



GAZETTE

From the Principal

VOLUME NO. 5 – 6 MARCH 2009

Dear Parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

The Benedictine lecture series hosted by Rosebank College continues to be a wonderful opportunity to explore ancient wisdom for our modern times. Mr Pat Dodson provided a picture of what life after “Sorry” might look like. Speaking in front of our newly framed apology statement, Mr Dodson outlined the essential importance of indigenous culture and our obligation to value, promote and engage in it. It is a gift from God. It is the primary culture in what has become a nation of wonderfully rich multicultural communities.

When asked what does indigenous culture have to offer us westerners he mentioned among many things: the deep and profound sense of country – of belonging...

The unique relationship with the earth and its many faces and forms, its deep appreciation of family and clan, its ability to see the creator in all things and particularly nature, its sense of oneness with creation and its approach to decision making and discernment – that is, its inherent wisdom.

You are warmly welcome to join us in the last of the 2009 series of Benedictine conversations: *Peace in the Christian Tradition* by Mr Robert Haddad on Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Limited parking is available through the Parramatta Rd entrance.

We are fast approaching the middle of the first Semester and staff are now preparing for the first round of interim reports. At Rosebank we offer parents four opportunities to receive formal updates on the progress of their child. These include two mid Semester interviews with teachers and two end of Semester comprehensive reports which are sent home.

The interim report interview offers a unique opportunity to sit with each of



your child's teachers and explore significant achievements and areas for growth. Setting immediate learning goals helps every child achieve their full potential and this regular contact ensures that problems do not go unattended for too long. While staff are always available to meet with parents, these nights ensure that we can use the valuable time of teachers and parents efficiently and effectively.

The work on the car park and expanded play space for students is progressing well. We hope the bulk of the heavy work will be completed in the next two weeks.

The recent announcements regarding the Government's stimulus package are providing schools with important opportunities for improvements. While not all elements will be available to Rosebank, we will certainly ensure that we access what we are eligible for. At times like this there is a chance that the old issue of government assistance to non-government schools will again make the headlines.

The number of students attending Catholic schools has continued to increase. The

support of governments to operate our College is essential and much appreciated. However, it only represents a proportion of what it costs to run a school. In 2008 the Productivity Commission reported that state and federal governments provide only 57.1 per cent of the money needed to run Catholic and independent schools. The 2005-06 figures show that, while governments outlay \$11,243 to educate a state school student, on average, non-government school students receive \$6,268. The balance is made of parent's contributions. It is estimated that students attending non-government schools actually save the government approximately \$5 billion dollars per year.

We applaud the government for using schools and their need for increased and/or renewed infrastructure as the focus for distributing funds back into the community and stimulating the economy. We also applaud the government for exhibiting inclusiveness and fairness for all in this process.

Tom Galea

Dates for the Diary

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

30 March
Yr 12 Mid Course Exams begin

6–8 April
Yr 11 SLR Camp

9 April
Holy Thursday Liturgy.
Term 1 concludes.

27 April
Anzac Day

28 April
All students return in full winter uniform.

P&F AGM

All parents are warmly welcome to attend next week's annual general meeting, which will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 March in A Block foyer. Come along to meet other like minded parents and find out more about how the P&F Association is involved in the school. For further information, email: pandf@rosebank.nsw.edu.au

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

From the Assistant Principal

Congratulations and thank you to all students for your excellent cooperation on school photo day this week. The photographers are always very complimentary of how well presented, pleasant and well mannered our students are.

Parents of students in Years 7 & 11 please note that Interim Reports will shortly be prepared for your son or daughter. All parents and students are asked to attend the Interim Report interview evening which will be held on Wednesday 18 March. A letter and booking sheet will be sent home shortly, and parents are asked to promptly let your son or daughter know what time you will be available on the evening so that appointments may be made as soon as possible.

