

Rosebank College

GAZETTE



Celebrating
140 years

RULE OF BENEDICT

We believe that the divine presence is everywhere and that *in every place the eyes of the Lord are watching the good and the wicked.* (Prov 15.3)

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Dear parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

Today I would like to focus on the role of the Parents and Friends Association in the emerging new college.

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current hard working executive who singlehandedly managed to supervise, organise and facilitate a large number of events in 2008. These included the "Under the Fig Tree" parent social evening, catering for the Benedictine Lectures, providing food, hospitality and security for the College Open Day, catering for the Mother's Day Mass, organising the parent information program in Term 3 and recently the staff morning tea.

The P&F also sponsor the innovation grant program which last year funded the Festival of the Creative Spirit. This year the contributions of the P&F have also assisted in the production of numerous short films by students and has increased the supply of video cameras in the college for other curriculum areas.

The executive are highly efficient and are able to mobilise a wonderful group of generous families at different times in the year for each of these events. They also have experienced a little disappointment with the need to postpone the parents' dinner dance due to reduced interest this year.

They have planned another amazing program for 2009 to welcome in all our new and existing families. On behalf of the College Community I congratulate Mrs Stella Solomon, Mrs Ann King, Mrs Dawn Farrell, Mrs Samia Slosu, Mrs Helen McLucas who have given us so much of themselves in 2008.

They have given wonderful witness to the Benedictine values of hospitality, stewardship and love and we are deeply grateful.

As we look to 2009 we want to enlarge the executive to share the burden and increase

participation in the various activities.

Further in pursuing a stronger voice for students in the running of their school we also want to involve more parents in conversations as to how we grow and develop this wonderful community so that we can continue to prepare young men and women for the opportunities ahead. I welcome your thoughts and views on this important aspect of partnership in education.

Finally the state government this week brought down a Mini Budget which will impact on all families in some way from a schooling point of view. In summary

1. The Government will make a saving of \$58 million per annum from the cessation of the back to school allowance. However, \$20 million of this saving is to be directed to schools with low SES, Special Needs Learning Support and Student Assistance Scheme. For Catholic schools this will equate to \$2.9 million. Rosebank is yet to be informed by the Catholic Education Commission how this redistribution will occur.
2. The Mini Budget confirms the introduction of an annual co-payment of \$45 per primary student and \$90 for secondary students using the Scheme, with a cap of \$180 per family and providing provisions for hardship. The Government anticipates a saving of \$33 million per annum from co-payment contributions.

At this stage there are no details on the arrangements for the introduction of the co-payments. It is hoped that details will be forwarded to College as they become available.

We continue to encourage you to let your local members know your thoughts about these changes and how they will impact on your family.

May God continue to shower blessings on all our community particularly the sick and those grieving the loss of loved ones.

Tom Galea, Principal

Year 7 Drama Puppet Performances Year 12 2008 Sign Out Day



From the Assistant Principal

STUDENT DRIVERS

The College is well served by public transport and in the interests of the environment students are strongly encouraged to make continued use of this service. For reasons of convenience however, for example early/late senior classes or involvement in TVET courses, some students may have a genuine need to drive to school.

While most young drivers are careful, safety conscious and considerate when driving, they are one of the most vulnerable road user groups. Travelling with teenage passengers adds to the risk for these young drivers

With this in mind, the College seeks to take all reasonable measures to ensure the welfare and safety of students.

Rationale

Our young drivers, and in particular our male students, are the most vulnerable road users in Australia. NSW crash statistics indicate the following:

- A 17-year-old driver is about four times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash than a driver aged 26 or older.
- Males make up 79% of the drivers under 26 involved in fatal crashes
- Young drivers have a greater risk of involvement in a fatal crash if they have two or more passengers. (NSW Roads and Traffic Authority)

Ms Peruzzi has informed Year 12 students that those wishing to drive to school need to obtain permission to do so, and must abide by the College's Student Driver Code of Behaviour. This includes the provision that only one Rosebank student may be taken as a passenger, with the permission of that student's parent/guardian.

Any student wishing to drive to school, or be a passenger with a Rosebank student needs to see Ms Peruzzi for an Information/Permission form.

