

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE

NEWSPRINT



ISSUE 7
22 JUNE 2012



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents,

Greetings from the College! As the mid year approaches and the holidays are drawing near, I trust that all families are looking forward to the holidays and some extra family time. I suspect the boys are looking forward to some sleep-ins, some late nights with the TV and the occasional night out with friends. I hope all parents and boys enjoy the holidays and what they bring that is positive.

THE HOLIDAYS

Two dangers are forever lurking for our young people especially when they have extra time: **the internet and the social set**. The internet has taken over our lives and everything we use has a good side and an ugly side. The media have frequently alerted us to the challenges of the new social media e.g. Facebook and Twitter, to name a few. While our students are presented with the need to be cyber safe, I suspect that it is easier to ignore that advice when young rather than follow it. Young people need constant monitoring and advising as they learn to use the social media with prudence and good judgement.

The second danger is the social set: the parties with friends and the accompanying dangers of alcohol and drugs. There is nothing inherently wrong with young people gathering at a friend's house and having fun. But 'fun' has taken new meanings. Teenagers sometimes see parties with friends as opportunities to 'experiment' and do the things that they know are not possibly approved by their parents. They are "what we all do!" and therefore are OK. What others do should never be the motive for justifying what I decide to do or not do. Similarly, when parents decide it should not be, then that too should be good enough. Is it? The more the merrier, youth says. Is it?

Holidays can be challenging times for parents but also good learning times. Measure their freedom doses to be equal to the degree of responsibility that you feel comfortable with and it should work. I pray that all our young men will be safe and sensible these holidays and also find time to do the work that their teachers have asked, especially in the senior year!

We wish all students a safe holiday and a welcome return in mid July.

CHANGE IS PART OF OUR LIVES

If we stop and see how much has changed in the past 5 years, then we recognise that change is unstoppable. In 2005 almost no one had flat screens, iPads, iPods, GPS devices, or a Myki card. The standard new car had no extras, no DVD, no electric windows, no GPS, and alloy wheels were rare. We paid everything by cheque, used lots of notes and coins, sought little information on line, and probably had a standard PC, which we thought was magical. And if the way we live and operate has changed so much, so too the organisations in which we study and work.

De La Salle has been making significant strides in our ability to adapt to, and use, IT as a device for enhancing the way we teach and students learn. And that has required new programs, new devices, and new processes to match. At the same time we have had plenty of discussions on how to improve and develop what we do as an organisation so as to deliver a better educational product and one more suited to the 21st Century.

Each student from Year 7 - Year 11 has a netbook, and all learning programs are now on Moodle. Before the end of 2012, and coinciding with the introduction of the Australian Curriculum for Years 7 – 10 in 2013, our



assessment criteria will be defined on Moodle and accompanied by each student's grade as they progress. Every parent will be able to examine their son's progress, when they want. And that is why we have adopted a different approach to Parent Teacher Interviews this year. We need to match assessment and reporting to appropriate learning steps in a student's academic program and not just do them because that is the way we have always done it. It will be explained more thoroughly elsewhere in this Newsprint.

COLLEGE UNIFORM - UNDER REVIEW

A team of teachers and parents are taking a look at some aspects of the College uniform, especially the need to accommodate wetter days and to improve some parts of our sports attire. Samples are being developed and the Parents Network and the students will be part of the consultation before we establish any changes. Change here is not being made because we want it but because some of the current attire is unsatisfactory in design or material and needs updating, improving or replacing. There is no good time to start this but it has been under way for some weeks and will continue into next term. Parents should not concern themselves that there will be any sudden change to what they already have. Any change in uniform will be gradual.

2013 ENROLMENTS

Our Year 7 enrolments have been very healthy for 2013 and we are full at present. We already have 100 families who have enrolled for the School Tour in August, 2012, for possible enrolment in 2014. Many families have been disappointed but it also means that a place in the College has become far more treasured and we hope that confidence can be supported all the way to Yr 12 and graduation.

We recognise and appreciate all the great work that our teachers have done this term not only in the classroom but in also supporting a wide sports and various other opportunities in drama, music, languages, public speaking and debating etc.

