Christmas Blessings

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of John XXIII College

It doesn’t seem possible this is the last Newsletter of the year but indeed it is, and the academic year has come to an end. It is time to say goodbye to some very valued members of the College Community with several staff moving, and some families and students relocating. We wish them well and thank them for their contribution to the life of the College.

Even though this was the last week of the term it remained busy and productive. Exams were held from Year 8-10, the year 10s were involved in a very engaging MICAH week program of activities and orientation for Year 11, the Year 9s presented their very polished performance of ‘Suessical the Musical’, the primary classes had a move up and transition day and the big move was underway to get all the primary classes back into their newly refurbished rooms. In the midst of all that activity the lightning strike took out most of our phones, internet and power boards. It was a memorable week!

Congratulations to Daniel Berini (Class 2010) and Will Groucutt (Class 2009) who have both been offered places in the WAAPA Musical Theatre course. Will was the lead in the 2009 John XXIII College production of The Wedding Singer, and Daniel was the lead in the 2010 production of All Shook Up. Congratulations also to Toni Strong and George Tsakisiris for their role in nurturing such outstanding talent.
Of particular note in this last week has been the Graduation of our Year 6 Primary Class of 2011. This fine group of young people have impressed us all this year in a variety of ways and we wish them well for their transition into secondary school. They have been wonderful leaders and we strongly encourage them to always be leaders in their school and other community groups.

Daniel Beech
Nicole Corless
Sean Donovan
Wesley Donovan
Matthew Dwyer
Elizabeth Evans
Grace Fletcher
David Harms
Sachio Ingrilli
Rebekah James
Isabella Kruk
Maximilian Leunig
Sophie Mazza
Evan McAuliffe
James McCormick
Emma McNeilly
Chet Morgan
Sacha Nelson
Lachlan O’Callaghan
Clare O’Connor
Benjamin Paluch
Athina Papali
Thomas Paparo
Harrison Paull
Eliza Reynolds
Jacqueline Rough
Harrison Sicard
Emma Steinepreis
Elise Urquhart
Erin Woodthorpe
Lachlan Benetti
Jessica Berrettieri
Jony Binet
Arabella Brown
Sam Collins
Callum Fitzgerald
Zachary Fryer
Matthew Harms
Laura Ho
Rebekka Jobson
Sophie Koios
Madison Korn
Ellen Lawless
Michael Liddelow
Broedy Macri
Gabrielle Maluga
Isabelle McMahon
Elija Meegan
Sian Munks
Roisin O’Connor
Campbell O’Rourke
Nathan Pearce
Courtney Preston
Finn Richards
Elisie Rowbottam
David Stokes
Rebecca Thornton
Sophie Van Vlemen

This week (Saturday evening to Tuesday) the College hosted the Ignatian Students Leader’s Conference. School leaders from the Jesuit and partner schools from around Australia participated in a series of activities and seminars to help them better understand the Ignatian “way of proceeding”. The students and their accompanying staff were mightily impressed with the hospitality they received from the College families who billeted them, the magnificence of our Campus, the friendliness of our Year 12 SRC (2012) and the dynamic program that was facilitated by our staff and outside guest presenters. My sincere thanks to Mrs Silvana Vicoli for co-ordinating the 4 days of activities and all the planning that made it possible!! There was wonderful support from Andrew Watson, Antoinette De Pinto, Fr Gaetan, Mrs Lumley, Mr Downie, Mrs Ellery, Mr Logan, Dr Pedersen, Miss Watson, Mr Graham. I am pretty sure our visitors went home very impressed with the Western flank of the Australian Jesuit province.

Congratulations to all involved in the organisation and presentation of the College Carols by Candlelight. Hopefully this tradition will grow into a very anticipated event on the College Calendar.

Let me conclude by offering my appreciation for all the personal support and encouragement offered to me throughout the year by the College community. I have particularly appreciated this during the last term when my mobility was a little challenged! My thanks to the wonderful Leadership Team of Andrew Watson, Antoinette De Pinto, Des Hardiman, Rob Novacsek and Sarah Hammond. They are great educators and leaders and they serve our College very well. My thanks also to the staff who give so generously and provide such wonderful opportunities for learning and growing.

