We have enjoyed a wonderful week within the College and it is a genuine joy to try and reflect some of that within the words of this newsletter.

Last Friday night, and indeed every Friday night a group of Year 12’s accompanied the Rosies Bus into the City to work with Melbourne’s poor, homeless and marginalised. The work of Rosies takes place at Flinders Street Station and is a presence of friendship and support on the street. The boys who have volunteered for this ministry do themselves, their families and the College proud.

One of the many reasons you chose to send your sons to this College was the variety of experiences that they had open to them. This week has seen the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation transform the gymnasium into a sacred space of healing. The Sacrament of Reconciliation celebrates that God’s love is stronger than our sins or mistakes. It is a truly wonderful celebration that can lift the weight of shame and guilt from the shoulders of the boys. All of the priests remarked how the boys were well prepared and really understood the great opportunity that they were presented with. A good idea suggested by Fr John Sherman O.M.I. was to encourage the boys to go once a term so that they were able to enjoy the Sacrament at a time of their own choosing.

The great respect that I have for the students of the College was enhanced by their willingness to enter fully into the beauty of the Sacrament. I am also very grateful to the Priests of the region as well as the Oblate Priests of Victoria who made themselves available for the celebration. Their generosity in very busy schedules, should never be underestimated. The Priests of this region are genuine men of integrity and service and on this occasion, we at the College, were the direct beneficiaries. On behalf of all at the College, I thank the Priests very much.

This week, and last, also saw the College compete in the ACC Athletics Carnival and a full report will be offered further in the Newsletter. Again the College was very proud of the efforts of the entire team under the direction of Mr David May and his team of coaches. The Captain of the Athletics’ Team was Jared Blatancic. Jared led the team with distinction. He should be proud of both his own efforts and that of the entire team. Every member of the team can take joy from their contribution. The Carnival was deservedly won by St Bernard’s College in Essendon and we finished in 3rd place. This result meant that Mazenod and St Bernard’s were the only two Colleges to finish in the Top 3 of both the Athletics and Swimming and is a testament to both sporting programmes. There are so many disciplines with the Athletics Carnival ranging from throwing, jumping and running. I thank each and every boy who trained and competed and hope that you have enjoyed the experience. I am very proud of the entire team and will be expressing that at our College Assembly personally.

Next week sees the Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews take place on Monday 4th April and Thursday 17th April. I encourage every family to take this opportunity for communication very seriously. These Interviews provide valuable feedback in the academic development of each of the boys. There may be some complimentary and also challenging comments during the evening, however, every comment made is ultimately for the student’s benefit. Please make contact as soon as possible if you have been unable to make an appointment.

May I also thank sincerely those families who have made a contribution to Mission Action Day already and encourage everyone to do so within the next few days. The money raised by the College forms the only major fundraising of the year and every year we have made a valuable contribution to those in need. I am very confident that the boys are getting ready for a great day of awareness and fun. Each family is asked to make a contribution of at least $40. The best case scenario would involve the boys themselves making a contribution along with their family and also asking any friends or relatives to also support the cause. The Oblate works in China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Kenya and Sri Lanka directly benefit from your generosity. Every cent reaches people in need and is not consumed by administration costs. I thank you most sincerely for your generosity in the past and ask for your assistance again this year.

Our call for volunteers to go to Bridgewater in the holidays has been met with great enthusiasm. During the course of the holidays the equivalent of 130 people will make a contribution to the Flood Recovery effort in Victoria. BlazeAid is the charity that we will work with and one with which we have a very close relationship. We will be staying at St Mary’s Inglewood (8 mins from Bridgewater) and we thank the generosity of that community very much. There is still a great need for volunteers in these parts of Victoria and if you get the chance check out their website at www.blazeaid.com.au to see about opportunities in the future to be involved.

As we head into the final week of Term, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the great work of the Staff. There have been many examples where they have given so much. Whether it be on the camps, in the classrooms or on the sporting fields, I have every confidence that our Staff give of themselves so generously. Thanks also to the parents and boys who continue to provide a positive example of all that is good about the College. It has indeed been a wonderful week.

Take Care and God Bless
Fr Michael Twigg O.M.I.
FULL PAYMENT OF BOOKINGS FOR MOTHER’S DAY DINNER ARE NOW DUE.

Please note: No tickets will be issued for this function

If you have any queries please contact:
Sandra 0418 177 283, sandracmancini@yahoo.com.au

Donations
Prizes for the Mother’s Day Annual Dinner raffle are needed. If you are able to donate a prize for the raffle which will be drawn on the night of the dinner, it will be greatly appreciated. Please leave it at the Front Office marked “Ladies Auxiliary Mother’s Day Raffle”. Your generosity will be acknowledged.

SUPPORT THE LADIES AUXILIARY – BUY YOUR 2011/12 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK – AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY 4TH APRIL

The 2011/2012 Entertainment Book will be available from School Reception from Monday 4th April. The cost is $65, heaps of savings to be made get in early and receive extra coupons. Remember use your entertainment book over school and Easter holidays.