Miriam Berlage

Dates for the Diary

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| 19 November | Yr 7 2009 Orientation Day |
| 21 November | Yr 10 to return all books to book hire |
| 24–28 November | VET Work Placement, Year 10 Transition program |
| 27 November | Yr 12 Formal |
| 28 November | Advent/ Year 10 Mass, final day for Year 10 |
| 3 December | College Presentation Night |
| 8–10 December | Yr 12 2009 Assessment period |
| 9 December | Yr 7–9 Picnic Day |
| 10 December | Final day for students |
| 12 December | Yr 10 collect School Certificate results |
| 18 December | Morning tea for Yr 12 2008 students |
| 29 January 2009 | All students return to school |

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, where we endeavour to "LIVE THE RULE".

Advent: A Time To Care For Others

At Rosebank, Advent is traditionally a time for our community to look outwards and to reach out to others—most especially the poor, the marginalised and the disadvantaged. To this end, each Year Group has been assigned the task of raising money and/or much needed items for a specific charity.

Year 7 have been invited to donate appropriate items for Christmas hampers for the St Vincent De Paul Society. The hampers will be distributed to many homeless people and to those from disadvantaged families.

Year 8 students will be raising money by selling Christmas cards to assist Fr Chris Riley in his work in helping young people. Youth Off The Streets supports chronically homeless and drug addicted young Australians as they work to turn their lives around. It is Fr Chris Riley's goal that these young people will leave his care drug free, with a high school education, living skills and a full or part time job in hand. Based on the philosophy that every young person has greatness within, these programs are non-denominational and non-discriminatory.

Year 9 students will be raising money to donate to the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) which is part of the general work of ministry by the Sydney Archdiocese. It is funded by the Charitable Works Fund, and has 2 full-time, and 4 part-time staff, as well as 2 Sisters and a Priest assisting. The ACM has been commissioned by the Sydney Archdiocese to promote Reconciliation, to work for mutual understanding between people, and help put an end to racism and prejudice.

Year 10 will be collecting money for the Good Samaritan Sisters In Kiribati. The Sisters run schools in these places and also work with the disabled and mentally ill people. The Sisters' work provides opportunities for community building and, in turn, builds tolerance and understanding amongst the villagers.

Year 11 will be raising money for the Children First Foundation. Founded by Moira Kelly, the organisation developed a wide network of hospitals and doctors in Australia, New York, London, Boston, Toronto and Ireland. She has travelled to countries like Albania and Somalia, collected sick children, and flown them to those western countries where they could undergo life-saving medical treatment. For some it has meant heart surgery. Others have been given prosthetic arms and legs, or had plastic surgery to address terrible facial deformities. For many children it can mean months of recuperation and when they leave hospital, these children are cared for at Moira's "Children First Rotary Farm" outside Melbourne.

As part of the 'Family of Humanity', it is our responsibility to give generously to such worthy causes in order to support those less fortunate in our community. This is particularly appropriate at this time of the year, in the lead up to Christmas, because this is the time of year during which we all share in the spirit of giving, peace and justice.

Therefore, let our Rosebank College community prayer this week be that we be people who not only speak of justice, but that we are a community which acts justly. May we give generously and lovingly to those in need. Amen.

Angelo Gattone

8B Unlock The Mystery

This year, Year 8 have been studying picture books in their English classes. They had the privilege of exploring a fantastic book titled *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*. This is a collection of pictures with accompanying titles and opening lines for the story. The collection has an interesting origin a children's book publisher was once approached by a gentleman going by the name of Harris Burdick. Mr Burdick told the publisher that he had written fourteen stories with accompanying drawings, but he had only brought with him one picture from each story. The publisher was very interested and asked Mr Burdick to return the next day with the completed stories but Mr Burdick never returned. Despite many attempts, Harris Burdick was never found and the whereabouts of his wonderful stories remains a mystery. Until now, 8B spent a very productive week writing their own stories to accompany a picture in the book - no mean feat, given that all they had was a picture, a title and an opening line. The results have been astounding, and I think we have unlocked the mystery after all Harris Burdick is a member of 8B!

Some of 8B's stories will be published in upcoming newsletters. I hope you enjoy them as much as we have.

Marina Laing, English teacher

The Seven Chairs

The fifth one ended up in France. The location of the other six chairs is unknown. Some say they went to Africa, some say Australia, but there is no way of truly knowing where they ended up. The whole story is a total mystery, no-one can figure out just why seven ordinary chairs would take flight around the world so suddenly.

As many mysteries start, it was a normal day. The fifth chair was going about its daily business, providing seating for church-goers in the Sunday service. The other six doing their seating rounds in the church Sunday school when suddenly, one by one, they took off. Slowly at first, then without warning, the chair and the unlucky person sitting on it were whisked away. Now this isn't exactly a regular event so understandably, the people were totally gobsmacked, speechless even. More so when the rest of the 'Seven Chairs' (as they're now known), followed suit.