Together let us seek justice.
Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Anne Fry—Principal

Christmas blessings
May the blessing of Christ, word made flesh, be with us
May Mary, courageous amidst the unknown, help us love
May Joseph, noble in time of challenge, show the right way
May shepherds, who know theirs, call and protect us
May Magi, wise guides who journey and celebrate, come and counsel
May angels from heaven sing in our heart and unite us from afar
May the Christmas story live, live in us!
Dear Parents

It is time to say thank you to all the children, parents and staff who have been involved in making John XXIII a fantastic school throughout 2011. I have enjoyed my role as Head of Primary and have appreciated all the wonderful support I have received from the school community. We have had a most productive year and can now look forward to a rewarding 2012. As we commence the holidays I wish all families a well-earned rest from the school routine. The staff and I look forward to the students return to school on Wednesday 1st February. May Christmas be a special time of hope, peace and love for you and your family.

Kind regards
Antoinette De Pinto
Head of Primary

Primary News

Congratulations to our graduating students for 2011. Last night the year 6 students celebrated their Graduation and Farewell Mass with and their families and friends. It was a lovely celebration, followed by supper. Special thanks to Miss Coniglio, Mr Casey, Mrs Purcell and Mrs Scott for all their hard work and a big thank you all the to the year 5 and 6 parent volunteers for their help behind the scenes and also on the night.

We have some staff changes for next year. We bid farewell to Miss Natalie Partridge, Miss Angela Tanham, Miss Chiara Triscari, Mrs Mary-Jane Rowbottam, Mrs Lisa Evans and Mrs Annette Harvey. We thank them for their commitment to the children and for their valuable and positive contribution to our school. We wish our colleagues every success with their future endeavours.

We welcome to our teaching team Miss Jodi Joyce (Year 1B) and Ms Lauren Nish (Year 4G) and we welcome back Mr Andrew Edwards to teach 4B. We have also gained the services of three new teacher assistants, namely Leanne Shaw, Mia O’Sullivan and Rosanna Kojundzich. All of these people are very excited to be joining us next year.

Reports will be posted home early next week. I trust you will enjoy reading your child’s report and celebrating with them their efforts and learning journey for the school year.

Enjoy the Holidays!

May you have
the gladness of Christmas
which is HOPE,
the spirit of Christmas
which is PEACE,
the heart of Christmas
which is LOVE.
Chaplain’s Comments

We have come to the end of another year so it is timely to offer thanks to God, for the gift of our entire College staff, students, parents and friends, who have all been faithful and generous to keep the light of wisdom and knowledge alive across the campus. Some of us during this year have shared experiences, struggles, insights, challenges and discoveries among ourselves, and with others, for the greater glory of God and have become more connected with ourselves, with others and with our God.

We are increasingly busy these days as we give thanks for cars, and planes, mobile phones, computers, iPads, iPhones and multi channel digital television etc etc. We seem to be much busier today than we were twenty years ago.

Sometimes, I find myself saying out loud: “STOP! What’s happening? What’s being said in the discussion? Why the rush? What is really important in all this?”

Where is Jesus in all this frantic activity? What is His gentle voice saying in the midst of all the noise? What is His voice in the midst of uncertainty? As it was 2000 years ago, Jesus will surprise us even today. He probably won’t be where we think He should be! Not in Jerusalem but in a messy Bethlehem in a manger/feed box rather than in the temple!

In the midst of these frantic final weeks before Christmas when so many other things can distract us from what this grace-filled feast is really all about, let’s take a moment to join Mary and Joseph, in accepting into our lives and hearts the greatest of all gifts – Jesus Christ the Lord. As we farewell the old and welcome the new, here are a few suggestions on living a spiritual life in the working world based on our founder Ignatius.

Overall, it requires carving out time for both prayer and solitude, finding God within you and around you, practicing a detachment from some corporate values, and remember the need for solidarity with God’s poor.

This will bring your best self to work in 2012.

There is an old Jesuit joke that says that the clearest sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in the Society of Jesus is that, despite all the craziness and confusion, we’re still here. Only God could do that!

