



Villa Maria College NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 1 – 4 FEBRUARY 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the 2010 school year! I hope that you have been blessed with a happy and holy Christmas and that the year has begun well.

It has been a great start to the year – lots of smiling, happy girls have returned from holidays and their only cause for complaint seems to have been the weather! They enjoy celebrating last year's academic success and are enthusiastically setting goals for this year.

Our College leaders are already seeking to implement new ideas to encourage participation, respect for each other and the environment, support of all the College activities and, most of all, pride in being a Villa girl! It promises to be a great year!

In your daughter's Student Planner you will see most of the significant dates for the year:

- ❖ we welcomed the new students and staff at our Mihimihi on Monday
- ❖ next Monday we have the inter-House sports day
- ❖ House Warmings begin on Tuesday 9th (Mercy/Claver) and Wednesday 10th (Grace/McAuley) and finish on Monday 15th February (Ennis/Brodie).
- ❖ and the following Friday (February 12) the Opening Mass for the year at which our College and House leaders receive their badges.

While we enjoy our life of peace and plenty in Aotearoa, we remember in prayer and in practical ways the communities overseas who are coping with natural disasters. We are seeking ways to provide assistance from our Villa family. We are also conscious of families who are grieving the loss of loved ones and other families who are coping with serious illness. We pray that God will bless them with strength and peace.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Please take extreme care when dropping off or picking up girls. The entrances to the College are very congested at the beginning and end of the school day. When you drop off your daughter, please park a little further away and she can walk from there. Please do not come up the drive to drop her off - the only exception being if your daughter is unable to walk the distance (rather than unwilling). Please think of the safety of your daughter and all of our Villa Maria students.

PARKING FOR PARENT EVENINGS

When you come to the College for evening events, like the upcoming House meetings beginning next week, please park in the car park off Brodie Street, next to the Gymnasium. This will save congestion at the front of the College, as only those unfamiliar with the College will be using the limited parking there.

Over 100 million people mobilized under the slogan "Stand Up - Take Action" at events in more than 100 countries around the globe between 17 and 19 October to demand that world leaders do not use the financial crisis as an excuse for breaking the promises they made in 2000 to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Villa Maria College students organised a giant banner signed by over 600 students during their lunch hour.

"We must be vigilant in the service of the children under our care, having a watchful eye over them, that we may form their hearts and minds to piety and infuse into them a desire of pleasing God in all actions."

Catherine McAuley

COLLEGE LEADERS 2010

We welcome our College Leaders this year:

Head Girl – **Rachel McCann**
Deputy Head Girl – **Haley Mercer**
Cultural Captain – **Cecelia McCormack**
Service Captain – **Jessica Pullar**
Sports Captain – **Katie Rasmussen**
Head Librarian – **Natasha Langan**
International Captain – **Sarunthorn Akkavutwanich**

Brodie House:

House Captain – **Siobhan Fauth**
Deputy House Captain – **Isabelle McCammon**
Cultural Captain – **Catriona Thow**
Service Captain – **Bianca Quimbo**
Sports Captain – **Bridie Frost-Kidd**
Executive – **Kate Bakkum**

Claver House:

House Captain – **Brylea Smith**
Deputy House Captain – **Alexia Foster-Bohm**
Cultural Captain – **Kim Moodie**
Service Captain – **Olivia Steel**
Sports Captain – **Natasha Alexander**
Executive – **Georgia Millar**

Grace House:

House Captain – **Mackenzie Kane**
Deputy House Captain – **Makaela Hellmann**
Cultural Captain – **Kelsey Trotter**
Service Captain – **Michelle Doherty**
Sports Captain – **Claire Shingleton**
Executive – **Adelle Anderson**

Ennis House:

House Captain – **Amy Pfeifer**
Deputy House Captain – **Harriet Meates**
Cultural Captain – **Tess O'Rourke**
Service Captain – **Ella Lynch**
Sports Captain – **Grace Prendergast**
Executive – **Olivia Wieblitz**

