

Rosebank College

GAZETTE



Celebrating
140 years

RULE OF BENEDICT

Receive me, Lord, according to your promise and I will live. Do not disappoint me in my hope.
58.116-119

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Dear parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

As the world waited for the first rays of protons to be accelerated around the 27-kilometre ring of the \$9 billion Large Hadron Collider [LHC] (built about 100 metres underground near Geneva) our students were presenting their views on the impact of technology (particularly communication technology) on stage.

Creative arts week has been a feast of music and drama performances as well as art and design exhibitions. The depth and breadth of talent has again dazzled the audience. We pay tribute to the courage and commitment of our students who have shared so much of themselves with us and in doing so have taken us into a part of their lives, their hearts and their minds.

We also pay tribute to our mums and dads who walk this journey with all its ups and downs. The production of major works impacts on every one in the family and requires a great gift of time, patience and support as our young creatives struggle to learn and use the language of their heart.

Finally I pay tribute to our dedicated staff who mentor, guide and support these wonderful young men and women on this journey. They are continually motivating, critiquing, instructing, counselling and discerning. This requires unique skills, a great love for their chosen course and a passion for assisting students to be fulfilled and do their personal best.

We offer all our senior students our best wishes as the final HSC works and performances are assessed this week and as they now focus on the theoretical components of their course for the

HSC. We also encourage our younger performers and artists to continue to improve their skills and look forward to years of challenging and critiquing entertainment.

No new technology has ever left the world untouched. *"The machine does not isolate man from the great problems of nature but plunges him more deeply into them"*. (Saint-Exupéry), The commencement of the LHC (in which Australia has invested \$2.5 million) will undoubtedly bring new knowledge and understandings to the human race about our universe. With this advance humans take on more responsibility for the planet. This is not necessarily a bad thing as it replicates the process of growth we all go through from adolescence to adulthood. However we are reminded by Isaac Asimov that *"The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom"*.

I have found myself expressing at numerous venues the deep belief that there has never been a more challenging time in human history than now to be a parent or teacher. And there has never been a more important time to teach for wisdom.

May all advances be tempered with a growing sense of awe and wonder at the gift of creation and reverence for the creator who makes all things possible. May we never lose our humility as we gather knowledge and skills that have allowed us to become co-creators involved in the ever-changing planet and indeed the universe.

Tom Galea, Principal

National Literacy & Numeracy Week



Featuring next issue:
Creative Arts Week

Up-Dates from the Coordinator of Mission

The spiritual life of Rosebank College continues to be truly alive and active in this Ordinary Time of the Church year.

Humility the Rule of St Benedict

St Benedict devotes an entire chapter to a discussion of humility. About humility, he states, "The first step of humility is that a person keeps the fear of God always before his eyes and never forgets it." The phrase "fear of God" tends to be viewed as a negative thing—how is it that we need to "fear" a loving God? Fear in this context refers to we human beings knowing who we are in the presence of God. This, too, is what humility is: knowing our true self, the good and the bad. In this sense, humility is about being honest—with oneself, with others and with God. St Benedict's second aspect of humility relates to seeking to do "God's will" rather than our own. The third step is that we are obedient to those who have authority over us. The fourth component relates to the third in that being obedient may sometimes bring with it personal suffering. Next week there shall be a continuation of this exploration of St Benedict's examination of humility. May our Rosebank College community prayer this week be that we always act with true humility in the sight of God. May we be honest about whom we are and strive to become better people each day. Amen.

Good Samaritan Immersion Program: Goodooga

This weekend, four Year 11 students, Stephanie Blasé, Louise Menegoni, Jay Barrett and Cassandra Champley will be participating in a training program which will prepare them for their one week stint in the Aboriginal community of Goodooga in northern New South Wales. This immersion program aims to educate the participants about the Aboriginal way of life by giving the students an extended, first-hand experience of what life is like for the Goodooga community. The immersion experience will take place during the first week of the coming school holidays. In order to help cover the costs of the event, the four participants are having to fundraise. More information about this event will be conveyed in the coming weeks. We wish these four students well—especially that they gain greatly from the experience.

