



# Clonard Chronicle

Edition 16 - November 4, 2011

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*We plant seeds that one day will grow  
we water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future  
promise*

*We lay foundations that will need further development  
We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.*

*We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in  
realising that*

*This enables us to do something, and to do it well  
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way an  
opportunity for God's Grace to enter and do the rest*

*We may never see the end results.*

*But, that is the difference between the master builder and the worker  
We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.*

*We are the prophets of a future not our own*

*Amen*

*Archbishop Oscar Romero (El Salvador)*

## Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Clonard College

### Farewell to our Year 12s

The past two weeks have seen our Year 12 students complete their secondary education at Clonard and as a school we could not be prouder of the way they conducted themselves. One of the Brigidine core values is to 'celebrate all that is good with joy and gratitude' The graduation mass held at Holy Family on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of October was a true celebration involving students, staff, parents and friends. The opportunity to gather as a community to 'celebrate' is an important part of life at Clonard and this theme continued with a presentation by the year 12s to the whole school which was both entertaining and inspirational. In the coming weeks we will be including the students preparing for and undertaking examinations in our prayers.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Bridget O'Halloran of year 12 who won the 'National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre Poster Competition'. Positive health messages to young people are so important in the current climate and competitions such as this encourage young people to think about the choices they make. Bridget won significant prize money for herself and for the school.

### Cyber workshop for parents

The advances in technology have enabled people to connect with each other and the world in so many ways that enhance our day to day lives but we need to remain vigilant about the potential dangers associated with social media. Students have been involved in workshops on 'cybersafety' and staff and parents at the Catholic secondary schools have attended information sessions aimed at improving understanding of social media such as Facebook. If you were unable to attend the session last term, Clonard will be hosting a parent information night on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December in the Kildare Theatre at 7:30pm. This presentation is by ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority) and is excellent. Your daughter will be bringing home a brochure produced by ACMA with the date and time on it. I would strongly recommend you put the date on your calendar.

### Uniform Matters

Making students responsible for their uniforms has been a focus of this semester. The idea that make-up is not part of school uniform and that their uniforms need to be monitored for length and neatness is an on-going campaign. While the majority of our girls do the right thing and wear their uniform with pride there are still some students who require reminding. We thank you for your support in this area.

**Julie Whelan**  
Assistant Principal – Student Development and Pathways



## Justice Meal Day, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Canteen will be closed at lunch time.

The world is an unfair place – with most people living in extreme poverty. To get an idea of just how unfair it really is, Clonard will become a mini-world on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students will be randomly allocated one of the different economic groups that are in the world – and will receive a lunch that represents this. Please send in \$2.00 before Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> so your daughter can be allocated a lunch voucher; the money is to cover costs (any profits go towards supporting the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project). Please note the canteen will be **closed** during lunchtime on the day (Wednesday). We use this activity to highlight the extent of poverty in the world. The lunches that we receive on Wednesday will be representative of the economic divide: very few will receive a full meal and dessert, some will receive a salad roll and fruit, the vast majority however will receive a plain roll and piece of fruit. **Athea Hincey Justice & Democracy**

## Year 9 News

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Year 9 students and their parents came along to view the fantastic work that the girls had created as part of their Student Identity Project. It was a wonderful celebration – where the students were given an opportunity to create a piece of artwork that was symbolic of their identity. One of the standout comments that supported one of the artworks was – “I love who I am, and I love who I am becoming!” What a lovely world we would live in if all of our young people thought like this.

The personal identity project was followed on Thursday by our students attending a Heroes Day run by the Reach Foundation at Geelong West Town Hall. Once again, it was a pleasure to take our girls out into a public forum – we were very proud of their enthusiasm and participation. It was an inspiring day that challenged our students and made them think about the person that they would like to be.

## Indigenous Education News

It has been a very busy time for our Indigenous students as they attended Djarmbi Day out at Deakin on September 9<sup>th</sup>. They enjoyed learning about their Aboriginal history and culture, learning traditional dances and getting to know other Indigenous students from the Catholic schools within the Geelong, Werribee and Melton regions. Our Koorie Education Workers Lisa Couzens, Helen Chirstensen and Kellie Koumalatsos are thanked and congratulated on the wonderful day they organised.

