FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

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

Pentecost

Last Saturday evening, sitting quietly at home I had little choice but to watch the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle as it was on every channel bar one. To me the highlight was the sermon of the Episcopalian Bishop Michael Curry. He brought an uplifting enthusiasm to his very Christian message about love in its many forms. The juxtaposition between the august and impressive St George’s Chapel and the lively passion of the speaker was particularly effective.

It struck me that the sermon was particularly apposite for the feast the next day, Pentecost. In his sermon, Bishop Curry focused on two things: love and fire. At Pentecost we celebrate the birth of the Christian church, when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples as tongues of fire. One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is love and it seemed to me that Bishop Curry had touched on both these things so effectively. His discourse on love was spirit-filled and full of fire and passion. With the help of the Spirit, we should make these qualities part of our daily lives.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Tell Them From Me

Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta has introduced a new tool for offering all involved in Catholic education in the diocese, students, parents, support staff and teachers an opportunity to provide feedback. The new tool is called Tell Them From Me and Miss White has more information about this in the newsletter. All students will be provided an opportunity to complete this survey at school. The survey window started on Monday and concludes two weeks from then, on Friday 1 June. I would encourage as many parents as possible to take the opportunity to provide feedback to the college. The more responses we get, the more accurate the picture we get and the more able we are to address any concerns raised in the survey results.

Parent Forum

I would like to remind parents that this term’s parent forum which will have a Mathematics focus is on next Tuesday 29 May from 6-7 pm in the college library. A message will be sent via Skoolbag inviting interested parents to rsvp for this forum. You can rsvp via Skoolbag, Facebook or email the principal’s PA, Robyn Wilson at rwilson2@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Rostrum Voice of Youth

Just before the last newsletter went out, one of our Year 7 students, Aalia Nasser, competed in the zone finals of the Rostrum Voice of Youth. This was a great achievement for Aalia who was competing in the Years 7-9 section against some of the best speakers in north-west Sydney. Aalia delivered excellent speeches in both the prepared and impromptu sections and did the college proud.

Mayoral Reception

Last Wednesday I was delighted to be present at the annual civic reception for school captains in the Penrith area. Our college captain, Ashlin Biju, was acknowledged by the Mayor of Penrith, Councillor John Thain, and Member for Lindsay, Emma Husar MP. Ashlin was supported by family and friends. I acknowledge the fine work of leadership being done by Ashlin and the team of student representatives.

Mr Greg King
Acting Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews
The Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews were held on Wednesday 9 May. These interviews provided an opportunity for parents and students to meet with the teachers and discuss the girls’ learning. Hopefully, these conversations provided a starting point for students to build on their strengths, develop in areas of challenge and work towards the achievement of goals. Of course, we encourage parents to contact teachers at any time, particularly if they have concerns about their daughter’s learning and/or wellbeing. I thank our staff, many of whom had a long evening of interviews, but who also recognise the value of these opportunities.

NAPLAN
Last week the girls in Years 7 and 9 completed the NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN is a diagnostic test which allows teachers and parents to identify the strengths and needs of students in relation to literacy and numeracy. This allows teachers to provide appropriate interventions to support the girls to further develop their literacy and numeracy skills. Congratulations to the girls in Year 7 and 9 who approached the NAPLAN tests seriously, calmly and cooperatively and thank you to Mrs Lans who coordinated the smooth running of these tests.

Peer Tutoring
A reminder that peer tutoring is available each week on Monday at recess in the College Library. Many senior students generously volunteer their time to help the younger girls with their study and homework. This is a valuable opportunity to get some free help and support from older students.

WRITING COMPETITION – YEARS 8-11
Girls in Years 8-11 are invited to participate in the following writing competition. Please see your Religion teacher or Ms Scollard if you have any questions about the competition.

Ms Deborah Scollard - Assistant Principal
Tell Them From Me Parent Survey
This week we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

During period 3 on Wednesday 23rd May students in Year 12 will be given an opportunity to participate in this survey. During the Pastoral Care lesson on Friday 25th May, all students in Year 7–11 will be given the opportunity to participate in this survey. Students will be given a random username and password to access and complete the survey online. Students’ names cannot be linked to their responses which allows it to be completely anonymous.

We would like to invite you to complete the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at Caroline Chisholm College.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the following URL:

https://www.tellthemfromme.com/carolinechisholmcollege

You will be able to access the survey from Monday 21st May till Monday 4th June.

Bus travel and pedestrian safety
Residents of Glenmore Park have expressed concern to Council about students crossing the road in front of buses and other vehicles when they get off the bus in the afternoons, particularly on Woodlands Drive. Please check that your child is crossing the road safely.

For all students who travel to and from school by bus:
- Buses are heavy vehicles with large blind spots and drivers may not see you.
- DO NOT cross the road in front of a bus. ALWAYS wait until a bus has driven away before looking to cross the road.
- Choose a safe place to cross the road and check both ways for traffic before crossing.