Please find enclosed Entertainment book forms on this week’s Newsletter or hard copies are available from the Student Counter or Reception.

If you have any queries please contact Nancy 0418 553 191
nancy.mete@optusnet.com.au
Last year, Sean Hyatt of Year 12 was selected to represent Australia in the World Individual Public Speaking and Debating Championships. He leaves for Brisbane on Saturday, and will return to school to help run Mission Action Day.

Students from Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Pakistan, South Africa, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States will compete in the Championships.

Sean will be competing in a number of demanding sections. They are:

1. Debating – unprepared topic (9 minutes)
2. After Dinner Speaking – without palm cards (5-7 minutes)
3. Interpretive Reading (5-11 minutes)
4. Impromptu Speaking - his favourite! (3-5 minutes)

We are very proud of Sean’s achievements, and know that he will represent the College in the most positive light.

Study Skills Workshops for 2011

Year 7 and 8

Monday 2nd May in the Year 7 classrooms at 7.30pm.
Cost: $5 per family. All materials provided on the evening.

The emphasis for the Year 7 and 8 programme will be on organizational skills and establishing a routine. Students will be given resources and there will be the opportunity for parents to discuss with other families strategies that work for them.

Year 9 and 10

Monday 2nd May in the Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm.
Cost: $5 per family. All materials provided on the evening.

The Year 9 and 10 programme will also investigate organizational skills and effective learning practices but will also highlight the difference between doing homework and actually studying. Last year the format was changed from previous years and greater emphasis was placed on what motivates students. Students and parents will be made aware of different learning styles and will identify specific methods and techniques that will enable them to be better prepared for tests and exams.

Forms are available from the respective Year Level Coordinators or the Student Counter.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Married couples, make 2011 the year that you prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend this year. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but you don’t need to be Catholic to attend. The next weekends will be held on 8-10 April, 3-5 June and 19-21 August. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Check out the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au

CAREERS AND PATHWAYS

Deakin University Update:

DISCOVER DEAKIN SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Choosing a university is an important decision and one of the best ways to learn about a university is to visit a campus. Discover Deakin is a school holiday program offered at each of Deakin’s campuses, which provides students with the chance to get an up close look at what Deakin has to offer.

Discover Deakin will be held on the following days and more information will be available next term in the College newsletter.

Melbourne Campus at Burwood
- Tuesday 5 July, 11 am–1 pm
- Tuesday 27 September, 6 pm–8 pm.

Geelong Campus at Waurn Ponds
- Tuesday 5 July, 11 am–1 pm
- Tuesday 27 September, 11 am–1 pm.

Geelong Waterfront Campus
- Tuesday 5 July, 2 pm–4 pm
- Tuesday 27 September, 6 pm–8 pm.

Warrnambool Campus
- Tuesday 27 September, 11 am–1 pm.

CHANGES TO NURSING AND OCCUPATIONAL PREREQUISITES

Deakin Nursing graduates are highly sought-after by employers for their nursing knowledge, communication skills, professionalism, enthusiasm, problem-solving capabilities and ability to deliver safe, effective health care. To make this rewarding profession accessible to more students, Deakin has reviewed the prerequisites for 2012 entry into Nursing single and combined courses. These changes have also been extended to the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy. Students interested in these courses now require VCE units 3 and 4 – a study score of at least 30 in English (ESL) or 25 in any other English.

HONOURS@DEAKIN

Are you interested in learning what honours is about and what it means to consider a course which can lead onto honours?

In short, honours at Deakin:
- is a specialist year of study that occurs either as part of a degree or following an undergraduate degree
- offers the opportunity to pursue further study in a chosen field
- gives access to leading researchers and experts in the field
- offers great personal satisfaction
- enhances employment prospects.

The Deakin honours program seeks:
- high-achieving and motivated students
- those wishing to enhance their Bachelor’s degree
- students with a passion and desire to make a difference.

For more information about honours at Deakin, visit www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/honours

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE REMINDER

A reminder to all year 10 students that work experience paperwork should be returned to the Careers Office by the end of term 1, Thursday 7th April, (only 1 week to go!). All year 10 students were given new Work Experience Arrangement forms due to the recent change in legislation covering secondary students in the workplace. Please ensure that all arrangements are completed using the new forms. Forms are available on the COLLEGE INTRANET in LEARNING AREAS → CAREERS → WORK EXPERIENCE → FORMS. PLEASE NOTE: Work Experience Arrangement forms will only be accepted if they have original signatures by the employer, parents and students. No faxed or scanned forms can be accepted.

