



Villa Maria College NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 4 – 25 FEBRUARY 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers

On Monday 22 February, we had a splendid ceremony celebrating academic excellence. It seems that each year your students strive for and achieve at higher levels. Three Level 1 students Achieved with Excellence in over 100 credits. We had the pleasure of presenting a significant number of Gold Awards. We also had the pleasure of presenting an increased number of silver awards at Levels 1 and 2. We look forward to even better results at the end of 2010.

I read the reminder about locker security, and this morning I visited Brodie 5 Vertical Group to check that they were, in fact, the first Group to meet their personal responsibility to have each uniform item named. Both of these events prompt me to address the issue of honesty. I would dearly love the Special Character of Villa Maria College to include the clear respect for the property of others. I believe it is possible to have a school community where you can be sure your property will not be taken or interfered with.

This is, in fact, the responsible behaviour of 99% of our students. Unfortunately, for whatever reason, there are 2-3 individuals who take advantage of the trusting nature of others. The Special Character of the College, therefore, requires that we each take responsibility for the protection of our own property. And more importantly, we take responsibility for not putting the temptation to steal in front of those 2-3 students. Parents, we ask that every item of clothing and equipment taken to school is clearly named. We ask that your daughter takes any significant sums of money to the Student Office as soon as she arrives at school. The money may be to pay accounts, to buy school items, to load print accounts, or simply to be taken care of to the end of the school day.

We have a wonderful school community – we have much to celebrate!

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Although development assistance rose to record levels in 2008, donors are falling short by \$35 billion per year on the 2005 pledge on annual aid flows made by the Group of Eight in Gleneagles, and by \$20 billion a year on aid to Africa, according to the 2009 Report of the MDG Gap Task Force.

*“If we look more to our suffering Lord,
our trials would seem light
and consolation would soon come to our hearts.”*

Catherine McAuley

Congratulations to Olivia Gill, Year 11, who has been chosen to be part of the Choir in the production of “*Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat*” to be performed by *Showbiz* in April.

**REAL ART
ROADSHOW**



NEW ZEALAND'S BIGGEST ART MOVEMENT IS COMING TO VILLA MARIA COLLEGE!!!

It's massive, it's mobile and it's making its way to our College. **The Real Art Roadshow** is New Zealand's largest travelling art exhibition, not to mention the country's most unusual art gallery. The exhibition is housed in two huge trucks - one black, one silver - that literally unfold to form a couple of 64 square metre display pavilions. One of these trucks, come mobile art galleries, is visiting our school, which gives us the rare (or should we say RAR!) opportunity to get up close and eyeball over 60 pieces of original art by a cross-section of New Zealand artists, both famous and emerging.

The selection of artists on display dovetails neatly into the current art curriculum and the exhibition comes with a collection of learning resources, including essays about the artworks, DVD interviews with the artists, sketchpads for all art students who visit, questionnaires and worksheets. **The Real Art Roadshow** is our chance to see the real thing; to experience the true scale, texture and colour of original artworks – and not just rely on textbook illustrations and web site representations for our inspiration and education.

Best of all, it's FREE, so get moving and check out the latest art movement! To find out more go to www.realartroadshow.co.nz
Parents and families are also welcome to come along – Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 March – during school hours.

LOCKER SECURITY

Many students are bringing expensive items to school [including sports uniforms/blazers etc] and are leaving them in their lockers. There is also an expectation that all cell phones are left in lockers, so as not to interfere with the teaching and learning during the day. To this end, all lockers must have an appropriate lock on them by Monday 1 March. Students are encouraged to leave a spare locker key at the Student Office. Please assist us in keeping your daughter's possessions safe and secure.

UNIFORM SHOP

We are still fitting girls for winter uniform – please come to the Uniform Shop during shop hours as soon as possible please. To cope with extra demand, shop hours will be Mondays 12.30 to 5 pm AND Fridays 12.30 to 4 pm until further notice.

Lisa Bennett, lbe@villa.school.nz

FROM THE PTA

**The PTA AGM is on Tuesday 9 March
in the College Library at 7.30 pm.
Supper to follow.
All welcome!**



SPORTS NEWS

Athletic Sports – it was unfortunate that we had to postpone our Athletic Sports last Thursday due to the weather. These are now being held at Papanui High School on Thursday 4 March, with Triple Jump and Javelin commencing at 4.30 pm and all other events at 5.00 pm.

Good luck to our **Rowing Squad**, who are competing in the Canterbury Secondary Schools' Rowing Championships this weekend at Lake Hood and to our **Senior A Volleyball Team**, who are competing in the South Island Secondary Schools' Championships at Cowles and Pioneer Stadiums.

We wish **Emma Hodgson** (Year 10) good luck as she heads off to represent Taylor's Mistake Surf Life Saving Club at the New Zealand Under 14 Ocean Athlete Championships in Mt Maunganui. She also gained two bronze medals at the South Island Championships recently. Well done, Emma!

