



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Newsletter No: 10

02 August 2011

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope that you all have had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday from school and that the students are ready to face the challenges of what will be a very busy ten week term. As the Senior Prize Giving will occur in the second week of Term 4, Term 3 is effectively the last term of the year for Senior students. The first week of Term 4 (Tuesday 25 October) will concentrate mainly on final preparation for external assessments. It is therefore of vital importance that all students concentrate on their academic goals throughout this term. A key component is regular attendance and I encourage all students and parents to ensure that we minimise absence from class throughout this term. Middle School examinations will commence in the third week of Term 4 so they too need to focus on striving for Excellence in their academic performance.

The winter co-curricular programme will continue but will mainly conclude by the middle of the term. We are delighted with the performance of many of our teams and with the commitment shown by all who are involved. A most enjoyable music evening was held in the second to last week of last term. The performances demonstrated the outstanding musical talent we have at the College and the superb work being done by the Music staff in both developing the talent and giving young people the opportunities. Over the holidays the Drama students and staff have been busy rehearsing for the Drama performances that will occur in the second week of this Term. The Stage Challenge (highlighted later in this Newsletter) was a wonderful occasion, one that made us all proud to be part of Sancta Maria College.

Throughout all that happens at our school, academic and co-curricular we must never lose sight of our purpose for being here. Our Special Character is what sets us apart. The Spirituality and Charism of Sancta Maria College must always be at the core of what we do. Our young people must leave the school with a strong sense of values and a clear understanding of what is right and what is wrong. It is imperative that we work together to achieve this. Standards and expectations in the home must match our expectations and insistence on values at the school. If we work together these fine young people will be prepared to face the challenges that the world throws at them.

May God Bless you all
Paul Daley
Principal

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This term will be a busy term for the College. The Board continues to work with the Diocese for a start to the construction of the new Library. This planning is now nearing completion and we are hoping for a start in construction in Term 4. As we continue to be unable to offer places to all the Catholic families who apply for a place at Sancta Maria College we are also in discussion with respect to the future growth of the College.

This term we will have our three yearly Special Character Review. Two reviewers will be in the school for three days looking at all the aspects of our Special Character. The Board is welcoming the review and will report back to the community once the final report is received. From our observations and involvement we are confident of a positive report.

Michael Stride
Board of Trustees Chairman

SPECIAL CHARACTER REPORT

This term has gone by quickly and has been extremely busy. Thank you to all those people who sent in names in response to the request to join a Sacramental programme, I will be meeting with Fr Ezio soon and will then be in contact.

Upcoming Events

Planning is already underway for Term 3 events. Due to ill health of the presenter, the Year 10 Retreat was postponed and hopefully early next term I will be able to confirm a date for this day. In August the College will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption and a dedicated team of Special Character Committee students have met several times to prepare prayers, readings and decorations.

Values

We are currently looking at the Value of Justice. Justice is of great importance to us as without Justice, there will never be peace. We are committed to Justice so that there will be peace and hope for all. This Term we will be looking at the Values of Equity, Forgiveness and Resilience. I would like to thank the Special Character Committee who help so much with the printing and displaying of this programme.

Outreach

Sancta Maria College has recently formed a brother/sister bond with Cathedral College in Christchurch. This College was badly damaged during the February earthquake and is unable to work on their original site. They are now based at St Thomas of Canterbury College but are hoping to return to their own grounds close to the Catholic Cathedral. We are committed to help this College as they navigate a somewhat difficult journey to normality. One such project was a Mufti Day, held on the last day of Term 2. The students dressed in the various colours of the zones that have been placed around the Christchurch area. I will let you know the amount raised for this shortly.

I hope you all had a safe and happy well-earned holiday and I look forward to working with you all this term.

There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice but there never must be a time when we fail to protest.

Elie Wiesel

Geraldine Devoy
DRS

FROM THE DEANS DESK

LEADERSHIP WEEK

Our school celebrated National Leadership week from the 1 – 8 July. Prefects lead assemblies and activities for the week. Guest speakers such as Ruben Wiki, Brian Bonnevie and ex Head Prefect Charney Rooza were invited to share their tips and advice on becoming great leaders.



8 July was Red socks day on which all the prefects wore Red socks to remind us of a great leader of our Nation – Sir Peter Blake. Deans and HR teachers continued the theme of leadership with activities throughout the week. It was an excellent effort from the prefects and we are excited to make it an annual event.



Taniya Bassi
HOD Pastoral Care

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to all students and teachers who participated in 'Stage Challenge'. This was held at the Aotea Centre on Thursday 30 June. Eight schools participated in this event and Sancta Maria College came third overall. This was a great achievement as it was our first time at entering the Open Division.

