



Villa Maria College NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 WEEK 2 – 22 OCTOBER 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It's good to be back! Mrs McCormick and I have had the opportunity of visiting parents of our International Students, past and present. We visited our sister schools in Japan, two Catholic schools in Kaohsiung, as well as meetings with agents in four different countries. We were absolutely astounded to attend assembly at Sonoda Gakuen Girls' School and have the Concert Band play the Villa school song!!!

I want to say a big thank you to Mr Schreurs and Mrs Wright who covered our respective areas of responsibility. Since my return I have been extraordinarily busy, basking in the reflected glory of our students:

- ❖ **The Fashion Show – if you did not attend, you missed a fabulous display of student talent. The confidence and poise of our models was matched only by the superb creative talent of our designers and sewers in Textile Technology from Y13 to Y10. Congratulations to each and every one of you.**
- ❖ **Con Brio was the beneficiary of the fundraising focus of the Fashion Show. The girls' performance was of the outstanding standard we have come to expect of our top choir. Congratulations to you all and I extend our thanks to Choir Director, Mrs Turnbull, for her ongoing dedication to excellence in choral music at Villa Maria College.**
- ❖ **The Kapa Haka Group performed at the Regional Competition on Saturday. Unfortunately, I had a university commitment and could not attend. However, I am told the girls and St Thomas' boys were superb. Thank you for your commitment to hours of practice to provide a performance of the highest standard.**
- ❖ **At Monday's Assembly we presented badges to over 60 Peer Support Leaders. Throughout 2009 these Year 12 students have been facilitating discussion and interaction with the Year 9 students in their Vertical Group. This is an admirable and appreciated community service to the Villa community.**
- ❖ **Last night we had the Sports Awards. Again, I stand in awe of the time, talent and sheer determination that brings our students to top achievement in their chosen sport/s.**

The guest speaker, Rebecca Wardell, shared her pursuit of the Olympian dream. At the end of the presentations she shared her admiration of the Villa students with their breadth and depth of achievement. No doubt many of our girls listening to her were inspired to even greater commitment to achieve their own dreams.

We extend our prayerful sympathy to Samantha Forgeson (Y13) and her family on the death of Sam's mum. *Eternal rest grant to Barbara, O God, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.*

We pray, too, that the community of Villa Maria College will be able to support Sam at this time, and support other students and staff members who are worried about the health of loved ones.

Te Waka Wairua

Our combined Kapa Haka group (together with St Thomas's of Canterbury College) competed on Saturday at the Regional Secondary Schools' Kapa Haka Competition. Just making the stage after 6 weeks of practices, this performance is testimony to the commitment and efforts of our tutors, students and their families. Our group performed with distinction amongst some very skilled, talented and well-established groups. Our students were fine ambassadors for their whānau and Colleges and the future of Kapa Haka at both Colleges is in good hands. The group will be performing at our Cultural Assembly this Friday morning. Our thanks to tutors, whānau, Colleges and supporters for this wonderful experience. Mauri ora.

Tahiti Exchange

Congratulations to Lucy Watt, Year 11 who has been accepted for the Tahiti Exchange. She will leave on 24 December and stay for 4 weeks with a host family. If you are interested to host students from Tahiti in July 2010, go to <http://www.tahitiexchange.org.nz/>.

Change is possible: Ghana is successfully implementing a national school feeding programme using locally produced foods.

SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS!

Villa Maria College would like to thank the following organisations for their support in 2009 as advertisers in the College's biannual magazine, VMail. The College is grateful for this on-going support which enables the College to produce this high quality publication.

- **Airways NZ**
- **Bishop, Toomey & Pfeifer Chartered Accountants**
- **Brandts-Giesen McCormick Barristers, Solicitors and Notary Public**
- **Edmonds House Private Boarding Hostel for Girls**
- **Jeff Greening Harcourts Gold Real Estate Group Ltd**
- **The Caxton Press Print and Design**
- **University of Canterbury**

If you know of other organisations that might be interested in advertising in VMail please contact Jill Borland, Villa Maria Development Officer, email development@villa.school.nz.

