

# Newsletter

3 July 2009

Term 2 No.10



Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Bethlehem,

We are currently making final preparations for three very major events in the life of the College, namely: Years 7-10 Parent, Student and Teacher Interviews on Monday, Bethlehem Day on Thursday and our staff Spirituality Day on Friday. As I reflect back on my first year at Bethlehem I remember that we were not only preparing for these events but also for an event our country will never forget, WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) 2008. I glanced back at last year's newsletter and yes it was brimming with logistics, school level planning, big event management for WYD and our Mass and Commissioning Ceremony for our World Youth Day pilgrims. At that time, I asked the girls to explain the difference they believed World Youth Day will make in their lives and what their hopes and dreams were for WYD. I recorded three major statements:

- One student said that the scope of her Catholic experience was at her family, school and parish level and that she hoped WYD would broaden this perspective to an understanding of the World Wide Catholic Church; to have that shared experience of our faith with others from all over the world so that she can think globally about her faith and how the Catholic world family is connected.
- Another student said that she hoped that this amazing opportunity will help find her true self and show that true self to others through this faith experience.
- Finally another student believed that this experience will energise young people to become more engaged in their faith and parish life and to strengthen their faith.

Twelve months after the event, I believe that the girls' hopes and dreams have become a reality for many. To ensure that WYD has a lasting effect on us all, we need to make a pilgrimage within our hearts to discover the personal impact of World Youth Day. As a college community we are ensuring the girls have many opportunities to stay connected with the WYD spirit. These include hosting the evening of Catechesis with Bishop Anthony Fisher, the Matt Maher concert and Convivio – Catholic Youth Conference. I thank you for the support you offer your daughters by ensuring she is able to attend these events by arranging transport, etc. I know the girls loved the evening of Catechesis and they are bubbling with excitement about the Matt Maher concert this Friday night. I look forward to share this experience with them. I offer you once again the beautiful World Youth Day 2008 Prayer. I hope that by reading and reflecting on this prayer it will remind you of the wonderful experience we all had twelve months ago as we shared our beautiful country and school with the world.

#### Prayer for World Youth Day 2008

God our Father,  
We consecrate to you the World Youth Day  
in Sydney in 2008.  
Guide and protect Pope Benedict and all the  
leaders of the Church.  
Inspire and direct all those leading and planning  
the World Youth Day.  
Unite and protect them by your fatherly care.  
Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Before you ascended to the Father,  
You promised to send your Holy Spirit so that we might  
be your witnesses to the end of the earth.  
Bless and multiply the efforts of all our staff and  
volunteers.  
Help us to take up our cross and follow you  
under the heavenly sign of the Southern Cross  
Amen.

Holy Spirit,  
 Pour out your grace on this Great South Land  
 Of the Holy Spirit and grant to us a New Pentecost.  
 Make this land a true place of welcome for the young  
 people of the world.  
 Grant to those young people who come conversion of life,  
 A deeper faith, and love for all.  
 Enable them to build a new civilization of life, love and trust.  
 Make them true witnesses to your power and grace.  
 Amen.

Now it is all systems go towards **World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid!!**

**Last Week of Term:**

Please find enclosed with this newsletter the details for the major events in the last week of term. I encourage you to place these notices on the kitchen fridge at home so that the girls are aware of all the details of each event. The staff are looking forward to meeting with parents at the **Parent/ Teacher and Student interviews on Monday**. Parents, students and teachers can reflect on Semester 1 naming the areas of strength and areas that need to be addressed in Semester 2 to improve students performance in each subject. These interviews are compulsory and reports will be issued prior to the interview. As you are aware we have structured the interviews to support parent attendance by commencing the interviews at 12.00 midday and concluding at 9pm. Everyone is also looking forward to **Bethlehem Day** (note our feast day should really be on Christmas Day, but as we are not at school on Christmas day, we have selected a date in July to follow the Christmas in July theme.) The final event in the term is our **Staff Spirituality Day** which is a pupil free day. Our staff are very excited about this day as our guest speaker is Dr Dan White, the new Executive Director of Schools. We feel very blessed and privileged to have Dr. White lead our staff on this day as it will provide our staff with another rich opportunity for their personal faith formation. All in all, this is a wonderful way to conclude our term.