That’s a humble way of looking at our successes in 2011 and it reminds us that we are ultimately dependant on God for our future. A Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Gaetan Pereira - College Chaplain

Holy Rosary Family Christmas Mass

To be held at Holy Rosary Church, Christmas Eve 5.30pm carolling and 6pm Mass. All young children and youth are welcomed to participate in the nativity play, readings and music (instrumentalist e.g. celloist, violins, guitarist, singers etc) for the mass. Please contact Sherita Rodrigo on 0433 255 695 for more details.
Year 11 2012 – Arrangements for first day, Wednesday February 1st

All Year 11 students for 2012 will begin school on Wednesday February 1st. Please arrive at school in full uniform, unpack your bag in your locker and then be seated in the Gonzaga Barry Lecture Theatre with a pen at 11.30am. The canteen will not be open on this day.

There will be presentations on study skills and time management, as well as introductions to the new Dean, Careers Counsellor and Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning). You will receive your timetable, diary and important information about the WACE. This is your first compulsory day of school for 2012.

Sarah Hammond – Deputy Principal (Pastoral Welfare)

Well done to Jordan Ayers (Year 7) for his generous volunteering spirit in assisting the Brightwater Care Group Oats Street rehabilitation program for young people living with a disability in this years dreamDAY.

Jordan developed a community activity using mars bars, oreo biscuits and tiny teddies and then assisted the community including people living with disabilities to make chocolate teddies in wheelchairs.
## Uniform Shop

Please check the Uniformshop page of the John XXIII website for days and times that we are open in the holidays. We are open on our usual days, starting on Wed Jan 11th but please note that we will not open on Friday January 27th.

If you are new to the school and need uniforms, you will find downloads on the website to help you make an appointment. An appointment is necessary in this case.

*Bev Sainsbury*

*Uniformshop Coordinator*

Phone 08 9383 0426  Email uniformshop@johnxxiii.edu.au

## Music Department

All hired instruments are to be left in the Osborne Room after the Carols Concert on Sunday 4 December unless other arrangements have been made.

All students who have hired instruments and are not performing in the Carols Concert are asked to return your instrument to the Music Department before Thursday 8 December. If instruments are not returned there will be an $80 hire fee charged and your instrument will not have been serviced for 2012, this will then become your responsibility to service the instrument.

### Withdrawals / Enrolments for 2012

If your child is currently enrolled in music lessons they will automatically be enrolled in 2012. Please forward a withdrawal form if they do not wish to take lessons in 2012.

If your child is in either Year 3 Strings Program or Year 5 Band Program and they wish to have lessons in 2012 they will need to complete an enrolment form for 2012.

Withdrawals from Music tuition **MUST** be registered at the **MUSIC OFFICE** before the end of **TERM 4**, with the appropriate **WITHDRAWAL FORM**.

New Enrolments for 2012 **MUST** also be received before the end of **TERM 4**, with the appropriate **ENROLMENT FORM**.

Both forms are available from College Web Site, College Reception and Music Department.
Taking Time To Reflect

Taking time to reflect on year is a very positive step to take with your children at the end of the school. It gives them a chance to enjoy their achievements and learn from the challenges. The following article from Michael Grose will provide you with a great outline for this conversation with your children.

Daniel Moylan
Primary School Counsellor

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. Those 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 may be 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!

Published by Michael Grose
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www.facebook.com/michaelgroseparenting

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Young Vinnies Christmas Appeal

THANK YOU!!

To every one who donated to this year’s Christmas Appeal a huge thank you!! We have had an outstanding result and many people will have a wonderful Christmas due to our generosity.

Here is a photo to show you how our small individual donations can make a huge difference.

THANK YOU.
I am delighted that two of our students, Simon Stobie and Daniel Hunt, have been awarded places in this inaugural program for gifted students. 36 students from schools across Western Australia have places in the course. Over the week students will explore philosophy, ethics, iconography, theology, history, law, Library treasures and art history. Working on this program for the past year with Angela McCarthy at Notre Dame has given me much pleasure and I cannot wait to see the students on 17 January as they arrive for their first session. All the staff at the University are enthusiastic and committed to making this an academic experience that will resonate through the students’ lives for years to come.

Media Club

This week we had a small meeting of the Media Club. Parents may be interested to know that the camera and computer equipment to support the Club will be available for use in the New Year. Students will be invited to apply use the resources for any creative project they are interested in.

Chess Club

In 2012 the refurbished Library courtyard will have a chess board set into the paving and the Chess Club will have a regular weekly competition.

