



CHANEL COLLEGE

news

"To act justly, to love tenderly and walk humbly with your God"
Micah 6:8

2 December 2015
TERM 4 WEEK 9
ISSUE 48

From the Principal

Message of the Christmas Tree:
"Life is Evergreen"

Pope John Paul II in his Angelus message on 19 December 2004 stated

The traditional "Christmas tree" is a very ancient custom which exalts the value of life, as in winter the evergreen becomes a sign of undying life. In general, the tree is decorated and Christmas gifts are placed under it. The symbol is also eloquent from a typically Christian point of view: It reminds us of the "tree of life" (see Genesis 2:9), representation of Christ, God's supreme gift to humanity.

The message of the Christmas tree, therefore, is that life is "ever green" if one gives: not so much material things, but of oneself: in friendship and sincere affection, and fraternal help and forgiveness, in shared time and reciprocal listening.

We have had many Christmas trees around the College in the last few weeks. They have appeared in Pastoral Care classrooms, in the library and in the office. Once again, it has been heart-warming to see the generosity of our community in supporting the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Our theme for this year has been **Hearts to Love, Hands to Serve** and I think that St John Paul II's message of the Christmas tree captures what we as a community have tried to do in 2015.



It is hard to believe that the year is coming to an end. Our Year 10 and 11 students finished their final assessment last week and are now enjoying some well-deserved holidays! For those of us still at school it has been a busy week.

On Monday our Year 9 students enjoyed a Careers Day where they participated in a harbour cruise to learn about what the local industry has to offer and in the afternoon they visited CQ University to hear some guest speakers. Thanks to Ms Cale who coordinated the day.

On Tuesday we gathered for our Thanksgiving Mass in the Marian Centre. This was a wonderful opportunity for our Middle School Students to celebrate Mass. Thank you to Fr Kevin, Ms Dyer and Mrs Hore and their willing helpers and Mrs Sheather and our singers. We also had the opportunity to acknowledge the Year 9 Middle Leaders.

Today we welcomed the Year 6s who will be joining us next year at our New Student's Day. Thank you to Mrs Wales for coordinating the day and to the many staff who organised activities for the students.

School Resumes

School resumes on **Wednesday 27 January 2016**. Look for our mail out newsletter in mid January which will provide further details regarding the commencement of 2016. This newsletter will also contain the 2016 College Calendar to assist in planning your year.

I thank everyone for your support in what I believe has been a fantastic year for Chanel College. I wish all members of the Chanel Community a blessed Christmas, safe travels and a refreshing holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone in 2016 as we enter our Golden Jubilee Year.



God bless
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Good News

Kath Hore - Mission & RE Support Officer



Celebrating life at Chanel

Our Thanksgiving Mass was held on Tuesday morning. Year 7, 8 and 9 students, and staff, came together to celebrate and give thanks for the many achievements and contributions of our students. Focusing on our theme for this year 'Hearts to Love Hands to Serve' the Mass was a time to pause and reflect on what we have achieved and to give thanks to our Saviour for all the blessings we have received. At the end of the Mass Futuna and Marcellin 2016 Delegates made a presentation of hampers to St Vincent De Paul and this reminded us of others in our community, who have so little and helped us reflect on the true spirit of Christmas. Thank you for your generosity in supporting our many appeals throughout the year.

Stamps for Mary MacKillop International (Sisters of St Joseph) in Peru

From all your Christmas mail, please remember to save your used stamps and send them in to the College. The Sisters in Peru need our support to enable them to continue their work with disadvantaged and marginalised children. **Thank you to all who have donated so far.**

Second Hand Uniforms

A big "thank you" to all families who have donated uniforms to Mission this year. From the sale of second hand uniforms over \$2500 has been raised. The money will be passed on to the MacKillop International Foundation in Peru, Mercy Works in Papua New Guinea and East Timor and the Marist Sisters in Bangladesh to assist them in their work of caring for and educating disadvantaged children.

Please help re-stock the Second Hand Uniform Outlet.

Over the holidays, if you have uniforms your child no longer requires, would you please send them into Chanel at the beginning of the 2016 school year. All donations will be gratefully accepted..

Wisdom Words

"She will have a son, and you will call him Jesus - because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

Please Pray for ...

- People in our community who are unwell or recovering from illness.
- Civilians in Syria and other Middle Eastern countries as the political unrest continues to cause pain and suffering.
- Those members of our community who are leaving, that they go from Chanel continuing to live justly.
- A happy and joyful holiday for all students and staff and a safe return for the 2016 school year.
- Peace in the hearts of all people this Christmas.

Praise and Thanks for...

- Civilians and defence personnel working to rebuild lives and to bring peace, unity and justice in many parts of the world.
- All the opportunities we have had in 2015 to work, laugh, learn and play at Chanel.
- Jesus, the reason for the season.
- the gift of each other.

If you have any requests for either of the above prayers, please leave your request at the Office.



Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS



Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

It's a (Christmas) WRAP!

How will you close up the school year and set the scene to make next year your child's best year ever?