CROWN PALLADIUM : OUR CENTENARY DINNER

Are you coming? Our Centenary has moved at pace through Term 2 and now we are preparing for the Centenary Dinner at Crown Palladium on 18 August. We hope that our parents might gather with friends and parents of their son's friends to form tables for the largest celebration that the College has ever held. You are all invited and I hope you will consider supporting the College with your presence. Please consider a table – go to our website and do it all on-line. Phone the Community Coordinator, Ms Trish Woodman, if you have a problem on 9508 2138.

CONCERNS

If you have any concerns, please voice them to us – email or letter. I do not respond to anonymous mail but am more than happy to take on board your concerns as we attempt to build the quality of what we are doing in De La Salle College. You may also want to support an initiative or program – they too are equally important.

Yours in De La Salle,

Br. Paul Rogers fsc
Principal



WHAT IS HAPPENING (SOME REMINDERS)

JUNE

Tuesday, 26 June	Year 9 ACC Sport Finals Semester 1 Drama Night - PAC, 7.30pm
Wednesday, 27 June	Senior ACC Sport Finals
Thursday, 28 June	Year 12 Formal Dance at Lincoln of Toorak, 7.30pm Year 10 Camps (Optional) depart
Friday, 29 June	END OF TERM 2 - No Classes for Year 12 Students End of Semester 1 (Years 4 to 10)

JULY

Monday, 2 July	Semester 1 Reports Mailed
Monday, 16 July	STAFF RETURN FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
Tuesday, 17 July	STUDENTS RESUME CLASSES FOR TERM 3 Start of Semester 2 (Years 4 to 10) Year 9/10 ACC Sport commences (Basketball & Hockey)
Wednesday, 18 July	Senior ACC Sport commences (Basketball & Hockey)
Friday, 20 July	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews (Year 12 and Primary, others by invitation) - 8.30am to 4.00pm Newsprint No. 8 emailed to parents



HE'S LEARNING TO LIVE AND LEAD

APPROACHING CENTENARY EVENTS IN 2012

DE LA SALLE CENTENARY DINNER

Palladium at Crown, 18 August

Learn more about the [Centenary Dinner](#)

Tickets are available on the DLS website.

MAD RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

Our congratulations to so many boys who worked very hard this year to secure a record amount to assist our social justice program and Lasallian enterprises where our students contribute so much in time and effort. Appreciation is extended to all families who offer such amazing support. We must also acknowledge the hard work of Mr. Ian Oliver and the MAD Committee who put in so much extra time during Term 1. A great centenary effort. Deo gratias!

Congratulations to the following boys:-

Student	Prize
Nick Lowie (<i>Year 12</i>)	Basketball
Liam O'Brien (<i>Year 7V</i>)	Soccer Ball
Matthew Facey (<i>Year 8S</i>)	Football
Spencer Cox (<i>Year 7R</i>)	Football
Campbell Norton (<i>Year 10J</i>)	Soccer Ball
Hayden Dunstone (<i>Year 7B</i>)	Bike

Again thanks to everyone who raised money in our Centenary Year – 2012. Our total is now \$92,000.



CURRICULUM NEWS

Term Two has been a very busy and productive time in the academic lives of the students and staff at De La. As this newsletter goes to print, reports are being prepared to send home to parents in the first week of the holidays so that students and families have access to all semester results and celebrate achievement as well as identify areas for improvement. The exam period in Semester One ran very smoothly and it was pleasing to have the entire college engaged in meaningful and focused preparation for, and sitting of, exams.