You may now be thinking, 'so why do you know where the fifth chair went?' This 'fifth chair' is no ordinary chair; it was handcrafted especially for the church and is engraved with Birmingham Church, England. So when it landed in France, the people weren't puzzled as to where it came from. As for the nun who was sitting on it, that's a different story altogether.

The other six chairs? Well they could be anywhere; you could be sitting on one right now as you read this story. There are predictions that this may be the biggest unsolved mystery of the world, it can't be solved. The witnesses can't make sense of what they saw, there's no evidence as to who could be responsible, nothing. Not a trace of anything. The only thing they have to go by is the fifth chair which is polished and cleaned everyday. The only DNA on it is that of the nun who disappeared soon after; probably from shock. Will this ever get solved? Or will we just have to be prepared for the next time an ordinary chair takes flight?

— Lizzie Reichardt, 8B

Year 10 Work Experience at RPA

For years now, I've wanted to be a doctor, however I never really knew what to expect. However I was fortunate on the 29th September to experience a small dose as to what this tremendous career entailed. It was the annual Year 10 Work Experience Week and I was off to none other than the Cardiology Ward at RPA hospital in Camperdown. On that initial morning I was so anxious; was I going to be late? Would I get lost? Was it to be as I expected? All these questions and more circulated in my head. On my arrival I met my supervisor for the week Ms. Xiuyao Ruan and she had done so much to facilitate me and ensured that I was able to receive the whole (well most) of the medical experience. I wasn't necessarily with doctors, however I was able to speak to some and they were so helpful in answering my many questions about the profession. The things I saw at times seemed to be out of Grey's Anatomy. While I was there a woman died from a rare fault in the heart and a man died from a cardiac-arrest. Also I saw a catheter being put into the pulmonary vein for an angiogram, but I had to leave half way through as the hospital thought I was too young to witness. In addition, I experienced the very long 'tilt' test, ECGs, ECHOs and numerous stress tests. All I was so very interested in. I even had the opportunity to speak to one of the senior Cardiologists who resembled greatly to our Mr Murphy. He too was very accomodating showing me everything and explaining to me what was going on in the EP lab (also there was a Mr Dixon look-alike). On the whole, I was greatly surprised as to how everyone was so friendly and was willing to show and teach me so much about their work. I was so grateful to Chris, Mireille, Xiuyao, Dr Chan and Dr Killborn and everyone else in the ECG and ECHO department for all their time teaching and showing me, answering my questions and making me love medicine even more. In conclusion, my time there at RPA was of the most brilliant things I have ever done. And to answer the age old question of 'is the hospital like what you see on TV?' No, not really, not everyone is so serious, there is a lot of laughing that goes on.

— Laura Rojas, 10B



Laura doing her work experience at RPA

Rosebank Parents

School based apprentice/trainee employers needed!

School-based apprenticeships (SBA) and traineeships (SBT) allow senior high school students to commence an apprenticeship or complete a traineeship that contributes towards the HSC. SBAs and SBTs work part-time and undertake their formal or off-the-job training whilst still completing their HSC. Rosebank has a student interested in pursuing a carpentry SBA. I am asking any parent who might have contacts in the construction industry to get in touch about prospective SBAT employment for this student. Please phone Ms McAloon on 97133105 if you could provide a lead in this regard.

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.

Sydney Uni Pays \$20,000 for Student Brain

Study an IT degree at Sydney Uni and apply for the Microsoft Research Asia Scholarship in IT. Applications close 21 November 2008. For applications go to: www.it.usyd.edu.au/mra_scholarship

Apprenticeship Information Session

Meadowbank TAFE, together with industry partners, will provide study and employment information on Monday 24 November from 4-7pm. To register phone Daniela Kiely on 94887505 or visit: www.northwestben.com.au.

Legal Work Experience

Students in Yrs 10-12 interested in pursuing a legal career may apply for work experience with a solicitor on the North Shore providing legal advice/services to clients at Ryde Local Court each Wednesday & Friday... see Ms McAloon if interested.

Plumbing/Carpentry and Joinery

Alliance People Solutions and Gymea Campus TAFE NSW are offering pre-apprenticeship courses in Plumbing, Carpentry and Joinery commencing December. You must attend a compulsory Information Session. Registrations required.

HSC Careers Advisory Service

The NSW Department of Education and Training Careers Advisory Services will operate between 17 December and 9 January 2009 following the release of the 2008 HSC results by the Board of Studies. Check out your career and study options!