It's that time of year again! The school year is almost over. The Christmas holidays are just around the corner.

"Where did the last twelve months go?" That's the adult viewpoint. Kids think, "What took so long?" Different ages, different perspectives.

Kids generally want to plunge into holidays, leaving schoolwork, timetables and teachers behind. That's only natural.

But before they get too far into holiday mode, consider how you'll round out the year, and bring it to a close. If your child is finishing primary or secondary school then there will be a graduation ceremony that signals the end of one phase of their school lives.

The greater importance given to school graduation ceremonies over the last few decades is recognition of the human need to bring closure to one stage of life, and prepare for the next.

Kids of all ages benefit from parental recognition of their achievements and successes as it sets the stage for the coming school year.

Here are a few ideas to help you close off the old year to prepare for the year ahead:

1 Discuss the highlights and the lowlights of the year:

Ask kids to name their highlights, favourite times or most memorable moments of the year just gone. Use age appropriate language and questions that will open them up, rather than shut them down. At the year's end I would ask my school-aged kids to rate the year from 1 to 5, and to identify their best memory, their favourite subject and something new that they encountered. These questions worked for me, but each parent needs to find their own approach.

2 Celebrate improvement and success:

Identify one or two areas where they excelled, improved or overcame some challenges. Broaden the focus away from just academic performance and recognise achievement in social, sport or arts areas. It's important for kids who struggle academically to understand that you value success in a variety of areas.

3 Show appreciation:

Consider how they can show appreciation to teachers, coaches or other people who may have assisted them during the year. Not only is it good manners to show gratitude, but some kids need reminding that other people contribute to their achievements.

4 Look forward

It maybe beneficial to give your kids a chance to vent about some aspect of the year that they didn't like, found difficult or challenging. Try to limit this type of discussion so that it doesn't end in a whinge session and point them toward a better future next year.

5 Now relax

It's time for them to set the previous school year aside, put their feet up and chill out over the school break. Remember, if the previous year wasn't one of your child's best, the five to six week break gives him or her a chance to make a fresh start next year.

So it's a wrap! The slate has been wiped clean. Enjoy the break and see you next year!



Keep the great parenting ideas coming in during the holidays by joining the parentingideas.com.au Facebook community. Go to www.facebook.com/parentingideas.com.au and click the Like button.



2015 HOUSE CHALLENGE DAY



Sports News

Kylie Kickbusch
Sports Program Leader



Sporting Overview of 2015

Over the course of this year we have had **92** students represent Port Curtis in various Sports, along with **28** students who represented Capricornia, **5** students who represented QLD and **4** who have National honours in their respective Sports. That is a credit to the extraordinary amount of sporting talent and dedication among the student body.

2015 saw a new era in sport at the College with the inclusion of Year 7 into high school. It was a big learning curve for all and many changes had to be made to the Sports Program this year. We encountered a few bumps along the way, but learnt from these and ironed out many of them out during the year. The Year 7s provided extra enthusiasm and spirit to the carnivals and showcased their sporting talents in all 3 Inter-House

Our sporting season started in week 3 of the year with the Inter-house Swimming carnival. Lachlan Pacheco U14 Boys set a new record in the 50m Butterfly (29.70). The U12 swimmers raced to set the inaugural records for 12 Year olds for the Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to McAuley House on being crowned Champion House and to Futuna House for taking out the House Spirit award.

The Inter-house Cross Country Carnival this year was blessed with fine, sunny weather, in stark contrast to last year's wet track. McAuley House made it 2 carnivals in a row, winning the Cross Country and also the Spirit Award. Will Mathison set a new course record for the 13 Years Boys, running a very fast time. At the Interschool Cross Country Carnival, five students finished first in their age groups: Will Mathison, Declan Kenny, Rhiannon Baxter, Emily Nahrung and Jacobbe McBride to be awarded Age Champions. Chanel College took out the 'Overall Points Trophy' and 'Percentage Points Trophy', a long standing tradition at the College which demonstrates the students' willingness to participate for their school and be involved.

The Inter-house Athletics carnival is the last of the big 3 Interhouse competitions. It marks the final chance for students to represent their House in the College Sporting arena and is a fun and exciting way to end Term 2. Congratulations to Braiden Harrison (15 Year Boys) for taking out the Chanel gift for the 3rd straight year. Congratulations to Futuna House on being crowned Athletics House Champions – a great team effort by all students from Futuna. MacKillop House took home the Spirit Award for their costumes, participation, student helpers and cheering over the carnival. At the Port Curtis Athletics trials, Chanel College won the overall Champion school – this is the first time in 5 years that the College has won the carnival and again highlights the extraordinary sporting talent and teamwork we are so lucky to have at the College. Trey Keyworth was named Age Champion for 16 Years Boys.

