FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

It is with a heavy heart that I write this week's newsletter. By now you would most probably have heard that Mr Mark Herrick passed away on Monday morning from complications following a heart attack. Over his last days he received a constant stream of visitors from Caroline Chisholm, because, in so many ways, we were his family. Mark has two brothers who live up North, never married, and dedicated his life to us and to his Catholic faith.

Mr Herrick has, for many years, been an enthusiastic champion of the girls here, attending every event, ceremony and celebration. He was a valued and greatly loved teacher, a friend to the staff and a true example of Christian service. Mr Herrick first arrived at Caroline Chisholm in 1986, and has been a regular in our classrooms, playgrounds and staffroom, ever since. I wish those who did not know him could just observe him walking through the COLA at lunchtime. He was embraced like a rock star, such was the love our students had for his gentle and generous nature. In my last conversation with him, Mark wanted to impress upon me how special the college has been to him, and his hope that the community would remember him when he was gone. He even told me he had included the college in his will. Even towards the end of his life he was a giving person.

It was necessary to put extra supports in place for our students and staff on Monday, and I am grateful to all who offered support and comfort to our community in the midst of our loss. If you are concerned about how your daughter is dealing with Mr Herrick's death, please feel free to contact her year leader who will arrange support for her at school. It is an opportunity for us as teachers and parents to remind our young women that life has purpose, especially when it is modelled so completely on the example of Jesus. Mr Herrick was a grace-filled example of someone who lived the Gospel every day - a saint for our school. He taught me so much in the time I knew him: lessons about humility, generosity and the importance of really knowing our students. If the reaction of our online community to the announcement is anything to go by, tens of thousands of people have been blessed to have known Mark Herrick.

Mr Herrick's funeral Mass will be held at St Nicholas of Myra Church, Penrith on Monday March 4 at 1.30pm. Our college has offered to be involved in the Mass, and we will be providing the music and helping to prepare the liturgy. It is my hope that our community will be present in strength on Monday to farewell Mark. As such, I have put the following arrangements in place to allow for as many people as possible to attend the funeral:

1. The college will not be bussing students to the funeral. Attendance at the funeral is a decision for parents;
2. Families are welcome to collect their daughters from school at 12:20pm (the beginning of lunch) to take them to the funeral;
3. A student can be picked up by another parent but she must have a note in her diary, signed by her parent saying who will pick her up.
4. Students attending the funeral must wear full college uniform, with blazers if the weather is cool;
5. Afternoon lessons (1.00pm - 2:40pm) will not be staffed by the regular teachers. Students remaining at school will access their learning tasks via Google Classroom, and will be supervised by relieving teachers;
6. At the conclusion of the Mass, our students and staff will form a guard of honour in High Street to farewell Mr Herrick.

We give God great thanks for the wonderful man that Mark was, his generous attention to the details of our lives, his joy at our happiness, his delight at our celebrations. We thank God for the example Mark set of what it means to be a Chisholm person.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.
Caroline Chisholm Day
It has been a time of contrast, with last Friday being a day of such joy and happiness for our college as we celebrated Caroline Chisholm Day with Mass and a carnival. You will no doubt note from the photos that it was a day filled with fun and colour. Mass was celebrated, for the first time in a long time, in our COLA area which was transformed into a grand basilica for the liturgy. Fr Chris de Souza, Episcopal Vicar for Education, preached beautifully on the theme of compassion and kindness. I am so grateful to him, to Ms Bernadette Murray, Ms Jacqui Morley and the huge team of liturgy and musical helpers who made the ceremony a memorable initiation for our new Year 7s and a blessed way to open the school year. The carnival that followed featured 18 stalls and activities designed and managed by our students in Years 10 - 12, as well as the obligatory rides and amusement. I am proud to announce that we raised $9000 for Project Compassion, well on our way to our $15000 target for Lent 2019.