Angelo Gattone

Dates for the Diary

15–23 September	Yr 11 Exam/ Assessment Block
24 September	Yr 12 Farewell Assembly
25 September	Yr 12 Graduation Mass & Dinner
26 September	Term 2 Concludes
13 October	Term 4 commences
16 October	HSC exams commence
21 October	Yr 11 2009 Course Confirmation Interviews
22–24 October	Yr 9 Camp/Senior Retreat
31 October	Yr 8 & 9 Dance Party
10 November	School Certificate exams commence. Yr 12 2009 UAI Information evening and Parent – Teacher interviews

Geography at Rosebank

Foreign Aid: What does Australia do?

Year 10 Geography students took some time out of normal lessons this week to view a visual presentation on natural disasters and Australia's foreign aid responses.



Simon Goode spoke to us from AusAID, an Australian Government organisation responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program. He told us about natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region that have recently happened such as the Boxing Day Tsunami, Burma Cyclone, and the earthquake in China.

He best illustrated the magnitude and devastation these events had through photographs, retelling the stories of people affected by the disaster and also sharing his own experiences.

He informed us on what AusAID does to provide relief and aid for countries suffering from natural disasters. Overall, it was a valuable and informative presentation that will assist Yr 10 Geography in their current unit of work on Australia's regional and global links.

Jana Kiriazidis, Year 10

Flourishing Fig Awards

The Race – First Place

My heart raced in my chest as I looked at the fig tree, the finish line. I glanced to my right at Eric: he was ready, standing in position to sprint to the finish line, to win. I moved into position and saw his eyes flicker to me and then back to the tree, sweat going down his cheek bone. I turned my attention back to the tree. "Ready," I said, "set". I took a deep breath in, adrenaline running through me. "Go!" I yelled and sprinted in front of Eric. "YOU CHEATED, SAM" he managed to say as he started to sprint after me. I laughed to myself.

My legs and arms started to ache and my bare feet started to burn like they were on fire, it seemed so close to run from the school gate to the fig tree but it wasn't. I was close now, but Eric was only centimetres away from me, the tree was so close, I reached out to touch it.

The something grabbed my legs and pulled me to the ground, I felt my head hit something. I felt wind blow pass me as Eric sprinted past. I heard him hit the tree and scream in victory, but then it stopped and I heard him run toward me. I opened my eyes; they stung as I got sand in my eyes.

"I'll get a teacher," Eric said and ran off. I rolled over onto my back. I heard the chain rattle as it tightened around my leg. I touched my forehead. There was blood; I left my hand fall next to me. The chain on my leg ripped through me; I could barely feel my legs now. "Eric," I whispered. Where was he?

I heard someone coming and looked over to see Eric with a teacher. She reached into her pocket and pulled a little silver phone. "Miss is going to call for help, okay," Eric said.

How do you manage to forget something you walk past every day? I had a clear picture of the rusty chain which surrounded the old fig tree in my head for a brief moment.

I closed my eyes and left like I was drowning in darkness. I felt like someone had grabbed me by the legs and started to drag me down, deeper into darkness that would swallow me whole, and then everything went black.

By Bianca Sanvido, Year 8

National Literacy & Numeracy Week Partnerships in Learning

National Literacy and Numeracy Week was celebrated in all schools across the nation from 1–7 September. The theme for this year was PARTNERSHIPS IN LEARNING, and Rosebank College certainly embraced this concept!

Numeracy Challenges

Each day, students from Years 7-10 were invited to participate in lunch time challenges that extended and tested their numeracy skills. Congratulations to the following students who proved their problem solving and numeracy prowess and earned prizes at each of these challenges:

Problem Solving: Students were challenged to solve puzzles and problems involving spatial reasoning and logic.

Prize winners: Erica Chung (10B), Wine Tunyalukmara (10B)
Number Systems Jeopardy: Students competed in teams to answer questions relating to number systems, theories and operations.
Prize winners: Connie Calvisi and team (Yr 8)

School Environment Quiz: Students competed in teams to solve word puzzles relating to measurement vocabulary.

Prize winners: Arianna Rizzi (8A), Erin Knaap (8A), Gabrielle Read (8B)

Interactive Maths Challenge: Students competed in online challenges such as “Broken Calculator” and “Who Wants to Be a Mathonaire?”.