Finally, please be aware that there has been a small number of isolated cases of head lice in the school community in recent weeks. Parents need to be alert to any signs or symptoms of head lice, of which itching is the most obvious. Please check your son or daughter's hair carefully if you suspect they may have head lice, and if so, ensure that you follow the required procedure and isolation time to avoid further spreading. Further information is available at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/public-health/environment/headlice/index.asp>

Miriam Berlage

Special Provisions

The Board of Studies offers special provisions to students to ensure they are not disadvantaged in their School Certificate or Higher School Certificate examinations. The provisions assist students who experience difficulties under examination conditions due to a diagnosed condition.

Some examples of provisions that the Board offers and how these support students are outlined below.

Difficulty/Impairment	Possible provisions available
Diabetes	Diabetic provisions (eg. bite-sized food, glucometer readings, toilet breaks)
Epilepsy	Medication, separate supervision
ADD/ADHD	Extra time to rest, medication
Anxiety	Extra time to rest, separate supervision
Difficulties with reading and comprehension	Reader, extra time
Slow writing rate	Writer, extra time
Severe spelling difficulty	Writer, extra time

Applications for special provisions are made to the Board by the College. Information relating to the difficulty experienced by the student must be collected and submitted with the application.

The closing date for special provision applications for 2009 is 1st April. If you or your child feels that they require special provisions during Year 10 or Year 12, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Marina Laing at the College.

From the Coordinator of Mission

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

Project Compassion

A reminder is given that Project Compassion is one way we can help those in need. During the rest of Lent, please continue your generous support of this charity. Thank you.

Benedictine Lecture Series

This week the second of the three Benedictine lectures for 2009 was delivered by Mr Patrick Dodson. After explaining the disadvantages experienced by Aborigines in the past, Mr Dodson presented a way forward for the future of all Australians. He spoke of the challenge to firstly listen to the needs of others, especially the needs of the disadvantaged. Once good listening has occurred, the next challenge is to create an environment in which all people may develop to their true and full potential. This fitted in perfectly with the College Theme this year: Listen compassionately and respond wisely. Part of the text of the Apology states that it is time "to write a new chapter...and to do things differently." Mr Dodson asserted that educa-

tional opportunities are a sign of hope in making real this call for "renewal." The Apology has been an opportunity for us all to start rethinking about many issues.

Mr Dodson said that we are called to demonstrate love and compassion to others—not that we may suffocate or stifle others, but to draw others to their full potential. Perhaps most challenging of all was Mr Dodson's alerting us to the drafting of a United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He wonders how various governments throughout the world will respond to the impending declaration as it compels governments to respect the rights of all indigenous peoples, especially in relation to the ownership of land.

The respondent, Bishop Terry Brady drew parallels between the Celts (the Irish) and Australian Aborigines. Both have a very strong connection to their own land and a long history of oppression. Bishop Brady who has done extensive work for the Matthew Talbot hostel, concluded that if you want to find the Lord, you are bound to find him in the homeless and the oppressed. Encouragingly, with the articulation of the Apology, we, as a

nation, have taken a step forward in our collective fight against oppression.

The remaining lecture will focus on Peace in the Christian Tradition with Mr Robert Haddad presenting and Dr Malcolm Gill responding. Join us on Tuesday 10 March at 7.30pm in the College Hall.

Framing of the Apology

Earlier this year, every school received a printed copy of the text of the historic Apology extended to the Indigenous People of Australia in February 2008. Rosebank College has suitably framed the Apology and will display it in A Block foyer. All members of the Rosebank community are encouraged to read it often as a reminder of its intention to make Australia a better place for all.

Year Group Eucharistic Celebration

The Year 12 Year Group will be celebrating Eucharist together on Wednesday 18 March as a way of saying thanks for the retreat experience last year. It is also an opportunity to pray together and to reflect. All parents of Year 12 students are very welcomed to attend. The Mass is scheduled to start at 11.45am in the College Hall.

