum of Contemporary Art where they viewed 4D images and 2D images from different artists to learn about their different styles. Year 8 have returned from their Great Aussie Bush Camp after three days and two nights away from home. More about that excursion will be in next fortnight's edition. Still to come this week is the Year 10 excursion to Collaroy Beach on Friday and the following Monday where they will be learning about coastal management and its importance. Year 9 will be also taking a trip down to Canberra on the

20th of May. They will be visiting the War Memorial for their HSIE topic.

To add to the excitement are the PDSSSC sports taking place this term. We will have a female team for both junior and intermediate netball representing our school this term. Additionally we will have a junior and intermediate male and female team for soccer and rugby. Trials were held last week on Thursday and the teams were chosen so congratulations to everyone who made a team and represent our school proudly in your upcoming games.

Next week, the Years 7 and 9 NAPLAN exams will be held. This will happen over a period of three days and students will be tested on their spelling and grammar, writing and mathematics skills. These are important tests so we wish them all the best of luck.

As this is the last year at this school for the Year 10 students, two talented SRC members have designed a commemorative jersey

available for purchase. This is the last week to order for only \$45. They will be personalised with the student's name on the back and will be a momentum to hold onto for the rest of our lives.

Year 7 has been busy in Science, learning about particles in solids, liquids and gases. One interesting experiment they have done while studying this physics topic is to make your own quicksand. They have also been expanding their mathematics knowledge with fractions, decimals and integers. In English these knowledge-hungry students have been learning the correct structure of a narrative and in HSIE they are studying the Ancient Egyptian culture including the process and purposes of mummification. To expand their knowledge on other cultures, Year 7 has been studying African music.

Until next fortnight,

Sam and Tori



Homework Club

In the SD8 & SD9 at lunch.
Every Tuesday and Friday.

For help with homework and assessments.
Computers available for your use.
Remember to bring your class books and
assessment tasks

Uniform Shop

Tuesdays - 8.00am - 1.30pm

Thursdays - 12.00noon - 3.00pm

Colebee Crescent Car Park Entrance

Phone: 9835 2718

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 13 – 15 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

www.wwme.org.au

www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

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Loyola

Trade Training Centre

Open & Information Night

Tuesday, June 3, 2014— from 5.30pm

Trades/Courses: Automotive, Carpentry,
Electro-Technology, Engineering (Metals),
Hairdressing, Hospitality, Shopfitting, Beauty,
Child Care, Plumbing and Telecommunications



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to drive can be a
happy experience.

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The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE:	VENUE:	BOOK NOW ON:
May 20, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm	Level 5, Blacktown Civic Centre, Room 1	9839-6014

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New Counselor Referral Form

A Counsellor Referral Form can be accessed through your school Google account.

(<http://goo.gl/Zy4jXG>)

This is a confidential process and can only be viewed by the person completing the form and the school counsellor.

If you do not have access to Google you can request to see the counsellor at the front office.

