

CrossRoads



FOUNDED 1891 IN THE TRADITION OF THE PATRICIAN BROTHERS
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE RYDE



5 December 2008 No. 18

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Reflection:

Holy Cross College extends seasons greetings and best wishes to all students, staff and their families. As we remember the birth of Jesus, may peace and joy reign in your household this Christmas and in the year to come.

Coming Events - 2008

- 8 Dec School Certificate results available on line
- 10 Dec Prize Giving Night
- 12 Dec Yr 11 Final Day
2nd Hand Book Sale
Yr 10 Reports Distributed
- 16 Dec Last Day Yrs 7—9 Reports Distributed
- 17 Dec Staff Development Day
- 18 Dec HSC Results on line
Yrs 7—11 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 19 Dec Term 4 Concludes
- 28 Jan 09 Year 7 Commence
- 29 Jan 09 Years 8—12 Commence

Dear parents, students and staff,

The last two weeks of the school year are going to be a very busy time for both students and staff. On Monday we have the official **opening of the Patrician Technology Building** by Bishop David Cremin. The ceremony will commence at 10.00am in the Chapel and it would be great to see parents come along and share in the event. All students are expected to be in correct summer uniform for this special occasion. This will be followed on Wednesday by our annual **Prize Giving Evening** starting at 7.30pm. Again we extend a warm invitation to all parents to share in this special occasion when we have the opportunity to recognise the achievements of our students this year.

On Friday 12th December we will be holding a **second hand book sale** from 2.15pm to 3.30pm. This is an opportunity to buy and sell books and save a considerable amount of money on new book prices. Current book lists are available by accessing the College's web site. Classes finish for Year 11 on the 12th and for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 on Tuesday 16th December when semester two reports will be distributed. All students are expected to attend until these finishing dates. Teachers will be available on Wednesday 17th December for interviews in relation to semester two reports.

In 2009, **classes resume for Year 7 on Wednesday 28th January and for Years 8 to 12 on Thursday 29th January.** The annual swimming carnival is on Friday 30th January. This is a compulsory school activity and all students are to attend. The College office will be open from Tuesday 22nd January and the uniform shop will be open from 2pm to 5pm on January 19, 20, 21, 22 and 27.

As this is the last newsletter for the year, may I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all students, staff and parents for their support and friendship over the last six years I have served here at the College as Principal. I am sure the College is in great hands with the new Principal, Mr. Adam Taylor. It has been a great privilege to work in a leadership positions at the College, both as Principal and Assistant Principal. Holy Cross will always remain close to my heart. Every best wish for the future and may the Lord bless and protect each family as we move into the Christmas season.

Mr. G. Williams
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Throughout the last three years I have written on numerous occasions in the CrossRoads, about the importance of how our boys conduct themselves in public, and the way they are viewed as ambassadors of the College and their family through their personal presentation and grooming. Generally speaking, there has been a huge improvement in behaviour whilst travelling to and from school; I thank all parents and carers for your support with this. However, there are some students who still have made no effort to improve their personal grooming and uniform.

Surveys done throughout the year indicate that there are some students who lack pride in their school, this can be generally determined by the way in which they wear their uniform and present themselves for school each day. The College has in place various rules and regulations regarding student uniform and haircuts. To enforce these expectations there is a need for full support from the home. When a student arrives at school wearing an incomplete uniform, and has no note from home explaining the reason for this, the student has a strong message that you support the way he presents himself. We must insist on a zero tolerance, from home and school, regarding poor student uniform and scruffy personal grooming. When the boys return to school after the holidays ALL students will be expected to be wearing the full correct uniform and will have their hair correctly attended to as outlined in the Student Diary. Students who fail to comply with these simply requests will be sent home to attend to the matter.

.....
A reminder that all boys are expected to be at school until the official last day: Year 11 finish Friday December 12th; Year 7 – 9 Tuesday 16th December.