Lisa Couzens also organised for Kylie Clarke from The Gordon to come along and speak with our Indigenous students about the wonderful opportunities that are available for students to study as either a VET course, apprenticeship or post secondary school. There is also an opportunity for students to participate in a free tennis workshop on May 26<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> 2012 at Melbourne Park. For further information please contact Paul Gaff 9859 2437 or Lou Smarrelli 0408 108 256 or visit [www.darrangeeyt.com](http://www.darrangeeyt.com)

**Megan Evans Year 9 & Indigenous Education**

## Softball Report

It was nice not to have to travel all the way to Melbourne as the Division 3 Softball tournament was held at Stead Park in Geelong on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. Clonard was well represented with a team in every age group. Due to the large number of dedicated year 7 and 8 girls that came to every training session we made the decision to fill our Intermediate team with Junior players. The Junior team had high expectations going into the tournament but unfortunately just missed out on making the Grand Final finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>. To their credit, the Intermediate team fought hard all day against girls 2 or 3 years older than them, and although they may not have made finals, you could see the girls improving as the day went on. Meanwhile our Senior girls played outstanding softball all day and made the grand Final, winning comfortably in the end against Ave Maria 10 to 4. Congratulations to Mariah Dodds who was awarded with a medal for best player in the Grand Final. Thank you to Carmel Brown and Ron Smith who gave up their time to run training sessions at lunchtime as well as coach on the day. Also to Mrs Griffin, Ms Fish and Ros Leishman for coming along on the day and helping coach the girls.



## Year 9 Indonesian Immersion camp

20 Year 9 Indonesian students recently attended a 3 day Immersion Camp at Phillip Island with students from Damascus College (Ballarat) and Avila College (Melbourne). This camp offered students a dedicated length of time to develop their language skills in a meaningful context and to use their foundational language skills with other students of a similar standard of proficiency. They created an Indonesian market, hosting Primary School students in a simulated experience of bargaining; they made Balinese offerings and re-created a temple procession; they watched a cooking demonstration about how to make lumpia; they wrote & illustrated individual storybooks. Most instructions and all tasks were completed using bahasa Indonesia, which helped the girls increase their confidence and improve their language skills. This camp was a new innovation sponsored by the Federal government under the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program (NALSSP) and the CECV, and Clonard is very proud to have been selected to attend.



## Indonesian Immersion Camp

On the 19th-21st of October students from Clonard College, Damascus College, Avila College studying Indonesian went to Phillip Island. The Immersion Camp was a great experience as we got to interact with students from other schools and did activities relating to Indonesian culture such as bargaining at a market, kite making, cooking spring rolls, speaking and learning new vocabulary. I was lucky enough to have this great opportunity and would definitely do it again. It was great fun and I would recommend it for students in the future to go and extend and develop their Indonesian vocabulary. The accommodation and organisation was excellent. I would just like to thank the teachers for giving us this opportunity and for giving up their time for us.

**Sarah Fearnside**



## Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program



Congratulations to the following Year 10 students - Amy Cotter, Katherine Kvant, Amy McNamara, Cassidy Moore, Katerina Mykytenko, and Danielle Visnjovski – who have been nominated for the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program, an academic enrichment program at The University of Melbourne. The 3 year program is designed to give students a taste of university life, the opportunity to meet like-minded students, the opportunity to develop leadership and community involvement skills, and access to University resources, academics and events.

Following is part of Danielle Visnjovski's application:

I believe being a part of a multicultural family as a young Australian has played a big part of who I am, as it has helped shape my values and attributes. It has allowed me to experience many different traditions that take place for both celebrations and festivals along with death and mourning for both celebrations and festivals along with death and mourning for both my background culture as well as the Australian culture. The different foods, languages and dancing have always intrigued me from a young age.

However, I never fully understood my cultural background and who the people that my parents called 'family' were until late last year when my family and I travelled for twenty three hours to former Yugoslavia: the birthplace of all my Grandparents and my Father. Being able to witness such a unique country was mind-blowing in that I was able to learn more of the European language which allowed me to communicate better with all the members of my family that I had no previous contact with. I was also introduced to different foods along with the different lifestyle in which my family in Europe live.

Not knowing what to expect once arriving in the country, I was surprised and bewildered by what I saw. My Father had always told me that the country that we came from was very poor but I had never realized to what extent until I stepped out of the plane and saw how poor the country was. Witnessing horrific conditions bombed buildings still stand from Yugoslavian War and people living in the villages sending their children to beg for money opened my eyes to the much needed attention that the country required to reclaim its wealth and happiness back.