Prize winners: Claudia Scarfo (7G), Laura Rojas (10B)

Geometry Jeopardy: Students competed in teams to answer questions relating to geometry basics, shapes and solids.

Prize winners: Claudia Scarfo (7G), Joanne Aunalla (7G), Lamia Yacoub (7A)

Flourishing Fig Awards

Students were encouraged to submit a creative writing piece centring around our treasured fig tree. Pieces could be entered in the categories of narrative, poetry and media.

Congratulations to Bianca Sanvido (8B) for winning first place and Hayley McGuinness (9C) for gaining second place in this competition. Please see page 2 for the winning entry, *The Race* and below for second place entry.

Fig Tree

You stand proud and tall
Silently watching over all
Your beauty we can not measure
Your history we dearly treasure.

At mercy only to the winds call
Nature's anger you do befall
But through the perils of time you endure
Not a leaf on your branch is impure.

To us you are dear
We're safe when you're near
You stand as our protector
The calmer of our anger.
You're witness to our fear
Our every secret you hear
With every success you get larger
With every discovery you grow farther.

By Hayley McGuinness, Year 9

Book Displays

The library was a sea of hands as students decorated their own hand symbol with their favourite book title for the “Partnerships in Reading” display in the library. So, what were the most popular book titles?

Twilight by Stephanie Meyer

Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

Harry Potter (all editions!) by J.K. Rowling

And what about the staff? They, too, displayed their favourite book choices, stirring much interest amongst the students. Some of their choices are listed below.

Mr Hoy – *Goodbye Mr Chips* by James Hilton

“It tells the story of a much-loved school teacher, Arthur Chipping, who conquers his inability to connect with the boys at Brookfield, the boarding school where he teaches.”

Ms Staniforth – *Shantaram* by Gregory Roberts

“At 842 pages you will experience a sense of achievement when you turn the last page.”

Mr Murphy – *Big Shots* by Adam Shand

“A good read, but not for those put off by underworld violence.” (Suitable for older readers)

Ms Laing – *Tomorrow When the War Began* by John Marsden

“A thrilling tale of a group of teenagers who fight for survival against enemy invasion of their country town.”

Ms Tracy – *Breath* by Tim Winton

“Literally breath-taking, beautifully written, emotionally challenging. The rhythm of the language reflects the rhythm of the breath, the action.”

Ms Layden – *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* by Louis de Bernievs

“Comedy, love, death, tragedy – this book has it all. De Bernievs weaves his wonderful, quirky characters through a moment in history and the idiocy of war in a poignant, funny and utterly enjoyable manner.”

Mr Gattone – *The Road Less Travelled* by M. Scott Peck

“It is helpful in its practical application to daily life and it presents the lives of many different people struggling to come to terms with the fact that ‘life is difficult.’”

Ms Starr – *Griffin and Sabine* by Nick Bantock

“Visually spectacular, compelling prose. Leaves you wanting more. A beautiful story!”

Classroom Activities

Throughout the week, all classes were busily engaging in activities to challenge and extend their literacy and numeracy skills. The focus was on graphs, measurement, mapping and co-operative activities. Whilst there were many wonderful activities happening around the school, I would like to highlight the work of one teacher in particular.

8 Geography B: Students were asked to engage in a dictagloss activity – a listening activity that requires students to listen to a text, pick out the key words, then collaboratively construct a summary of what they have heard. Very useful for conveying the main ideas!

9 Geography P: Students created their own population pyramids for the Australian population.

11 Economics: Students had to work together to differentiate between the HSC key words issued by the Board of Studies. Using lollies as their subjects, students described the difference between the responses required for each of the key words and ranked the verbs in a hierarchy of thinking. Despite the opportunity to actually eat the lollies, the best part of the lesson was the valuable understanding the students gained of the types of responses required during the HSC examinations.

Thank you, Ms Saito, for your hard work and dedication – the students are very lucky to have you!

A huge thank you to all the staff, and in particular, the Learning Support team, for their enthusiastic participation in this wonderful week of learning opportunities.