.....
The Parent Teacher interview day for parents/carers of boys in Year 7 - 11 is set for Wednesday 17th December from 9.00 am to 3.30 pm. All staff will be available to speak with you, but interview times must be made. Please phone the College Secretary to arrange times to for your interviews

.....
...and in the Christmas period, soon upon us, a simple thought

‘To my mind, having a care and concern for others is the highest of the human qualities’.
Fred Hollows.

Quotes:

Challenges are what makes life interesting – overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.
Vision without action is a daydream; action without vision is a nightmare.
Life will teach you the lessons – it is up to you to learn them.

.....
I hope that all boys and their families have a restful break over the holiday period and take the opportunity to join in the festive season at their local parish .

Best wishes over the break.
Michael McCormack

Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

“A person who attends Holy Cross College has been diagnosed with Whooping Cough (pertussis). The illness is usually characterised by a feeling of being generally unwell with an accompanying deep harsh cough that tends to occur in bouts. The cough may be severe enough to cause the affected person to vomit after a bout of coughing. Whooping Cough can cause a severe illness in young children particularly in children under the age of 1 year. Whooping Cough is usually spread by direct contact with the droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person during coughing. People at greatest risk of getting the illness are those who have had a considerable amount of face-to-face contact with a person with the disease. Whooping Cough can occur in people previously vaccinated. We suggest that should any person develop some or all of the above symptoms that they consult their local doctor and mention that there has been a case of Whooping Cough in the school.”

Holy Cross College Ryde



Mr Garry Williams
Principal



*Invites Parents & Friends to the
Official Opening of the
Patrician Technology Building
on*

8th December 2008

Commencing at 10.00am

Bishop David Cremin will be officiating

*Light Refreshments and tours of the
facility to follow.*

R.S.V.P. 1.12.08 Principal's Secretary 9808-1033

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend

Annual Prize Giving Evening

Holy Cross College Hall

On

Wednesday,

10 December 2008

Commencing at 7.30pm

Boys to be in attendance by 7pm.

This evening is a celebration of academic, sporting and cultural excellence. We encourage all parents and families to join us on this occasion. Students receiving awards will be notified by their Year Coordinator by Friday 5th December 2008.

CHRISTMAS MASSES ST MARY'S CONCORD

Christmas Eve

Wednesday 24 December

7.00 pm Vigil Mass, 12.00 midnight Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

7.30 am Mass, 9.30 am Mass, 11.00 am Mass

NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Tues 16 Dec 7.30pm St Martha's Strathfield

Wed 17 Dec 7.30pm St Mark's Drummoyne

Thurs 18 Dec 7.30pm St Mary's Concord

Mon 22 Dec 7.30pm St Ambrose Concord West

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

We are asking all students for donations to this appeal.

A basket will be kept at the front office until December 8th.



Items needed are: Plum Puddings, Tins – Christmas cake, biscuits, mixed nuts, bottles of cordial, bottles of juice, cans of beetroot, peaches, apricots, fruit salad, tins of salmon, tins of ham, jars of jam, long life custard, bon bons, Christmas tablecloths and napkins.

Your donation can bring those less fortunate some hope, comfort and joy as Christmas is a wonderful time of year.

Outstanding school fee accounts.

There are still a number of families who have not settled their accounts for this year. This is putting a considerable strain on the finances of the College and will impact on the quality of resources we can provide for our students next year. Parents of students at Catholic schools have a long tradition of providing for the financial welfare of our schools, often at considerable sacrifice. Unless parents are prepared to contribute financially by paying fees, our schools will not survive. If you are experiencing financial difficulties you should ring the College and make an appointment to see me.

Curriculum Matters

The Year 2008 has been very busy for both students and teachers and I would like to personally thank all Students and Teachers for their efforts throughout the year. I know myself how busy I have been with ensuring all relevant curriculum matters have been dealt with appropriately, the schools involvement in the Patrician Brothers Bicentenary and World Youth Day

This time of year also sees a number of the teaching staff moving on to other schools or taking a new direction in their lives. I wish these teachers all the best in their future endeavours and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I also look forward to the new teachers coming on board for 2009 with their enthusiasm and different ideas for Teaching and Learning adding a new dimension to the College.

