



GAZETTE

From the Principal

VOLUME NO. 3 – 20 FEBRUARY 2009

Dear parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

This was a week of parent information nights and social gatherings. It is our attempt to ensure that parents are informed of what is happening here at Rosebank and to offer our support in the raising of your children.

It is arguably the most challenging time in history to raise children. The forces that make this so include the constant and instantaneous nature of electronic communication and in particular the mobile phone. Hence the continual referencing young people make to their friends rather than their parents and other significant adults in their lives. Our impact on their value system, their decision making process, their priorities and their activities is modified and sometimes lessened.

This change in how young people acquire and process information is actually changing the wiring in their minds as all new technologies have done in the past (e.g. the car, the phone, the printing press etc).

However, the difference is that the current communication technologies are more pervasive, more intimate and more immediate. We as adults have to learn to live with them and so do our children.

New ways of living together in a family are emerging. The scene in many homes is of individuals in bedrooms using their PC with iPods wired to their ears and the mobile in their hands for texting. Mums and dads are having to bring more work home on their laptops as well as through the internet and emails.



Communication with the outside world is dominating the time for families almost to the point that time for each other seems impossible.

This is as serious for relationships among the adults as it is with the kids. This pervasive technology needs to be bridled and tamed. We all need to make decisions as to how we live with it. For example in your home at what time do all mobile technologies (parents and kids) get switched off or silenced? Where are the PCs located? How are laptops being used? When do the wireless routers and or the internet get turned off? When is there time to just talk together without interference from others?

These are becoming profound questions for families but must be addressed. If they are not, we will wake one day to find people in our families that 'we do not know' as many parents are already finding.

The other issue addressed this week is the role of teenage parties at home. Given the bad experiences of many parents (mainly due to gate crashing) we strongly advise that you are prepared. We are happy to share the wisdom of others in this matter and Year Coordinators will welcome a phone call to assist. Please be aware that where two or more Rosebank students are gathered we are effectively there and so if bad things happen we will be implicated. Hence it is best we work in partnership to minimise the risk.

May you grow wise and strong in your parenting and may our partnership be life giving and empowering for all.

Tom Galea

Dates for the Diary

20 February
Under the Fig Tree, 7.30pm
Year 7 & 8 Information Evenings

23 February
Year 10 immunisations

24 February
Benedictine Lecture
Islam and Peace by Mrs Nada Roude

25 February
Ash Wednesday

26 February
Year 7 immunisations

3 March
School photos
Benedictine Lecture

7–8 March
Duke of Edinburgh Camp

10 March
Benedictine Lecture
Yr 10 Geography excursion

11 March
P&F AGM

18 March
Yr 7 & 11 Interim Report Interviews

24 March
Yr 8, 9 & 10 Interim Report Interviews

E-Newsletter

If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter electronically, please send a request to obtain your Gazette by email to:

newsletter@rosebank.nsw.edu.au

Benedictine Lecture Series

Tuesday 24 February, 7.30pm
Peace in the Islamic Tradition.
Presented by Mrs Nada Roude

Tuesday 3 March, 7.30pm
An Environment in which to Grow.
Presented by Mr Patrick Dodson

Tuesday 10 March, 7.30pm
Peace in the Christian Tradition.
Presented by Mr Robert Haddad

From the Assistant Principal

During this week we have provided opportunities for parents of students in Years 7–10 to meet with their child's Home Room teacher and other parents at our Information Evenings. Such occasions are invaluable ways for parents to gain a greater insight into the daily life and expectations of the College. Later this term there will be opportunities for students in Years 7–11 and their parents to meet with class teachers in order to have some focussed conversations about learning.

Underlining the role of parent involvement in education is an article which appeared in the media last week, outlining some of the findings of a Queensland University of Technology study.

"The family has the largest influence on children's learning outcomes and how parents value school education is very important," Professor Donna Berthelsen said.

"If parents are involved with their children's learning in the early years of school, it makes it more likely that their children will complete school and go on to further study." It has been found that parents who remain engaged with schools throughout their child's education are more likely to have children who do complete high school and go on to further study.

"Parental involvement with schools, whether through talking with other parents, their children's teachers, their children about school, or helping their children with homework, reflects that these parents place a high value on education," Professor Berthelsen said. "Such engagement has a positive effect on children's learning.

"While we have found that there is a very high level of parental involvement in the early years of schooling, overseas research indicates that this engagement starts to decrease in the later years of primary school and throughout high school."

The importance of parents' continued involvement in their children's learning clearly cannot be underestimated, even though it may seem to be more challenging in the high school context. In addition to the opportunities for dialogue provided by the College staff, the Parents and Friends Association promotes many occasions for parent involvement and connection. I strongly encourage parents to try to commit to at least one of the activities listed on the P&F Call for Volunteers which you should have received recently. These forms are due back to Home Room teachers on Monday.

Miriam Berlage

From the Coordinator of Mission

As members of the Rosebank College community, we are called to.... listen compassionately and respond wisely to others.

