

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We often emphasise with the students what it is that sets Sancta Maria College apart from other schools in the area. It is of course our Special Character that is related to our Catholic Faith.

The recent Feast Day Mass where we celebrated the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven was a manifestation of this Special Character. This was a wonderful occasion with student participation in the readings, music and formal procedures. It was an event that was well publicised in our Newsletters. As we now reflect on this day we ask "What did it mean to our students and families?". Were students asked on their arrival at home "How did the Mass go today? What was the message that you got from it?". If we want our young people to develop a true understanding of Christian Values and the Catholic faith the parents / caregivers and the College must work together. We assume that you have sent your children to Sancta Maria College because it is Catholic. Yes, academic outcomes and co-curricular opportunities are important, however the umbrella that protects us all is the Special Character. For how many of our students is Mass a regular occurrence? How often is "grace" said prior to the family dinner? How often do you take the time to discuss what is happening in their Religious Education programmes? This is an area where you should really be able to assist. Do you ask them if they went to the lunchtime Mass on Wednesday? A voluntary Mass that is available for all students **and** the community. Have you considered meeting your son / daughter at this Mass just once per term? How are values modelled in the family home? All of these are aspects of what it is to be "Catholic". If it is being left up to the school our students will need to take a quantum leap from what they see and hear about at school and what they observe happening outside the school.

We are proud of our young people and we see them commit themselves fully to our Special Character particularly on these formal occasions at our Feast Day masses.

I encourage you all to build on these occasions and support these young people to enable them to grow in the development of their faith and in the values that are so desperately needed in today's world.

God Bless You All

**Paul Daley
Principal**

PS: My Sabbatical Report is now available on the school's website. www.sanctamaria.school.nz under News, Principal's Comment, Sabbatical Report.

SPECIAL CHARACTER - Mrs G Devoy

As we continue with our Values programme, the students have been studying the value of curiosity. Many have identified the need to have a sense of wonder and curiosity in the world around us and have been able to articulate that without curiosity, their learning is finite and closed.

*Wonder rather than doubt is the root of knowledge
Abraham Herschel*

Last week the College celebrated the Feast of the Assumption. As Fr Ezio was unable to be present, Monsignor Bernard Kiely, from St Pat's Cathedral, celebrated the Mass. As part of his homily, Monsignor Kiely talked about the love and respect Catholics have for Mary, making the comment: "If you want to know the son, get to know the mother".

The students participated extremely well and Monsignor Kiely commented positively on their overall conduct. It is very pleasing to see the enthusiasm so many of our students display when involving themselves in our liturgies and as a staff we welcome and value their input. Preparations are underway for the Year 10 Retreat. This will be in Week 8 with the theme being Challenges and Changes. During the Retreat the students will be able to take part in team and trust building activities. We are also hoping to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is important that your child attends the day, as Retreats are a significant part of the Religious Education programme. They also offer students another dimension of the Catholic faith and give participants an opportunity to mix with a wide range of peers.

During the week Sancta Maria College hosted a meeting for Directors and Heads of Religious Education. A number of Year 9 students assisted with greeting and meeting this group. The feedback I have received on the high standard of courtesy and friendliness has been overwhelming and I would like to thank and congratulate these wonderful students.

Later this term, Fr Ezio and I will be meeting with students who wish to become Ministers of the Eucharist. It is important that any pupil wishing to take part in this Ministry is able to complete a form requiring some input from their local parish priest. The College always needs Ministers, so please encourage your child to respond to this call.

Finally, I would like to leave you with this prayer, reflecting on wonder and curiosity.

Almighty God,
Give me a deep curiosity about all of Your creation. Move me to search and to question; give me insight and understanding, a retentive memory and the patience to ponder and reflect. May I not stop with knowledge, but proceed to understanding of heart and wisdom to view the world with the eyes of faith. Point out the beginning, direct the progress and help in the completion.
We ask this through Christ our Lord

Amen

PTFA

TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Saturday 4 September - 7.30pm

\$15 per ticket with \$5 per ticket going to Canteen Breast Cancer and Dove.

Phone: Tracey Monaghan for tickets: 535 7609

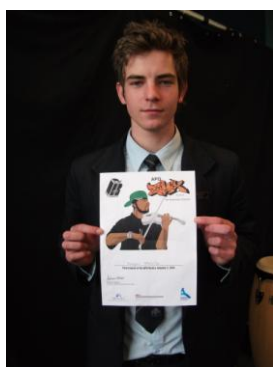
STUDENT REPORT

MUSIC

CLASSICAL AND HIP-HOP ARE ACQUAINTED -Alex Lyall
'I felt the course was very helpful in my pursuit in the music industry and I gained valuable knowledge from within the industry'. Keegan Melville

Classical and Hip-Hop are two styles of music that can't (or shouldn't) be 'mixed'. However, music whiz kid and Year 13 student Keegan Melville proved that theory utterly wrong.

During the first of the second term's holidays Keegan Melville undertook the recording for APO (Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra) Remix CD Volume 2 Hip - Hop Meets Classical a project intended for the collaboration of the very two different genres. It featured some of the country's top hip-hop artists including Smashproof's Tyree, DJ CXL and the APO Orchestra and chief composer John Psatha. The perfect combination of Classical and Hip - Hop is a difficult one, and in itself is an achievement. But to actually work with musicians of such high calibre is something one would expect only once in a lifetime. For Keegan it is just a chapter in the great 'pursuit'.



DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP DATES

The Visual Arts and Photography 'folio season' has begun! There are several ways that we can help our students manage their time and ensure success with their folios. As a department we have released a schedule of after school, weekend and holiday workshop opportunities. The schedule is posted on the VA notice board in DG7 and students have been given a copy. Weekend and holiday dates are:

Saturday	4 September	2pm-5pm
Saturday	11 September	1pm-5pm
Monday	27 September	11am-5pm
Thursday	7 October	11am-2pm
Friday	8 October	11am-2pm

Please ensure that your children attend these as they are worthwhile teaching and learning opportunities additional to timetabled lessons. For Photography students these extra sessions provide valuable printing time. Both Mrs Allen and Miss Lawrence are able to assist all students in their folio work. Students are welcome to continue using DG7 during interval and lunchtimes Monday - Friday.

You can help your children with their folio deadlines by ensuring they regularly complete class-work, attend workshops, help them plan and check weekly goals, ask to see and talk about their art-making ideas, artist models and pictorial concerns and media investigation. Discussion can be a valuable tool for stimulating and clarifying ideas.

DEBATING

Our Senior Team was defeated by Rosmini College last week in their quarter-final. On Saturday the Advanced Open Team competed in the semi-final of their grade. They were narrowly defeated by Senior College. Debating at Sancta Maria College continues to go from strength to strength with the success of these two teams and large numbers of junior students participating in 2010. This is encouraging and shows promise for even more success in the future.

NETBALL

On Wed 28 July 5 teams (2x Year 7 girls, 2x Year 8 girls and 1x Year 8 Boys) represented Sancta Maria College at the South Eastern Zones Netball Tournament. This year produced the best results we have ever achieved in this tournament.

Division 2

Year 7B - placed 2nd

Year 8B - placed 2nd

Championship Division

Year 7A - placed 3rd

Year 8A - placed 2nd

Boys Division

Year 8 Boys - placed 1st

Year 8A girls and the Year 8 Boys team went on to the next level of competition - the Auckland Inter Zone Netball Tournament which was held on Wed 11th August at Morrin Rd. The competition here was extremely tough. The girls managed to come 6th out of 17 teams and the boys came 7th out of 16 teams.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Year 7 & 8 Cross Country was held on Friday 13 August in cold windy conditions. Even so, all the students participated with enthusiasm.

Results are as follows:

Year 7 Girls

1st - Victoria Kurtovich

2nd - Georgia Dance

3rd - Patricia Espinas

Year 7 Boys

1st - Chris Field

2nd - Luke Oliver

3rd - Alex Gordon

Year 8 Girls

1st - Tyscha Ikenasio

2nd - Lexi Kiriwi

3rd - Jaimee-Ann Dick

Year 8 Boys

1st - Patrick Iyog

2nd - Marco Abuyan

3rd - Ryan Mahy

A team will be chosen from the top ten runners in each age group to represent Sancta Maria College at the South Eastern Zone Cross Country on 24 August.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Auckland Hockey U13 Boys Development Team Representatives

Izaak Tele



Jakob Ambrose



Manukau City Council
Bin Battle Competition
First Place

Amelia David

Highly Commended

Ria George



Wendall Baluyut



Carmela Lopez



Counties Manukau Team Interprovincial Cross Country Championship Representatives



Patria Harris



Kayleigh Aspeling



Lucy McGall

Lucy McGall is one of our most talented athletes. Her achievements this term include:
Down Under Competition Gold Coast, Australia

1st Pole Vault 3.50m
New Zealand Track and Field Championships, Christchurch
1st Pole Vault w19 3.50m
2nd Pole Vault w16
North Island Secondary Schools Championships, Wellington
2nd Pole Vault 3.40m

Callum McKenzie



Congratulations to Callum McKenzie on being part of the NZ U17 Football squad who are preparing for the World Youth Football Championships in Mexico next year.

NOTICES

GST INCREASE ON ATTENDANCE DUES

As you are aware, there is an increase in GST as from 1 October 2010. All Term 4 Attendance Dues that have not been paid in full by 1 October 2010 will incur this GST increase. Please check your last school contribution statement to check any outstanding amount on your Attendance Dues.

UNIFORM SHOP

Term 3 Hours

For updated shop hours, please telephone the Uniform Shop on: 272 5601. The answer phone is updated regularly as hours will change weekly for the remainder of Term 3.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 25 Aug Students leave school 12.25pm
Paid Union Meeting

A Notice regarding the Paid Union Meeting was sent home to Parents on Monday 23 August

Wednesday	25 Aug	Newsletter Out
Monday	30 Aug	BOT Meeting - 7pm
Friday	03 Sept	HPV Vaccination Dose 3
Monday	06 Sept	Y10 Retreat and Camp Week
Tuesday	07 Sept	HPV Vaccination
Wednesday	08 Sept	Senior Exams start
Wednesday	15 Sept	Newsletter Out
Thursday	16 Sept	Boostrix Vaccination
Tuesday	21 Sept	Year 8 Camp Starts
Wednesday	22 Sept	Y11 Drama NCEA Assessment
Friday	24 Sept	End of Term 3
Monday	27 Sept	BOT Meeting

Dates and times are correct at the time of printing, but may be subject to change.

**"God wants to reach out to
others through your hands.
He wants to speak to others
through your lips,
and God wants others
to look into your eyes and see Him.....
GIVE GOD PERMISSION..."**

John Cardinal O'Connor