Opal Cards:
Opal cards are used to determine demand for bus services. If students don’t have an Opal card to tap on and off the service will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers. This term, inspectors will be coming to the school to check that students are using their Opal cards when boarding the school bus. Students that do not present a valid Opal card will be asked to pay a fare. If your daughter does not have an opal card, please go to the Opal website: www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

“Doing the Right Thing Awards”
Students who provide service to the college for a variety of reasons are eligible for a “Doing the Right Thing Award”. Congratulations to Rachel Pirotta (7 Gilmore), Kate Rennie (7 Gilmore) and Olivia Bennett (8 Wright) 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.

Miss Debbie White - Acting Assistant Principal
Pentecost
In our College liturgy on Monday we gathered to celebrate the feast of Pentecost. For Christians, this is the day on which the followers of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit and, despite their fears and hesitations, they were energised and given the courage to move on with their lives, to begin their mission of continuing the ministry of Jesus. The apostles and other followers of Jesus moved out into the world and started to make a difference. As a community we, too, make a difference to the world in which we live – when we allow ourselves to be God’s witnesses in the world.

Jesus promised his disciples:
“You will receive the power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8).

Filled with the power of the Holy Spirit we can actively seek to reach out and make the world better place. Allowing the Holy Spirit to work within us is not easy; it requires acceptance of God’s will, an acknowledgement of the Spirit’s gifts and a willingness to apply them in our daily lives.

The community prayed the following prayers.
- As witnesses filled with Holy Spirit we pray for **personal transformation**: that we will have the courage and humility to allow God’s Spirit to come into our lives, so that we may receive the power necessary to be effective witnesses to Christ in our world.
- **For the Church**: that we may continue to bring the Spirit of Christ to the world and to all who are searching for truth and longing for wholeness.
- **For unity**: that we may appreciate the rich diversity and common values that unite all your people.
- **To be able to see clearly**: that we may recognise the things that are of true and lasting value.
- **For justice**: that those who do without the most basic needs will one day enjoy fair access to the wealth of our world.
- **For Peace**: that God will open minds and free all hearts to courageously search for ways to heal broken relationships.

The College leaders then challenged the students and staff to reflect on how they, the community of Caroline Chisholm Community, could demonstrate their own commitment by making personal promises to God. They provided some suggestions to assist all present to engage in this reflection. These included displaying the gifts we have been endowed with by the Holy Spirit by:
- standing up for what you believe
- listening to what others have to say
- extinguishing fear that prevents you from connecting with each other
- being faithful and striving to live according to the Commandment of love
- being clear about the truth
- by being comfortable and feeling at home with God

**Ms Bernadette Murray - Leader of Religious Education**
SPORT REPORT

SAVANNAH ROBERTS AND TENEALLE BIJOUX - AUSTRALIAN OZ TAG REPRESENTATIVES
Both myself Savannah Roberts, and Tenealle Bijoux travelled to New Zealand and represented Australia in OzTag. It was an amazing experience for us as we had the opportunity to represent our country. We met new people and the New Zealand team we played against were so kind and generous. We received a hand made bracelet at the end of the tournament from them showing us how grateful they were that we made the effort to travel to their country to play Oztag. Overall, we played six games over the tournament. We won and beat the New Zealand team 3-2. It was a close, hard game but our hard work paid off and we became the Australian champions of the New Zealand Trans Tasman Tour. We then left to go to Hawaii, another great experience for us. We were there for 8 days and played a 3 day tournament. We got to see the beautiful places of Hawaii and had many experiences during the trip. We went through undefeated and won the tournament; the final score was 8-6.

Written by Savannah Roberts - Year 11 Student

JESSICA LIBRERI - SLALOM CANOEIST UPDATE
I was recently asked to join the Western Sydney Academy of Sport and also got selected into the Nationals Talents Squad (NTS) for Australia, For this squad I have to go to many training camps and also many competition that take place in Australia and New Zealand. Next year I may have to go to other countries. In two of my recent competitions on the white water I placed 2nd in K1 and 1st in C1 both under 17 events.

Written by Jessica Libreri - Year 10 Student

NSWCCC Swimming
The NSWCCC Swimming competition was held on the 6th of April at SOPAC, in Homebush. This year the team consisted of Jordan Amies, Hannah McCrorie, Lily Morgan, Anique Pantazakos, Lara Roser, Abbey Slaughter, Arianne Thomas, Gabrielle Xinos and Lauren Wolsey. Not only did the girls do themselves proud on this day, but also the school community of Caroline Chisholm. Throughout the day, many individual achievements were recognised, as well as team efforts. The 16 years and over, freestyle relay team (Abbey Slaughter, Hannah McCrorie, Lauren Wolsey and Jordan Amies) placed 1st at this event, meaning that the girls will now move on to the NSW All Schools carnival. The 16 years and over medley relay team (Abbey Slaughter, Hannah McCrorie, Lauren Wolsey and Arianne Thomas) also achieved 1st place, allowing them to move on to the next round. Overall, the carnival was a major success and all participants should be very proud of their efforts.