Lent and Project Compassion

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and it marks the beginning of Lent. Over 5 weeks, we are called to deepen our faith through prayer, reflection, fasting and acts of mercy, especially almsgiving, which is the act of giving generously and one way to undertake our Lenten commitment. Once again, the Rosebank community will participate in the Project Compassion Appeal organised by Caritas Australia. The work of Caritas Australia is made possible only through the contributions we offer via *Project Compassion*. The 2009 theme is *"An Environment in which to Grow."* The Caritas theme fits in well with the Benedictine values of service to others, stewardship and compassion. So please generously support this year's charity appeal.

Benedictine Spirituality Lecture Series

I encourage your attendance to the 3 lectures which will explore the dynamic nature of Benedictine Spirituality and Values. It is our expectation that all Year 12 students attend the lectures as they will provide invaluable information relating to their Studies of Religion course. Similarly, Year 11 students will gain much insight in preparation for their HSC course.

Angelo Gattone

Year 7 News

It has indeed been a very busy week for Year 7 with the Opening School Mass, Swimming Carnival and Orientation Camp.

Congratulations to the 12 students chosen to represent the year group as SRC Representatives. We held our first meeting this week and we began thinking about how Year 7 could contribute to the College Community. One of the aims of the group is to speak with other Year 7 students and present their ideas and concerns at our fortnightly meetings.

To all Year 7 students who participated in the Swimming Carnival, well done! Their enthusiasm and willingness was wonderful. There were many tired students at the end of a full day of swimming and cheering.

Despite of the rain, the camp was a great success as students participated in a range of activities designed to help them get to know each other away from the school routine. It also gave the staff an opportunity to get to know students in a relaxed and less formal setting. While we had to abandon our bushwalk, we were able to expend our energy, dancing! We spent 2 full hours dancing to music that was a bit too fast for the staff but not for the students. We all had lots of fun – heel, toe, heel toe, one, two, three...

A sincere thank you to the Year 10 Peer Support leaders who accompanied us on camp. Their planning, attention to detail, enthusiasm and their care for the younger students was exceptional. They are wonderful role models. Thank you Mrs Goodenough for your support and assistance.

We concluded the camp with a liturgy in gratitude for the opportunity to come together and the new friendships formed.

Finally I would like to thank the Mr Gould, Mrs Pavicic, Mr Capello, Mr Taylor, Ms Staniforth, Ms Starr, Ms Laing, Mrs Berlage and Ms Franzini, for their wonderful care and contribution to the success of the Orientation Camp.

I look forward to see you at the Year 7 Information Night, this Friday beginning at 7.00pm

Maria Mollace, Year 7 Coordinator

Sports News

Rosebank College and the Inter-Lions Football Club in Concord are now working in collaboration to promote football in the College community and provide male and female students with an opportunity to compete at a higher level both at school and through weekend sport.

Registrations at the Inter Lions Club Soccer Club are now open for all Rosebank students and they are particularly encouraging senior girls to sign up. For registration forms please go to our website: www.rosebank.nsw.edu.au select Co-Curricular from the menu bar, select Inter-Lions Soccer Club Relationship and click on 2009 Inter-Lions Registration Form.

Mark Capello, PDHPE Coordinator

Year 10 News

It has been a busy couple of weeks for Year 10. We had the pleasure of participating in the Peer Support Induction Ceremony during the College Opening Mass on Tuesday 10 February. We congratulate the following girls and wish them well.

Sara Angus	Elena Canalicchio
Nicole Goodwin	Annette Slosu
Michelle Wilmot	Maree Sorbara
Brenda Chan	Bryar Hawkins
Rosa An	Alexandra Carroll
Emma King	Stefania Luongo
Ashlee Cairns	Any Waters
Sarah Childs	Courtney Cunningham
Gabrielle Costanzo	Jessica Clinton
Raenee Sydney	Shanelle Sorbello
Emilia Nadolski	Vanessa Bregolin
Elise Carmody	Mareta Akari
Katia Oliveira	Antonia Boskovic
Hayley McGuinness	Rebecca Katrib
Jessica Kho	Lauren Boutros
Tracy Gerges	

On Thursday 12 February the Peer Support Leaders accompanied Year 7 on their Camp to the Lane Cove National Park as part of the Peer Support Program. It was a delight to watch the girls interact with their younger companions by participating in all aspects of the camp. Year 7s experienced the warmth of a welcoming Rosebank through them. We would like to thank Mrs Mollace and Miss Franzini for an enjoyable day.

The 2009 Student Representative Council was announced and the following Year 10 students have been elected by their peers to represent them this year. Congratulations:

10A Rebecca Katrib, Alexandra Carroll
10B Hayley McGuinness, Lauren Boutros
10C Vanessa Bregolin, Courtney Cunningham

“It takes a village to raise a child”

The Year 10 Pastoral Team

Community

Are you eligible to receive the Education Tax Refund?
If eligible, you could receive up to \$375 for each primary and \$750 for each secondary school student in your care. For more details go to: www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au or rosebank.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/fees/educationtaxrefund

Confirmation Night

Children from Year 6 and above wishing to be confirmed this year and live in the Parish of St John Vianney and St Thomas More, Greenacre, will need to attend an Information Night on Friday 27 February at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Canada Bay Council call for Volunteers

Drivers with their own cars are needed in the area. Information sessions will be held on: 26 Feb (11.00–12.30) and 25 March (10.00–11.30) at the Drummoyne Community Centre. For more information contact: 9719 8102 or dccinc3@ozemail.com.au

Weekly Careers News

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

Sydney Institute Career Chats

TAFE Career Counsellors will be broadcasting live to give you expert career information and the chance to find out about your options. 20 Feb & 6 March.