**Congratulations:**

- To our **senior Chemistry students** who entered the **Royal Australian Chemical Institute Titration competition** on Saturday 20 June at the University of Technology. The girls set high expectations for themselves, were supported by the training of Dr Crane and Mr Chiu, believed in themselves and attended all training sessions and then **WON THE COMPETITION!!!!** Following the excellent result of third place in the **Brain Bee Challenge** last week, the Inner West Weekly published these wonderful achievements in an article titled *'Students have right chemistry'* – a great play on words by the author of the article. The way to our girls success was that they were striving for accuracy and persisted when the competition became very rigorous.
- To our **Duke of Edinburgh participants**. Many thanks to Mr Whittaker, Ms Wilson and Ms Allen who supported the girls on their expedition on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. If you recall the weather on the weekend of the 20<sup>th</sup> was wet, wet, wet. Our girls braved the weather conditions with their supportive teachers and achieved their Duke of Edinburgh credentials. Once again this demonstrates that Bethlehem girls are courageous, independent young women who have a deep understanding of the reality of God in their lives.
- To the **Year 8 cast and crew of Jack and the Beanstalk** for their wonderful performances of the show last Tuesday night. The two evening performances followed three superb matinee performances to our primary feeder schools. Special thanks once again to Mrs Bowyer, Ms Yeom and Ms Wilson for providing the girls with the opportunity to show case their gifts

- To Year 10 for the very mature way in which they have engaged in **their subject selection process for Year 11 2010**. The girls demonstrated excellent decision making skills throughout the process.

The first newsletter next term will be mailed home. We will attach to this newsletter the Semester 2 Calendar for each family. This newsletter will be a bumper issue containing the list of Principal Award recipients in Years 7-10, a summary of the College achievements in Semester 1 and also details of our Term 3 **Parents and Friends Group meeting** to be held in Week 4 on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August commencing at 7.30pm. Guest speakers for the evening are from the Marist Youth Team and the topic for the evening is **"Raising Teenagers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"**. I have witnessed this presentation on a previous occasion and I can guarantee that it will provide each parent with wonderful strategies to support both yourself and your daughter in these critical years. I am sure that we will fill the hall with parents. Please feel free to bring another parent with you.

We hope everyone has a restful holiday break and we look forward to returning to school on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Anna Dickinson  
 Principal

**Jack & the Beanstalk Production**



## Assistant Principal News...

Bethlehem Day next Thursday promises to be a day of fun and celebration. Students will take part in a mass at St. Vincent's Church with the presence of many members of the Sisters of Charity. Parents and friends are most welcome to join us at 9am for the mass. After the Mass students will return to school where there will be a variety of food stalls as well as activities such as the great Bethlehem Dance off! The finale to the day will be a talent quest held in the College Hall. All in all Bethlehem Day will be one not to miss. We expect all students to attend.

Students will still be in winter uniform next term. Could you please take time during the holidays to ensure that your daughter's uniform is clean and complete for Term 3. Blazers and stockings are compulsory uniform items. Please label all uniform items clearly with your daughter's name. There are a number of uniform items in lost property waiting to be claimed.

The following important advice is from Pru Salter who ran study skills sessions for students in Term 1-

*Sometimes students think that 'study skills' is just something you need to be concerned with when you are at school. This is not the case at all. For example, most jobs will require learning and training, certification and assessment. Planning, managing workload and good time management skills will also be essential when students leave school.*

*One of the many ways our school supports the development of independent learning skills is through providing access to the online study skills handbook site: [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au). Parents should encourage their students to sign up for the tracking system in the handbook so they can easily keep track of the units they have completed. It is a good idea for students to choose different units to work on over time (maybe try a new unit each month?) so they can develop their understanding of these important skills and reflect on the areas they need to work on. This specialist resource complements the skill development that takes place in our classrooms.*