Written by Hannah McCrorie - Year 12 Student

Britney Jackson - Oztag
In April, I travelled to New Zealand to play in the Trans-Tasman series for the under 20s Oztag mixed team representing Australia. We had five games against the New Zealand team, and won every single game. We finished the tournament undefeated and came home with the winning trophy. I am currently training for the World Cup in November where I’ll be competing against countries from all around the world.

Written by Britney Jackson - Year 12 Student

Well done to all students. We are extremely proud of you.
On Friday 4th May, 32 students from all age groups represented Caroline Chisholm College at the PDSSSC Cross Country Carnival held at Jamison Park. It was a great day filled with a friendly competitive atmosphere. It was lovely to see students encouraging one another on the final lap before going over the finishing line.

After a windy day spent chasing our shelter and other items, the students performed well, especially Tayla Gallen who came first in her age group.

Participants are listed below:

Raphaila Idris          Ella Grennell          Tayla Gallen          Alison Gallen
Charlize Risse          Lauren Preston          Emily Hatcher          Laura Patterson
Kaitlyn Hatcher         Ashleigh Gill           Azahlia Stevenson      Rachelle Ellis
Alicia Mizzi            Monique Buksh           Emily Davies           Ellen Gibbons
Kyla Grosse             Emily Obereigner         Sara Joy               Hannah McCrone
Chloe Gill              Courtney Sibbald         Annika Svensson        Catalina Lecaros
Jessica Gallen          Vivien Toth             Isabella Bruce          Jessica Murray
Abby Affleck            Haylee Vella            Keisha Chilmaid        Elizabeth Wakeling

Mrs Brooke Hughes - Sport Teacher
DEBATING

Earlier in the year, the College registered to participate in the CSDA Debating competition with the hope of providing an opportunity for our students to develop their critical thinking skills, confidence, and leadership potential. We have been so impressed by how many students, with very little debating experience, have taken on the challenge to debate significant issues in contemporary society with other like-minded students from Catholic high schools across the Sydney metropolitan area.

We’re now at the half-way point of the competition and our teams have learnt so much about the role of each speaker, developing a team line and allocating arguments, as well as strategies to improve their manner. The coaches and I have been so impressed by the attitude of all the students as they embrace this new learning experience and the commitment they have shown to each other.

The team members are:

**Year 7**
- Carolina Dudley
- Olivia Hayes
- Nina Lester
- Olivia Martin
- Shanelka Perera
- Chloe Proud

**Year 8**
- Louise Armstrong
- Olivia Bennett
- Jessica Buzzi
- Courtney Hamilton
- Emily Obereigner
- Meg Whittaker

**Year 9**
- Monique Buksh
- Tahlia Godfrey
- Maddison McCarry
- Christine Muscat
- Azahlia Stevenson
- Grace Wood

**Year 10**
- Nilisha Buksh
- Alison Coutinho
- Alanah Eisenhuth
- Alannah Hader
- Ariba Mahmood

Here are some of the students’ thoughts about their debating experience:

*Debating has been an eye-opening experience for me, as it has taught me many different things that can be applied to everyday experiences.* **Tahlia Godfrey**

*Debating is an enjoyable extra-curricular activity that has been a major influence in helping me to learn how to speak confidently on the spot.* **Azahlia Stevenson**

*The CSDA Competition enables young students to debate on current topics in a safe environment; one that fosters a lifelong love of Public Speaking, and broad knowledge. Having only debated in primary school before, entering a new, sophisticated world where one can confidently engage in intellectual ‘conversation’, I feel as if this is an excellent opportunity for both personal and academic growth.* **Monique Buksh**

*Debating is a wonderful experience that has taught me skills such as working as part of a team and thinking on the spot.* **Grace Wood**

*Even though the debating competition has only recently started, I have increased my confidence levels so much and I have enjoyed working with my friends to solve a problem. I am looking forward to the debates to come.* **Jessica Buzzi**

*Debating is something very new for me however I have enjoyed every part of it so far! It enables you to test your ability to write and brainstorm under pressure, then presenting it with confidence! It is a great opportunity to get involved and advance your academic and social intelligence.* **Olivia Bennett**

*Debating has only recently started and the rush you get during prep time and the actual debate is amazing. I have been able to meet some great people and overall this has been a great experience. I am looking forward to future debates!* **Meg Whittaker**

*Debating is wonderful opportunity. It is a great way to meet new friends and the coaches are very supportive and friendly. It gives you a confidence boost and makes you learn important skills that will be helpful for the years ahead. It tests your ability and makes you think differently when you are stuck in a situation.* **Olivia Hayes**

*Mrs Ana Dudley - Leader of Learning English*