We wish **Olivia Wieblitz** (Year 13) and **Victoria Steel** (Year 11) good luck as they represent Canterbury at the Cycling Track Nationals in Invercargill next week, and to **Caitlin Rennell** (Year 10) and **Rachel Craythorne** (Year 13) as they compete at QEII in the National Age Group Swimming Champs.

Year 10 Netball trials:

1st trial Sunday 28 February 12 - 2 pm

2nd trial Tuesday 2 March 7.30 - 9 pm (please note time change – not 6.30 pm start)

Netball Raffle Tickets: All those who took raffle tickets away to on-sell, please hand cards back to the Student Office by Friday, 5 March, so that they can be entered in the draw.

Variety Gold Heart Scholarship: a maximum of \$5000 given to a disadvantaged student needing funds to further their "passion and commitment to a long term life goal or career aspiration." Due 31 March. Please ring Mrs Warren x 861 or email hwa@villa.school.nz for an application form.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION

During the House meetings this week and last week, Mrs Moore, Director of Religious Studies, discussed the sexuality programme with parents and students present. A brochure outlining the programme at different year levels was distributed. If there are any parents who could not come to the meetings, they are free to send their daughters to pick up a brochure at the Student Office. Mrs Moore can be contacted by email: rom@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.

The Suscipe of Catherine McAuley

*My God, I am yours for time and eternity.
Teach me to cast myself entirely into the arms of your
loving providence with the most lively, unlimited
confidence in your compassionate, tender pity.
Grant me, O most merciful Redeemer, that whatever
you ordain or permit may be acceptable to me.
Take from my heart all painful anxiety;
Suffer nothing to sadden me but sin;
nothing to delight me but the hope of coming to the
possession of you, my God and my all,
in your everlasting kingdom.
Amen.*

EMERGENCY SERVICES OPEN DAY

*Gold coin donation supporting
Neighbourhood Support and Victim Support*

**Christchurch Central Police Station
Saturday 27 February 2010**

**Hereford Street, 12 noon-6.00 pm
Bring the children and the camera!**

- The Armed Offenders Squad
 - Mock Car Crash
- Scene of Crime Officers
 - Visit the Cells
 - Search and Rescue
- Police Dogs and their Handlers
 - Mass Casualty Tent
 - Fire Recruiting Test

***Meet some of the many different people that make up
Canterbury Emergency Services***

STAR COURSES

**Free 2-5 day STAR courses for Years 12 and 13
students. See Mrs Marquet in the Careers Centre.**

CANTEEN

Our grateful thanks to the parents helping in the Canteen next week: *Vicki Tinkler, Jennifer Ward, Sally King, Jackie McCarthy, Jan Price.*

*"Understanding Chinese new year," this week on
www.catholictv.net, great for putting a tiger in your tank.*

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES SCHOOL FAIR

**7 MARCH 11AM-2PM
See you there!**

The Intermediate Department advise that a few cases of head lice have been reported.

COMING EVENTS

Friday 26-Sunday 28 February: SISS Volleyball Wharenui/Cowles

Tuesday 2 March: Yr12 History Field Trip

Friday 5 March: Effort and Attitude Reports issued

Friday 5- Sunday 7 March: Canty Snr Volleyball Champs Pioneer

Saturday 6-Sunday 7 March: SISS Rowing Twizel

Saturday 6 March: SISS Dragon Boating

Sunday 7 March: SISS Triathlon/Duathlon

**Monday 8 March, Hui for Maori students and whanau, 6 pm
College Library – more information next week.**

Monday 8-Tuesday 9 March: Travelling Art Show- all welcome

Tuesday 9 March: 9C Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm, CSS Athletics Prelims QEII

Wednesday 10 March: West Zone Swimming Jellie Park

Friday 12-Sunday 14 March: Choir Workshops

Thursday 11 March: 9E Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm, Yr 13 GEO Coastal Trip, NCEA Music Performance

Saturday 13 March: CSS Athletic Champs QEII

Monday 15-Tuesday 16 March: Yr 12 BIO Field Trip Purau

Tuesday 16 March: 9G Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm

Wednesday 17 March: St Patrick's Day Mufti, Pri Schls Triathlon

Friday 19-Sunday 21 March: Bishop Lyons' Shield Competition

Saturday 20 March: SI Athletics Champs, SI Water Polo Champs

Monday 22-Sunday 28 March: Maadi Cup Twizel

Tuesday 23 March: 9M Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm

Wednesday 24 March: Wednesday sport Finals

Thursday 25 March: 9A Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm, 9B/9C Ferrymead, Primary Schools Swimming QEII

Tuesday 30 March: 9B Retreat OLV 9 am-3 pm, 9G/9M Ferrymead

Yours sincerely

Mary Lynch
Principal