



# GAZETTE

## From the Principal

VOLUME NO. 7 – 20 MARCH 2009

Dear Parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

We are now into that period of time when parents are able to receive some useful feedback on their child's progress and ask teachers specific questions regarding their child's learning achievements.

The first of the interim parent teacher nights for Yr 7 and Yr 11 on Wednesday night was by all accounts very successful. Attendance was excellent and one could feel the high level of energy, engagement and enthusiasm for the learning process being created at Rosebank in partnership with parents.

It was an important evening for affirmations and setting new learning goals for the next thirteen weeks of this first semester.

I often receive compliments for our students' behaviour and their manners and seldom receive criticism. This week another email came to me which highlights the success of the start of full co-education. In it a parent described the following:

**“My husband and I would like to congratulate yourself and teachers of Rosebank on the well mannered boys we met on the weekend...These boys were so well mannered, easy to speak to and polite, we cannot praise them enough, they are a credit to their parents and the school.....if these boys are any example of the children in Year 7 at Rosebank the school can be very proud”.**

I always appreciate any feed back. We are very proud of our students and believe we are blessed to have the opportunity



to work with them and their families in assisting them reach their maximum potential.

I will be writing to all families separately soon regarding the launching of our Community Portal that is designed to run off the College website. This initiative will allow parents and students access to all the information made available within the College including parent notices, the College calendar, assessment calendars and curriculum hand books for each of the year groups, various application forms and all assessment details for each Faculty/subject/course. This will assist parents and students to find those “lost” sheets of paper. The portal will be password protected.

The community portal is an interim solution which follows on the work being done on improving access to information and internet services for students (with the assistance of the Federal Government) and our new email system.

We are working on the development of a new web based administration system which will eventually replace this portal. It will allow a far greater access for parents and students to access vital learning and management resources including information of account balances (fees, uniform, canteen etc). Learning resources will include online learning and the published works produced by students, their progress and final assessment results as well as profiling over time for indicators like attendance, punctuality and grade point averages.

These are exciting times for education in Australia and certainly at Rosebank. We again ask God to bless our efforts.

**Tom Galea**

## Dates for the Diary

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.

## Uniform Shop

Please note that the Uniform Shop will be closed for stocktaking on Monday 30 March and Tuesday 31 March.

## 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

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews will be held next Tuesday afternoon and evening for students in Years 8, 9 & 10. Parents are asked to read carefully the letter sent home with your daughter regarding arrangements for these interviews.

### Uniform

Please note that all students will be required to return to school in their full winter uniform on Tuesday April 28. Students must be in either the complete 'old' or 'new' uniform - combinations are not permitted. Please see the diary for details, but note that this includes;

- a College jumper which may be worn under the blazer only (ie not alone)
- for girls, the skirt or tunic must be below knee length
- navy stockings of at least 40 denier are to be worn with the new uniform. Knee highs may not be worn with the new uniform.
- the wearing of ties every day - consequences will apply to students who 'forget' their tie.

Families who need to purchase items of the new uniform (including the track suit) need to do so over the next few weeks. The uniform shop will be open on Tuesday evening next week until 7pm. Students may also go to the shop during recess or lunch - the days available are published on the uniform shop door. It will also be open on Saturday 21 March and Saturday 4 April from 9.30am until 2.30pm to sell the winter uniforms. Please return the reply slip on the letter sent home this week to indicate your preferred time for a fitting.

**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.*

### Project Compassion and the Spirit of Giving

Lent is a valuable opportunity for us as a Christian community to reach out to help. In the words of Christ, "when we do this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do it to me." When we help the needy, it is exactly the same as helping Jesus himself. However, it is of some concern to me that the spirit of giving is misunderstood amongst many of our students. Too often a donation of money is only offered if there is something in return. For example, rather than simply giving a donation of money (say \$5), students will ask, "Can't we sell chocolates or lollies or pizzas to raise the money? ". The first option—simply giving a \$5 donation, without expecting something in return—suggests some level of sacrifice. Giving money only if something is gained is, strictly speaking, not a donation but a transaction.

According to Mark's Gospel, in the story of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar pleaded to Jesus to cure him of his blindness. Jesus called Bartimaeus over to him and when he heard Jesus' calling for him, "he threw his cloak aside, jumped to his feet and came to Jesus." Bartimaeus' action of "throwing his cloak aside" is an important detail. As a beggar, his only possession was his cloak. In responding to the call of Jesus, Bartimaeus is willing to surrender all that he owned. This is true giving. This is the Christian concept of giving. In the words of St Ignatius, "Lord, may we give and not count the cost."