Finally I would like to thank the parents of all the students at the College. Your support throughout the year has been invaluable to the development of your sons and we look forward to working with you in 2009.

Important Dates 2008

Monday 8th December – Opening of the new TAS building.

Friday 12th December – Year School Certificates and Reports can be picked up.

Friday 12th December – Second Hand Book sale in the College hall 2.15pm. Booklist for 2009 will be available to be picked up on the day.

Tuesday 16th December – Year 7-9 reports distributed.

Thursday 20th December – HSC results available online

Thanks

Phillip Gibney

Curriculum Coordinator

Staff Profile—Mr Tim Barrett

Sydney-born HSIE teacher Tim Barrett has spent 21 of his 34 years of teaching in Holy Cross College. He served the College as the HSIE Co-ordinator for eight years (1990-1997), as the Curriculum Co-ordinator for another eight (1998-2006), and as the Careers/VET Workplacement Co-ordinator in 2007. Deep in knowledge and perspective on the state of our society, past and present, Tim is a great conversationalist, and one of the most positive people I've ever met. He is this edition's target for the Crossroads Staff Profile.

Highlight of time spent in Holy Cross: I have most enjoyed being part of a wonderful school community, teaching many outstanding students and being in positions of responsibility so as to productively contribute to the College.

Hobbies/interests: Reading, exercise, family, eating out with valued friends and enjoying great conversation.

Turning point in your life: Getting married and becoming a father with three daughters.

The most adventurous thing you've done: Skydiving at Picton for my 50th birthday with my children; white-water rafting on the Tully River in Queensland.

"The next film I would like to see would be..." 'Towelhead' because it explores relevant cultural and relationship issues. The author of "American Beauty" had an involvement in its production."

Favourite music: Various genres: an eclectic mix spanning classical to rock. (There is always a type of music for every occasion)

Last book read: "The Other" by David Guterson, who also wrote "Snow Falling on Cedars"

"If I could fly to anywhere in the world for one week on an unlimited

budget I would go to... France, because the countryside and cities and towns are beautiful."

Anything you would like to add about your family? I am very proud of my lovely wife and three daughters for what they have achieved and who they are.



MCS SPORT—SUMMER SEASON 2008

Results—Week 7 27.11.08

Sport	Results	Comment
Touch Football		
Under 13's	3—2 Liverpool	Undefeated 2 years running what a great achievement for our boys. Another two good wins against Liverpool & St Gregorys. Best Players for HCC were Misieli Vaikeli, Alefosio Tatola, Joshua Khoury and our Captain Christopher Moana.
Under 15's	Won 8—1	Both games were won easily. The team will need to step up to threaten other semi-finalists Game 1—3 pts Mason Farrell, 2pts Luke Brooks, 1pt Maxwell Di-marco. Game 2—3pts Mason Farrell, 2pts Curtis Sironen, 1pt Michael Min.
Cricket		
Under 14's	Won by 80 runs	Another strong performance with bat and ball by HCC. An excellent opening stand by Man of the Match—Sam Evans and Dayne Horne. Bowling credit to Kale Barton Bissaker with a 3 wicket maiden over.
Year 9	Ryde 9/75 Fairfield 5/81	Daniel Miller 2/30 Ben Lopez 2/11 Larson Rungwerth injured!
Basketball		
Year 7's	Lost 47—16	The boys played their most competitive game of the season against an extremely well drilled St Gregory's side! Great shooting from Christian Bongiflio and pace from Alex Sghabe. Very proud of the boys!
Year 9's	Lost (overtime) 56—50	Our best game of the season. With the lead for the majority of first half St Gregory's came out firing in the second only to equalise in the last 4 seconds taking the game into overtime. St Gregory's came away with the game. Excellent effort by all.

