FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Friends, Staff and Students of Caroline Chisholm College,

Christ is risen, Alleluia! Like billions of Christians around the world, our community celebrated the defining moment of our religion on Sunday morning - the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter morning. I pray that you and your family experienced the rich blessings of this great event in your own community, as I did in mine. I was reminded at our parish that Easter is not just a day, but a way of living that calls all of us to be new life to each other and to share with everyone the joy of being a resurrection people. Thank you to Miss Morley and the Liturgy Committee for helping us to reflect on the profound meaning of this season in our Holy Week liturgies last Thursday.

There have been ample opportunities over the last two weeks for members of our college community to share the joy of new life with each other. Our Year 10s spent three days at Tea Gardens building their community and challenging each other (and their teachers) to be the best they can be, despite the wild rain and the mud! I am always grateful to the teachers who give up the comfort of their homes and families to be with your daughters on camps and retreats. Thanks especially to Miss White, Year 10 Leader of Learning, for her leadership and her organisation. Our Athletics Carnival once again brought out the best in our athletes, and our house cheer squads, last Monday. Our House Captains from Year 12 encouraged more girls than ever to participate in events, and the Year 12 Flash Mob was quite a treat! Congratulations to Mrs McElroy and Mr McIlveen, and the whole PDHPE team for another excellent community carnival.

Last Tuesday night we held our first Parent Forum for the year, where we looked at ‘The Learning Journey’ framework which is being used in Year 7 & 8 this year. The parents who attended expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how our girls learn, especially the importance of allowing them to experience the struggle and discomfort of not knowing the answers straight away. Thanks to Mr MacNamara for his presentation on the night. Keep an eye out for our Term 2 Parent Forum which will focus on supporting your daughter with Mathematics.

Over the past weeks, in each newsletter, I have been sharing an aspect of the 5 Transformations agenda that is already shaping the work at the college. This week, I want to briefly describe the third transformation: Pathways through school.
All parents are concerned about what path their daughter will take after school. Traditionally, our college has been an excellent pathway into university degrees, with more than 75% of our students being offered a place in the first round of university place offers each year, and a growing number are securing their university entry with some form of ‘early offer’ from about October each year. However, there is more than one pathway into a career, or into further study, and the Higher School Certificate with an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank) is not the only way for our students to pursue their dreams. What if students had more choice about the pathway they wanted to take through school?

Last week, Lilly-Rose Saliba, from Year 11, was interviewed on the ABC Life Matters program about her views on why the ATAR is a poor measure of students’ abilities, passions and talents. You can hear a podcast of her interview here: http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/lifematters/rethinking-the-atar/9567724

Conversations about a post-HSC education system have already begun, in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) and in government. While the Commonwealth Government is still committed to an Australian Certificate of Education (represented by the HSC in NSW), there is growing momentum for the argument that standardised models of the final assessment of schooling are inadequate and a narrow measure of a young person’s capacity or capabilities. A growing number of Caroline Chisholm College students are opting for a non-ATAR pathway and the percentage of students who access university level study without an ATAR is growing. We are working with universities to find other ways for students to learn and achieve a credential that is perfectly suited to both their passions and abilities as well as the needs of future employers.

By transforming what it means to ‘finish school’ we will be able to support a range of pathways to life beyond school. Some of these may look like certificate or diploma credentials, accelerated completion of some of the HSC subjects, or other flexible, online and blended ways of finishing compulsory schooling with a meaningful credential or qualification. The college has begun exploring these options with a range of partners in Catholic education, universities and beyond. Caroline Chisholm College should be the school for every girl who wants to study here.

As this is my final newsletter before my leave, I want to wish all of the community every blessing for this Easter season and beyond. I am confident that the college is in very safe hands and will continue to flourish throughout Term 2.

Peace.

Lord God,
You loved this world so much,
That you gave your one and only Son,
That we might be called your children too.
Lord, help us to live in the joy and grace
Of Easter Sunday, everyday.
Let us have hearts of thankfulness
For your sacrifice.
Help us to walk the path of peace and love
And tell your good news to the world.
Amen.