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Formerly staff of the college met with parents and students at the end of Term One and four weeks into Term Three. Our review of this practice has determined that the second set of interviews are too late for relevant and timely conversations with Year 12 students nor do they allow for immediate responses to issues raised in the mid-year report. Our response to this has been to introduce an additional set of interviews as follows:

REPORTING TO PARENTS AT DE LA SALLE

SEMESTER ONE	MID-YEAR	SEMESTER TWO
Parent/Teacher/Student interviews' mid-semester Whole school (i.e. late March)	Selected interviews 7-11 plus all Year 12 and Primary (i.e. July)	Parent/Teacher/Student interviews' mid-semester Primary to Year 11 (i.e. early October)
Semester One report		Semester Two report

As listed we will run a set of interviews which will be open to all families of Year 12 students and primaries, as well as by invitation to those families of students where there are areas of concern. Given the time restrictions we are unable to offer appointments to families of the entire school on the one day, if your family is required to attend an interview you will receive the relevant information in your sons' report. We remain committed to having staff available for interviews with students and their families mid-Semester Two and we look forward to being able to meet with all families at that time.

Sally Buick
Deputy Principal - Curriculum



WELLBEING NEWS

MORE ON RESILIENCE

The “proverbial” **WILL** hit the fan ... it's a given ... that's life!

As a parent, when this happens for your son, what is your first/instinctive thought and action? The resilient parent will think: “How can I help my son change, so that he includes this new (even unfortunate) circumstance in his life and works it through?”

The non-resilient parent will think: “How can I change this new (even unfortunate) circumstance so that he doesn't have to deal with such unpleasantness?”

It's not the CIRCUMSTANCE that needs to change ... it's the BOY. If he is helped to change and expand his experience, he will become all the stronger for the effort. If he is encouraged to deal with that which is difficult, unpleasant, challenging, boring, frightening ... he will learn resilience, through experience. This will stand him in good stead to deal confidently and competently with that which hits the fan ... and which will continue to do so throughout his life.

BOYS' BRAINS

The brain continues to develop until the ages of 20-22. This means that the crucial work of laying down structures and patterns that help set a person up for life, are not done till those ages.

The adolescent brain:

- has a great capacity to learn and create;
- has an increased risk of damage from drugs and alcohol;
- has an increased risk of forming addictions;
- has an increased risk of developing mental illness;
- has an increased desire for risk taking; and
- has under-developed structures that control impulse and emotions.

It is imperative therefore, that strong messages are given in the family home about the use (abuse) of the common drugs (alcohol and cigarettes) and of increasingly common drugs (marijuana, prescription medicines mixed with drinks such as “V” et al).

It is clear, that it is always inappropriate for young people of school age to be disrupting the essential work of brain development through the use of drugs.

I find it surprising and frustrating that with all the information available, many young people still believe incorrect things about some drugs.

Marijuana – for instance. Some boys say that it's better than cigarettes because “it's natural” (I can't imagine where they think tobacco comes from)!

In the hypothetical case that a boy might have four, well spaced marijuana joints a year (so one every three months), it is the case that his brain will not be free of marijuana for the entire year. Traces of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana can be found in the brain for up to three months after the initial dose. Combine this information with the fact that the adolescent brain is still developing, and you have an appreciation of the danger.



Some boys will say that they're allowed to have alcohol in the family home, excusing this practice by saying that this will help them appreciate it and use alcohol wisely when they are older. This thought is not supported by the facts. The younger children are when they are introduced to alcohol, the more likely they are to use it to excess when they are "of age".

Boys are often heard bragging about "parties" and "gatherings" they attend where generous amounts of alcohol and drugs are available. They intentionally set out to get "s***-faced" (often passing-out). They then brag about this, (some even having friends record it on iPhones for later uploading to various social media). Of course, such parties and gatherings should not be permitted ... or if they are, responsible parents need, for safety's sake, to find out as much as they can about where their son is going, with whom, who will be there, what will be there, who will be supervising etc. They also need to make an assessment of how capable their son is in standing up to pressure from peers and how likely he is to resist.

America cites as one of its best social and health policies that young people must be 21 years of age to drink and smoke. It is estimated that it saves billions of dollars that would otherwise need to be spent on unwanted social and health consequences. **And it aligns with what we know about brain development.** In Australian law, in Australian homes?

Pascal Rohan
Director of Student Wellbeing

CHAPLAIN'S NOTES...