Mr Greg Elliott
Principal

DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thur 28 Feb</td>
<td>All Schools Triathlon Individual Events</td>
<td>Wed 6 Mar</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Mar</td>
<td>All Schools Triathlon Team Events</td>
<td>Thur 7 Mar</td>
<td>Year 8 Medieval Day Incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tokyo Junshin students arrive</td>
<td></td>
<td>CEDP Commissioning Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4 Mar</td>
<td>Year 10 Study Skills</td>
<td>Mon 11 Mar</td>
<td>Open Night for 2020 Enrolments 5.30-7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Funeral for Mr Mark Herrick</td>
<td>Tue 12 Mar</td>
<td>College Swimming Carnival, Blacktown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 5 Mar</td>
<td>PDSSSC Touch Gala Day</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 8 Poetry in Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women in Business</td>
<td>Fri 15 Mar</td>
<td>Texstyle Expo, Powerhouse Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 18 Mar</td>
<td>STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

No Meat on Fridays in the Canteen

Catholics in Australia older than 14 are only required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all Fridays in the year (including Fridays in Lent), Catholics are requested to perform an act of penance, which could include abstaining from eating meat. Traditionally, we have not sold meat products in the canteen at the college during Lent and we will continue the practice this year. While not a Church requirement, we would like the students to be led to think about the things that differentiate this season of the Church from other times and to focus on their preparation for the resurrection of Christ at Easter.

Use of Aerosols

Students are reminded that aerosol products (such as spray deodorants) are not to be brought to or used at school or while travelling to or from school on buses. This is a serious Workplace Health and Safety issue as students with respiratory issues (such as asthma) are very susceptible to aerosol sprays.

Explaining absences by SMS text

I am pleased to let parents and carers know that our attendance system now has the capacity to receive replies to the SMS text messages sent indicating a student absence and have the reply recorded as the written explanation for the student’s absence. The procedure will now be as it was with our previous system. To remind parents (and inform parents of students in Year 7) of the procedure:

- Students who are away will have an SMS text message sent to the parent or carer number registered with the college advising of their daughter’s absence. A text reply to this message will be recorded as an official reason for absence. If you get a message but think your daughter should be at school, please contact us to ascertain whether she is actually at school. (She may have been out of homeroom for some reason or was late and did not sign in properly.)
- If a student is not in a homeroom at 8.23 am she will be marked absent. Students arriving after this time must sign in at the front office and have their late note signed by a parent or carer.

Some important points to note about texting the college regarding absences:

- If you are texting a reply to a text message that your daughter is absent, please reply only to the message you have just received, not to an earlier one.
- Do not use past text messages to send texts informing the college of future absences. The text service is only for addressing the absence on the day in response to a text message from the college. Please inform the college of future known absence by letter or phone call.

You do not have to text a response to the SMS text. You can still send a written, signed explanation with your daughter on her return to school. Parents and carers are reminded that a written explanation for absence (either on paper or via SMS) must be received by the college within one week (5 school days) of the student absence.

Doing the Right Thing

Congratulations to Isabella Yelavich (7 Gilmore), Alysha Finn (8 Kenny), and Tayla Crellin (8 Kenny). They have been selected to receive a $5 canteen voucher for college service.

Appreciation of Honesty

Students at Caroline Chisholm College regularly display outstanding honesty in returning items they find on the college grounds. Oftentimes these can be of quite substantial value. Students handing in found items receive a certificate of appreciation. I would like to congratulate the following students who have handing items in over the last fortnight: Oreca Pentacost (7 Gilmore), Isabella Yelavich (7 Gilmore), Imogen Buttigieg (7 Kenny), Montayah Astruc (8 Gilmore), Sarah Bartolo (8 Gilmore), Sophie Leonard (8 Gilmore), Sarah Slack (8 Jackson), Alessia Tassone (8 Jackson), Maddison Gomez (8 Kenny), Zeinab Slaibi (8 MacKillop), Clare Roser (9 Macarthur) and Alicia Loughman (10 MacKillop).

