



# Villa Maria College NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 WEEK 7 – 26 NOVEMBER 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

There is a wonderful buzz about school at the moment as

- ❖ senior students come and go for NCEA external examinations
- ❖ Year 10 students prepare for camp (please remember to contact me if Retreats, field trips and/or camps pose financial difficulties)
- ❖ Year 9 students and teachers prepare for the guided enquiry learning week.
- ❖ Year 7-8 are preparing for their Christmas theme week.
- ❖ Teachers complete the reporting cycle for girls in Y7-10
- ❖ Prize Giving lists and certificates are under way
- ❖ Merit Assembly awards are prepared
- ❖ Graduation planning is finalised
- ❖ 2010 College Student Leadership is finalised
- ❖ book and resource stocktake is done in the LIRC
- ❖ ordering, organising and distributing of uniforms is managed in the Uniform Shop
- ❖ and .....

Yesterday we enjoyed hospitality for and with our volunteer coaches, managers, Canteen helpers, LIRC helpers, PTA, Board Trustees, Company Directors and so many more ..... We are indeed blessed with so many generous people who support Villa in so many ways. Thank you for helping our students!!!!

And then there is preparing for 2010 – new curriculum implementation, educational standards, review and revise our teaching programmes, prepare for the departure of some teachers and the arrival of others, the science building project, review and improve our systems.

So when people are “are things winding down at school”, we all smile wryly! And we also smile in gratitude for good health, for being part of educating future generations, for being part of the Villa story for a long or short time.

We pray that each of our families is blessed with God’s peace, wisdom and strength now and always.

Parents please note, in order that your daughter can sign out at the end of the year and receive her magazine, all school accounts need to be paid. Please contact the principal, Mrs Lynch, today, if this is a problem.

*“Those who arrive at perfect love of God will feel such peace of soul as nothing can disturb.”*

Catherine McAuley

**Congratulations to Michaela De Groot** (Year 11) who, as a member of the City Of Christchurch Cadet Unit (Army Division), received a promotion from Sergeant to Staff Sergeant recently. This is a great achievement, Michaela!

**Congratulations to Sarah Gagliardi** (Year 13) who was recently named the St John Northern Region South Island Regional Cadet of the Year! The selection process for this consists of a presentation, an interview and a group activity testing individual, teamwork and leadership skills. Sarah has been named as a member of the NZ team to represent St John at the International Youth Festival here in Christchurch next January. Also, she has been awarded the Grand Prior Award, which is the highest award, other than awards for bravery, that St John presents to youth members. These are amazing achievements, Sarah!!

**Nau Mai Haere Mai.**  
**Villa Maria College Whanau Komiti Hui**  
**at Wheki 105, College of Education,**  
**Dovedale Ave, University of Canterbury**  
**Monday, 30 November, 6.00 pm.**  
**Please bring kai for a shared BBQ (7.30 pm)**

“If we want to hand the world on to our children in a good state, we need to change our ways on climate.” Climate festival this week on [www.inspirationaltv.net](http://www.inspirationaltv.net). Great for sharing with a friend.

### **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

**Women of all ages are invited to come along and celebrate a thanksgiving Mass with Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women – bring your friends.**  
**Christ the King Parish Centre, Greers Road, Burnside,**  
**1.30-3.30 pm Saturday 5 December.**

### **UNIFORM CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2010**

We would appreciate parents attending to the uniform requirements re skirt lengths over the holidays, so that all uniforms are the correct length for the start of the new year. The bottom of the dark blue dresses must be between the knee and mid-calf area. This is not an optional requirement within our dress code, and as some of our students have been in this uniform for a number of years now and have grown significantly, it may be timely to purchase a new dress or let the hems down. Additionally, slip-on shoes are not acceptable and may also need replacing. We are very proud of our uniform and have an expectation that it is to be worn correctly and to a very high standard at all times. The way the uniform is worn often reflects the attitude of the person wearing it, so please assist us to help your daughter reflect her enthusiasm and positive attitude towards her education.

*Megan Cassidy, Assistant Principal*



**SPORTS NEWS**

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 the major fundraiser each year. We have 200 tickets to sell and all money from the sale of tickets comes to our club. In addition, 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 [jcshingleton@gmail.com](mailto:jcshingleton@gmail.com).

**Equestrian:** Further success at Canterbury A & P Show – congratulations to **Siobhan Fauth** (Year 12). Her horse Hollywood Superstar won Champion in hand Partbred Andalusian and Champion Ridden Partbred Andalusian. Siobhan also won her rider class in that section.

**Cycling** – We have very exciting news for two of our cyclists - Congratulations to **Haley Mercer** (Year 12) who has just been selected for the 'Bike NZ Under 19 Women's Track and Road Development Squad' and to **Chloe McCaughan** (Year 10) who has been selected in the Under 17 Development Squad. These are wonderful achievements and very well deserved. We wish you both all the very best for your training with these squads and your future cycling developments.