Mr Greg Elliott
Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Uniform for Term 2
Students are reminded that it is compulsory for all students to wear blazers to and from school every day during Terms 3 and 4. Students also need to wear navy stockings every day so make sure you stock up on these in the holidays. They can also be bought from the uniform shop. Students not wearing blazers to and from school or not wearing navy stockings will be considered out of uniform and will receive diary warnings, possibly leading to detentions.

I’d also remind students that any items worn under shirts for additional warmth should be white and should be tucked in so they do not protrude lower than the shirts and may only be worn under jumpers or blazers, not so they are visible below the sleeves of the shirt. Students may also choose to wear a plain navy scarf on cold days. They can be purchased from the uniform shop or any store. Please see the college website or previous newsletters for how to purchase from the college uniform shop.

School Zones
All schools have been asked by the NSW Minister for Education to give the following reminder:
A reminder to all our parents ahead of the break at the end of Term 1 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.
School zones operate on all gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

School Photographs
School photographs will be taken in Week 2 of next term. On Friday 11 May, all students will have an individual photograph taken. These photos are used within the school for identification purposes and for the year book. Consequently, all students must be in full school uniform. This includes a blazer. All students must confirm to the grooming and jewellery requirements of their year group. This means students in Years 7-9 with hair longer than their shoulders must have it tied back and off their face, as the photos have an identification purpose.

Parents are very welcome to purchase these photos as mementos and envelopes for this purpose will be sent home shortly. Money is to be brought to school in the envelope on the day and handed straight to the photographer. Please note that if the money is brought on the day, it must be the exact money as the college is not able to give change. Please ensure that each student returns her own envelope even if payment is made in the eldest child’s envelope. You will see from the information with the envelope that it is also possible to order the student photos online with the company, Advanced Photographers, both before and after the day of photographing.

Monday 14 May is the backup day for students who are absent on 11 May to have their photographs taken. It is possible for sisters to have family groups taken at lunch time on this day. Family group photos do not need to be pre-ordered. They can be purchased when the proofs come back to the school.

The photographs will be taken by Advanced Photographers. They can be contacted on (02) 9905-6688 if you have questions for them.

“Doing the Right Thing Awards”
Students who help with clean up and litter are eligible for a “Doing the Right Thing Award”. Congratulations to Laura Christmas (7 Jackson), Haylee Vella (8 Jackson), Grace Wood (9 MacKillop) and Indianna Hutchinson (12 MacKillop) who receive vouchers for the canteen for being the students drawn from the box. All students who put in award slips will have points credited to their house.

Mr Greg King - Assistant Principal

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Nadine Hanna of 8 MacKillop who competed in the ISKA NSW Open Karate Championship on Sunday 25th March. Nadine competed in four events and came first in Sword Combat and Point Sparring and 3rd in Continuous Sparring. Well done Nadine on this fantastic achievement.
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

I would like to share a reflection about learning with you this week.

I have a vivid recollection of receiving an undergraduate psychology paper back when I was at university with a mark of 8/20 and an ‘invitation’ to resubmit the paper. (I say ‘invitation’ because if I had chosen not to resubmit I would have failed the course!) The markers comment included the encouragement, ‘I know you can do this, so please don’t give up’.

You can imagine my initial thoughts and can probably guess what some of my initial comments were about the marker of my paper. However, having little choice, I began again … slowly rewriting the paper … with the hope that I might resurrect my self-confidence somewhere along the line.

I spent the weekend rewriting the paper. I had planned a great social outing that weekend that I had to forgo. I had to confess to my mother that I had failed and had to redo my work. I had to overcome the bitterness I felt towards the marker. I had to take ownership of my mistakes. I had to do more research, delete whole passages from my paper and had to replace them with new research and new ideas. I felt anxious and worried – I second-guessed myself – I catastrophized imagining that I would have to drop out of university because I simply wasn’t good enough. It hurt to fail and hurt to have to try again.

Luckily I persevered and resubmitted the paper … and passed … and got on with the rest of my degree and the rest of my life. But I still remember that paper and I still remember how it felt to fail and to have to persevere.