McAuley House:

House Captain – **Gemma Hogan**
Deputy House Captain – **Xanthe O'Carroll**
Cultural Captain – **Sally Murphy**
Service Captain – **Judith Nonis**
Sports Captain – **Anne Hibberd**
Executive – **Aimee O'Connor**

Mercy House:

House Captain – **Poppy Donaldson**
Deputy House Captain – **Kelly Anderson**
Cultural Captain – **Abigail Pelenato**
Service Captain – **Bethany Entwistle**
Sports Captain – **Shannon Wanao**
Executive – **Rebecca Ryan**

"Treasure a life of giving." Sr Moyra Dunn rsm died peacefully last Sunday - may this dynamic woman be at peace. Join us to watch her final video this week on www.catholictv.net. Great for sharing with a friend.

HEADS OF HOUSE 2010

Brodie	Ms F Heenan	fhe@villa.school.nz
Claver	Ms S Dwan	sdw@villa.school.nz
Ennis	Ms T Tims	tti@villa.school.nz
Grace	Matua Tana	tco@villa.school.nz
McAuley	Mrs D Willetts	dwi@villa.school.nz
Mercy	Ms A James	aja@villa.school.nz



SPORTS NEWS

NZSS Athletics Championships – We congratulate **Nicki McFadzien** (Year 13 in 2009) who came 3rd in the Senior Girls' 3000m in Timaru last December. We look forward to reading about all Nicki's future achievements.

Equestrian – **Hayley Morris** (Year 11) competed recently at the South Island Pony Club Show-Jumping Championships. She was placed 1st individually in two events and 2nd in one, and her team was placed 2nd overall. Hayley was also the top placed Intermediate at the event – a fantastic effort!

Bottle Lake Forest Orienteering Day - Sunday 21st February 2010, Start times from 10 am-12 noon, finishing 2 pm at Bottle Lake Forest Park, Waitikiri Drive (by information centre). All ages welcome! Whether you are a novice or expert at orienteering on foot or mountain bike, come and have-a-go. Skills and support provided by Peninsula and Plains Orienteering Club and Canterbury Mountain Bike Club. Enjoy further activities at the start/finish area including bouncy castle, face painting, free sausage sizzle, along with spot prizes!



We are taking enrolments for Term 1, 2010. We have recreation classes in Artistic Gymnastics, Trampoline and Rhythmic Gymnastics for children of all ages. For further information call 344 6060, website www.olympia.org.nz or email marketing@olympia.org.nz – cnr Springs Road & Corsair Drive, Wigram.

All 12 Christchurch Colleges involved in **rowing** get together each year for **Oarsome O'Fare** - a wonderful gala cocktail evening and silent auction, held in the showrooms of McKenzie & Willis. The Villa Maria College Rowing Club sees this event as their major fundraiser - all money from the sale of our tickets comes to our club. We ask local businesses to support us by donating goods and services for the silent auction. In the past we have been very fortunate to have had goods donated directly from people within the wider Villa community. We invite Villa families and friends to consider helping us - if you would like to donate an auction item or purchase a ticket (\$20) to this event which will be held **Friday 19 February** 2010, please contact Cathy Shingleton on 3426 026 or email icshingleton@gmail.com.

A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY COUNSELLING SERVICES

- BARNARDOS:** Phone 0800 188038
- CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Phone 379 0012
- CHRISTCHURCH METHODIST MISSION:** Phone 366 8839
- FAMILY WORKS:** Phone 363 8214
- RELATIONSHIP SERVICES:** Phone 366 8804
- THE SALVATION ARMY:** Phone 366 8128
- TOUGHLOVE:** Phone 337 9452
- PARENTING THROUGH SEPARATION:** Phone 366 8804
- WAIPUNA TRUST:** Phone 386 2159

If you would like additional information regarding any of the above Community Counselling Services information booklets are readily available at the Student Centre, Villa Maria College or please contact me, 348 4165 extension 837.