A reminder of some important dates for students preparing for confirmation:

Thursday, 19 July	Students meet with the Bishop at 10.30am. Practice in the Church
Monday, 23 July	Mass for all families Presentation of Confirmation Medals and Practice 7.00pm at St Anthony's

Joan Ferguson
College Chaplain



CAREERS NEWS

Regular Careers Newsletters with updated careers information are available on the College website. Click here for a downloadable copy of the [Career News](#).

Carmel Smart
Careers Coordinator
Email: csmart@dls.vic.edu.au
Phone: 9508 2142

PARENTS NETWORK

CENTENARY RAFFLE

A friendly reminder for all sold raffle books to be returned to either Kinnoull or Tiverton front office by Wednesday 27 June. We thank you for your support.

OVERJACKETS

Only very small and large sizes of the over-jacket available at the sale price of \$40. Order forms available from either Tiverton or Kinnoull Reception. Extra-small, Small and Medium have **SOLD OUT**.

Virginia Fairchild
President

REST IN PEACE

We remember the following Old Collegians in our prayers at this time.

Ben McNamara was among the first boarders at De La Salle (1930) when our Boarding house opened on the corner of Stanhope and Irving streets. The boarders moved to Mentone in 1938 when St Bede's was opened. He passed away in his sleep recently, aged 93 years.

William Harold Tetley (1934), died on 13 June, aged 94 years. His son Kenn (1959 – 1965) also attended De La Salle. He was buried from St Mary's church, Cowes, Phillip Island on 19 June.

Jim (James Brian) Mannix (1949) died on 10 June, aged 81 years. His son, **Daniel (1981)** also attended De La Salle. Jim was buried from the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Dromana, on 15 July.

Bruce Gee (1967) passed away on 9 May, aged 62. His sons Simon, Robert and Matthew also attended De La Salle.



DLS WEIGHTLIFTING



Seven members of the DLS Weightlifting Team participated in Round 3 of the VWA Schools League on Friday 8 June 2012 at Hawthorn Weightlifting Stadium.

DLS is the **Champion Team** for this Round defeating Mt Lilydale Mercy College by 2 points in the Aggregate points.

Congratulations to the following students who successfully represented the College in this Round of competition:

- Oliver Smith — 7S
- Liam Farrell — 7V
- Frank McCormack — 8J
- Bryce Morgan — 8S
- Nathan Phillips — 12H
- Antonio Russo — 12D
- Levi Otto — 12S

After Round 3 of the Schools League, DLS holds a slender lead of 4 points in the Boys Progressive Score from Mt Lilydale Mercy College.

Let's hope that our DLS Weightlifting Team can continue their success in the next round of the Schools League on Friday 27 July 2012.

Mr Dave Hale and our Specialist Coach, Simon Francazio, are "the force" behind our Team as they provide training opportunities twice a week for any students interested in Weightlifting.

Mr. Peter Harte
Sports Coordinator

DLS SPORT

For stories on the ACC Football Results and ACC Sporting Fixtures and Results, please visit the College website. To view, please click the following link:- [De La Salle Sport](#)

With Faith and Zeal Resplendent

A pictorial history to mark the Centenary of De La Salle College, Malvern



Be one of the first to order this limited release pictorial history of De La Salle College, Malvern. This beautifully illustrated book showcases the many people, places and events that have made their mark throughout the one hundred year journey of the College, from the time the first three pioneering Brothers opened the School in 1912, to the present day. This family memento will be enjoyed by many generations of Old Collegians now and in the years to come. The book will be available following the launch on 18 May.

BOOK SPECIFICATIONS

120 pages of full colour produced in hardback coffee table style publication (A4 landscape). Features photographs, documents and objects from the College Archives and lists of all College, Vice, House, Football and Cricket Captains and Dux, and full staff and student lists for 2012.

ISBN: 978-0-646-57427-1



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De La Salle Centenary Memorabilia

Gift Boxed Glasses \$25
Old Collegians' Tie \$25
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Centenary Pen \$5
Apron \$20



There are a limited number of memorabilia items for sale. These items are available for collection only from the Tiverton Office.

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