Keep an eye on this space as new programs unfold in 2012. I wish everyone a joyful and peaceful Christmas and look forward to engaging with all our students again in 2012.

A small group of year 7 students I took on a Magis excursion yesterday
Year 11 (2011) Parents

Save this date for 2012

We will be having our start of year parent get together for 2012 the night of the year 12 dinner dance...
While we are all waiting to pick up the ball goers!

Set this date aside for our first Year 12 parent event of the year Saturday 4 February

More details will follow from your year 12 2012 Reps

Tracy McLaren
writer@midwest.com.au
0417 011 406

Ellen Morrissey
Ellen.Morrissey@det.wa.edu.au
0417 097 271
Brazilian Soccer Schools are coming to John XXIII College

Ever wondered why the Brazilians are so good at soccer? Why do the Brazilian’s seem to have so much fun when playing the game? Brazilian Soccer School’s-Perth is giving you the chance to find out.

John XXIII College is pleased to support the forthcoming Brazilian Soccer Schools Camp to be held at the College from the 16-19th January, 2012.

Brazilian Soccer Schools are a new and exciting way to develop your child’s self esteem in a fun and rewarding environment.

The camp will be run by experienced and qualified teachers and coaches who believe that the game of soccer should be played in a spirit of fun and mutual respect. Adopting the Brazilian philosophy of soccer, the progressive, curriculum based skills programme is designed to help young players to develop their talents and achieve their full potential. Places are limited to 36 so be sure to get your name down quickly.

Further details can be obtained from main administration or perth@brazilianssoccerschools.com.au
HUGE News from Physical Education Department…….

Over the last two years, our Year 8 cohort has enjoyed participating in trampolining sessions at Montgomery Hall with the professional staff from “Peak Trampoline” during their Physical Education Gymnastics unit. Recently, the World Championships for trampolining were conducted in the UK. Susan Watts, coordinator of the Peak Trampoline programme, was very excited to announce that “All 3 “Peak” Trampoline athletes made finals in their Age Divisions at World Championships AND Evie Kierath WON!!!!! She is current U19 Women’s WORLD CHAMPION!!!”.

This is fantastic news for all parties involved, the athletes of course, Peak Trampoline staff and John XXIII College. We congratulate all Peak athletes on their amazing achievements, especially our very own Evie Kierath.

The athletes will all be back in Perth this coming weekend and back at training on Monday, after some excited celebrations I’m sure. I have included the contact details for Peak Trampoline below and encourage youngsters to enrol in this exciting and worthwhile activity.

Darren Kowal
Health & Physical Education - Learning Area Coordinator

Montgomery Hall, Heritage Lane
Mount Claremont WA 6010
P.O. Box 2301 Marmion 6020
Tel. 0417955319
http://www.peaktrampoline.com.au
Email: admin@peaktrampoline.com.au

Claremont Nedlands Cricket Club (CNCC)
Emerging Tigers Program

A Specialist High Performance Cricket Program For Year 8,9 and 10 Students at John XXIII

Our program will sit for just one more session being the 12th of December from 5pm-6.30 at Creswell Park (bottom of Mitford Street, Swanbourne).

So if you are around, we’d love you to come down and enjoy the specialist cricket program we have running just for year 8, 9 and 10 kids of JTC.

The boys who have participated so far have thoroughly enjoyed themselves and improved their skills already.

We will break over the festive period and recommence January 16th same time etc for those of you who are around.

There have been plenty of cricket camps promoted by the club – so if you are scratching around for something to do – sign up and get even more cricket.

If I don’t see you, enjoy the break with your family.

If you would like to be part of this program or have any questions please call Karl Hombergen on 0432373305.
ALUMNI

Reunions

St Louis Class 1961 50 Year Reunion

Tony Gardner and Brian McCann worked over the past year to gather classmates from 1958, 1959 & 1961 to celebrate 50 years since leaving St Louis. It was an amazing turnout with 100% of all class members (apart from those deceased) attending, including Alumni from around the world. It was a night of tales, sharing photos from school and filling in the gaps with work and family stories. The reunion was held in the Circle of Friends Cafe on campus. Most had not seen each other for 50 years and some, 52 years (leaving Junior). They were all amazed at the size of the College, the co curricular activities offered to our current students and the beautiful surrounds. Many promises were made about keeping in contact with one another and the hope of another reunion in the not too distant future.