Virginia M Hillgrove, Guidance Counsellor

Tell of your achievements! We like to profile the accomplishments of our students, staff and graduates - in Academic pursuits, Music, Singing, Performing Arts, Art, Sports, Scholarships, Exchanges and Career Achievements. If you are the recipient of a notable award, experience or achievement, or know of another Villa student or graduate who has been, please contact us and let us know! villa@villa.school.nz

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF GIRLS NEW TO VILLA

Are you able to help Mrs Jane Turner in our Canteen for 4 hours once a term? Its lots of fun! You will be helping to prepare the food – sandwiches, rolls, etc, serving the girls at morning break and lunch time and cleaning up afterwards. Time is 9 am to 12.30 pm. We need lots of new helpers please to take the place of parents whose daughters left last year. Please email the Student Office: pja@villa.school.nz or phone 348 4165 extn 0 to leave your name, phone number and week days available.

CON BRIO UNIFORM COMPETITION

We have now received some fantastic design ideas for Con Brio's new uniform, but we are still looking for a few more before we commence judging. In light of this, we have extended the deadline date to Friday 12 February 2010 at 9.00 am. If you are keen to take part, please see Miss Bennewith for a design template that will help you with your idea. Please bring your completed design to the Main Office by the deadline date and time. Good luck!

UNIFORM SHOP

A special welcome to all our new students. I must say you all look wonderful in your fresh new uniforms! The Uniform Shop is open every Monday from 12.30 to 5.00 pm. However, if you need to reach me at any other time, please send me an email to be@villa.school.nz. Alternatively, you can leave a message on my answerphone at extension 855, as I am in school at other times during the week to check for messages.

Lisa Bennett, Shop Manager

TERM DATES 2010

- Term 1:** Friday 29 January – Thursday 1 April
- Term 2:** Monday 19 April – Friday 2 July
- Term 3:** Monday 19 July – Friday 24 September
- Term 4:** Monday 11 October – Friday 10 December

St Valentine's Day Liturgy

When: 14th February **Where:** The Cathedral, Barbadoes Street
Time: 2.00 pm **Theme:** Celebrating and reflecting on the gift of love for one another in marriage. All welcome. Light refreshments follow.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Catholics Returning Home - a four week programme for non-practising Catholics interested in renewing their life in the Church starts soon. It will run 1 –28 March, 2010, 7:30pm at the following locations:

- Mondays at Christ the King, Burnside
- Tuesdays at St Peter's, Beckenham
- Wednesdays at St Matthew's, Bryndwr AND St Patrick's, Kaiapoi
- Thursdays at St Paul's, Dallington.

Please feel very welcome to attend, or you may know of someone you could support with this programme. For details phone 0508 HOME NOW (0508 466 366) or visit www.catholicshomenow.co.nz

LOST PROPERTY

Please check out the trestle table outside the Student Office. There are sleeping bags left from Yr 10 Camp last year and many pairs of sports shoes.

LOCKERS: We recommend your daughter keep a spare locker key in a named envelope at the Student Office.

COMING EVENTS

- Monday 8 February:** VMC House Sports – Day 0
- Tuesday 9 February:** House Warmings, Mercy and Claver 7 pm Auditorium
- Wednesday 10 February:** Postponement House Sports, House Warmings, Grace and McAuley 7pm Auditorium, Super Touch begins
- Thursday 11 February:** Yr 7/8 Surf Day
- Friday 12 February:** Opening Mass 9 am Hall
- Monday 15 February:** House Warmings Ennis and Brodie 7 pm Auditorium, Volleyball begins
- Tuesday 16 February:** Shrove Tuesday, VMC Swimming Sports at QEII – Day 0
- Wednesday 17 February:** Ash Wednesday, Wednesday sport begins
- Thursday 18 February:** VMC Champs Athletics 4-5.30 pm
- Monday 22 February:** High Achievers' Assembly
- Tuesday 23 February:** Claver Breakfast, CSS Swim Champs

Yours sincerely

Mary Lynch
Principal