PRIZE GIVING

Villa Maria Prize Giving will be held on Wednesday 9 December at 6.30 pm. Please arrive after 6.00 pm so we can begin promptly at 6.30 pm. *Attendance at Prize Giving is compulsory for all students. Tickets will be available from Monday 23 November at no cost.* Students will be able to pick up tickets from the Student Office. There are limited numbers for wheelchair access, etc so please ask for Level 1 if there is a disability requirement. There will be a **limit of TWO tickets for each family**. If any tickets are taken and not needed, please return them to the Student Office for redistribution. Students may then collect extra tickets on the day of the Prize Giving. (Please note that all families have been sent an invitation in the post, not a ticket).

"We must have a warm, cordial affection for all and manifest it by word, actions and manner... Our charity must be in our hearts, and a charity such as Jesus Christ practised on earth." **Catherine McAuley**



SPORTS NEWS

Zonta Finalists – Following nominations for the Zonta Sports Awards, the finalists have been announced. Congratulations to: **Katie Rasmussen** –Category Two (Contribution to sports administration by a young woman in a position of umpire, referee, coach or tutor); **Alexandra Boyd, Nicki McFadzien, Elizabeth Steel, Johanna Theelen** - Category Four (Most outstanding individual achievement by a young sportswoman specialising in one sport); **2008 Senior A Netball Team** –Category Five (Most outstanding achievement by a team); **Grace Prendergast** – Category Six (Best All round Young Sportswoman who has achieved in more than one sporting code). We wish you all the very best of luck at the Awards evening on Thursday 29 October.

2009 Sports Awards Evening - We thank all involved in making this a success. It was a great honour to have Rebecca Wardell (Olympic and Commonwealth athlete), as our guest speaker. We congratulate our 2009 Cup Winners:

ROWING: Mitchell & Mackersy Rose Bowl - **Katie Rasmussen**
Graeme Broadfoot Cup - **Grace Prendergast**

FOOTBALL: Vaiaso Soccer Cup- **Kelsey Tait**

BASKETBALL: Yvette Burke Trophy - **Sophie Shingleton**, Duggan Trophy - **Beth Wyatt**, Mascot Cup - **Lucy Shingleton**

HOCKEY: Vic Leeming Cup For Sportsmanship - **Hannah Martin**;
Rainbow-Taffs Trophy 'Most Outstanding Player' - **Rachel McCann/ Brylea Smith**

NETBALL: Anna Veronese Trophy (Senior) **Michelle Barry**; McMaster Cup (Junnr) - **Jasmine Weston**; Dean Family Cup - **Bailey Jeffery-Butler**

BADMINTON: Barbara Eathorne Memorial Trophy - **Michelle Doherty**

WATER-POLO: College Cup for Outstanding Player - **Alexandra Boyd**; Taffs Dedication Cup - **Rebecca Heffernan**; VMC Cup for Promising Player - **Johanna Theelen**

CYCLING: Holdstock-Webb Cup - **Cara Smith**; Coaches Cup for Dedication - **Haley Mercer**

RUGBY: Wallace Trophy - Tuai Auvae; Philcox/Deacon Trophy - **Stephanie Ward**

TOUCH: VMC Cup - **Sophie Rhodes**

VOLLEYBALL: Kilduff Cup - **Xanthe O'Carroll**

CONTRIBUTION TO COACHING: McSweeney Cup - **Lena Lagan**

Sailing – We congratulate **Armenia Cole** (Year 11) who was named captain for the South Island Girls' Sailing team. They travelled to Algies Bay (just north of Auckland) for the Koru Knitware NZ Girls' Teams Racing Champs and SYC Spring Trophy. They came 4th in the girls section and 6th overall.