NSW Police Career Day

It's a great way to meet and chat to local police officers, university lecturers and police officers from the NSW Police Force Recruitment Branch about becoming a police officer. Goulburn NSW Police College 22 Feb 2009 10am-4pm phone 1800 222 122. All welcome.

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 Feb 2009.

Childcare Taster Days

MEGT Institute offers courses in Children's Services, Business, Hospitality and Tourism. Childcare 'Taster Days' offer students in Eastern Suburbs/Inner Sydney the chance to experience 'a day in the life of a childcare worker'. Bookings close 27 Feb.

Commerce Degree at Raffles

Thinking about a career in design management, finance, hospitality, management, marketing or tourism? Raffles College of Design and Commerce now offers a B Commerce degree. FEE HELP available. Info Session: 17 March.

Business Cadetships

The Business Cadetships Program offers Year 12 students in NSW the opportunity to apply for a cadetship with a leading company in the banking and finance sector. Applications open 27 March and close 15 May. Info Session 27 March

Hospitality Positions

HTN currently has numerous positions vacant for Cooking Apprentices and Hospitality Trainees throughout NSW/ACT. Apply online now...

Rookie Journalist Award

Sky News Australia is giving students 13-23 yrs, the chance to test their skills on a work-experience venture that will take you behind the scenes and put you to work with the Sky News team. Apply now

Children's Services VET Programs

Get a headstart on a career in Childcare or Early Childhood Education! MEGT Institute (Sydney) offers a VET in Schools program giving Yr 11/12 students the chance to complete units from the Certificate III in Children's Services during the school holidays.

Hospitality Scholarships

The Radisson Plaza Hotel Sydney is offering a great educational opportunity to Yr 12 Hospitality students under The High Flyers Program. Win a scholarship to Kenvale College or a Kitchen Apprenticeship with the Radisson! Applications close 16 March.

UNSW Engineering Info Day

The Engineering Faculty at the University of NSW will hold Information Days for Yrs 10-12 students on 24 March and 21 Oct showcasing the importance of Engineering in today's society & the wide range of interesting & challenging careers available. Invitation only. Please see Ms McAloon if you are interested by 3 March as this is an 'invitation only' event

Meet A Chartered Accountant!

The Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia invites students in Yrs 10/11 to a FREE 'Meet the Business Leader Dinner' on 12 August (Sydney) allowing students a personal insight into the life of a 'Chartered Accountant'.

Tourism/Hospitality Scholarships

International students may apply for a number of Tourism and Hospitality scholarships offered by Northern Sydney Institute - TAFE NSW and the Blue Mountains Hotel School. Applications close 20 March.

Need a Casual Job?

Improve your chances with a short course in essential hospitality skills at the Coffee School - Sydney. Barista Training and Coffee Art courses are currently offered to students at discounted rates. Enrol now...

HSC and Careers Expo

The SMH and Resources for Courses will hold its inaugural HSC and Careers Expo in Sydney on 15, 16 and 17 May. Over 100 exhibitors + HSC Seminars, career and study advice.

Accountancy Cadetships Evening

Sydney 21 May. Meet a range of organisations, including the big four accounting firms, offering cadetships in 2009.

School Year Overseas!

EF Australia offers an exchange year abroad for students 14-18 years. Monthly Info Sessions: Sydney 14 March

UMAT Prep Course

UMAT is part of the selection procedure for many health science courses and will be held on 29 July 2009. MedEntry offers intensive, focussed 2-day UMAT preparation workshops Australia-wide. Online UMAT courses also available. 2009 Workshops now enrolling...

Medical Careers Research Seminar

Enjoy watching CSI? Students in Yrs 10-12 can find out more about the different career paths available in the field of Medical Research by attending a Seminar in Sydney on 4 June.

ADF Aptitude Test Prep

Pilot Aptitude Training Systems (PATS) specialises in preparing people to increase their scores in aptitude tests commonly used in the airline and military selection processes. Online test preparation program available. 50% discount until 28 Feb.

ATSI Careers Information Evening

Parents and Carers of Years 9-12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, please join with your children at an information evening with potential employees and employment network agencies to discuss subject choices and opportunities in School-Based Traineeships, Apprenticeships and Cadetships. Tuesday 3 March 2009 from 5-7pm at Casimir Catholic College, School Library, Livingstone Road, Marrickville. RSVP by 26 Feb to Kim Hill on 9643 3600 or 0407 897 910.

For more information on any of the above notices, please see the Careers Advisor, Ms McAloon, or visit: www.careercentral.edu.au.

Parents and teachers can also register online at Career Central. To open an user account, click 'registered' and follow the prompts.