We won awards for Excellence for Costuming Character, Excellence for Concept, Excellence for Health, Life Skills and Creative Thinking.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The Year 9 and 10 Speech Finals were held on Wednesday 29 June. The finalists' speeches were of a very high standard. The results are as follows:

Year 9

- 1st place – Gabrielle Murti
- 2nd place – Jaimee Ann Dick
- 3rd = James Green–Thompson, Matthew Laguda

Year 10

- 1st place – Angela Harvey
- 2nd place – Pol Llorando
- 3rd place – Jessie Fromont

Gabrielle and Angela will represent the school at the Eastern Zone Speech Competition to be held at Howick College on 23 August.

KAPA HAKA

Our Kapa Haka group performed with distinction and pride at the opening of the National Librarians Conference on the first Sunday of the holidays. They brought enormous credit to themselves and to the College.

LIBRARY

Senior Librarians University of Auckland Library Tour.

On Wednesday 6 July, Mrs Karon Horne and Mr Max Schroder took seventeen Year 12 and 13 students to the University of Auckland Library. We were given a guided tour of the General Library by one of the Enquiry Librarians. The University Library is one of the biggest in New Zealand with over 2.2 million books! The students were amazed at the huge shelves and the large variety of resources available for use by the general public as well as the University students. After the tour we had a hands-on training session using the University Library catalogue and databases; this included e-books, digital copies of original New Zealand documents, and live streamed programmes such as French television. Later in the morning we went to a large bookshop and the students selected books for senior NCEA subjects and study materials, with novels suitable for Year 12 and Year 13 English. These were then purchased [after being checked by Mrs Horne] for Sancta Maria College Library.

For our Senior Student Librarians the trip was an excellent opportunity to look at print and electronic research resources provided at a university level, and a motivational taste of studying at the University of Auckland.

Karon Horne
Teacher Librarian

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Numeracy Strategy

ALGORITHM DECOMPOSITION – ADDITION

Many students are under the misconception that the algorithm is not considered a valid strategy. It is a strategy that can be used, but the students must be careful that there is not a faster strategy that can be used instead of the algorithm. Many students resort to using the algorithm all the time even if they could have used a quicker method

to calculate the answer. They need to be open to other methods as well.

This strategy is used when numbers are too difficult to find the answer mentally but it is important that students understand place value while doing the algorithm.

$$1284 + 4807$$

$$1000 + 200 + 80 + 4$$

$$4000 + 800 + 0 + 7$$

$$5000 + 1000 + 80 + 11 \quad \text{(Stress canon of PV}$$

- cannot have greater than
9 in the ones/units column)

$$6000 + 0 + 90 + 1 = 6091$$

Leading on to:

$$\begin{array}{r} 1284 \\ 4807 \\ \hline 6091 \end{array}$$

1ST XI BOYS FOOTBALL REPORT

The 1st XI Boys Football team have finished the regular season in top position.

They have won eight out of nine games, amassing thirty four goals for with only nine goals against.

The team are now into their playoffs, with three home games and one away game.

They are also undertaking fundraising initiatives to help raise money to be able to attend the Malcolm Cowie Football Tournament during Tournament week at Papamoa in August. This will be the first time that Sancta Maria College has entered a football team in a national tournament. Keep an eye out for these initiatives. Your support of these will be greatly appreciated.

ART DEPARTMENT

Uxbridge Student Show 22–29 June

Congratulations to the 17 Art students from Yrs 9–13 who were selected to represent our school in the Uxbridge Student Show. The exhibition was held in celebration of Matariki. All East Auckland schools participated. Our students' work was outstanding. A further congratulations to Amanda Wijaya 11DNN for winning a Highly Commended Award for her mixed media print.

Te Tuhi Art Award

Jessica Peterson 13CLE is also to be congratulated for being selected as our school nominee for the Te Tuhi Art Award 2011.

Unitec Top Art Show

The Yr 13 Art and Photography students have recently attended the Level 3 Auckland Schools' Folio Exhibition hosted by Unitec in conjunction with the NZQA national Top Art Folio Show. It was an extremely beneficial trip providing the opportunity for students to see over 100 top art folios and discuss the external standard with the Unitec tutors.

A Ply Art2 Teachers Exhibition

Jules Allen and Debbie Lawrence will be showing work as part of the Auckland Secondary Art Teachers Association Exhibition. The exhibition required teachers to respond to a piece of square ply wood. The show is held at Te Karanga Gallery on Karangahape Rd – 1–10 August.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Equestrian Results

Phoebe and India Brown competed in the North Island Secondary Schools Show Hunter Championships in Cambridge recently. In class, Phoebe gained a 8th place, India a 6th and a 7th place. Our girls formed a team with 2 riders from Pinehurst College and achieved the highest team placing for a Sancta Maria College team finishing 8th out of 28 teams. Congratulations to both riders.

Scott Ambrose has won the Australian Capital Territories Mens 17 Yr Cycling Tour. Scott was first in the time trial; he carried this time advantage through the remainder of the two road races and the criterion; he won by 37 seconds!

