



Simonds Catholic College

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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL –
MR BERNARD MCFARLANE**

**Issue 14
September, 2009**

Dear Parents

Last week the Year 10 students who will part of the first VCE class of Simonds Catholic College completed their subject selection forms for 2010. This followed a lengthy process in which boys received information about prospective careers; participated in an on-line program to help them determine their interests, abilities and likely career options; discussed draft subject selections with a member of staff; and had individual interviews with the Director of the Careers Teachers Association of Victoria.

The boys' choice of subjects has been extended through our involvement in the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster. More than forty secondary colleges are members of this cluster. Through this group, students have access to a wide range of vocational subjects provided by schools, TAFE colleges or universities. Courses which some of our boys will study in Years 11 and 12 include:

Certificate II in Community Recreation
Certificate II in Community Services
Certificate II in Engineering Studies
Certificate II in Furnishings
Certificate II in Hospitality Operations and
Certificate II in Hospitality – Kitchen Operations (combined program)
Certificate III in Media – Interactive Digital Media

In addition to these courses, three students will study VCE Music Performance at The Academy of Mary Immaculate which is located in Nicholson Street and is close to the Simonds St Brigid's VCE Campus.

The VCE courses to be provided by Simonds in 2010 are:

Religious Education – Ethics	Biology
English	Chemistry
Literature	Physics
History	Psychology
Italian	Physical Education
Japanese	Visual Communication and Design
Accounting	Design and Technology (Wood)
Business Management	Food and Technology
Economics	Legal Studies
General Mathematics	General Mathematics (Advanced)
Mathematical Methods	

It has been pleasing to receive great support from boys and parents for this new venture of Simonds. Ninety percent of our current Year 10 students are intending to continue their VCE studies at Simonds. A further three students from St Joseph's, Pascoe Vale, will join our first VCE group.

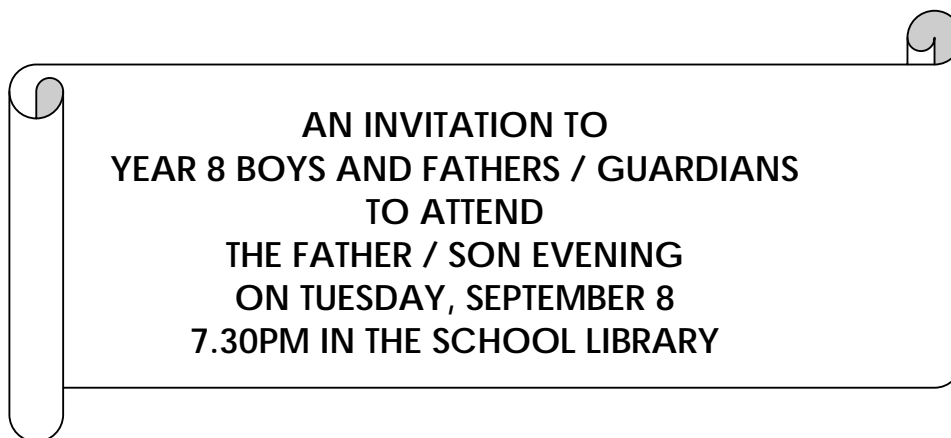
Much work continues to be done in planning for next year. In particular, Mrs Helen Koutoulogenis, the Curriculum Coordinator, has done an enormous amount of work in the planning of courses. We are most grateful for her enthusiasm, expertise and dedication.

In the last month we advertised for new teachers for 2010. I am pleased to say that we were overwhelmed with the response as we received more than 250 applications. The

interview process has begun and I am confident that we will have many excellent new members of staff.

RE-ENROLMENT FOR 2010

All parents of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 should have received Re-enrolment Forms. Please fill these in and return them to the College within the next week. Parents who do not return the form by the due date (Friday, September 11) cannot be guaranteed a place for 2010.



LAST WEEK OF TERM 3

Monday, September 14	Year 10 students begin Work Experience Week Year 7 students leave for camp (4 days)
Monday – Thursday	Years 8 and 9 classes continue at school A special timetable will run this week
Thursday, September 17	Year 7 students return from camp Years 8 and 9 classes dismissed at 3:15pm End of Term 3
Friday, September 18	Teachers visit Year 10 students on Work Experience

TERM 4 BEGINS MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

TERM 3 PROGRESS REPORTS

This will be mailed to families during the first week of the holidays. You will also receive a booking sheet for Parent / Teacher Interviews and a copy of the Term 4 calendar.