Angelo Gattone

Co-Curricular News

Congratulations to our CBSA swimming squad who performed magnificently on Monday evening at the CBSA Swimming championships. Our Under 12 and Under 13 swimmers did themselves and their school proud in their first outing at this level. In the relays our boys came into their own, finishing in the top four in both the medley and freestyle relays. Our two senior swimmers also did well, both finishing in the top four in their respective races. Well done to all for a great first up effort!

In other swimming news our Age champions from our own carnival were announced at Wednesday's assembly. Congratulations to the following swimmers:

U12 Male	Christos Terizis	U14 Female	Sonya Constantiou
U12 Female	Lia Terizis	U15 Female	Arianna Rizzi
U13 Male	Matthew Ellis	U16 Female	Ashlee Cairns
U13 Female	Lara Murray	Opens Female	Isabella DiManno

Our CGSSSA team has now been announced and our girls will be heading off on Friday 20 March to contest the CGSSSA championships. Good luck to all swimmers involved. On Wednesday 18 March our girls will also be competing in the CGSSSA touch football championships.

Our cheerleading squad met for the first time last week – with over 20 girls turning up to be put through their paces. The squad will compete at several competitions throughout the year. Places are still available for interested students – please see me for further information:

Aaron McDonald, Co-curricular Coordinator



Weekly Careers News

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

Flower Power!

Pearsons School of Floristry offers a variety of courses from 2 hour workshops to a fully accredited Commercial Design Certificate. Info Sessions: 18 March; 27 May; 15 July 2009. Bookings required.

YOUNG IT

Learn from the experiences of a young Entrepreneur! Josh Anstey is a Marketing, Social Media and Personal Branding expert with extensive experience in starting, building and marketing businesses. FREE Seminar: 5 March.

School Year Overseas!

EF Australia offers an exchange year abroad for students 14-18 years. Live with a host family and go to a local high school in the country of your choice! Monthly Info Sessions: Sydney (14/3)

Martin College Open Weeks

Martin College offers career training in specialised areas of Business, Graphic Design and Information Technology. University pathways available. 2009 Open Weeks: 9-13 March; 6-10 July; 28 Sep-2 Oct.

Virtual Careers Fair 2009

It's an annual online careers event where tertiary students (and proactive high school students) can research options and connect with graduate employers from anywhere in Australia/NZ.

Build Business Skills!

The Business Skills Program is a structured educational tool that gives young people Australia-wide the chance to build their skills, knowledge and experience by putting their ideas into action to establish and operate a self directed business.

UNE Pathways

The University of New England's Pathways Enabling Course (distance) is designed for people lacking the required qualifications for uni entrance. Gain the skills and confidence to undertake undergraduate studies while also gaining credit towards a degree!

Pre Trade Baking Course Sydney

Woolworths is seeking baking apprentices at multiple Sydney metro locations. Gain basic skills in baking + secure an interview with a Woolies Rep by completing a FREE* 2 wk training course. Info Sessions: 25 March or 1 April.

Extreme Science Experience Sydney

The Clunies Ross Foundation's (ATSE) Extreme Science Experience on 21 May gives keen students a unique opportunity to interact with Australia's top commercially successful scientists and engineers. Registrations required.

Sports Scholarships to America

College Prospects of America (Australia) is a sports marketing service for Student-Athletes seeking Scholarship opportunities at American Universities.

National Youth Week

The largest celebration of young people in Australia will be held from National Youth Week from 29 March to 3 April. Get involved! Host your own event, enter the National Talent Competition, win prizes, attend a local event, have fun!

Whitehouse Institute of Design

The Whitehouse Institute offers a B Design that educates and prepares students for the world of design in creative industries. FEE HELP available. Sydney Open Days: 19/20 June.. Enrolling now....

ARTEXPRESS 09

ARTEXPRESS is a cutting-edge series of contemporary exhibitions of outstanding artworks created by NSW HSC Visual Arts students from both metro and regional NSW. Check out the interactive website or visit the Exhibition in Sydney or on its regional tour....