If every student donates \$2.50 per week during Lent, our community would not reach but exceed its target of \$5,000. Let us meet this challenge with the true spirit of giving.

### Year 12 Revisit their Last Year's Retreat Experience

On Wednesday during Pastoral Care, Year 12 students participated in a time of prayer and reflection recalling the experiences of last year's retreat. The gathering also presented them with the opportunity to reflect on their life journey and pray as a year group. My thanks to those involved in the organisation including: Cassandra Coccione, Isabella Dimanno, Natalie Lamotta, Melissa Baldi, Vittoria De Lutiis, Hannah Forwood and Michael Abdallah. These students are a credit to their College.

**Angelo Gattone**

## Co-Curricular News

### MCCS Girls sweep round!

Congratulations to our MCCS Volleyball (Junior & Intermediate), Touch Football (Senior) and Waterpolo sides who recorded victories in last week's round! All teams performed magnificently. The Waterpolo side will now compete in the semi finals. If they make it through to the penultimate round it will be for the third time in a row – good luck girls!

Our Touch Football and Volleyball sides are also set to enter the semi final series next week – good luck to these teams and their coaches. Our senior Touch Football side set the world on fire last week with their victory.

In CGSSSA news our Touch Football girls headed to North Parramatta on Wednesday to compete in a gala day. In hot conditions our girls experienced some close encounters. Congratulations to all the girls involved.

Today our swimmers head off for the CGSSSA swimming championships. With the inclusions of some very strong swimmers in Year 7, we are looking forward to some great performances – good luck and congratulations to all the girls involved.

Trials for MCCS Netball (Year 8 & 9) will take place next Tuesday. All other teams will be informed of their trials through the daily notices. Trials will also be taking place for CBSA Soccer during Co-curricular next Thursday. All male students interested in the trials must sign up on the sports noticeboard before next Tuesday.

### CGSSSA Football

Trials for CGSSSA Football will take place in Week 10. Interested female students need to sign up on the sports noticeboard. There will be 2 teams competing – a junior side made up of Years 7–9 and a senior side made up of students in Years 10–12.

**Aaron McDonald, Co-curricular Coordinator**

## Curriculum News

### Year 8 Religion Assessment Task

Year 8 students were required to explain the main influences on their life and faith for their recent Religion assessment task. While it was a task with an academic purpose, it allowed each to explore the factors that have impacted their lives.

Some interesting excerpts included:

*“The most important and obvious thing are my always loving and understanding parents...for 13 years they have always been around me and taught me the difference between right and wrong.”* Laura Grima 8B

*“Ever since reading the books and watching the Harry Potter movies, I am never short of inspiration either for my drawing or writing... since I have read the series so many times, I have started to pick up her good writing skills...”* Emilia Suryak 8A

*“When I was a bit older and started reading the bible again, I slowly began to understand the full meaning of Jesus' death. I realised that God would do whatever it takes to take our sins away from our hearts and that he is always there with open arms with forgiveness”* Michelle Pak 8A

Congratulations to all for taking this great personal journey.

**Annalicia Saito, Yr 8 Coordinator**

### Year 11 Design and Technology

Students were involved in a 3-hour workshop last Tuesday. The class was lucky to have Mr Mazevski from Z&B Upholstery demonstrating the steps involved in making an ottoman for the current class assessment.

The class was broken into production teams, where they designed and constructed their own models. Mr Mazevski was a great aid to the class and demonstrated a variety of skills and techniques that students will use in their future tasks. Most groups almost ready to start covering the ottomans with the chosen fabrics supplied by Mr Mazevski.

**Maree Lucas, TAS Coordinator**



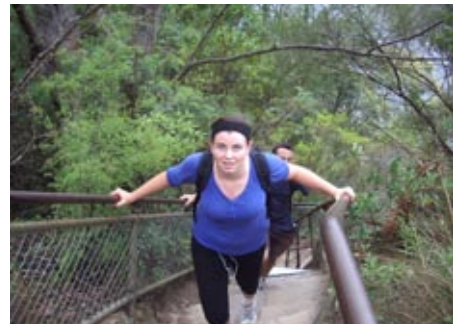
### DOE Qualifying Expedition

On Saturday 7 March, the 5 students and 2 supervisors involved in the Duke of Edinburgh expedition, met at Strathfield station to head off to Katoomba to complete the 16km walk along the Prince Henry Cliff Walk.

