

St Clare's Catholic High School

Term 2, Week 6

Thursday, 5 June 2014



Clare Connection

From the Principal.....Mr R Muscat

Dear St Clare's Community,

The launch of BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) has been immensely successful. It has allowed students the freedom to access learning on their own terms and hence placed the responsibility of learning squarely on their shoulders. This level of independence is required once students leave the safe and supportive school environment and enter the workforce or tertiary studies.

With this in mind, the school has decided to expand the programme by expecting that all students

will bring a device to school each day commencing Term 1, 2015. The trial phase has shown that students who have personalised their learning using their device and accessing materials through the Google suite are confident and more proficient learners.

The school ICT hardware will continue to be available to students when necessary. If parents experience difficulty in purchasing a device, we ask that you contact Mr Whitton, the

Assistant Principal, to arrange for temporary support. It is imperative that students have access to their own device to ensure a personalised learning environment at St Clare's.

I thank you for your support.

God bless.



Dates to Remember:

Friday, 6 June	Staff Development Day— NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Monday, 9 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday— NO SCHOOL
Wednesday, 11 June	School Photos (full winter uniform)
Tuesday, 17 June	SRC bake sale fundraiser at recess & lunch time
Wednesday, 25 June	Year 7 Reflection Day Year 10 Try-a-Skill
Friday, 27 June	End of Term 2 (last day for students)
Monday, 14 July	Start of Term 3

ENROLMENTS FOR YEAR 7, 2015

Enrolment packs are available from the school office. Enrolment Agreement Forms can be downloaded from the school website.

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

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

Web: clarehassallgrove.catholic.edu.au

Email: clarehassallgrove@parra.catholic.edu.au

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

As the middle of term is upon us there are a few young men who are in need of haircuts. In the last newsletter I reminded us all of the uniform requirements and that the hair policy is a part of that requirement. While I understand and appreciate a teenager's need for some individualism, his hair or wearing of the school uniform is not the place for it. The uniform is a part of who we are and I ask that all families support the School in the correct wearing of it.

A reminder that Friday, 6 June is a pupil free day, this day will be used by the staff of the School to engage in best practice around further development of programming to enhance Learning and Teaching. Staff development days are an important part of ongoing teacher development and I thank you for your support in this.

The Dangers of Social Media Sites

Recently, Mark Zuckerberg made a personal fortune of more than \$20 million when Facebook was floated on the Wall Street Stock Exchange (2013).

This is certainly an extraordinary achievement for anyone. However, I wonder whether Mr Zuckerberg or those corporations who rushed to invest in Facebook considered the

pluses or the minuses of what Facebook or other social media platforms are doing to society.

On the positive side, I recently sat down with my sister to put together an invitation list for my parent's 50th wedding anniversary. At the stroke of a key we were able to get addresses and telephone numbers of families, friends, and distant relatives whom we may not have seen for years, but had been connecting with through a social media site.

Certainly, Facebook is a powerful instrument of communication for keeping in touch with people you may not see regularly. On the other hand, each week at St Clare's our Assistant Leaders of Stage (Ms Baker, Mr Mufale, Mrs Hewitson and Mrs Cefai) and Leaders of Stage (Ms Ruff and Mrs Nielsen) deal with situations where students have had their Facebook or other social media sites (Kick, Instagram or Snapchat) accounts hacked and used to denigrate other students in their year group. The accounts are being used to pass on photographs that are hurtful and embarrassing.

There seems to be no protection against this type of behaviour. There also seems to be no consequences for the investors who gain financially from a medium that can be used

inappropriately and cause great harm and upset.

On the subject of social media sites, the school will be moving to 'block' these sites while students are at school. However, as we are all aware, some students are very ingenious when it comes to accessing internet sites, and of course they are able to connect with them when at home. I ask that parents monitor and take a greater interest in what their children are doing on these sites. An easy way to monitor is to ask them to be a friend.

Stay Smart online week
2-6 June 2014. <http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/awareness-week>

STAYSMARTONLINE
JUNE WEEK
2014
2-6 JUNE

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

St Clare and the Eucharist

St Clare did not write about the Eucharist but her life was an expression of the Eucharist. Teresa of Avila wrote, *'Christ has no body but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which must look out Christ's compassion on the world'*. Jesus offered his life for us. When St Clare's monastery was invaded by Saracens, she placed the Blessed Sacrament before her

and offered her life so that her sisters would be protected. She also begged God to save the town of Assisi. When the Saracens saw her they fled and left the area. She was willing to lay down her life for her sisters and the village people. At the end of Mass we hear the words: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord." St Clare's whole life was about serving others through compassion, care for the sick and love for all those she met. She believed that we need to be active

lovers not passive listeners.