NOTICES

PARENT EVENING – Thursday 4 August 4.00–8.00 pm

This will be held in the Auditorium. Bookings can be made on-line through the following website:

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Password: JY6MN

Interview times with each teacher is limited to 5 minutes

Please note school will close at 2.00pm.

STUDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

We are currently trialling new methods of communicating with parents.

- **Emailing through our Student Management System:** Enables us to bulk email parents important and timely information. For this to work effectively we need to have accurate parent details on our student management system.
- **Early-Notification – Texting parents from our Student Management System**

Attendance is now marked every period for all students. Using our student management system we are able to identify students who are not present and send a text message to their parent/caregivers phone. We will be trialling this during Term 3. Parents are asked to text back to confirm that their student is absent. The system of parent/caregivers phoning us to notify us if a student is absent on a school day is to be continued. If you have notified the school you will not get a text message from us.

For this notification to work we need to have up to date cell phone numbers. If these have changed please notify our Student Data Manager: Mrs Fisher. Her email address is:

j.fisher@sanctamaria.school.nz

Further information regarding this will be given at the start time of the trial.

NZQA FEES - Last Day for payment: Monday 15 August

Students were given their NZQA Invoice for payment in Week 10 of Term 2. Financial Assistance Information was emailed out to parents at this time. If we did not have a current email address this information was included with your child's Term 2 report. Payment is to be made to Sancta Maria College. Any cheques are to be made out to Sancta Maria College. If you wish to discuss any matters regarding financial assistance please contact the school cashier.

CHAPEL ROAD ENTRANCE

Please note that a condition of the SMC Resource Consent limits the access through this entrance to Sancta Maria College staff and Sancta Maria Catholic Primary School staff only. Parents and students are not permitted to enter this car park at any time. As from 1 August the gates will be locked at 5.00pm. Students being collected from sports practices at the gymnasium will need to be picked up from the front entrance. We realise that this may be an inconvenience, but note that failure to comply may result in affecting any insurance claims in the event of any accident while using this entrance.

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE WEBSITE - New Look

The College website has been given a fresh look to best reflect where the College is now.

If you go to the web address www.sanctamaria.school.nz, you will be able to see images such as the recent College Mass, and many of the activities the College participates in. There is an additional emphasis on the twelve Values that the College has integrated into the cultivation of the Special Character of the school.

The website is also a good place to see an online version of this newsletter, as well as up to date sports and cultural results.

The website is regularly updated by a dedicated team of senior ICT students called Diakonia. Please have a look!

SANCTA MARIA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL CARE - SKIDS

Skids operate before and after school care at Sancta Maria Catholic Primary School. Students from Years 7 & 8 at Sancta Maria College are most welcome to use this facility either on a regular or casual basis. Please contact Vivian van der Merwe (Program Co-ordinator) on 948 4203 or 021 702 498 for further information)

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES FOR TERM 3

Week 1 Tuesday 2 August
Week 4 Friday 26 August
Week 8 Tuesday 20 September
Week 10 Friday 7 October

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

19 - 21 August 2011 at the Silver Oaks Inn, Papatoetoe, Auckland.

For more information telephone: 0800 362 686 for more information.

CATHOLIC FAMILY COMMUNITY SERVICES

We offer professional counselling and Social Work services for families, couples and individuals.

This includes:

- * Parenting concerns
- * A variety of social work services for families
- * Parenting courses
- * Family violence prevention education workshops for local communities.

For more information Phone: 09-378 9650 www.cfcs.org.nz

KEY DATES

Tuesday 02 August ICAS English Exam
Wednesday 03 August ICAS L2 / L3 Chemistry Exam

Thursday 04 August	Parent Evening 4 - 8pm	School closes at 2pm
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Tuesday 09 August Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Level 1 Language Cert Exam

Wednesday 10 August Level 2 Language Cert Exam

Thursday 11 August Level 3 Language Cert Exam

Monday 15 August Feast of the Assumption

Tuesday 16 August ICAS Mathematics Exam

Thursday 18 August Careers Evening 7-9pm

Friday 19 August Year 11 - 13 Japan Trip

Thursday 25 August Winter Sports/Cultural Photos

Wednesday 31 August Y7 Hearing/Vision Testing

Friday 02 Sept	School Closed - Staff Only Day	NCEA National Standards Planning
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Monday 05 Sept	School Closed - Mid Term Break	One Day Only
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Tuesday 06 Sept Normal School Day

Monday 12 Sept Senior Exams Start
Year 10 Camp

Saturday 01 Oct Cultural Festival

Tuesday 04 Oct Year 8 Camp

Friday 07 Oct Term 3 Ends

Monday 24 Oct Labour Day (School Closed)

Tuesday 25 Oct Term 4 Begins - 8.40am

2012 TERM DATES

Term Start date	End date
Tuesday 31 January	Thursday 5 April
Monday 23 April	Friday 29 June
Monday 16 July	Friday 28 September
Monday 15 October	Friday 14 December *

* Or to a day in December which ensures that the school has been open for instruction for **380 half-days** in 2012.

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