Sarah Childs and Emma King lead us as the group navigators to the magnificent views between Katoomba and Leura. After arriving back at the YHA (hostel), the group went shopping to cook a great quality meal which thanks to good planning and shrewd item selection included a massive main course and dessert all for less than \$5 each. After dinner the group spent some time relaxing and resting their weary legs. Sunday morning was very misty, but this added to the ambience of the descent into Leura Forest at the bottom of the Furber steps. After admiring bright orange trees and bright green rocks it was back to Katoomba via the 860 steps of the Giants Stairway. The group had a quick lunch then bid farewell to Katoomba.

The girls are to be congratulated for not only completing their second Expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award but for their good humour, teamwork, bushwalking, cooking and navigation skills. It was a pleasure to hear numerous positive comments from other campers about how the girls conducted themselves.

**Tom Gould**



## Weekly Careers News

See Ms McAloon or log on to [www.careercentral.com.au](http://www.careercentral.com.au)

### Aspiring Medical Students

AMA (NSW) are inviting school students to attend their free Medical Careers Exhibition on Saturday 4 April 2009, Shannon Room, AJC Convention Centre, Randwick Racecourse. If you are considering medicine as a career, this is a great opportunity to have all your questions answered by Universities and College staff under the one roof. If interested in attending visit the website, [www.medcareerexpo.com.au](http://www.medcareerexpo.com.au) and complete the online registration form.

### Interested in Social Work?

Westmead Hospital is holding 2 career day and invites students to attend to either one. These will be held on 11 & 19 May from 9am to 3pm in the Special Functions Room, Level 1 Education Block at Westmead Hospital. Cost is \$10 per student. Numbers are limited to a maximum of two students per school so if you are interested see Ms McAloon prior to 8 April to arrange attendance.

### Healthwise Expo Concord Hospital

This interactive roadshow allows students to explore a variety of health careers including nursing, physiotherapy, social work, radiography and health trades. Students can converse with health professionals and view demonstrations of medical equipment. As a bonus, there will be Work Experience placements made available. Monday 11 May from 10am to 12.15pm see Ms McAloon before 3 April if you are interested in attending.

### Business Cadetships

Professional Cadetships Australia advises with regret that the 2009 Business Cadetships Program and Program Launch on 27 March has been cancelled due to the economic downturn and subsequent loss of support by sponsors.

### UTS IT Undergraduate/Scholarships

The University of Technology Sydney will hold an Information Evening on 4 May for prospective students and parents on available courses and scholarships. RSVP required by 30 April.

### UNSW Engineering Info Day

The Engineering Faculty at the University of NSW will hold Information Days in May and October showcasing the importance of engineering in today's society.

### Notre Dame Key Dates/Medicine

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

### Careers and Employment Expos 2009

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

### KMART Positions

Kmart is always looking for people to work part time and casual shifts in stores across the state. If you are interested in working at a store near you, apply now!

### Overseas Exchange Scholarships

Student Exchange Australia offers students aged 15-18 yrs the chance to live and study overseas for a semester or year. Earlybird Discounts + 23 Scholarships worth up to \$3,500 available. Next application deadline: 30 April for departures, 9 Oct-10 Mar.

### CSU Single Subject Study

Charles Sturt University now offers a new single subject study program for students requiring flexible study choices. Many subjects have no formal entry requirements. Applications close 15 June for Spring Semester.

### Holiday Design Courses

Design Centre Enmore (Sydney TAFE) is offering courses in 3D Animation, Introduction to Flash, Digital Imaging and Portfolio Development on 21/22 April. Registration/Payment required by 8 April.

### Sport Careers and Networking Day

SPORTNSW will hold a Careers Day on 29 September where speakers from a range of sporting organisations will share their knowledge and tell you what they're looking for when they recruit. Registrations required.

### Funding for Young People

The Youth Participation Grants Program gives young people in NSW aged 12-25 yrs the resources to develop and implement community activities in their local area. Applications close 24 April.

### Telstra Marketing Academy

The Telstra Marketing Academy competition offers students in NSW/VIC and

their school the chance to win great prizes plus the opportunity to complete work experience in a Telstra marketing role.

### USYD 2009 Key Dates

The University of Sydney has recently released its 2010 Undergraduate Prospectus with details on courses, admission requirements, scholarships, accommodation, UAI cut-offs, university life, key diary dates....

### Build Business Skills!

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

### Pre Trade Baking Course

Woolworths are 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.

### Water/Snow Sports

Flying Fish offers professional training and jobs in water/snow sports industry. Sydney Information Evening: 25 March. RSVP required.

### Design Comp

Make Your Mark sponsored by Student Exchange Australia is an online T-shirt design competition giving Australian students (14-18yrs) the chance to win \$3,500 towards an overseas student exchange trip + win heaps more. Entries close 27 March.

### 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](http://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.