MCS SPORT—SUMMER SEASON 2008

Results—Week 8 4.12.08

SPORT	RESULT	COMMENT
Cricket		
Year 9	HCC 66 Dundas 136	Dundas batted first and scored 136 runs, Holy Cross did their best but were unable to build a productive partnership. Alex Meredith scored 42, his best so this season. Man of the Match was Ben Lopez who took 3 wickets for 13 runs.
Opens	HCC 10/34 (20) Dundas 2/38 (10.3)	Another game HCC had to rely on substitutes. With little depth in our batting line up and some solid bowling from Dundas, we crawled to 34. To their credit, the boys took the field and gave it a go.
Basketball		
Yr 7's	Lost 106—7	Against a side contending for the National Titles, this was always going to be a struggle and it was hard to remain competitive in the face of such fantastic opposition (and with injury and absence). Nevertheless, well done to Alex and Harry for fighting until the end!
Yr 9's	Lost 56—38 St Dom's v HCC	A tough game vs a classy side. With the game in reach in the first half with the score even, once again the opposition came out firing. Another good effort by all, especially Cameron Bayer.
B Grade	Lost 103—13 St Dom's v HCC	With only 5 players this was a difficult game to even imagine being competitive. Brandon Stephenson was injured early in the first half so limped his way around the court and with Marcel Ferris out for a foul there was little hope. Congratulations to Charlie Auditore, Man of the Match, for his cameo!
A Grade	Lost 93—20 St Dom's v HCC	HCC v The Chicago Bulls featuring Michael Jordan—what can I say? We obviously need to work on our Slam Dunk. Congratulations to Matt Jordan, Man of the Match, who never gave up.

Sports Report – 4.12.08

Today was an interesting day of sport. Instead of just interviewing student or teachers we watched some sports. We visited Softball, Film Club, Junior Soccer, Basketball and Junior Tennis. This week we only interviewed teachers, so here they are:

Mr. Rekrut from Junior Softball –

How is your sport going? Really good.
 Who is the best player? I would have to say Elias Vasilikas
 How is the group doing? They are going really well, lots of people wanting to join.
 Do you enjoy this sport? Yes, very much, it brings back child-hood memories.
 Have you ever played softball? Yes in Canada I played from Year 3 to Year 10.

Ms Dentice was back for just a visit –

How is it to be back in the school grounds? It's great, I love the school.
 What do you enjoy most about the school sport program? The talks with teachers, the interaction with students and the fresh air.
 What sports do you do yourself? Walking, Yoga and Swimming
 Do you enjoy these? Yes, absolutely.
 Are you glad to be back at HCC? Yes.

Ms Bartos from Junior Tennis –

Do you enjoy tennis? Yes, most definitely.
 Who is your favourite Pro player? Rodger Federer
 Who do you think is the best player/s here? Gianluca D'Amico and Arran Merlino
 How do you like it here at tennis? I enjoy it, watching the tennis is one of my hobby's.

Thank-you

Report: Jake Sinclair

Interview: Lachlan Edwards (Jacob Molloy Absent)

HOLY CROSS GOOD NEWS BULLETIN

Even Start National Tuition Program

An Even Start Tuition Program is a government funded program to provide tutoring for students who did not make the National Benchmarks in Numeracy and Literacy in 2007. We have been lucky enough to have a number of teachers to provide individual tuition to our students each week. This program, organized by Virginia Reeves, Special Ed, has been running successfully and most students will finish at the end of this term. Those who have not completed the 12 hours will do so next year. Thanks must go to the following teachers: Sailin Mar, Adam Rekrut, Simon McLean, Andrew Kuchuppan, Felicity Freckmann, Brad Horner, Daniel Kelton, Trish Baran. Congratulations must also go to the students who have diligently turned up to their sessions.