OVERDUE ASSESSMENTS

As the end of term approaches students are reminded to complete all work tasks. Would parents please check with your sons to see that all work is up to date.

AUGUST, MONTH OF THE PRIEST

On Wednesday, August 26th, the Religious Education Department celebrated the *Month-of-the Priest* for **Father Max** and **Chris Keast** (our Priest-in-Training). The intention was to thank Father and Chris for all their contributions to our school. Both Father and Chris shared their “call” to priesthood with us over afternoon tea.



During the meeting, insightful presentations were given by Ken Turner, Peter Hennessy and Eder Ramos. These focussed on Religious Education being a vital, significant experience for students whereby the importance of the “relational”, humanising nature of classes was emphasised.

Rosie Noble

ST VINNIES' WINTER APPEAL

A heartfelt THANK-YOU to the *Simonds' School Community* for the generous and considerate offerings of food, bathroom accessories, baby sustainables and small “luxury” items that were donated for Melbourne’s deprived and unfortunate citizens.

The St Vinnies’ Appeal is one which is authentic as the collected goods are delivered immediately to those in need. We completed our collection on Friday, August 14th and by Monday, August 17th the huge bags were taken to their destination. As some charities store their goods, St Vinnies honours its commitment to be immediately active. In essence, St Vinnies enables the completion of the action of giving from the boys.

As Mr Mc Farlane has already mentioned, over 1,000 items were donated by the boys. One mother sent a large bag with many items and a teacher gave a sizeable bag of bathroom necessities. There was a student who spent his pocket money on buying a product each week because he said he “felt sad that people his own age were suffering during winter”.

Simonds may be a small school but there has been a big- hearted response to the St Vinnies’ Appeal. Jacinta (from St Vinnies) who came to pick up the goods in her car quickly realized that she would probably need ten cars!! In the end, *Mr D’Cruz*, *Chris Keast* (our student priest) and several of the boys loaded the school bus to absolute capacity.

If actions are the sign of spiritual authenticity, then the Simonds’ boys, their families and their teachers can be assured that we are truly making a measure of difference in a real and meaningful way. As the “gift is really a true symbol of the giver”, we will endeavour to uphold this humanitarian effort for the *Christmas Toy Appeal*.

Mrs Rosie Noble

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Congratulations to Deacon Joseph Danh Truong, a former student of Simonds, who will be ordained a priest at St Patrick's Cathedral on September 12 (10.00am Mass). His Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church, West Brunswick on Sunday, September 13 (10.30am Mass).

NATIONAL CAPITAL TOUR (CANBERRA 2009)

You will be aware that many students from Year 8 will be travelling to Canberra at **7.00am on November 9th and returning on the 13th at approximately 6.00pm.**

This is an opportunity for those travelling to become acquainted with some of our country's institutions and landmarks and has become a yearly event on our calendar.

The touring party will be assembling at **7.00am** for a departure at **7.15am**. It is essential that we depart at this time. Please ensure that students are at school on time as we need to register their arrival before boarding the bus.

While in Canberra we will be visiting important sites such the National Museum, The Parliament House both old and new, The Australian War memorial, The Australian Sports Institute, Questacon and many other places of interest. I can assure you that it is a truly exciting trip for the Year 8's.

Please Note:

The venues we visit have a policy that no mobile phones are taken into their premises. To facilitate the quick entry and exit from these venues we ask students not to bring their mobile phones with them on tour. Parents will be given a number by which they can contact Mr Dingli during the Canberra Tour.

Whilst in Canberra we will be staying at

**Eaglehawk Holiday Park : 1246 Federal Highway
SUTTON 2620 Phone: 02 6241 6411**

As I have advised in a previous letter to parents and guardians, the total cost per student is \$430. Those families who have already paid the deposit of \$100 are advised that the remainder is due on the 14th of September.

What to bring

- Clothing:** Underwear, Socks, Pants, Shorts, Jumper / Sweater, Rain coat /Jacket, Shirts and T shirts, Walking Shoes, Handkerchiefs.
- General:** Toiletries – Deodorant, Toothpaste, Soap, Sunglasses, Camera
- Luggage:** There is a luggage limit of one medium suitcase and one back pack per student.
- Diet:** Please inform the school by the 15th of September if there are any dietary requirements.