St Francis said, "All those who receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are mothers when we carry Him in our heart and body...and give birth to him through a holy activity." Like St Clare, we are invited to become bread broken and be of service to others by displaying love and forgiveness.

Inspired by Ilia Delio O.S.F. in "Clare of Assisi—A Heart Full of Love"

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

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

Reading together at home is one of the most rewarding ways in which parents and carers can help their child to improve his/her understanding of text. So, please consider the following suggestions:

- Identify a quiet and comfortable place to sit together;
- Endeavour to read for at least twenty minutes each day, six days per week, with the view that reading is a pleasurable experience;
- Take time to talk about

the given text, regardless of whether it is presented in a print, or in an electronic, form;

- At the end of each paragraph, or chapter, predict the content of the next paragraph, or chapter;
- Discuss if any of the text offers a reminder of a life experience; and
- Attempt to 'unpack' the meaning of any unfamiliar words by trying to substitute them with known like words (synonyms). For example, 'iridescent', a

descriptive adjective, could be replaced by 'sparkling', a better known descriptive adjective. Furthermore, posing, or asking, a question to clarify the context, and re-reading the given sentence, to the point of the unknown word, can be beneficial, as well, in relation to decoding the meaning of an unfamiliar word.

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

What is success?

The Oxford Dictionary defines success as, "the accomplishment of an aim or purpose."

S

y

n :favourable

o outcome, successfulness, favourable

n result, successful outcome, positive

y result, victory, triumph.

m

s

Needless to say, we all desire to be successful in different areas of our life and to accomplish the very best we can by fulfilling our true potential.

In an earlier newsletter, I explained the purpose of LEARNING INTENTIONS and how they assist students in understanding the knowledge and skills learnt in each class.

Teachers at Saint Clare's are now introducing SUCCESS CRITERIA so students positively focus on how they

may succeed in completing work. Thus, SUCCESS CRITERIA answers the question from the point of view of a student: "*How will I know whether I've achieved the learning intention?*"

The term SUCCESS CRITERIA was coined in the UK and reminds students to positively focus on their ability to succeed. Sometimes the SUCCESS CRITERIA might be just a series of dot points. For lengthy tasks, however, teachers often use rubrics, which provide students with descriptions of a number of different levels of performance. Teachers may provide the SUCCESS CRITERIA, co-construct it with students or have students design it themselves. Either way, LEARNING INTENTIONS and SUCCESS CRITERIA are becoming

key foundations at Saint Clare's, on which students are able to base their ability and monitor how successful they are in reaching their potential, to complete tasks and determine the next steps in their learning.



Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

— Confucius

Kind Regards

School Assembly



Principal's Award—Elisapeta Falemaka 7.1



Principal's Award—Krystelle Quartermain 10.6



Principal's Award—Kyle Salalila 7.3



Principal's Award—Brooke Ghnemi 7.2



2014 School Captains
Justin Bocasan & Trishala Sharma



Cheque for Caritas



Sport Awards

School Captain's speech at the School Assembly

***"Live as if you were to die tomorrow.
Learn as if you were to live forever."* -
Mahatma Gandhi**

Do you remember your first day of high school? I know I do! I remember walking in those gates, sweat rolling down my face and then suddenly realising that I now have a responsibility, a responsibility to learn. We all have that responsibility. Learning for me is an experience, which happens every single day of our lives. Every day we learn something, we learn about a certain subject but we also learn from each other. Even from when we were young. We learn how to play, to read, and to write. It is important to acknowledge the fact that we come to school to learn. We are here to have an

education, which can benefit us for the future. I don't mean to scare you about the future but think about it, where would we be without school, without an education? School may not be something we enjoy but in the long run, it's probably the best thing you would ever experience.

Dr Suess says, **"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose!"** We all have the ability to learn of many things. And with that knowledge it could take you anywhere.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change

the world." (quote by Nelson Mandela).

You are all capable of so much if you just turn up to class early, sit down and be fully engaged in your lessons. It will make your teacher's life so much easier and seriously, it will do the same to yours.