Mr Elliott spoke to the Year 12 students last week and recounted an experience of receiving some critical feedback about his doctoral thesis – his response, ‘Fear must lose’, a good lesson for us all. Criticism, setbacks, mistakes and failures are a normal part of learning, and indeed a normal part of life. That doesn’t mean they don’t hurt – because they do. There is no point in sitting in a hole, blaming others, beating ourselves up, catastrophizing and giving up. We must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and keep going. It is not our failures that matter; it is how we respond to them that defines who we are.

Our job as educators and parents is to empower our students and our children to keep going even when we don’t get things right the first time, even when it hurts. Be assured that the teachers are here to support your daughters to develop the ability to persevere, to develop the self-confidence to fail, fail often, and the determination to defeat their fears and keep going.

Mrs Deborah Scollard - Assistant Principal

YEAR 7 MUSIC EXCURSION

On Thursday 8th March, Year 7 students had a fabulous day out at the Parramatta Riverside Theatres. They were introduced to the sounds of the orchestra by members of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and famous piano solo pieces performed by Australian pianist Simon Tedeschi.

The concert “Who Needs a Conductor Anyway?” allowed the students to see what happens if there is no conductor on stage.

“Isn’t a solo pianist enough?”

“Why can’t everyone just play how they like?”

“How hard can conducting be anyway?”

Simon Tedeschi and members of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra put these questions to the test.

The repertoire in the concert included highlights from Tchaikovsky’s “Piano Concerto No.1”, Beethoven’s “Piano Concerto No.5 (Emperor)”, Grieg’s “Piano Concerto”, Rachmaninoff’s “Piano Concerto No.2”, Mozart’s “Piano Concerto No.21 in C, K467” and Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue”.

The Music Department would like to thank Mrs Frances McCauley, Mrs Jodie Cusack, Mrs Wendy Merriman, Miss Rebecca Sidhom and Mr Stephen McIveen for their additional support on the day.

Mrs Christine Lewis - Music Teacher
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On the 26th of March, the CCC athletics carnival was held at Blacktown Olympic Athletics Stadium, where the whole college came together for a great day of competition and enjoyment. Just like previous years, the stands were flooded in colour, with girls proudly representing their houses by chanting and going above and beyond through dressing up! All the girls who were early competitors put in a tremendous effort, competing in the 200m, 400m and 1500m races!

We are extremely proud of the great number of students who have demonstrated their commitment and skills in athletics, and have qualified to represent our college at the PDSSSC Carnival.

Congratulations to the Winning house - KENNY on 843 points.
WRIGHT 762
GILMORE 591
MACKILLOP 572
JACKSON 562
MACARTHUR 539

Congratulations to the following
Age Champions:
12 Years - Raphaila Idris
13 Years - Herbertha Williams
14 Years - Ashleigh Gill
15 Years - Kailah Stapleton
16 Years - Nevine Idris & Alison Gallen
17 Years + - Georgia Wood

Congratulations to the following students who broke records on the day:
12 Years Long Jump - Raphaila Idris 4.49m (Wright)
15 Years 100m - Kailah Stapleton 12.90 (Kenny)

Words can’t describe how appreciative we are of the PE faculty and PASS classes, who dedicated their time prior to and throughout the day, ensuring all events ran smoothly. A special mention to the parents and family members who devoted their day to attending our carnival. The girls are immensely grateful for the continued support and encouragement you provided them with.

Thank you to all those who attended and showed their enthusiasm and willingness by chanting, dressing up and participating in events. You made this year’s carnival another unforgettable day! Best wishes to the girls who will go on to compete at the PDSSSC Carnival on behalf of the whole school community. We are excited to see the results of your dedication and hard work.

Written by Kailah Stapleton and Annlin Biju - Year 9 PASS
### DIARY DATES

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<td>Year 10 &amp; 11 Dance Mamma Mia Excursion</td>
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<td>Thur 5 Apr</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp - Academy of Sport, Narrabeen</td>
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<td>Fri 6 Apr</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp - Academy of Sport, Narrabeen</td>
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<td>NSWCCC Swimming Championships</td>
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<td>Mon 9 Apr</td>
<td>Enrolment forms for 2019 due</td>
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<td>Year 9 VA/PDM Excursion - Cockatoo Island</td>
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<td>Tue 10 Apr</td>
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<td>College Cross Country Carnival</td>
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