The Alumni year will finish with 10, 20 and 30 year reunions scheduled for this Saturday night. It has been a very busy year again with increases in Alumni membership, hundreds of changes to the College database and Alumni online database (now with a membership of over 4,200), Alumni competitions, guest speakers, visits to Alumni homes, connecting people through reunions for Loreto, St Louis (40 & 50 years) and John XXIII College (including 1st year reunion); College Cup Sailing Regatta, Loreto Federation Steering Committee for the Conference in May 2012 (open to the entire Loreto/St Louis/John XXIII College communities), touring Alumni through the College and supporting various fund raising causes through Alumni e.g. Lung Distance Runners, Cystic Fibrosis Research, Breast Cancer Research; hosting a Vigil Mass for young Alumni and attending funerals for those who have died during 2011. May they rest in peace.

The Alumni Development Office has received memorabilia including pieces of the previous uniforms, hats, blazers, woven crests, photos and books written by and about Alumni. 2011 Year 12 have been welcomed into the Alumni family and have been presented Certificates and crested cygnet rings. Umbrella’s were also sold in the Uniform shop. There have been articles published in Community newspapers and industry magazines further exposing Alumni and the work done in the Development Office and the traditional Ron Logan AFL Cup was played against the current 1st XVIII team.

Alumni Champions

Daniel Berini (Class 2010) and Will Groucutt (Class 2009) both got into WAAPA, the musical theatre course. That is an incredible achievement considering how many audition from across the nation. So they follow Oscar Harris (theatre) (Class 2009) who will be in second year next year and Holly Meegan (musical theatre) (Class 2005) who has just graduated.

Thanks to George Tsakisiris (Drama Dept) who always keeps his finger on the pulse and advises the Alumni Development Office of all movements within the Alumni Drama Community.

Continued overleaf
28th Loreto Federation Conference 4th – 6th May 2012

Striding Out In Freedom and Love

This Conference is available for all members and friends of the Loreto Family and we look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event in Perth. The steering committee has been working on the program to provide a comprehensive and stimulating 3 days. Venues include Loreto Nedlands, John XXIII College Mt Claremont, Notre Dame University Fremantle and Sunday lunch in a beautiful private garden on the Swan River. There is also a ferry trip from Perth to Fremantle, for the Notre Dame Sunday meeting. Visits to the recently restored St Mary’s Cathedral Perth Cathedral and the Perth Mint are on the agenda.

Our speakers will be inspirational and challenging. There will be the opportunity for reflection and discussion with the aim of stimulating ongoing thought and action. For further information visit the link below:

Please click on this link [http://www.johnxxiii.edu.au/onlinebooking/Pages/28thConferenceofLoretoFederation.aspx](http://www.johnxxiii.edu.au/onlinebooking/Pages/28thConferenceofLoretoFederation.aspx) to secure your bookings. For further information contact - Mary Nicholls, Federation President on marynicholls11@gmail.com or John XXIII College Alumni Officer Anna Gingell gingell.anna@johnxxxiii.edu.au

Mrs Anna Gingell nee Muir (Class 1978) ADAPEM, Alumni Development Officer - Telephone: 9383 0520 - gingell.anna@johnxxxiii.edu.au

Christmas Message

Thank you for your support over the year in particular to Des Hardiman, Ric Del Pizzo, Wayne Burke, Bernadette Canny, Sr Tess Elliott (Archives), Sarah Hammond (Careers), Mindy Toleman (Circle of Friends Cafe) and Rod Downie and the Voc Ed Students, George Tsakisiris (Drama), Dom White (Photos) the SRC 2011 in particular Head Girl, Alexandra Bollig and Head Boy, Andrew Pham and very importantly the amazing Administration team who work tirelessly and seem to fit in my requests for assistance at the drop of a hat; and to all the Alumni who have crossed the Development office threshold and been available to play games, do public speaking, organise reunions, mentor or update personal details to stay in touch. My office is situated in the main administration building and you are always welcome to view my photo board of Alumni across the world.

Happy Christmas and please stay safe.

"What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace." ~ Agnes M. Pharo

"And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?" ~ Dr. Seuss

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