

3rd February, 2010

*Holy Cross College,
Ryde*

Dear Parents of Year 7,

I would first like to introduce myself as Mr. George Kisrwani, the Year 7 Coordinator for 2010 at Holy Cross College. I am delighted to be undertaking this role due to my interest in student welfare and my past experience in the position of Year Coordinator. I hope to supervise and help facilitate, a successful transition into secondary school for your son.

Year 7 began their lessons in earnest and are settling in and orientating themselves with their new environment. It was excellent to see so many keen boys on the first Thursday morning, excited at the prospect of starting High School. This is a momentous occasion in their schooling careers and has begun in the best possible fashion.

The boys have processed an abundance of information and will understandably take some time settling into life at Holy Cross College. I have informed the boys of the procedures affecting them in Year 7 and their Homeroom teachers have attended to their needs in morning administration time. The boys have been made aware of the procedures for administration in the morning, late arrival to school, days absent, uniform and the College 'hands-off policy'. **Other specific details are located in their College diary which I would encourage you to read through and monitor.**

The College diary is a student's most valuable tool at Holy Cross College. It not only provides a location for recording homework but also acts as a communication device between parents and teachers. Please familiarise yourself with your son's diary. Parents are required to sign the diary each week before diaries are checked in extended administration classes on Monday morning. It is then that his Homeroom teacher will check and record his merits, demerits and any correspondence from home.

Our major focus as a school this year is the quality of our Catholic teaching and learning environment and Year 7 will be at the forefront of this whole-school approach. We are encouraging maximum effort from boys in their classes and a respect for the rights of others to learn and excel at their studies.

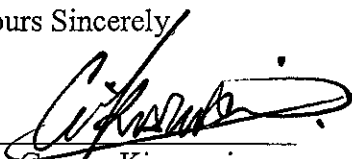
The boys are learning the major differences between Primary and High School and we will be incorporating some strategies in coming weeks to assist this transition. There will be a Year 7 Orientation Camp on the 10th to the 12th of February, (**Attendance is compulsory**), where we hope that the Year 7 students will interact with each other in order to 'break the ice' and begin mixing more as a year group. This camp also helps to build self-confidence through various challenge activities. The camp is an excellent opportunity for the boys to mix outside of the school environment and is remembered by all senior students as being one of the highlights of Year 7. Could I ask that all forms sent home regarding camp are promptly returned via your son's Homeroom teacher. This will allow me to forward any request for dietary needs to Outdoor Education Experience at Morriston and also to build up a medical register for your son's needs.

On Tuesday the 9th of February, the *College Parents and Friends* association will host a welcome night for all parents of Year 7. The College Principal, Assistant Principal, homeroom teachers and I will attend. This is a great opportunity to come to the College and meet some of your son's teachers as well as make contact with other parents in your son's year. Many members of the P and F will also be on hand to answer any questions or address any concerns which you may have. The evening will begin at 6.30pm in your son's Homeroom before moving onto the College Hall or the Year 7 Yard (weather permitting) for a general welcome where beer, wine and cheese will be provided.

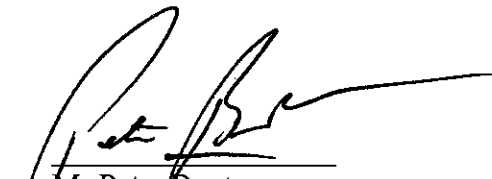
I would also like to take this opportunity to invite all parents to our weekly Wednesday morning Mass in the College Chapel starting at 8 a.m. and concluding at 8.30 a.m. which are hosted by different RE classes and are run by Father Paul Monkerud.

Lastly, I have included some other important dates in this letter which relate specifically to Year 7. Please feel free to contact me at any time in order to discuss concerns you may have about your son or his progress at the College. I look forward to a successful and positive partnership between home and school in order to facilitate a smooth transition into High School for your son.

Yours Sincerely



Mr. George Kisrwani
Year 7 Coordinator



Mr Peter Buxton
Assistant Principal

Important Dates

- February 9th P&F Parent Introduction and drinks
- February 10th-12th Year 7 Camp
- February 17th Ash Wednesday liturgy Period 1. 9 a.m to 10 a.m.
(All parents are welcome to attend)
- February 24th College Opening Mass (10am)
- March 20th College Works Day (Saturday)
- March 21st College Open Day (Sunday)
- April 9th Holy Thursday
- April 10th Good Friday