Notre Dame/Medicine Info Evening

The University of Notre Dame Australia organises a number of events each year to enable prospective students and their families to visit the campus and receive information on their areas of interest. Medicine Info Evening 22 March. RSVP required.

LETZ LIVE Gap Year A GAP year with Letz Live allows you to live and work as residential staff in a wide cross section of the world's boarding school establishments. Applications close 28 March.

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.

Community

Free monthly Archdiocese newsletter

The Life, Marriage and Family Centre of the Archdiocese of Sydney now emails out a free monthly newsletter to keep in touch with people in schools and parishes. The newsletter is a mix of short timely news articles, opinions and information on their upcoming events. You are invited to subscribe to the newsletter by going to their website: www.lifemarriagefamily.org.au All you need to do is to enter your email address on the home page.

Canteen Menu 2009	Prices
Sandwiches Ham/Tuna/Cheese & Tomato	\$3.70
Rolls	\$4.00
Sandwiches Chicken Lettuce & Mayo	\$3.70
Rolls	\$4.00
Vegemite Sandwich	\$2.20
Vegemite Roll	\$2.60
Schnitzel Sandwich Lettuce & Mayo	\$4.60
Schnitzel Roll Lettuce & Mayo	\$5.00
Salads, Large/Medium Caesar/Italian/Greek	\$5.00/ \$3.50
Hot Dogs Low fat with sauce	\$3.00
Hot muffins/banana bread Low fat	\$3.00
Breakfast Toasted bread with butter	\$2.00
Toast with Cheese	\$2.60
Butter Rolls	\$1.00
Drinks Big M/Ice Tea/Pump Water Up&Go Milk Cans: Sprite Zero/Mineral Water Oj Large/Small	\$3.00 \$2.20 \$2.20 \$3.00/ \$2.30
Extra Cheese or Ham	\$0.70
Extra Mayo or Sauce	\$0.40

All lunch orders must be in before 10.30am



LENTEN PENANCE

The Church's Canon Law reaffirms our obligation to do penance. The special times of penance are all Fridays throughout the year and the season of Lent. We recall that St. John the Baptist prepared for the coming of the Lord by "preaching a baptism of repentance". Christ began his ministry on earth with the exhortation to repent: "Repent and believe the Gospel" Mk 1: 15.

Repentance means the rejection of sin. It implies conversion to, and reconciliation with God, Penance is the concrete expression of repentance. It takes the forms of prayer, self-denial, and works of charity. Each of these identifies us more closely with our Saviour. By penance we make satisfaction for our sins, and take real steps in the renewal of our lives. Penance is the proof of our repentance. Repentance and conversion are central, on-going features of Christian living. Penance has to be a constant, even daily, practice in our lives. In nominating special times of penance, the Church encourages and promotes in all of us the *habit* of penance.

Furthermore, observance of these special times by all Catholics throughout the universal Church emphasises what we call "the social dimension of sin". The sin of the individual member always in some measure infects the whole body. Therefore during Lent and on the Fridays of the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take very seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choice. Where we make the choice, we should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

DAYS OF PENANCE

1. **Rules for Lent follow in (a), (b), (c).**
2. **Abstinence from meat and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.**
3. **On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following.**
 - (a) **prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.**
 - (b) **Self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.**
 - (c) **Helping others – for example – special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.**

All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

LENT LASTS FROM ASH WEDNESDAY (25 TH FEBRUARY) TO THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER EXCLUSIVE (9 TH APRIL). ON GOOD FRIDAY AND, IF POSSIBLE, ALSO ON HOLY SATURDAY UNTIL THE EASTER VIRGIL, THE EASTER FAST IS OBSERVED

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, 25th February, and Trinity Sunday, 7th June, 2009 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

**St. Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY
23rd January 2009**

**George Card. Pell
Archbishop of Sydney**

