Reflection

Let the Renewing of Your Minds Transform You

We turn to God, seeking renewal to bear witness to the life of Christ. And so, let us begin.

From the Letter to Paul to the Romans (Chapter 12)
‘With your eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I appeal to you, my sisters and brothers, to worship in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by presenting yourselves as a living gift, dedicated and truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let the renewing of your minds transform you. This is the only way to discern for yourselves what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and mature.’

Have deep respect for one another, and let your love be tender and loyal. Give yourselves wholeheartedly to your work for God. Let your hope bring you joy, do not give up when trials come.

And keep on praying.

If any companions in the faith are in need, be sure that you share with them, and let the care of the stranger, the dispossessed, and the homeless, be your special concern. Bless those who persecute you: never curse them, bless them. Rejoice with those who rejoice and be sad with those in sorrow.

Treat everyone with equal kindness; never be condescending but make real friends with the poor.

Do not allow yourself to become self-satisfied. Never repay evil with evil but let everyone see that you are interested only in the highest ideals. Do all you can to live at peace with everyone. Resist evil and conquer it with good. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us reflect on three of the statements of Saint Paul.

- Bless those who persecute you.
- Give yourselves wholeheartedly to your work for God.
- Do not give up when trials come.

Imagine you have three minutes to speak to your local community. What would you say?

Each day we are given opportunity to live the New Life in Christ, to let the renewing of our minds transform us.

May we be given the grace to bear witness, in all that we do and say, to the new life that Jesus is giving us. Amen.
Dear Parents/Carer’s

With Father’s day coming up this Sunday, we have two events for everyone to remember:

**Father’s Day Stall – Tomorrow Thursday September 4th** – All children are invited to bring along some money to buy a small gift for dad, or the significant male in their life. The gifts range in price from $1:00 up to $8:00. Also do not forget to return your raffle tickets – drawn at assembly Friday 5th.

**Dads and Kids Night – Friday evening, September 5th – 6:00p.m. to 7:30p.m.** This is a night to which all children are invited to bring along their dad, grand-dad or other significant adult male, to enjoy a sausage sizzle and then some fun activities together. Let’s celebrate our dads together. Everyone will be home in time to watch the footy!

**Dads and Kids Night**
**Friday Sept 5th**
**6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m.**
**Free Entry**

For catering purposes, could you please complete the reply slip attached to newsletter. Thankyou.

**CULTURAL DINNER:**
What a fantastic evening we had. We were absolutely delighted with the number of families that attended and the food was amazing. Thank you to everyone for coming along and making the evening so enjoyable – we’ll have to put it on the calendar for 2015. Thank you to Silvana for the photos she took – please enjoy the ones that are included in this newsletter.

**FIRST COMMUNION:**
Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday and thank you to all the family members and staff who contributed to the preparation of the children or the actual ceremony. The children presented beautifully and I’m sure that the day was very meaningful for them and will be a wonderful memory for them in the future. Special thanks to Chris Hynes for all the work she did, as the children’s classroom teacher, in preparing the children.

**YEARS 2-6 INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**
Our year 2-6 children competed extremely well in the Spotswood District inter-school Athletics last week. The teachers were very proud of the behavior of the children and their positive attitude to the day. At least one teacher from another school commented to our staff about how beautifully behaved our children are.

Special congratulations to Mac Church (200m and 800m), Jessica Dunn (100) and Jack Heaney (Shot Put) who will all be going to compete at the next level – The Western Zone, on Wednesday Sept 17th.

**ANNUNCIATION IS 50 YEARS OLD IN 2015**
Annunciation was opened by the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1965 and so in 2015 we have the chance to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the school. There will be a meeting on Wednesday September 10th at 7:00p.m. to gather information and ideas about how we might celebrate this milestone next year.
WHO: Anyone with a connection to Annunciation (Past or Present)
WHEN: Wednesday September 10th at 7:00p.m.
WHERE: Annunciation School – Community Room

Come along with your thoughts, ideas, questions and suggestions. Please also tell others who have a connection to the school, as we need as many interested people at the meeting as we can get.