Mr Greg King - Assistant Principal
Distinguished Achievers’ Assembly HSC 2018

At the college assembly in week three we celebrated the successes our 2018 HSC distinguished achievers. The distinguished achievers are the students who achieved a Band 6 or equivalent result in one or more of their HSC subjects, placing them in the top 10% of the state. It also included those with distinguished practical performances in Design and Technology, Music, Visual Arts, Dance and Drama. Included in the group of distinguished achievers were the girls who are currently in Year 12 but completed the HSC Studies of Religion II course in 2018.

At this assembly, we congratulated our ATAR Dux, Elizabeth Wakeling, who was placed in the top 10% of the State in English Advanced, English Extension I, Mathematics General, Studies of Religion I and Visual Arts. In addition the College community congratulated the following students who achieved ATARs over 90: Ashlin Biju, Olivia Bray, Kaitlin Glass, Claire Henen, Jacinta Rastegorac, Abbey Tricot, Katherine Wakeling and Georgia Wood.

The following students were congratulated for being placed in the Premier’s Distinguished Achievers List: Alissa Anastasio, Jacinta Aquilina, Ashlin Biju, Olivia Bray, Jenny Byun, Sally Byun, Rochelle Connell, Victoria Cutts, Lily Danby, Claudia Dixon, Kaitlin Glass, Pennapa Gorman, Claire Henen, Isabella Hudson, Angel Jojo, Hannah McCrorie, Kiara McDonald, Natasha Mills, Kaylee Moorfield, Brooke Parkinson, Jacinta Rastegorac, Tamara Reid, Claudine Rule, Cassandra Sidhom, Lilly-Rose Saliba, Renee Taylor, Abbey Tricot, Isabella Wade, Alina Wakeling, Kate Wakeling, Mairread Ward, Shaylan Whatman and Georgia Wood.

Students who presented outstanding work in practical subjects were also acknowledged. In Visual Arts, six students were nominated for ARTEXPRESS, Olivia Alfred, Madison D’Angelo, Chloe Green, Claire Henen, Lily Xiberras and Elizabeth Wakeling. Four Drama students were nominated for ONSTAGE, Kaitlin Glass, Madelyn Dwyer, Kenyana Martin and Hannah Quigley. One Dance student, Kaitlin Patterson, was nominated for Callback. Five students were nominated for Shape for their outstanding work in Design and Technology, Alissa Anastasio, Ella Berryman, Rochelle Connell, Hannah McCrorie and Kiara McDonald.

We were pleased to welcome our local Federal MP, Emma Husar, who presented the Lindsay Award to Lauren Betts of Year 12. We thank Ms Husar for her continued support of the college with this award.

Our 2018 College Dux, Elizabeth Wakeling, spoke to the students offering them five tips for successful learning.

Year 12 was a milestone in my life as a learner, and the cycle of making mistakes, learning from them and improving with each step has taught me 5 of the most important lessons that helped to make last year successful.

1. Setting goals:
Setting long term goals is always a good idea for keeping on track and reminding yourself of the end goal.
2. **It’s not a secret it’s just hard work:**

The HSC is no Monopoly game: you can’t roll the dice to pass go as there are no shortcuts. Every time you think you are falling behind, hard work, organisation and consistent routines will move you forward. Your brain is a muscle, and you can tire it out by studying for too long or not taking regular breaks. It works the same way in reverse: if you don’t work consistently over the year it won’t perform effectively when you need it to. It’s about training it and strengthening it over time.

3. **Discover your learning style and develop it fully:**

We all learn in a unique way, and understanding the type of learner you are can significantly improve the way you study.

4. **Organisation:**

Organisation is essential during the HSC. Staying organised for the entire year isn’t always easy, but it makes writing study notes and being prepared for exams much less stressful... Surprisingly, organisation is linked to balance. If you schedule your week, you will find that there is time for you.

5. **Establishing consistent routines:**

The HSC is not designed to make you fail; it is there to challenge you and push you to succeed. It is all about persistence and self-discipline. Remember that your final marks are based on your results all throughout the year and not just on the final exams. It’s okay not to get the marks you hoped for and to be disappointed. the crucial thing is to keep learning. Target areas for refinement and keep practising.