Numeracy Peer Tutoring Program

This peer tutoring Program, organized by Trish Baran, Special Ed, has been running very successfully this term to help Year 7 students who were struggling with Maths. Year 9 boys who were trained in the material have generously given up 30 minutes of their time 3 days/week to help these students. Peer tutoring has many benefits including developing leadership skills and peer relationships between different year groups.

Hospitality Work Placement

A number of students have worked in a variety of restaurant locations such as Jordans and Nicks Bar and Grill, for the Work Placement component of their hospitality course. They all gained great experience and two students were offered apprenticeships. In addition one student was offered part-time work at a renowned Sydney Restaurant.

Year 10 Graduation Mass and Formal

Last week the Year 10 students graduated with a mass held in the school chapel. It was a lovely service with some fantastic singing from teachers Joelle Camps Vazquez, Danielle Gamma and Tina Van Domberg accompanied by Patrizia Tripodi. The boys demonstrated maturity and showed their parents a sign of the young men they are becoming.

The Formal was also held that week with all the boys looking very smart and well turned out in formal clothes, not to mention stunning looking partners. They demonstrated their dancing expertise and overall behaved impeccably. A good night was had by all students and staff.

Medieval Day

All Year 7 participated in Medieval Day this week. They were educated and entertained by Tom Newell from WOO HOO Productions. He showed them examples of armour and weapons from the period and highlighted three artifacts that the boys had made as being very authentic and well made. The boys dressed up in costume and shared a medieval banquet for lunch. After lunch they viewed a movie on the theme of knights and chivalry. It was an excellent day and enjoyed by all.

Semi final and Final day.

Semi final opponents St Pauls' did not hold great fears for us. we had beaten them convincingly in the round games despite not playing all that well. These thoughts prove to be correct with the team running out winners 5-0. Tries to Ryan Hezlett, Mitchell Moses, Luke Brooks one each and Joey Touma 2. The pleasing aspect of this game was the defence, holding the opposition to nil.

The final was against our rivals Dundas. During the competition rounds we had won 4-2 and had a 2-2 draw with them. The early part of the game was played on our tryline due to some simple mistakes at the play the ball. during this time Joey Touma saved three tries with great defence on the wing. Once the team settled down they started to play the way they should be playing all the time.

At the end of the half the score was 1-1 due to an easy try to Dundas, using a set play and a very good try

to Mason Farrell. After some discussion about our defence and how we wanted to play in attack we started strongly. A try to Mitchell Moses finally put us ahead. Poor communication around replacement players allowed Dundas to hit back immediately. The team responded strongly to dominate the rest of the half with attacking defence and strong attacking play. Tries to Ryan Hezlett who followed a good break by Mason Farrell put us back in the lead. Another try to Joey Touma consolidated the win. Dundas did not give up scoring again to make the score 4-3 to Holy Cross. This ensured a nail biting finish to the game, fortunately neither side cracked again in defence and that is the final result. Man of the match was Joey Touma for his great defence in the first half and scoring the winning try.

Congratulations to all boys who played. They have worked hard and learnt some things from the season. Players Mitchell Moses and Mason Farrell co captains, Bradley Plug, Luke Brooks, Nathan Milone, Max DiMarco, Ryan Hezlett, Curtis Sironen, Joey Touma, Matthew Nicholls, Jake Knoll, Michael Min.

Once again, thanks for the great season.

Mr Rugg

Coach



Undefeated Premiers → 2 years in a row

Grand Final day yesterday was a remarkable end to another stellar year in which Holy Cross College stamped itself as the best Touch Football school in NSW by winning the strongest inter school competition in under 13s and under 15s.

The Under 13s were captained by Chris Moana who put in two game breaking performances. He was assisted by Matthew Woods, Jayden Wheelhouse and Sio Tatola. Holy Cross faced Blacktown in a do or die match which everyone wanted to prove we could win. The game was fast and intense with Holy Cross running away with the match 5 to 2.