Marina Laing, Learning Support Coordinator

See Ms. McAloon or log on to www.careercentral.com.au

UAC Key Dates 2009 Admissions

University applications for 2009 admission close 30 September. Prospective students can explore university facilities, receive information on the range of courses available and obtain careers advice at Open Days listed below:

ACU National	Strathfield	13 September
Macquarie University	North Ryde	13 September

Private Colleges also offer diploma and degree courses with Open Days in September as follows:

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School	The Entertainment Quarter, 130 Bent St, Moore Park	20 September 11am to 3pm
Australian Careers Business College	Liverpool	16 September
Travel, Tourism, Marketing, Paralegal Studies, Secretarial, Child Care, IT, Accounting, Real Estate, Computing	Parramatta	17 September
JMC Academy Music and Entertainment Registrations required	41 Holt St, Surry Hills	13 September

University of Notre Dame

The closing date for 2009 applications is Friday 26 September. Applications must be made to Notre Dame direct (not UAC).

Educational Access Scheme

Students who feel their studies in Yrs 11/12 have been adversely affected by circumstances beyond their control can apply to UAC for special consideration under the Educational Access Scheme. On-time applications close 30 September

Macquarie University Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 24 September from 6pm–8pm. Information on scholarships, UAC application procedures, Academic Advantage, uniTEST and Managing HSC Stress will be available as well as information on Macquarie University degree programs and the opportunity to meet current students and academic staff. To RSVP go to: <http://www.futurestudent.mq.edu.au/undergraduate/>.

Thinking about studying at TAFE in 2009?

Sydney Institute has seven colleges located across central Sydney and the southern suburbs, offering you over 800 training programs. Information sessions are an opportunity to meet with professional career advisers and teachers who are industry experts. You can find out about your career and training options, study support, financial assistance, applications and how to enrol for 2009. For more information call 1300 360 601 or visit www.sit.nsw.edu.au. Information sessions as follows:

Design Centre Enmore	13 September	10.00am–3.00pm
Loftus	16 September	7.00–8.30pm
Gynea	17 September	7.00–8.30pm
Petersham	17 September	4.00–8.00pm

University Experience ACU

Australian Catholic University Experience will be held at Strathfield campus on Tuesday 30 September and Wednesday 1 October; North Sydney campus on Thursday 2 October from 9.30am to 3.00pm. The program offers the chance to explore university life and courses. There will be interactive sessions in Arts, Business, Early Childhood, Education, Environmental Science, Exercise Science, Information Systems, Nursing, Social Work, Visual Arts and Design and Student Life will be run. For more information and to register for these exciting sessions, please visit: www.acu.edu.au/universityexperience

ANZ School Based Traineeships

2008 Year 10 students are invited to apply for trainee positions with the ANZ Bank and complete a Certificate II qualification in either Financial Services or Business during Years 11 and 12. Trainees must complete at least 800 hours work at ANZ during the 2 year traineeship with at least 8 hours per week and more hours during school holidays. The work place provider will interview candidates and will be the employer of successful candidates throughout their traineeship. Please see Ms McAloon if you are interested.

APM scholarships now close on Friday October 3

APM invites talented, ambitious students to enter the scholarship competition of a lifetime. Students are required to complete an application form and be creative - the application is an exercise in marketing themselves! Two full-fee scholarships are on offer, as well as five half-fee scholarships, across APM College of Business and Communication and APM Training Institute.

William Blue Scholarships

The Hospitality and Tourism scholarships close on Friday 19 September. Students must submit an application questionnaire with a short 5–7 minutes presentation. This can be written or in digital format. One full scholarship is on offer, as well as a number of bursaries. For more details call 9955 1122 or email info@think.edu.au. Students can post their completed entries to Scholarships 2009, Emma Bailey / THINK: Education Group, PO Box 728, North Sydney NSW 2059

CSU Jewellery Workshop

The B of Arts (Jewellery) course at Charles Sturt University prepares graduates for careers as designers, manufacturers and business managers in the jewellery industry. Jewellery Workshop: Wagga from 8-10 October. RSVP by 3 October.

Minerals Summer School

Mining Engineering at the University of NSW will host a 4 day, fully residential and supervised Minerals Summer School from 12–15 January 2009 for students currently in Year 10/11. Applications close 15 September.

Please see Ms McAloon, Careers Advisor, for more information on any of the above notices or visit www.careercentral.edu.au. Parents and teachers can also register online at Career Central. To open a user account, click 'registered' and follow the prompts.