CAREER NEWS

- 1 MONASH ENGINEERING INFORMATION EVENING** – An evening for prospective students/parents with academic, student and graduate speakers. An opportunity to follow up on Open Day or if you couldn't attend. **When:** 7-9.30pm, Thur 10 Sept; **Where:** Lecture Theatre C1, Building 63, Clayton; **Register:** www.eng.monash.edu.au/prospective or ph 9905 3404.
- 2. SWINBURNE WALK 'N' TALK** – Find out more about Swinburne and what's on offer at a Walk 'n' Talk during the school holidays. Students/parents will hear current students talk about their study experiences; find out about pathways, course selection and how to manage transition from school to tertiary study. Go on a tour and join a workshop of your choice. **When/where:** 2-4pm, Fri 25 Sept, **Hawthorn**; 2-4pm, Tues 29 Sept, **Croydon** campus; Workshop examples @Hawthorn: ICT, mechatronics and robotics, electrical and renewable energy; @ Croydon: building and construction, plumbing, ICT. **See:** www.future.swinburne.edu.au/events or email Lana at lrizziutelli@swin.edu.au.
- 3. SWINBURNE DESIGN INFORMATION SESSIONS** – Did you miss Open Day? Swinburne Faculty of Design is holding evening info. sessions. **When:** (all sessions begin at 7pm) Double degree in Design/Business, Fri 18 Sept; Communication Design, Mon 21 Sept; Industrial Des, Tues 22 Sept; Interior Des, Wed 23 Sept; Multimedia Des, Thurs 24 Sept; Film & TV, Fri 25 Sept; **Where:** Room PA309, PA Building, Prahran campus; **NOTE:** Same info as given at Open day; **Information:** www.swinburne.edu.au/design.
- 4. DISCOVER DEAKIN** – This Deakin holiday program provides the chance to get an inside look at Deakin University and what it offers. Go on a tour, find out about courses, meet current students, see accommodation and learn about transition to uni. **When:** Tues 22 & Mon 28 Sept (all campuses); **Bookings:** www.deakin.edu.au/discover.
- 5. TALK AND TOUR AT LA TROBE** – An opportunity to get to know La Trobe's Bundoora campus and see what it has to offer. Talk to faculty representatives and current students, go on a tour, hear about courses, and have morning tea. **When:** Thurs 24 September; **Information/bookings:** See: www.latrobe.edu.au/study/events.
- 6. LOOK AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY** – Check out **Creative Industries** (graphic design, multimedia & games, music, professional writing, visual arts, theatre arts) at an **Expo**, 10am-3pm, Sun 13 Sept, City Flinders Street campus. Also animal studies, vet nursing, children's and community Services, tourism and events, 10am-3pm, Sun 13 Sept, Werribee campus. Other Expos to follow (see next newsletter). Info www.vu.edu.au/visitvu.
- 7. RMIT MECHATRONICS DAY 2009** - Year 10, 11 and 12 students are invited to visit the Bundoora campus to experience cutting edge mechatronics and automation technology. Students will be able to participate in the following activities: control temperature in a chamber, mobile robot controls, program a robotic arm, automatic sorting and placement system.
Date: Friday 25 September 2009 **Time:** 10am-3pm **Cost:** Free (lunch provided)

City of Melbourne is proud to present

Internet Health and Safety

with **Robyn Treyvaud**

Evening Parent Information Session
Free!



Venue:

Blue and White Room at the Multicultural Hub
506 Elizabeth Street Melbourne

Date:

Thursday 10 September 2009

Time:

6.30pm – 8.30pm

Robyn Treyvaud (Director CyberSafeKids and Cyber SafeWorld, Professional Learning Consultant, Centre for Strategic Education) is an experienced educator having undertaken numerous leadership and administrative roles in schools and now in the ICT, Internet Health and Safety and curriculum domains. Robyn has played a significant role in raising the awareness of cyber safety issues in Australia and the Asia Pacific, and between 2005 – 2007 she has taken a lead role in Australia by establishing the CyberSafeKids Project. Her work is recognised in the US where she has been appointed to the iKeepSafe's International Advisory Board.

No Cost – Bookings Essential
Email: ralc@melbourne.vic.gov.au
Phone: 9328 8953



Re-Enrolment For 2010

Parents of boys currently in Years 7, 8 and 9 at Simonds Catholic College are asked to return this Re-enrolment Form to your son's teacher by Friday, September 11. It is important for our planning for next year that we have an accurate indication of the number of students likely to return to Simonds.

Please note that no money is required for re-enrolment.

Your Son's Name: _____

Current Class: _____

1. My son will return to Simonds Catholic College next year

Yes

No

If NO, please complete all of question 2

2. If **No**, please complete the following:

(a) Name of School you wish him to attend:

.....

(b) If your son is not offered a place at another school, will he return to Simonds Catholic College?

Yes

No

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: _____