The grand final against St Paul's Greystenes was tough however Holy Cross dominated winning 4 tries to 2.

This was a great end for a group of great kids. I was a very proud coach not only of their performance but also their attitude and behaviour was second to none.

Diving tries to Joshua Cameroux and Saxon Marketo put both games beyond doubt and Holy Cross College were champions again.

I must commend the whole team for 100% attendance rate with not one player missing a game throughout the tournament. Every single player played with all the Holy Cross spirit that is needed to win big games.

Once again well done on this achievement which would have to be a school record in any sport-winning two competitions back to back undefeated.

Mr Tim White

Coach



CANTEEN ROSTER 2008	
	Group 3 8 –12 Dec
M O N	Wendy Dobis Hepburn Cheung
T U E S	Rita Sciancalepore Stephen Fonti
W E D	Donna Chalmers Mary Cox
T H U R	Carol Jarvis Sally Frison Sharon Stephens
F R I	Keith Kerr Linda Miller

Canteen News

We will be losing some of our Senior Boys' Parents and will need to replace them.

A full day at canteen is 11am until 2pm.

With a free lunch!!

Please call Lorraine in the Canteen 9808-1033 ext 120.



Lorraine would like to wish all staff, parents and students a very Merry Christmas.

HCC SILVER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Silver Awards.

Student Name	Year
Jarrold Boyle	7
James Clark	7
Shane Flanagan	7
Andrew Jamons	7
Nicholas Monhem	7
Benjamin Vargas	7
Ashley Ward x 2	7
Christopher Chalon x 2	8
Gianluca D'Amico x 2	8
Matthew Saleh x 2	8
Anthony Sciancalepore	8
Luke Serra	8
Taniela Siale	8
Jake Sinclair	8
Aaron Varrica	8
Elias Vasilikas	8
Joey Zumbo	8

HCC BRONZE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Bronze Awards.

Student Name	Year
Mitchell Baldwin	7
Troy Davidson	7
Bradley Denlow	7
Shane Flanagan	7
Matthew Hezlett	7
Daniel Kasif	7
Mitchell Kenny	7
Nicholas Meredith x 2	7
Nathan Miller	7
Nicholas Monhem x 3	7
Lachlan Pinder	7
Christian Somers	7
Jason Stanton	7
Michael Stenta	7
Liam Story	7
Robert Tuhetoka	7
Benjamin Vargas x 3	7
Jonathon Yip	7
Liam Brundle	8
Christopher Chalon x 3	8
Gianluca D'Amico x 4	8
Dayne Horne	8
Joshua Khoury	8
Chrysostomos Maoudis	8
Arran Merlino	8
Michael Min	8
Luke Nuzzo	8
Emilio Pipio	8
Jeremy Pollicina	8
Matthew Saleh x 4	8
Anthony Sciancalepore x 5	8
Luke Serra x 3	8
Taniela Siale x 4	8
George Tsingolis x 2	8
Elias Vasilikas x 3	8
Patrick Colasuonno	9
Dylan Vassallo-Waters	9

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Monday, 8th December 2008 - 8.15am

(this will be the last day open in 2008)

Donations of uniforms especially Senior Blazers is greatly appreciated.

All money raised will be donated back to the school.

HCC UNIFORM SHOP Opening Times

Tuesdays: 8.00am—9.30am
Fridays: 8.00am—9.30am
Enquiries: 9449 9777
Email: andrew@cowanlewis.com.au
Fax: 9440 8931

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME:

St. Charles Borromeo Parish Ryde is offering a six week program entitled "CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME" commencing on the 4th February 2009. The program assists Catholics to return to the active practice of their faith. The emphasis in the sessions is about making them feel welcome, accepted and comfortable in rejoining the faith community and practising in its sacramental life. If you know someone who has left the church please invite them to join us. For more information call Phil 9808 4137 or Lynette 9808 5161.

CrossRoads Newsletters

are available for viewing on the school website:

www.holycrosscollege.org



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