Living for five weeks in such a place has allowed me to compare the lifestyle of former Yugoslavia with the lifestyle that many of us take for granted in Australia. I fully understood why my parents always praised Australia, calling it the best country in the world. Every person in Australia is provided with the opportunity to live life to their full potential. We are blessed with the beauty that we see everyday; beaches and parks, stable buildings and pleasant cafes where kind and polite service is provided to you. However, in the former Yugoslavia, I learnt that the majority of the country find it difficult to provide a meal for the family each night and are not spoiled with the luxurious scenery that we get to experience everyday.

Through this life changing experience, I have learnt not to take life for granted as you only get one shot at living it to the fullest. I also learnt to be thankful for what you have as there is always someone else worse off. However, the most important thing that I learnt is to take advantage of the opportunities that are given to me as I know that these opportunities that are given to me will help me achieve my main goal of completing university with a degree in either medicine or law. **Danielle Visnjovski**

## Ampilatawatja Visit

Over the last couple of years some of our Clonard students and staff have been fortunate enough to visit the remote Aboriginal Community of Ampilatawatja in the NT. The community is about a five hour drive away from Alice Springs – depending on the condition of the road. By visiting the community, our students have been able to learn a lot about the beauty and the challenges of life in the desert. On October 18th, 19th we were thrilled to be able to return the favour and host a visit of 12 students and 5 staff from the school. We had a BBQ at Queenscliff on a warm Geelong Cup Eve and on Wednesday enjoyed hosting the visitors at Clonard playing games, sharing stories and creating tie-died pillow slips with the Year 11 VCAL class. Some of the Middle School Black Tracks class have been communicating with the Ampilatawatja students via a Blog so it was a lovely chance to meet the students in person. The people in Ampilatawatja experience a very different lifestyle to those of us that live in Geelong and the surrounding areas so for many of the visitors it was the first time they had ever seen the ocean or paddled in the beach. Thank you to the staff and students who welcomed our visitors so warmly into our school and we are very grateful for the beautiful artwork that they gave us.



## Mental Illness and Young People

In order to build upon understanding of mental illnesses (and particularly how this affects young people) we have arranged two visits to Clonard, in mid-November, in the form of a Year 11 address followed the next evening, by a parent forum.

As we know, many young people either personally suffer different degrees of a mental illness, including depression, or know of a friend who is suffering from a mental illness. We all need some degree of resiliency when studies/life become hectic or stressful but an understanding of how mental illness can affect us, directly and indirectly, is equally important.

With these factors in mind, a presentation will be made to Year 11 students on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, followed the next evening (Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November) with a parent forum (open to parents of daughters across all Year levels at Clonard).

Year 11 Guest Speaker – Mental Illness (Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November)

We have arranged for Julie Arnall (Education Officer from Headspace Barwon) to address Year 11 students on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November on the broad topic of mental illness and young people.

In discussing the broad aims of the address for our Year 11's, Julie has asked that Year 11's be forewarned that she will be talking about topics that may cause a distressing emotional response/memory recall for some students. However, as Julie has advised, we all "need to start a conversation about mental health in order to help each other". Suicide prevention will be discussed at this student address and this outline has been discussed at a Year level assembly this week. Students have been invited to see Mr McCallum or their homeroom teacher with any inquiries or requests not to attend the address.

Parent forum on Mental Illness and Young People

As proposed in one of the final newsletters last term, we have also planned a forum to provide information to parents and guardians in relation to mental health and young people. The aim will to provide some degree of understanding and support for parents to:

enable you to, in turn, support your daughter (whether she be the person suffering the illness or is supporting a friend who is) and to learn about local support agencies which exist.

The forum has now been confirmed for **7.00pm on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** in the ILC in the Year 12 Block, Clonard and all parents across the school are welcome. (If planning to attend would you please confirm your attendance by telephoning our office reception (03 52 782155))

The forum will be delivered by Julie Arnall (Education Officer from Headspace Barwon) and Toni Van Hamond (Manager of Headspace Barwon) and will run for approximately one hour with an opportunity then for questions/discussion. It is hoped this presentation, to be aligned with information to be provided to Year 11 students on the day prior, will equip parents/guardians with some preliminary information in these areas – the presentation will run for about 60 minutes and will be followed by an opportunity for questions/discussion.

Please contact Michael McCallum, Year 11 Coordinator ([michael.mccallum@clonard.catholic.edu.au](mailto:michael.mccallum@clonard.catholic.edu.au)) with any questions.