FOOTY FINALS DRESS UP DAY:
This Friday we invite all the children to wear the colors of their favorite footy team to school – no donation required. (Children always look stylish in ‘Black and White’!!!!)

NAPLAN REPORTS:
The NAPLAN reports for each of the year 3 and year 5 children that completed the testing this year, arrived at school yesterday and are being sent home with your child today. If anyone would like to discuss the report with your child’s class teacher, please make a time that is mutually convenient to do so.

WORKING BEE:
Thank you to the four parents who came along and helped at the Working Bee last Saturday. They worked very hard and completed a number of tasks to improve our school.

SCHOOL FEES
Friendly reminder Term 3 school fees are now due. Could you please bring your accounts up to date as soon as possible? If you wish to discuss any matters about school fees, could you please see either Barry or Connie. Thank you.

UNIFORMS
There have been quite a lot of problems this year with uniform items being misplaced, lost etc. Could you please make sure that you label each item of uniform with your child’s name. You must check on a regular basis that their name is still visible after a few washes. We have also had cases where an item has been labelled but unable to be found anywhere in the school. Could you please check to see if your child has brought home a windcheater/bomber jacket that is not theirs and return to school.

END OF TERM – PLEASE NOTE!
The children’s last day this term will be on Thursday September 18th. In the evening of that day we invite all families to come to a short dance concert, where each class will demonstrate a couple of the dances that they have learned as part of the Footsteps Dance program that they participate in, at school, each week. The concert will begin at 6:00p.m. and be all over before 7:00p.m.

On Friday September 19th, the staff will be at school participating in professional development around the improved use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
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Barry Ennis

**FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION:**
Congratulations to the winner of this year’s footy tipping competition at Annunciation.
1<sup>st</sup>: Nour Ollaik - 141 points
2<sup>nd</sup>: Barry Ennis/Ryan and Aiden – 139 points
3<sup>rd</sup>: Susan Rolfe – 135 points.

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS:**
Thankyou to all the families who helped with our recent chocolate drive. We raised a total of $1009.48, which is a fantastic effort by all.

**UNIFORM ORDER:**
Attached to the newsletter this week is a Summer Uniform Order. There has been a slight increase in prices for uniforms which have been passed on by the manufacturer. If you require
any item of uniform for summer please use this form. Remember payment must be attached to order and returned by due date.

Marian College Parent Education Program

Alcohol & Drug issues - Paul Dillon

Wednesday 8th October 7-8:30pm

Paul Dillon has been working in the area of drug education for the past 25 years. Through his own business Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia (DARTA) he has been contracted by many organisations to give regular updates on current trends. He has also worked with many school communities to ensure that they have access to good quality information and best practice drug education. He has also written a best-selling book for parents titled “Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs” released in 2009.

Many parents access information on drugs from inappropriate sources such as the media and as a result there is a great deal of mythology around drugs and their use. This presentation will attempt to give accurate, up-to-date information on current trends in drug use in Australia. The area of drugs is one in which many parents do not feel well-equipped to discuss with their teenagers, with a recent survey suggesting that over 50% of Australian parents have never discussed the topic of drugs with their children. This presentation aims to empower parents with some basic information about current trends in alcohol and other drugs as well as provide up-to-date research on best practice parenting in this area.

NO COST. Bookings essential: 9363 1711 - Marian College 196 Glengala Rd West Sunshine

Open Day I September 14

St Paul’s Campus
423 Blackshaws Rd Altona North
10.30am - 1.30pm

Notre Dame Campus
2-40 Foxwood Drive Pt Cook
11.00am - 2.00pm

SHOWING YOU OUR BEST

We are passionate about helping each student achieve their personal best in all aspects of life. Our dedicated and hard working teachers, Catholic tradition and well-equipped facilities ensure each student can achieve their best.

Come see how by visiting the College on September 14 at our Open Day. For more information contact us on www.ecwela.catholic.edu.au or call 8325 5100.

Pursuing personal best