



# Clonard Chronicle

Edition 17 - November 18, 2011

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*As our Yr 12 students go forward on the road that has brought them to where they are,  
May the courage and vision of Brigid of Kildare and Daniel Delaney rekindle their hope.  
May they be renewed and challenged to move forward on a road where they work with  
others in building a world where there is peace, justice and equality. Amen.*  
(adapted from a prayer used at a Brigidine Congregational Forum)

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Clonard College,

Next Friday the 25th of November, the Yr 12 Presentation Dinner will take place at the The Pier, Geelong. This will be our final opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the class of 2011 with their families. The last Unit 3 & 4 examination will take place next Thursday. Congratulations to all of the students who have undertaken and given their best to their exams during this period. It is an exciting time in the life of a Yr 12 student and they finally get the chance to rest from the rigors of study and examinations for the next few months. I very much look forward to formally farewelling the students next Friday evening. Thank you once again to our Yr 12 and VCE Coordinators, Mrs Evelyn Dawson and Mrs Leonie deJong, for their support of the students over the examination period and the organisation of the Presentation Dinner. I would also like to acknowledge each of our Yr 12 teachers who have spent countless hours preparing the students for the examinations.

## VCE Results

VCE results are attainable either online or via SMS on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December. For those students wishing to obtain their results via post, this will take place from Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December.

College Staff will be available on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December to assist students who may require help to determine their options for the future. A letter containing these details has been sent to all Yr 12 families.

## Yr 11 Exams/Transition

The Yr 11 Examination period commenced on Thursday and concludes next Friday the 25th of November. I would encourage our Yr 11 students to do their best with these examinations as they are an important gauge of performance in a subject over the semester. On Monday the 28th of November, Yr 11 students will commence their Yr 12 Orientation classes. The final day for Yr 11 students is Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

## Celebration of Achievement

The Celebration of Achievement takes place on Tuesday the 29th of November at Costa Hall (Deakin University-Waterfront Campus) at 7.30pm. This is a great opportunity to see the many achievements of the students showcased over one evening. Unlike previous years, there will be no charge to people attending this event, and therefore there is not the need to issue tickets. Subject and Encouragement awards will also be presented to students at this gathering, and a letter will be sent to recipients of the awards to ensure their attendance. Although this gathering has never been a compulsory gathering for students, it is vital that as many families as possible support the College through their attendance.

**\*\* Please note that this date is a student free day\*\*** for all students unless they are involved in a performance on the night or they are a Yr 11 student undertaking the orientation program.

## Justice Meal Day

The Justice Meal Day will take place this Wednesday the 23rd of November. The canteen will be closed at lunch time and students and staff will be asked for a \$2 donation. Details concerning this event were published in the last newsletter.

## Yr 7 Parent information Evening/Yr 9 Social

Last night the Yr 7 Parent Information Evening was held in the theatre. This was a chance to welcome our new families to the College and discuss some of the workings of the College. Thank you to our Yr 7 Coordinator Mrs Linda Kiernan, Homeroom and IT staff who assisted with presentations on this night.

On the same night the long awaited Yr 9 Social was held in conjunction with the students from St Joseph's College. An enjoyable night was had by all, and I would like to thank our Yr 9 Coordinator Ms Evans and the Yr 9 Homeroom staff for their attendance.

## Mental Health Presentation

Thank you to those parents who attended the recent forum on Mental Illness and Young People. It was hoped that this forum has enabled parents to support their daughters (whether they are person suffering the illness or is supporting a friend who is) and to learn about local support agencies which exist.

The forum was delivered by Julie Arnall (Education Officer from Headspace Barwon) and Toni Van Hamond (Manager of Headspace Barwon). Thank you to Mr Michael McCallum (Yr 11 Coordinator) for his organisation of this forum.

### SMS Absence Notification

We continue to trial our Text (SMS) Messaging System with our Yr 7 families. We have had some very positive feedback that this has been an important initiative by the College in tracking student attendance. The Message You system will be fully operational from the first day of the 2012 school year. Like all new systems there are times when errors occur and I thank parents for their patience as we rectify any errors during this trial period.

### Cyber workshop for parents

As noted in the last College newsletter, a parent cyber-safety information evening will be held on Monday the 5th of December in the Kildare Theatre at 7:30pm. This presentation is by ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority). Your daughter should by now have brought home a brochure produced by ACMA explaining this presentation. If you were unable to attend the cyber safety presentation last term, this is another opportunity to continue your parental cyber-safety education.