Now I'll just leave it at this. School is a place to learn many things. School is a place for pride, persistence, passion for learning and a place for peace. If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. But if you are determined to learn, no one can stop you. Thank you.

Justin Bocasan—School Captain

World Vision's Global Leadership Convention

On Wednesday, 21 May, Alyssa, Lennard, Ms Mutabdzija and I attended the Global Leaders Conference at Luna Park. With more than 200 students from 60 schools, it was a real eye-opener for us all. World Vision's focus is to help rebuild the country of Rwanda after the genocide that happened 20 years ago.

In 1994, Rwanda's population of seven million was composed of three ethnic groups: Hutu, Tutsi and Twa. Hutu extremists within Rwanda's political elite blamed the entire Tutsi population for the country's increasing social, economic, and political pressures. On April 6, 1994, a plane carrying the president, a Hutu, was shot down. The entire Tutsi population was blamed for the death of the president and wanted immediate extermination from the Hutu society. Violence began almost immediately after that and in just 100 days, 800,000 men, women, and children were brutally murdered. It rose Rwanda to a crisis and now it has risen the country to its biggest issue, poverty.

With this, the country is trying to rebuild the society and it's faith. There are children like Promesse and Chantal who are dearly suffering from what has happened. Their mothers go to work, but how do they actually earn? They earn an average of \$11.95 a week, in

comparison to an average Australian that earns \$1200. Thus, they earn about \$600 a year and that's only half of what an Australian earns in a week! They are only young infants and children themselves, having stay home alone and sacrifice their childhood just to look after their younger siblings because their mothers go to work.

They are in desperate need of help, but how do we do that?

All of us may have talents such singing, dancing, playing sports, doing magic tricks and even eating. Even though we may not have some kind of special talent, we are all able to help people who are less fortunate than us with the little talent that we have in our hearts. This is why as students, we need YOUR help to make Rwanda a place of justice and peace.

On the day, we were given little cards and were told to write what our promise was for Rwanda. My promise is to share my experience and promote to all my family and friends so we can make the road to change for a better Rwanda.

This is why I NEED your help and in order to do that I need you all to participate in the **40-hour famine**. Let's all promote this event and raise money for children like Promesse and Chantal,

so they can sleep without going hungry, they can go to school for an education and especially, they can have a better life.

Even \$1 from every student will make a big contribution, if one school can raise more than \$44,000, then we as one school can raise that much because we all have the heart to contribute to this cause.

So give up something for 40 hours whether it maybe using your phone, social networking, sleeping on your bed and even eating your favourite food. We may not like what were sacrificing, but as Alyssa said, we are the Capitol, we are fortunate enough to have an education, to have good food and a bed and they have to sacrifice so many things for them to exist in this world. So, let's start making a difference to this world for everyone to be equal.

**BRING HUNGER
DOWN AND
MAKE THE
ROAD TO
CHANGE FOR A
PEACEFUL
RWANDA.**

**Justin Bocasan
School Captain**



From the Business Manager.....Mrs K Parker

School Fees

School fees for term 2 are now due (unless you have an arrangement with the school), if you have already paid, thank you. If you have any concerns in meeting your fee obligation please contact the Finance Office immediately on 9830 2400 and

choose option 2.

Saver Plus

Saver Plus is a Program developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence delivered by the Smith Family which offers a savings program to eligible families to match their savings for schools costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500. You may eligible if you have:

a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
some regular income from work (you or your partner).

Please see the enclosed flyer for contact details for Domenic Rosina our local Saver Plus Worker and details of the program.

From the Debating Coordinator.....Ms S Mitchell

2014 CSDA

The 2014 Debating Competition run by the Catholic Schools Debating Association has been a great success. All four of our teams represented St Clare's with pride and should be applauded for their hard work, persistence, dedication and teamwork. This year, each of our

teams tasted success on numerous occasions.

I can proudly announce that our Year 10 team has advanced from the preliminary 6-round competition directly to the quarterfinals. They will be debating on the 20th of June and

we wish them all the best. Well done to our year 10 Debaters: Reina Caballero, Rochelle Chand, Samantha Micallef, Blake Northcott & Devina Verma!

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.....Miss M Mutabdzija

As the weather turns colder and the sun disappears earlier from our skies, we are reminded that Winter is indeed upon us and it once again becomes obvious that some individuals and families need a little extra help.