## Possum Skin Workshop

In the recent school holidays, renowned Aboriginal artist Vicky Couzens ran a workshop with our Indigenous students and Fire Carriers to create some stoles for Clonard College. For the 2006 Commonwealth Games Vicky led the revival of the ancient art of making possum skin cloaks and helped to create cloaks for all of the Aboriginal language groups in Victoria. For many years Aboriginal people wore possum skin cloaks in their daily lives and used them in ceremony. Some of them were even buried in them. We have created the stoles as a sign of respect to our ancient culture. Traditionally, the skins have designs burnt into them that tell the story of the people and their place. We have the school emblem burnt into our stoles. You will see our Indigenous students wearing these for special occasions and ceremonies at our school. We would like to thank Lisa Love our Koorie Education Worker for organizing this wonderful experience for our students.

## Year 7 Cultural Learning

On Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> we felt very privileged to have two young Aboriginal men from the Marrma' Rom – Two Worlds Foundation come and visit our Year 7 students and our Middle School Black Tracks class. Yirrmal and Muz shared stories about their culture and told us about traditional hunting and tracking methods used in the Aboriginal community of Yirrkala, as well as told us about their favourite bush tucker. We also learnt that these young men are the grandchildren of activists who wrote the famous 1963 Bark Petition and also famous musicians from Yothu Yindi fame. As part of learning in two worlds, Yirrmal and Muz are studying at St Joseph's College. They also brought Jacob with them and he told of his visit to Daly River a community visited by both Clonard College and St Joseph's College. The session was finished off by listening to the hauntingly beautiful sounds of Yirrmal singing some original songs to acoustic guitar.

## Canteen News

Thanks this fortnight to Suzanne Anderson, Snjezana Demo, Narelle Unmack, Sue Clark & Annette Lane.

The following are rostered on for the next 2 weeks:

Sylvia Brown, Catherine Schurmann, Dianne Lock, Milka Georgievska, Sue Harman, Lucy Occibove, Nicole Fursland, Leanne Foord, Fi Rae, Maria Pellegrino, Michelle Jones & Cathy Chenowith

Please send a text message to 0450671486 or call the College canteen if you are unable to attend your canteen duty

Many thanks - Karys

## Do You Want to Play Soccer in Golden Plains?

Community Forum  
Wednesday 26 October 2011 at 7:30pm

Bannockburn Bowls Club  
65 Burnside Road, Bannockburn

Golden Plains Shire, in partnership with Football Federation Victoria and Leisure Networks, invites you to attend a community forum to discuss the development of soccer in Golden Plains Shire.

If you have children who would be interested in the opportunity to participate in soccer or you have an interest in growing the sport locally, then this is your opportunity to let us know your thoughts and influence the development of the game in the Golden Plains region.

We are looking to support the establishment of a junior club or competition, initially in the southern part of the Shire. Everyone is welcome to share their ideas for a stronger soccer presence in the Shire.

### RSVP:

Please RSVP by Monday 24 October 2011 to Paul Owen, Community Recreation Officer on 5220 7220 or [powen@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:powen@gplains.vic.gov.au). A light supper is provided.

## St Therese School

50 Grossmans Road Torquay

## 25th Year Anniversary Celebrations

November 6 2011.

St Therese School was opened 25 years ago in a number of portable classrooms with 29 children. In 2011 it now has over 400 students with excellent facilities and 35 staff members.

This is a time to celebrate the 25 years and all the many wonderful students, staff, parents and parishioners who have contributed to its growth during that time.

We invite anyone connected with the school during that time to Mass at St Therese Church at 8.45am on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 and then to visit the school for morning tea, from 10.00 until 12.00. During this time we will officially open the Indigenous and Asian gardens, and the year 6 students will conduct tours of the school. A photographic history of the school over the 25 years will be displayed in the School Hall

### R.S.V.P. by Friday October 28

PHONE: 03 5261 4246 FAX: 03 5261 6221 EMAIL: [info@sttorquay.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sttorquay.catholic.edu.au)

## Secondhand Uniform Shop

**Good Quality secondhand uniforms for sale. New socks, tights and footy socks for sale. Opening time Tuesdays (Day 2) between 12.45 - 1.15 or by appointment. Please contact Mrs Marion Buckley 52782155**

### Uniform Matters

Please note the following applies to the Summer uniform the dress must be the appropriate length (no shorter than 10cms above the knee when kneeling). Please check your dress length before wearing it to school.

A reminder that the school blazer should be the outer garment travelling to and from school.

### Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear a small cross on necklace, no bracelets/wrist bands/friendship bands to be worn  
1 small stud or sleeper in each ear  
These are the ONLY pieces of Jewellery to be worn