Best Wishes



Damian McKew  
Principal

### Calendar

Wed 23 Nov	Year 12 Final Exam
Fri 25 Nov	Year 12 Presentation Dinner
Tues 29 Nov	Celebration of Achievement Evening Student Free Day except of students in performance items
Fri 01 Dec	Last day for Year 11
Thur 08 Dec	Last day for Years 7 - 10

### Canteen News

Thank you this fortnight is to Dianne Lock, Catherine Schurmann, Sue Harman, Ulrike Honner, Lucy Occibove, Nicole Fursland, Maria Pellegrino and Michelle Jones.

Expected for the following fortnight - Carolyn Durrone, Anita Fitzgerald, Cathey Chenoweth, Kay Hanson, Tina Norrie and Helen Scacco.

Thanks to everyone for coming along and volunteering your time at the canteen. If you are unable to come in as rostered please call the Gneral Office or text me on 0416875941.

Many thanks - Karys



Hey everyone,

As you know I am on a Student Exchange Program in Canada. I am having the most wonderful time. I have made lots of great friends both international and Canadian who I spend lots of time with both in and out of school. School here is GREAT. I only have four subjects: P.E, Canadian History, Economics and Advanced Maths. My favourite subject is P.E. I have joined the Ice Hockey team. It is lots of fun even though I am not very good yet. I suppose that is because I haven't skated very often.

Halloween has just been and it was great. My host sister and I dressed up as ninja's and went trick or treating. It was amazing. I got so much candy, which I ate very quickly, but that doesn't matter!

It was my birthday on the 9<sup>th</sup> November. My friends and I celebrated by going out for supper and then coming back to my host family's house. It was great but unfortunately I got my hair coloured & it turned green! I have officially seen snow and made my first snowman even if it was no bigger than my hand.

Miss you all.

Love Lauren Harding.

## Greek Feast!

Last week, the Year 11 Theatre Studies class combined with the Year 7 Drama classes to present a Greek Feast of Theatre! Three Year 7 classes, Blue, Green and Red performed Oedipus before the Year 11 class presented the sequel, Antigone.

The Year 11 Theatre Studies class is made up of students from Clonard, Sacred Heart and St Joseph's Colleges. They gave four performances of the classic story of duty and resistance. This particular version of the play was written by a French playwright, Jean Anouilh, who used the ancient play by Sophocles to comment on the German occupation of France during World War 2.

My thanks and congratulations to all students involved in last week's plays. Your efforts demonstrated wonderful creativity and enthusiasm. A special mention must be made of Demi Kingston of Year 9 who stepped in at the last minute to play a role vacated by an ill cast member. My thanks also to the maintenance staff, Marion Buckley, the office staff, colleague Jessica Nash, Mike Tong, student crew Hayley Noorderbroek and Keeli Taylor and those family, friends and staff who supported the performances.



*These photos portray the professionalism of the Theatre Study students from Clonard, Sacred Heart and St Josephs*



## Middle School Performances

Next week, the Middle School Playbuilding class will perform original work in their production of A Gallery Tour. This production, featuring monologues, duologues and group scenes, was inspired by art works, poetry and biographical research. It will play on Tuesday night, 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm. Jessica Nash's Middle School Performing Arts class will present the much loved, haunting Australian story, Picnic at Hanging Rock on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm. Performances are at the Kildare theatre and entry to both performances is a gold coin donation.

### **SECONDHAND BOOK SALE**

Due to lack of demand the annual secondhand book sale will not be happening this year. However the College is hosting a secondhand book sale webpage on our website again this year. This initiative was piloted last year and proved quite popular. For book sellers, all you need to do is fill out the details screen with the various books you have available for sale with your contact details and submit this information for posting. Book buyers can go to the same page and view all of the books for sale and contact the sellers directly. Please ensure the books you are buying are the correct edition and title for the subject you are purchasing for as the College will be taking no responsibility for any of the information listed on the billboard. This page is located under the 'Community Portal' tab of the new website under 'Second Hand Books'.