St Clare's Catholic High School will be supporting those who are in crisis by working with St Vincent de Paul to launch the Winter Food Appeal.

Throughout all of June, each Year group is asked to bring in a donation to school of one, or more, of the items listed below:

Year 7 - Canned peas, corn other vegetables and baked beans.

Year 8 - Canned soup, cup of soup, pasta, spaghetti and rice

Year 9 - Pasta sauce, 2 min noodles, biscuits, sugar and tea Bags

Year 10 - Long-life milk, honey, jam, Vegemite and cereal

Thank you in advance for your support and your generosity for this wonderful cause for those who are in need.

God bless you all

2014 School Photo Day



On Wednesday 11 June, students will be having their photographs taken, both individual and in Learning Groups. Each student has been given an envelope from Advanced Life Photography for ordering. Orders can be made with the correct amount of cash inside the envelope, which is to be handed to the photographer on the day. Payment can also be done

with a cheque made out to Advanced Life Photography or through their online facility. No order will be taken prior to Wednesday and no change will be able to be given from the office. Family photo envelopes are available from the office.

Students are to wear full winter uniform which includes blazers, stockings for girls and ties for boys.

PDSSSC Touch Football.....Miss A Forsyth

Congratulations to Reece Lawn of Year 10, for being selected in the PDSSSC 15 years Touch Team. Reece competed at the NSWCCC Championships at Jubilee Park, Red Hill Rd and Bourke St, Wagga Wagga on Tuesday 2nd June 2014.

2014 Swimming Carnival Age Champions

Congratulations to the following students for being awarded Age Champion and Runner up for our 2014 Swimming Carnival.

Girls	Age Champ	Runner up
12 Years	Chloe Gibbons	Bezauit Assefa
13 Years	Hayley Lawther	Tiarna Bernel
14 Years	Taylah Archer	Geyya Espino
15 Years	Rebekah Manibog	Tia Narviza
16 Years	Tori Barendregt	Qayla Pineda

Boys	Age Champ	Runner Up
12 Years	Jacob Botros	Jarod Barker
13 Years	Nathan Connell	Nathan Mazzelli
14 Years	Travis Barendregt	Chetan Prasad
15 Years	Blake Northcott	Isaac Pender
16 Years	Joshua Webber	Sean Pender

2014 Cross Country Age Champions

Congratulations to the following students for being awarded Age Champion and Runner up for our 2014 Cross Country Carnival.

Age	Age Champions	Runners Up
12 Yr Girls	Alyssa Alazaman	Vitoryna Vaifale
12 Yr boys	Jacob Botros	Elvin Kumar
13 Yr girls	Pooja Pillay	Nansy KoKo
13 Yr Boys	Patrick Tufunga	Ayoola Shogunle
14 Yr Girls	Raquel Roukos	Sahara Mursal
14 Yr Boys	Jasper Rentoy	Rav Deo
15 Yr Girls	Ajak Awen	Sade Shogunle
15 yr Boys	Ben Ibrahim	Shane Prasad
16 Yr Girls	Shannon Willmott	
16 Yr Boys	Luke Williamson	Samuel Elphick

Congratulations to Jasper Rentoy who came 4th at the PDSSSC Cross Country Carnival and Jacob Botros for placing 6th in his event. Both Jasper and Jacob will be attending the NSWCCC Cross Country on June 13th. We wish them the best of luck.

Uniform Shop

Tuesdays - 8.00am - 1.30pm

Thursdays - 12.00noon - 3.00pm

Colebee Crescent Car Park Entrance

Phone: 9835 2718

Frequently asked questions about the Saver Plus program



What is Saver Plus?

Saver Plus is a matched saving program that can help people and families to establish a long-term savings habit, build their money management skills and knowledge and save for education costs.

What does Saver Plus offer?

The Saver Plus program offers

- an opportunity to build your financial skills
- an opportunity to save for your own or your children's education
- personal support and guidance to save
- an opportunity to have every \$1 you save 'matched' with \$1 (up to \$500).

How does Saver Plus work?

Saver Plus participants select education-related items they wish to save for. They agree to a savings routine over a period of 10 months. If participants make regular and consistent savings deposits and attend the 10 hours of workshops in the *MoneyMinded* Financial Education Program, every dollar they save will be matched with an additional dollar, up to a total of \$500.