Waterpolo – Congratulations to **Amy Sugrue** (Year 11) who competed for the QE Crushers U16 team in the holidays and to **Laura Sugrue** and **Charlotte Anderson** (Year 9) who have been named in the U14 team. These are the equivalent of the Canterbury age-grade teams.

A reminder to students – you can join Mr Taffs in the gym TUESDAY lunch times for HIP HOP – sponsored by the PTA – come along and have some fun!

Ink and Toner Cartridge Recycling

When you change the ink in your printer at home or the larger toner cartridges at work, think of Villa. We are part of a recycling scheme whereby we get money back for anything recovered from the used cartridges. Freepost envelopes are available at the Student Office for your daughter to collect for you, to send your home cartridges away.

For Every Woman – the Feel Good Event! A fun evening for women...organised by women! Burnside Rugby Clubrooms, Avonhead Rd, Friday 30 October 2009 - Doors open from 6 pm. A fantastic selection of stalls from interesting, unique, or hard-to-find businesses. Receive a tote bag crammed with vouchers, goodies & a glass of bubbles on arrival. Cash bar, music, spot prizes & silent auction. Live demonstrations include a fashion makeover from one of Christchurch's premier style gurus Stephanie Rumble, Flair Image Consulting. Space is limited - we recommend purchasing in advance for a fun start to your weekend! Cost \$15. Contact Andrea 021646963 andrea.wong@giftededucation.org.nz

**VILLA MARIA COLLEGE
MISSION STATEMENT**

Empowering each young woman to determine her potential, live Gospel values, confidently embrace life-long learning and as a Mercy woman be inspired to make a difference.

Easy Shopping For You – Easy Fundraising For Us

Leading stores including Noel Leeming, Bond & Bond, Dominos Pizza, Dell and many more. You can shop for DVD's, fashion, holidays, baby, home, iPods, books, magazines, toys, gifts, electrical and even your groceries! Just select Villa Maria College when you shop or browse online at www.yourfastshop.co.nz. All shopping raises money for Villa at no extra cost to you.

The Public Health Nurse, Belinda Ritchie, will be available for students at *lunch times* on the following dates this term:

Thursday 5 November
Thursday 19 November
Thursday 3 December

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open on Mondays from 1 pm to 5 pm. Attention Year 12 and 13 parents – please note that, due to dwindling demand and lack of storage space, we are no longer able to accept old style uniforms for second-hand sale through the uniform shop. *Lisa Bennett, Uniform Shop Manager*

CANTEEN: Our grateful thanks to the parents helping in the Canteen next week: *Trudi Hamilton, Sharon Morris, Nicki Harris, Lynette Tier.*

Lost Property: At the Student Office we have one new style white blouse, two cardigans and one new style scarf, all unnamed. The trestle table outside the Student Office is full again after the classroom clearout at the end of Term 3, many blazers, jerseys and sports shoes. Students – if you are missing any items, please come and check. Parents are welcome to come along and check also.

COMING EVENTS

Friday 23 October: Cultural Assembly
Monday 26 October: Labour Day
Tuesday 27-Friday 30 October: Yr 9-10 Study Skills Focus
Thursday 29 October: Zonta Sports Awards
Friday 30 October: Service Assembly
Friday 6 November: West Zone Athletics
Tuesday 10 November: Thanksgiving Mass 9.00 am
Monday 16-Wednesday 18 November: Yr 9/10 Exams
Monday 16 November-Friday 5 December: NCEA Exams
Friday 13 November: Show Day
Wednesday 18 November: Wednesday sport concludes
Wednesday 25 November: Itinerant Music Concert P.3
Monday 30 November-Friday 4 December: Yr 10 Camp, Yr 9 Integrated Studies Week
Tuesday 1 December: Canty Primary Schools Athletics
Wednesday 9 December: Prize Giving Issac Theatre Royal 6.30 pm
Friday 11 December: Merit Assembly, Graduation, T4 ends
Saturday 12 December: NZSS Athletics Timaru

Yours sincerely

Mary Lynch
Principal