*So the study skills tip for this month is taken from the unit that looks at the reflection process after a test is returned to students. One of the concepts outlined in this unit is that of 'kaizen'. The word Kaizen itself is derived from two different Japanese words, 'kai' and 'zen'. KAI, meaning: to change or modify; and ZEN, meaning: to improve. Small constant changes can make a huge difference to students' results. Only by reflecting on the way they learn and making changes can students improve the way they approach their work for school. The study skills handbook is a great tool to assist in this process.*

*This month in the handbook: another 2 new modules, a student in QLD wins the competition for the third time, a podcast on kaizen, a new video with a Uni student's tips on beating procrastination and an extra unit on technology tools. This new unit goes through different forms of technology and who students can use them for school. Great too for parents who'd like a simple explanation of Twitter, Facebook, YouTube etc – the CommonCraft videos in this section explain everything very clearly.*

**Please ensure that you read the accompanying flyer regarding important days next week – Parent/ Student/Teacher Day, Bethlehem Day and the Staff Spirituality Day as it contains details of the organization of these events** and I wish students and parents a happy, restful and safe break. See you for Term 3 on July 27!

Teash Richmond  
Assistant Principal

## Religious Education News...

### The Matt Maher Experience

This Friday night we'll have around 100 Bethlehem College students attending the Matt Maher Experience. There will be over 800 students attending from all over the Archdiocese. This is another Post-WYD Youth Event which many students have requested through meetings with our Bishops. It will be an evening of prayer and reflection through music and singing. Matt is arguably the best Catholic singer and songwriter out there today. More than a performance, Matt's strong faith and sense of mission causes him to use his music to lead young people into a powerful encounter with God. As WYD Pilgrims we saw him perform at Barangaroo and at Bondi Beach.

### NAIDOC Week Celebrations for Years 9 & 10, Wednesday 29th July

First week next term we will celebrate NAIDOC week. Mr Sean Dewar, an Aboriginal Performer will lead celebrations in our College Hall for Years 9 and 10. Sean comes from the Yindinji Kimoy clan of Northern Queensland and his totem is Gindaja, meaning Cassowary. Sean has performed all over Australia and has toured extensively throughout Europe, Japan, Taiwan and the Pacific. He has even performed for Queen Elizabeth II. I know that our students will welcome him warmly and that this will also broaden their experience of Aboriginal culture.

### The Year of The Priest

Benedict XVI dedicated his General Audience catechesis on June 24th to the Year for Priests.

"The aim of this Year for Priests", the Pope said, "is to support each priest's struggle towards spiritual perfection, upon which the effectiveness of his ministry particularly depends, and to help priests, and with them the entire People of God, to rediscover and revive an awareness of the extraordinary and indispensable gift of Grace which the ordained ministry represents, for the person who receives it, for the entire Church, and for the world which would be lost without the real presence of Christ."

Precisely because the priest belongs to Christ, he is radically at the service of all men and women: he is the minister of their salvation, happiness, and authentic liberation, continuously growing in his progressive acceptance of Christ's will through prayer.

We'd like to know more about the life of your parish priest. Ask him if he'd like to be interviewed. Use a video camera and capture this interview and then we'll upload it to RE ONLINE. Look at some of the interviews already there. Follow the link below:

<http://www.ceosyd.catholic.edu.au/cms/Jahia/site/reonline/>

#### A Prayer for Priests

As we celebrate the Year of the Priest let us remember;  
A Priest witnessed the marriage of our parents,  
A Priest baptised each of us into the family of the Church,  
A Priest celebrated the sacrament of our first communion,  
A Priest held the hand of many of our family members as they faced illness and pain,  
A Priest will offer the final prayers for our soul when God calls each of us home.

Heavenly Father,

Hear our prayers for the men who serve among us as priests.  
Care for them and comfort them. Sustain them in their faith  
So that they can nurture the faith of your people.

We pray that many others will hear your call to serve your people as priests and religious.

We make this prayer through Jesus your Son, our eternal priest and living sign of your love for us.

Amen.

Wayne Wheatley  
Religious Education Coordinator

## English News...

Hello again!

### DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

On Wednesday Bethlehem celebrated the wonderful talents and successes of the 2009 Public Speaking and Debating teams.