Matched funds are used to buy an education-related product or service for the participant's personal vocational development or their children's educational costs. For example, education resources could include uniforms, textbooks, camps, excursions, special subject costs, musical instruments, sporting equipment or a computer.

Who is eligible to participate in the program?

You may be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:

- are 18 years or over, and
- are either
 - the parent or guardian of a child who is attending school this year or next year, or
 - attending or returning to vocational education yourselves where you will receive an accredited vocational education certificate
- have a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner) and can produce 2 recent pay slips
- are able to demonstrate capacity to save after regular expenses have been paid
- live, work, study or have a child at school in the area where the Saver Plus program is delivered
- commit to attending a *MoneyMinded* Financial Education Program (10 hours in total).

Where are savings deposited?

Saver Plus participants open an ANZ Progress Saver account in which they deposit their savings. This account does not have any monthly account keeping fees.

What does the *MoneyMinded* Financial Education Program involve?

The *MoneyMinded* Financial Education Program covers personal finance and money management. It usually involves four workshops each 2.5 hours long. They are conducted in small groups. They include saving strategies, setting goals, budgeting, credit and credit cards and banking. The workshops are informal, fun and interactive. They are designed to help develop financial skills, knowledge and confidence.

What happens if participants want to leave the program or make withdrawals?

Participants are free to leave the program at any time. This would mean that they give up the opportunity to have their savings matched with additional funds, but they still receive all of their savings and any earned interest.

Participants may make a withdrawal before the end of the program, however this amount will not receive matched funding.

How will participants receive the matched funds?

At the end of the savings period, Saver Plus National Office will arrange for a cheque to be issued to the company or organisation supplying all or a part of the chosen education resource. Alternatively, after the savings period has ended the participants can purchase the goods themselves and be reimbursed by electronic funds transfer (EFT) if they provide a receipt.



Would \$500 assist with your child's school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for education costs including uniforms, text books, laptops, sports equipment and music tuition.

You may be eligible if you:

- **have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card**
- **are 18 or over and**
- **have some paid income from work (you or your partner).**

**Contact Domenic Rosina, your local Saver Plus Worker:
02 9853 3251 / 0466 745 311 or
domenic.rosina@thesmithfamily.com.au**

*Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Blacktown and Penrith by The Smith Family.
Saver Plus is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.*

From the Communication Leaders

Greetings, St Clare's community! We are over half way through the term now and work has started to pile up. Assessment tasks have been rolling in and we are all working hard, including the SRC.

Introducing ... St Clare's Water Bottle Refill Station



We have come up with a fabulous new initiative that we would like to introduce into our school, a water bottle refill station !

Our big SRC project for this term is to fundraise for, purchase and install a water bottle refill station for the students' use. This will provide students with a chilled bubbler, but most importantly a chilled water outlet to refill bottles. This will be located in the in the chess area in front of the library for everybody's benefit. A bottle refill station will benefit our school by contributing to three major areas of our community. Firstly, it will contribute to our student's health as it is more sanitary than our school bubblers, keeping out garbage, dirt and other nasty infestations. Secondly, it will contribute to our school's cleanliness and the environment's health as we will no longer need to buy a new water bottle every time we need water and they will not be thrown out or left lying around constantly. Lastly, it will reduce congestion in our canteen area as students will not always need to use the bubblers.

To fund for the refill station, which will cost approximately \$3.50, St Clare's SRC will be holding a number of fundraising initiatives. The first of which will be an SRC bake-off. This will be girls versus boys event as we are eager to hear who's baking you think is better. There will be a range of sweet treats for everyone to buy at recess and lunch, including brownies, cupcakes, cookies and a lot more. So make sure you save up your money because I can guarantee that you will be coming back for more. Look out for the date, and be guaranteed that everything will be home-baked and fresh.

I hope you are as excited for the coming weeks as the rest of the SRC. To find out more of the going-ons in the school, read next fortnight's newsletter.

*Until then,
-Sam and Tori*

URGENT MESSAGE—ABSENCE NOTES

It is important to provide an absence note when a student is absent from school. Once a student returns to school it is essential to provide a note stating the student's name, Learning Group, reason and date of absence. Parent/guardian should sign all notes. If a student does not provide a note on their return to school the student will have to attend Saturday detention.