National Careers and Employment Expos 2009

The expos brings careers, employment and training opportunities to the general public. Sydney (29/30 May)

New CSU IT Course

CSU has partnered with IBM to develop the B Information Technology (Business Services) degree to provide highly skilled IT professionals for industry clients such as Country Energy and NSW Dept of Lands. Scholarships provided for all courses.

Fashion Show

Students of Raffles College of Design and Commerce will parade their catwalk creations before the public and industry at the end of year student fashion show on 9 December at Sydney's contemporary arts centre, CarriageWorks.

Film/TV Info Session

Metro Screen offers training in film, video, TV and digital storytelling. Find out all you need to know about the Certificate IV in Screen and Media at an information session on 3 December. RSVP required.

Christian Mission Gap Year

Church Army Australia offers a Global GAP Year program for school leavers interested in Church mission. Gain a nationally-accredited Certificate IV in Local Mission. Overnight Info Session: 28/29 Nov.

Airline Pilot Career Workshops

Basair's Airline Pilot Career Workshops are an ideal way for you to find out if a career in aviation is for you! Workshops include 2 hrs of flying training and ½ hr simulator instruction. Bankstown/Cessnock Airport: January 6/7 and 20/21.

UOW Alternative Entry Pathway

Wollongong College Australia offers a range of University preparation programs, which can provide you with a direct entry path to the University of Wollongong. FEE HELP available. An Information Session will be held on 27 January 2009.

2009 Electricity Supply Industry Field Days

EnergyAustralia is opening the Electricity Supply Industry Field Days on 6-7 May 2009 to schools interested in providing Yrs 9/11 students taking Science, Maths or Technical related subjects with

an insight into the electrical distribution industry.

APS Cert IV Government Traineeships

The Department of Environment and Water Resources Canberra is seeking Year 12 school leavers interested in undertaking a Certificate IV in Government Traineeship under the School Leaver Traineeship Program in 2009.

Alternative Entry at Macquarie

Sydney Institute of Business and Technology (SIBT) provides opportunities for students seeking an alternative entry to University.

Taronga Zoo Work Experience 2009

Taronga Zoo offers a Work Experience Program for NSW school students who are keen to pursue a career in zookeeping, animal care or zoo horticulture. Applications close 27 February 2009.

HSC Summer School 2009

Edassist will offer a lecture program at Sydney Uni for Yr 12 students from 12-23 January 09 covering key topics in 12 HSC subjects plus Essay Writing, Time Management and Exam Strategies. Accommodation available. Postal Applications close 7/1.

Have Your Say!

The NSW Commission for Children and Young People is offering 12 young people the opportunity to be on its Young People's Reference Group. Applications close 1 December.

Animation Skills Workshop

The Academy of Interactive Entertainment is offering Animation Workshops with Simon Allen – one of the best in the business, having worked on *The Matrix*, *Happy Feet* and *WALL-E*. Sydney (17-18/11). Sydney Campus will offer Adv Diploma courses in the Computer Game Development and 3D Digital industries, commencing 2009. Open Day: 15 November.

USYD Ag Camp

Talented Yr 11/12 students interested in careers in Agriculture and Natural Resources are invited to apply for 'Ag Camp' run by the University of Sydney from 21-23 November. Hands-on activities, workshops and lectures. Limited places. Apply ASAP!

Indigenous Hotel Management Traineeships

The Australian Hotel Association (AHA) and AFL Sports Ready are offering young Indigenous people the opportunity to participate in the Indigenous Hotel Management Traineeship program.

Julius Media Open Day

Julius Media specialises in Entertainment Technical training from Certificate IV to Advanced Diploma level. Degree pathway available. An Open Day and Career Talk will be held on 15 Nov. Bookings essential.

Aim for the Stars Foundation

Aim for the Stars offers ambitious and dedicated females 12yrs+ an opportunity to receive financial and moral support to help them achieve their goals. Applications close 15 November

Gifted Holiday Program

GERRIC at UNSW offers holiday programs for gifted school children. The Scientia Challenge Program for students in Yrs 7-10 will run 22-23 January. Applications close 17 November 2008.

UTS Year 12 Info Sessions

Year 12 and parents are invited to attend an Information Session for prospective students at UTS. Kuring-gai Campus, 18 Nov; City Campus, 4&8 Dec. Registrations required.

Scholarships@SCU

Full-time undergraduate applicants commencing Semester 1, 2009 at Southern Cross University are invited to apply for the scholarships on offer. Applications close 21 Nov.