Congratulations to all these students who were involved in many different capacities. I hope to see even more involvement from students in 2010.

### UNIVERSITY OF NSW ENGLISH COMPETITION

Once again, the **University of New South Wales 2009 Australasian Schools English Competition** is being run for all students in Years 7-11. The rationale behind assessing all students is for the English department to effectively use the data in order to plan for the National Curriculum in English. This assessment will be also used as a diagnostic tool in order to cater to the diverse needs of all students. The cost of this assessment is \$6.60 and will be billed on the Term 2 school fees.

This is also an exceptional and cost effective opportunity to assess the knowledge and skills your daughter has achieved, as this exam provides comprehensive feedback to parents and carers.

This will be held in Term 3.

### COMPETITIONS

There are also other exciting competitions happening in English which are aimed at all students:

- MS Readathon – we encourage as many students as possible to get involved! It's for a good cause.

These competitions have fantastic prizes – cash, ipods, cds, etc – YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

See Mrs Mavrakis for entry details of these competitions.

GO BETHLEHEM!

Mosh Mavrakis  
English Coordinator

## Important Dates Term Two/Three 2009

3 July	Matt Maher Experience—College Hall 6.30-9.00pm
6 July	Years 7-10 P/S/T interviews 12noon-9pm
<b>6 July</b>	<b>Years 11/12 only. Students to study AT HOME</b>
9 July	Bethlehem Day and Last Day for Term 2
10 July	Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

### TERM THREE

27 July	Term 3 Commences
30 July	Year 12 Drama Performance Evening
6 August	Year 12 Exhibition by Photography, Visual Arts & Textiles & Design students (Catered by Hospitality students) see Page 5

## Curriculum News...

As we finally make it to the end of Term 2, we are all ready for a well-earned break. Well done to all students for their hard work throughout this busy time of assessments and reporting. Take time this holidays to rest and get organised for Semester 2, so that you come back with heaps of energy and enthusiasm.

Keep the Year 12 students in your prayers. They are as tired as the rest of us (if not more so!) but will need to keep working hard throughout the holidays to prepare for their trial exams in Week 3. Summaries and study notes will need to be finalised, as well as attending a number of holiday workshops. A big thank you to all the teachers who will give up their own holiday time to assist our students! Keep the energy levels up, girls, and stay focused. It will all be over before you know it!

The subject selection process for Year 11 2010 is well underway, and lines will be available next term for final subject selection. We look forward to our interviews with the girls and their parents on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August to finalise patterns of study. I congratulate the Year 10 students on the responsible and considered manner in which they are undertaking these big decisions and the sensible questions they are asking.

Happy holidays!

Janet Mann  
Curriculum Coordinator

## BRAIN TEASERS

### Problem 19:

	1			4			9	
					2			6
	6		9				5	
8		2			6			9
					8			
6			5			8		4
	7				3		1	
1			4					
	8			1			3	

This one is for the sudoku lovers!

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9 with no number repeated.

Students are invited to solve this problem, and deposit the answer, marked clearly with name and homeroom, in the box in the General Office by 3pm on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August (Week 2)**. The first correct entry drawn will receive a canteen voucher!!!!

### Last week's solution:

? = O (It is the last letter of the word 'TWO')

Congratulations to Melissa Innes 10M and Seraphina Kwak 11R for their great lateral thinking!

See Mrs Mann to collect your canteen voucher.

## Uniform Shop Hours...

### Uniform Shop Hours as follows:

**Tuesday & Friday 10.00am-1.30pm and**

**Wednesday 8.00am—11.00am**

Phone Number 9799 6163

CASH/EFTPOS or CREDIT CARDS accepted

**Cheques payable to TALEB AUSTRALIA**

Lay-bys available



**Marrickville Council News...**

**Sport-a-month Program: *Bowling in the month of July***

**Coming soon...**Cricket in August 2009 and Croquet in September 2009.

Also All Nations Soccer is on again for Refugee Week 2009. Please visit [www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au](http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au) for further information and registration details on any of the above.