Once again, Chanel teams have represented the College in all Interschool sports in 2015. They were competitive once again in the Town Volleyball and Netball competitions, travelled over to Perth to participate in the Marist Basketball Carnival, bused around the State to be part of the QISSN netball, Confraternity Rugby League and All Schools Touch Football competitions. We are very lucky here at Chanel to have so many sporting opportunities – though none of these would be possible without the tireless work of the HPE teachers and other staff who take on the role of team coaches/managers/convenors or coordinators. Thank you very much to all staff for giving up your valuable time to allow our students these opportunities and for your guidance and expertise in coaching the teams.

2016 will be another busy year for sport at Chanel and I encourage all students to be involved and enjoy the many fantastic sporting opportunities that will be on offer.

Career News

Merrin Cale
Careers Officer

Year 9 Careers Day



On Monday 30 November, students participated in the Year 9 Careers Day, held at CQU Marina Campus. Students began the day with a cruise of the Gladstone Harbour, where they learnt about the construction of the LNG plants on Curtis Island, as well as the Gladstone Ports Corporation wharves. Students enthusiastically engaged with our host, Mr Gary Scanlan, General Manager of GLNG who shared a great deal of information about the process of the LNG operations, including potential careers available.

After the cruise students had the opportunity to listen to various guest speakers from numerous industries in the Gladstone region. Students were able to ask questions of the invited guests about possible future career pathways, and did so with a variety of engaging questions.

I would like to thank Tammy Grady, of QMEA for arranging the LNG Cruise and Stephanie Cook, of CQU for arranging the guest speaker. A big thank you also goes to the CQU Student Ambassador Xela Pel, Rueben Smith, a former Chanel College student, Jodie Luce from GAGAL, Jye Dalton, Conservation and Land Management Trainee from Gladstone Regional Council, and Lissa Holgate from Gladstone Ports Corporation for their time and expertise.



Queensland
MINERALS & ENERGY
ACADEMY



Departing Staff

Sadly at this time of the year we have to say goodbye to some of our staff as they leave our community.

Mrs Irena Ingrey has been with us in the teaching areas of Science and Maths during Term 4 while Ms Ryan has been on long service leave. Her quiet, gentle nature and genuine concern for our students has been very much appreciated.

Ms Kerri Bates joined the Inclusive Curriculum Team at the beginning of this year. We thank her for the assistance and care that she has provided for our students and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Mrs Tania Wilhelm commenced with us in May 2012 as the Student Services Officer. Mrs Wilhelm is often the first face that students get to know when they start at the College as she is the person that can retrieve their lost timetable, direct them to the correct room when they are lost and assist them when they are not feeling well. She always carries out these duties professionally, but also in a calm and caring manner. We wish her all the best as her family relocates to the Gold Coast.

Mr Mark Robinson commenced with us at the beginning of this year. In his role as Health and Physical Education Curriculum Leader he has been committed to leading his team in implementing the new Physical Education Australian Curriculum. We wish him well as he relocates to Melbourne.

Mrs Hannah Goodwin commenced at Chanel as a teacher of Religion and History in 2011. She has been a small group leader at Student Retreats and has generously given her time on weekends to accompany students to ACTS Camps and Marist Forums. She has also contributed to the Staff Spirituality Team. We look forward to seeing Mrs Goodwin around the College in the future as a relief teacher.

Mrs Linda Rippingale has had a distinguished career here at Chanel since she commenced with us in 1987. During this time she has held many middle management roles including Learning Area Coordinator for Mathematics and PDE, Senior Schooling Coordinator and most recently Mathematics Curriculum Leader. In all of these roles she has worked with staff in a professional and caring manner. As a Mathematics teacher, she has shared her passion for Mathematics with our students and has encouraged, supported and challenged them to achieve to their potential. This year Mrs Rippingale was nominated for a Spirit of Catholic Education Award and I would like to quote directly from her nomination – “Mrs Rippingale clearly reflects the values and ethos of Chanel College in all that she does. She approaches her teaching and her relationships with staff, students and the wider school community with a lived example of all those values that underpin the academic, pastoral, cultural and sporting programs at our College”. Mrs Rippingale, thank you for your 29 years of outstanding service to Chanel and we wish you every blessing as you commence retirement and get to enjoy time with Ian and your family. We look forward to you helping out with relief teaching next year.

We sincerely thank these staff members for their dedicated service to the College and wish them every blessing for their future endeavours.

upcoming events

TERM 4

Week 9

Thur 3 December
Year 7-9 Picnic Day

Fri 4 December
Term 4 Concludes for
Years 7- 9 at 12.00 Noon

Happy Holidays

2016 - Term 1

Week 1

Mon 25 January
STUDENT FREE DAY

Tue 26 January
AUSTRALIA DAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Wed 27 January
TERM 1 COMMENCES

8.30 am - for Years 7, 12 &
New Students

10.30 am - for Years 8, 9, 10, 11
Whole School Assembly

Wed 28 January
Year 7 Parent & Student Info
Evening - 6.30 pm

Week 2

Thur 4 February
Opening Mass 9.15 am

Week 3

Mon 8 February
School Photos - All students to
wear formal uniform

Wed 10 February
* Year 10 Information Evening
6.00 pm
* Year 11 Information Evening
7.00 pm

Fri 12 February
Interhouse Swimming Carnival