Elizabeth also reflected on the value of being part of a supportive community of learners at Caroline Chisholm.

My learning journey was tough at times, but the stresses were always made better by the wonderful experiences that being part of this community involves. The Caroline Chisholm sisterhood is such a special place to be able to have called home for the last 6 years, and I couldn’t have achieved what I did without the support of all the staff and my classmates. I am so blessed to have graduated with such a wonderful and motivated group of young women, especially those who are sitting here beside me, and I congratulate them on their amazing results.

**FROM THE LEARNING COMMITTEE LEADERS**

**Food for thought**

Subject: Legal
Would you prefer a world where there is no law or one where there is? Why?

Email your thoughts to:
Simone Spisiak: sspisiak@parrastu.catholic.edu.au
Ellie Loughman: eloughman@parrastu.catholic.edu.au

Leaders of the Learning Committee

Mrs Deborah Scollard - Assistant Principal
Caroline Chisholm College Opening School Mass
For our beginning of the school Mass we took as our scripture the story of the Good Samaritan from Luke’s Gospel. The Good Samaritan sees the injured man, stops his journey and is moved so deeply that he touches him to help heal his wounds. This radical compassion is the model for Christian life: an openness to the pain of others and a desire to heal. This reading connects to our formation here at Caroline Chisholm College for 2018-2019 as we have taken as our focus the value of compassion. Compassion is the openness of the heart to the pain of others. It is a virtue that allows us to be the means by which people may experience God’s love and mercy.

Caroline Chisholm was a women of great strength and determination. She inspires us to be people who make a difference in our world. The values of faith, courage, tolerance, dignity, compassion and justice that she displayed throughout her life have been adopted by us as part of our identity. The way we try to display these values is in our dealings with each other and through service. Our Social Justice program here at the college is named for this remarkable woman. It is called “Caroline’s Footsteps”. During the Mass students were asked to think about ways in which they can be compassionate in their dealings with all people.

At the end of Mass we commissioned our catechists from Years 10 and 11 blessing them in the work they are about to undertake each week as Religious Educations instructors in our local state primary school. We then inducted the staff new to the school and our new students from Year 7-12, welcoming them and praying a blessing over them. As a whole school community we then recited our College Commitment Pledge:

We the Caroline Chisholm College Community are called to be
• the light of Christ through our faith
• the heart of Christ through our courage
• the hands of Christ through our tolerance for those who are different from ourselves.

We are called to be people of compassion and forgiveness and we will demonstrate this in the way we treat each other.

Over the coming weeks and months I challenge all members of our community to pray for our “neighbours” especially the refugees, the lonely, the homeless, the sick and those experiencing turmoil and difficulty. Let us find ways to reach out with compassion and love.

Welcome and Induction of Year 7
With the generous gift of 200 peace lilies to assist us in creating our sacred space for Mass we were able to give each of our Year 7 students a very special gift as a reminder of their welcome and initiation into the College community. Ms Thompson challenged the girls to be good stewards of their plants, looking after them, watering them and nurturing them just as they are being looked after here at school every day. They were reminded to be people of hope and compassion and peace and using their plant as a tangible reminder of this.

Ms Bernadette Murray - Leader of Religious Education
YEAR 10 DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY TO IKEA MARSDEN PARK

Year 10 Design and Technology attended an excursion to IKEA Marsden Park. The purpose of the excursion was to investigate flat pack stools in preparation for the design and manufacture of their own flat pack stool concept. In addition, the students also investigated different types of laser cut lamp designs in preparation for their light design unit in Term 2.

Ms Megan Blakers - TAS Teacher

FOCUS ON AN ATHLETE AT CCC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh Bland</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Taekwondo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What has been happening?
On December 16th, 2018 I graded for my Black Belt 2nd Dan. It was a long three-hour process. I passed and now I have achieved this belt. Along with this belt level, I have started my assistant instructor course. This course will take up most of my time and it is all volunteer work.

Well done Ashleigh. We are extremely proud of you at Caroline Chisholm College.