Vivian Seremetis – Careers Coordinator

CANTENE ROSTER

Mon 04 Apr Janina Skrzyniarz, Mary Sagayaraj – RECESS ONLY
Tue 05 Apr Sandra Bucouaz, Michelle McKeogh, Rebecca Shaw
Wed 06 Apr Bernadette Fogo, Maree Pizzirruso, Amelia Meerwald, Schaefer
Thu 07 Apr Sue Ellul, Udeshika Ranepura, Nila Fernando – RECESS ONLY
Fri 08 Apr MISSION ACTION DAY – End of Term 1
Unfortunately due to printing deadlines I am unable to go into great detail of our efforts yesterday at Olympic Park. It was certainly though, another successful day for the College as we finished 3rd overall. We congratulate St Bernard’s College on their win and Parade College on second placing.

We had many fine performances and personal bests on the day, and I will publish these next week when they are all confirmed by the ACC.

We had 2 winners on the day. Our Athletics captain Jared Blatanic finished first in the Senior 110 Hurdles event and Bevan Braganzon won the U/15 Triple Jump. We had many other top 3 finishes on the day and all boys who competed can be very proud of their efforts.

We thank Mr May and Mr Cunningham for driving the Athletics program so well, and the assistance they received from Mr Phibbs, Mr Bedwell and Mr Byrne. The College would also like to thank Mr Nick Whiteak and Mr Chris White for providing expert coaching advice to the students. We were also very lucky to have Old Boy’s Luke Greco, John-Paul Malietzis, Rob Mann and Aaron Holmes also assisted staff with coaching.

JUNIOR FIELD DAY - ACC

Last Thursday the ACC held the Junior Field Day and in very poor conditions our boys were able to perform extremely well. At the completion of the day we sit comfortably in 3rd position. We still had much work to do to keep up with Parade, but I am sure we will give it our best effort. The boys who competed were extremely committed and Kevin Phan from Year 8 was able to Triple Jump further than any other student in the U/13 competition. We also had 3rd finishes in the U/13 long jump and shot put and I will have a detailed report of all our results in next week’s Newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS

On behalf of the school community we extend our congratulations to 2 boys in Year 10 who have just been chosen in the Victorian Volleyball Team to travel to South Australia for the National Titles later in the Year. Stephen Bruce and Andrew Papalaskaris were both chosen from a big number of boys who tried out! It is always fantastic to see students reach State Selection. Both boys have been involved in the Volleyball program for 4 years and as a result of their dedication, have now both reached a standard good enough for state representation. Stephen and Andrew started off like so many other Year 7 boys and needed encouragement and support to continue their training and development. If not for their own dedication, preparation and commitment to the Volleyball program neither would have made it to the level they have just reached. We wish them every success!

RALLY DAY

A reminder to all our Year 7 student’s, that on Thursday 27th April a number of students will be invited to attend Rally Day. This is a whole day event run by the ACC, to give students another opportunity to represent their College. Mazenod College will be sending a Football, Soccer and Badminton team on the day. As has always been our policy, we usually select students that may not end up being selected in the final ACC Squads for the Term competition. Rally Day is a reward for their efforts in trying out and to encourage them to keep trying and develop those skills. No points are given on the day so much fun is had. Coaches will soon be handing out letters to those boys invited to attend on the day.

TERM 2 ACC SPORT

Term 2 Sport starts off first day back with Football games for the Seniors against St Bede’s at Mazenod and the 2nd against Salesian at Central Reserve. Our Year 8 Division 1 Soccer team plays the first official Soccer match on the new synthetic pitch against CBC St Kilda on the Thursday.

OLD COLLEGIAN FOOTBALL

PRACTICE MATCH VS Old Mentonians-SATURDAY 2nd April- U/19’S @10AM, RESERVES @ 12 NOON AND SENIORS @ 2PM - ALL WELCOME at Mentone Playing Fields, Springvale Rd, Braeside

All teams had a much tougher afternoon last week and were not able to win any of the games we played. All games were close and it was a great reminder of much work is still to be done. Great to see former Old Boy Josh Cowan playing well in the seniors and current School Captain Stephen Welsford among the best for the U/19’s along with Alex Jones.

STUDENT HELP: If any student at the college would like to get involved and help out with a number of roles from working the scoreboard, carrying water, running boundaries, taking stats etc they should also see Mr Connolly. We already have a number of students that fill a number of positions each Saturday but would love to see more current students come down and help and support each week.

SPONSORSHIP

The Old Boys Cricket Club and Football Club are all voluntarily run by Old Boys and are run for amateurs. (Players are NOT paid to play) The Football Club plays in the Victorian Amateur Football Association and its competition is strictly a non-alcoholic environment to support families.

Both clubs require a lot of time and money to keep them going and would be interested in hearing from anyone, or business that would like to become a sponsor of either club. Sponsorship packages of different varieties are available and most importantly it can give you access to a network of over 5000 plus people. If you are interested in getting involved please do not hesitate to ring me on 8561 1117 at the

The Sports Team

Mr May, Mr Montoya, Mr Connolly, Mr Bedwell & Mr Crabtree