## BLACK TRACK'S EXHIBITION

We would like to extend a warm invitation to members of the Clonard College community to attend the opening of this semester's Black Tracks Exhibition - 'Celebrating Indigenous Pride' on Monday November 28th at 6:00pm. The exhibition will showcase some of the work the Middle School Black Tracks class has undertaken, including interviews with Indigenous people from Victoria, WA, NT, Canada and NZ. Please RSVP for catering purposes by emailing [megan.evans@clonard.catholic.edu.au](mailto:megan.evans@clonard.catholic.edu.au)

BLACK TRACKS 2011 PRESENT

# CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS PRIDE



MONDAY THE 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011  
OPENING AT 6PM  
ILC CLONARD COLLEGE  
ENTER VIA MURPHYS LANE

RSVP - ASAP FOR CATERING PURPOSES:  
[MEGAN.EVANS@CLONARD.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU](mailto:MEGAN.EVANS@CLONARD.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU)

## MENTAL HEALTH - YEAR 11 STUDENT AND PARENT FORUMS THIS WEEK

On Monday this week the Year 11's attended an informative and engaging address by Julie Arnall, Education Officer with Headspace Barwon on the topic of "Mental health and young people". Students were provided with an outline of common misconceptions regarding mental illness generally, as well as symptoms of mental illnesses such as anxiety (the most common mental illness), depression, eating disorders, psychosis and substance abuse. Advice was also provided about identifying possible suicidal thoughts and the need to seek assistance without delay.

One of the key messages delivered also was that we should be asking "Are you okay?" to someone we have seen is not quite themselves or who has exhibited mood swings, is withdrawing from social situations or who expresses feelings of not feeling "right", particularly where the feelings seem to be persisting. Growing awareness provided by the address will hopefully better equip our students to understand their own feelings and the feelings of others around them.

A follow-up parent forum was then held last Tuesday evening with Julie Arnall and the Headspace Barwon manager, Toni van Hamond, addressing the parent gathering. Parents heard about the growing number of referrals of teenagers in the Geelong region to bodies such as Headspace. The symptoms associated with the common forms of mental illnesses noted above were canvassed with parents, with media clips portraying some approaches to "reaching out" to assist others we feel may be in need of help. The need to remove mental illness as a taboo subject, and to start conversations about it, was addressed. It is imperative that our understanding of mental illnesses grows in order to assist those suffering and their friends/family who are often turned to first for advice and support. Read more at <http://www.headspace.org.au/>. Many thanks to our presenters, Julie and Toni for their work this week at Clonard.

**Mr Michael McCallum - Year 11 Co Ordinator**

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS - FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

Community Connections (Vic) Ltd is an independent, non-profit, [child-safe](#) organisation that provides a range of human and social justice services to families, children and individuals who are residents of the Barwon South West region of Victoria.

The core of financial counselling concerns the undertaking of financial analyses, generation of options and advice about debt issues and supporting the client in negotiation with creditors or advocating on their behalf. Prevention of future debt issues is also a priority through budgeting strategies, increased access to income and adjustment to lifestyle. Debt issues are usually associated with considerable stress, family conflict, and behaviours including gambling and avoidance.

The service provided is free of charge and without any conflict of interest. The work undertaken particularly assists low income and vulnerable individuals and families. Financial counsellors work with individuals, families or groups of consumers who are experiencing disadvantage and/or dispute in regard to their financial situations. Financial counsellors provide paralegal information and advocacy on an extensive range of issues related to the inability to pay household bills, loans, credit cards, mortgages, rent, taxation and child support.

Financial counselling is working with the best interests of the client, advocating for the client, placing the needs of the client to the forefront.

A financial counsellor is available at Community Connections (Vic) Ltd Geelong office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between 9am to 4 pm. Appointments are essential. Phone 1300 361 680

## SPORTS NEWS

**ALL SCHOOLS ATHLETIC CARNIVAL** was held in Melbourne on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> November . Three Clonard girls competed in the state competition.

Kaitlyn Kort (year 11) won the U/17 Hammer Throw with a personal best of 50.05m

Jmara Hockley-Samon (year 10) won the U/17 5km Walk. She also beat the U/18 5km walkers both male and female in the same race.

Megan Walker (year 8) received a bronze medal in the U/15 Walk.

Congratulations to all the girls on their fantastic performances.

Kaitlyn and Jmara have now qualified for the Nationals in Brisbane in early December. We wish all the girls well in their Athletics over the coming season.

**Sam Griffin - Sports Co Ordinator**