***A Night to Remember***

St Patrick's School Summer Hill  
60th Birthday Celebration Dinner

Date: Saturday 29 August 2009

Time: 7.30pm to midnight

Cost: \$75 per person, \$60 per senior

Cost includes live band, 3 course dinner, beer, wine and soft drinks until 11.30pm

Enquiries: Jo on 9568 2962 any day after 7pm

Email: [itsjoprice@hotmail.com](mailto:itsjoprice@hotmail.com) Phone: Janelle 9798 6016 Tuesdays ONLY 9.30am-3pm)

**Sancta Sophia College...University Student Accommodation—2010 Applications Open**

Sancta Sophia College is a friendly and vibrant residential college for undergraduate women and postgraduate men and women, set in beautiful grounds on campus at the University of Sydney. You are invited to tour the College on our Open Days (also Sydney Uni Info Days) on Saturday 29 August 2009 and Tuesday 5 January 2010.

For further information phone the College on 02 9577 2100 or visit [www.sanctasophiacollege.edu.au](http://www.sanctasophiacollege.edu.au)

**2009 Parent Education Workshops...**

11 August 2009: Building Successful Learning Behaviours—Habits of Mind: *contact carol.carey@ceosyd.catholic.edu.au*

26 August 2009: Gifted Education (Primary) Parent Seminar: *contact sherrol.gane@ceosyd.catholic.edu.au*

**Teen Scene & Heard...**

Come along to the **new Club at Leichhardt Library for Teenagers**. Discuss and enjoy books, movies, trivia, music, television, sport, computers, games and the things that matter to you. **Every first WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.**

1st meeting will be held Wednesday 1st July 2009, 4pm in the Leichhardt Library Meeting Room. Various programs will be held at the Library including Special FX Make-up, Wii Challenge, etc. Booking are essential for all programs.

For enquiries and bookings, please phone: 9367 9266.

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

*The Year 12 Final Show -  
an exhibition of  
'major works' by Photography,  
Textiles and Design and  
Visual Arts students  
will be held on  
Thursday 6th August  
in the Visual Arts rooms.*



## ST MARTHA'S MUSIC GROUP

In August 2009, St Martha's will be launching a new music group. This worship group will play on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 6pm Sunday Masses of each month. It will be a full band ensemble. We need drummers, guitarists, singers, flute players, piano players! If you want to give it all up for GOD then come along! If you would like to sing, and/or play in this worship band, please email the address below with your full name, contact phone number/email, and your expression/list of musical talents and interest.

Email : [stmarthas@atu.com.au](mailto:stmarthas@atu.com.au)

Blessings in Christ  
Jaymi Winters

## Sydney South West Area Health Service News.. Balmain Hospital (Change of Hours General Practice Casualty) 8am-10pm, seven days

Balmain Hospital has expanded its daytime GP services to see patients more promptly and provide additional services. The service is now open from 8am-10pm, seven (7) days a week to reflect the time when it is most needed. Patients with serious illnesses or who need to see a doctor outside of these hours should go to nearby Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. **As always in an emergency patients should dial 000**

## Titration Photos



The winning senior Chemistry students who entered the Royal Australian Chemical Institute Titration competition held on Saturday 20 June 2009.



## Bethlehem College



### Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



On the 20th and 21st June students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme went on their weekend expedition to Berowra Waters. To complete the Bronze section of the award various sections must be completed such as community service, learning a skill, physical recreation and expeditions. Throughout the term students have been busy planning and learning about camping, gear, equipment, safety, cooking, maps and navigation. During the overnight camping and canoeing trip students were divided into two groups of fifteen: a practice group and a test group. The weekend helped students develop their leadership and persistence, as they took responsible risks and worked interdependently.

The students on their test expedition passed their Bronze section of the award and the girls who were on their practice trip are now looking forward to the next expedition in December to Kangaroo Valley. The group would like to thank Mr Whittaker, Ms Wilson, Ms Allen and the four Southbound tour guides for this unique opportunity. The next newsletter will include more photographs and some students commenting on their experiences.

John Whittaker  
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

### JACK & THE BEANSTALK PRODUCTION