**Waterpolo** – Last weekend our Years 9 & 10 Waterpolo Team competed in the Christchurch Secondary Schools' Waterpolo Tournament. Congratulations to the team who came away with 3<sup>rd</sup> placing. We thank their coaches for the weekend, Rebecca and Alexandra Boyd and their manager, Ms Frew.

**Change is possible:** Senegal is on track to achieving the water and sanitation goals through a national investment programme financed with donor support.

[www.yourfastshop.co.nz](http://www.yourfastshop.co.nz) is New Zealand's fundraising shopping mall. You can shop for groceries, DVD's, fashion, holidays, home, iPods, books, toys, gifts and lots more, while raising funds for Villa Maria. **Shop at [www.yourfastshop.co.nz](http://www.yourfastshop.co.nz) - 90 stores for your Christmas shopping - fundraising for Villa.**

**Our Lady of Victories School Fair – 7 March 2010**

Are you having a late spring clean? The following items are required for our school fair and garage sale: furniture, good household items, bikes, toys, books, etc (no broken items please). These items can be left outside the container at the school (behind OLV Church) before 9.00 am weekdays or 3pm after school.

**Take a Kid Tramping** is an introduction to the outdoors to encourage the use of and enjoy the outdoors safely. Child recommended age 10-14 yrs. Course consists of two evening preparation sessions (Monday 15 + 22 February) and a weekend away (27/28 February 2010). Course costs \$25 per pair, food and transport additional. The course is on the website and you can enrol online at <http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz>.

**STREET TALK DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE-Land**

**Transport New Zealand approved course:** This course takes 6 months off the time needed on restricted licence. There are four in class sessions followed by a 1 hour driving session with a driving instructor in session 5. Cost \$155.00 Please send enrolment form and payment to Fusion Driver Education, P O Box 19672, Woolston, Christchurch. If you need further information, visit [www.fusiontrust.co.nz](http://www.fusiontrust.co.nz) or email [Carolyn@fusiontrust.co.nz](mailto:Carolyn@fusiontrust.co.nz). Phone 376 4997. We run courses monthly during the year and all school holidays.

**December Upper Riccarton Library 2-7-10-16  
Main South Road 6 – 8 pm**

**PRIZE GIVING: Wednesday, 9 December, 6.30 pm, Isaac Theatre Royal**

Please arrive from 6.00 pm so we can begin promptly at 6.30 pm. *Attendance at Prize Giving is compulsory for all students.* Tickets for parents are available from the Student Office at no cost. There are limited numbers for wheelchair access, so please ask for Level 1 if there is a disability requirement. There will be a limit of TWO tickets for each family.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

The last day of opening for the Uniform Shop for 2009 is Monday 7 December 1-5pm and it will re-open on Thursday 28 January 2010 1-5pm; thereafter from Monday 1 February 2010 - open as usual from 1-5pm. *Lisa Bennett, Shop Manager*

**FROM THE PTA**

We have a small number of **Entertainment Books** still available from the Main Office - the ideal Christmas present!! The PTA are collecting **Jetstar boarding passes**. Please hand them in to the Student Office – thank you!

**The Public Health Nurse, Belinda Ritchie, will hold the last health clinic for the year on Thursday, 3 December during lunch time.**

**CANTEEN: The last day the College Canteen will be open will be Wednesday 9 December.**

**Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award Canterbury 2010**

Youth Tramping/Bronze Duke of Edinburgh  
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Bush Training  
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Bush Training  
River Safety Course  
Application forms are available from Mrs Devonport in Room 2

**COMING EVENTS**

**Monday 30 November-Wednesday 2 December:** Yr 10 Camp classes 10B, 10M and 10A.

**Monday 30 November-Friday 4 December:** Yr 9 Integrated Studies Week

**Tuesday 1 December:** Taster Day for 10E, 10C, 10X at Christchurch Academy, Canty Primary Schools Athletics

**Wednesday 2 - Friday 4 December:** Yr 10 Camp classes 10C, 10E and 10X

**Thursday 3 December:** Taster Day for 10A, 10B, 10M at Lincoln University and Villa (with CPIT/UC)

**Monday 7-Friday 11 December:** Students complete sign out procedures during the week

**Wednesday 9 December:** Prize Giving Rehearsal morning for performers/prize winners, Prize Giving Isaac Theatre Royal begins at 6.30 pm (please be seated by 6.15 pm)

**Thursday 10 December:** Yr 12 Student House Leaders 8.45 am Hall, sign out 9.15 am Auditorium, Yr 13 sign out 8.45 am Auditorium

**Friday 11 December:** Vertical Group 8.30 am, Merit Assembly 8.45 am, Graduation practice (bus leaves at end of Merit Assembly, Yr 11 being sign out 10.15 Auditorium, Yr 9/10 complete sign out 10.15 Hall, Yr 7/8 complete sign out 10.15 Rms 1 & 2, Graduation 7 pm, Term 4 ends

**Saturday 12 December:** NZSS Athletics Timaru

Yours sincerely

Mary Lynch  
Principal