Reflection: God’s Quilt

“Of pieces that make up my life, from many fabrics torn, some are new and beautiful, some are old and worn.

Here a thread of silver there a few of gold; and there are greys and blues and blacks among the bright and bold. Some fabrics wear the jewels of joy, others scarred with pain. Fabrics here are traced with loss others wreathed with gain.

Seen apart and separate, they show no purpose clear. You see, the pattern set of them cannot be viewed from here. He who does the quilting sets the pieces from above. Carefully, He chooses them and binds all with His love.

Amen.

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, Staff, Students and Members of our wider College Community.

Staff relatively new to St Joseph’s College like myself are required to complete an Accreditation program entitled ‘Faith Story and Witness’. This program helps provide staff with an understanding of how our school originated and what it means to work in a Catholic school. The first session was completed last Monday and highlighted the courage, love, compassion, strength in spirit, and kindness which the Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition and the Christian Brothers possessed and how these qualities are what our school is built upon. We should always look towards our founding religious orders for guidance. It is the people, inclusive of students, staff, parents and community members, who are St Joseph’s College. Our buildings and resources do not reflect the spirit of our community, rather we are the creators and content of the St Joseph’s story.

As always, our staff are readily available to provide support to students in their studies. I encourage regular communication between home and school to ensure that together we can effectively manage the learning journey of our students. Can I again encourage all parents, particularly in the secondary school, to carefully monitor the ongoing academic and pastoral progress of their children via our College administration system SEQTA. Please note that our ICT team is available at the College should there ever be any issues accessing the system.

I would like to promote the P&F Meeting happening next Tuesday 9th May. Last term,
Principal’s Report

both meetings were well attended and I hope as many parents as possible will again come along and be a part of the work our P&F does to support the school, our families and to build community. The meeting is held in the staffroom, which is located in the Administration Block, commencing at 6.00 pm. This Saturday 6 May Mrs Sheryl-lee Green is coordinating a sausage sizzle outside Bunnings. Please come along and buy a sausage or two.

Last night I had the opportunity to visit the Year Six students on camp. Eagerly they told their experiences of raft building; being happy with their construction but only to find the vessel slowly sank or fell apart on being placed in the water. The evening meal was particularly impressive with good manners being evident and definitely a healthy appetite. It was wonderful to see students conversing politely with each other and with the staff member on their table. When it came time to do the dishes, who has ever heard of too many volunteers! Well done to the Year Six students on a top effort! As a College we are indeed fortunate to have staff who provide time and effort so our students can enjoy these special experiences. Thank you to Mr Morcom, Mrs Palfrey, Mrs Wright and Mrs Cramer.

The Year Two students presented the Junior School Assembly this week. I was impressed with the confident way they spoke into the microphone and with their creative presentation about the magic hat. Well done to the staff and students.

On Wednesday night the first workshop was held for the Sacrament of First Communion. An excellent number of St Joseph’s families were in attendance. This particular workshop had the aim of showing parents and students the number of different groups that comprise the Holy Family Parish and what each does. The groups represented were: Men’s Fellowship, Legion of Mary, Knights of the Southern Cross, Catholic Women’s League, Altar Servers, Seafarers, Youth Ministry and Saint Vincent de Paul. It is important for the children to learn that there is a lot more to the ‘Church” than just a building. We are indeed lucky in Albany to have such a vibrant parish that reaches out to the community in a variety of ways. Thank you to the parishioners for their presentations and to all parents and children who attended. The final workshop will be held on Wednesday 7 June at 6.30 pm in the Ave Maria Chapel.

Last term the Fee Statement was sent to all families. Please remember that the figure quoted is for the entire year. Families are encouraged to pay their fees in regular small amounts using Direct Debt. If there are difficulties in paying the required fees, please make an appointment to come and see me.

Overall the flow of traffic works well in the main St Joseph’s College car park during the peak periods of each day. At all times the prime concern is the safety of the students. A few friendly reminders:

- Drive slowly when entering or departing the car park.
- Follow the direction of the arrows; no short cuts the wrong way!
Principal’s Report

- Only park in the designated areas. Please do not park on the verge near either entrance as such vehicles block the vision of other drivers.
- Only cars displaying an Accord sticker are allowed to park in the disabled parking bays.
- Drivers in our car park should never been viewed by staff or parents talking on a mobile phone.
- Please be courteous to other drivers and staff even if you are in a hurry.
- All pedestrians (parents and children) must use the crosswalk and follow the instructions of the teacher on duty. Do not take short cuts across the car park as the students are observing this. Please keep our kids safe!

There is an entrance off Hardie Road into the St Joseph’s campus that is relatively underutilised by parents. The entrance leads to the Trade Training Complex but has a roundabout where parents can drop off and collect their children. This access point would be particularly convenient for students in Years Four, Five, Six and the secondary years. A new shelter is nearing completion for the wet weather days.

Please be aware that we have several students at St Joseph’s College with different forms of allergies some of which are life threatening. We ask parents to be mindful of this when sending certain foods to school with your child. Nuts are of a major concern to the College. Some students do not necessarily have to eat the nuts to suffer an allergic reaction. In some instance the students have a limited amount of time to seek assistance or medication to avoid a fatal reaction. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Over the holidays Caitlin Pritchard (Year Eight) competed in the WA Equestrian Inter-School’s Championships; a sport that is relatively unique at St Joseph’s College. With the commencement of the new term, Caitlin made an appointment to see me and proudly showed her two second and fifth ribbons. I congratulate Caitlin for following her dream and on her achievements. Caitlin has written an article on her experience which is contained in this Newsletter.

Enrolment interviews continued this week for students entering the College in 2018. A reminder to prospective and existing families with siblings to please make certain that they have applications submitted particularly for Kindergarten and Year Seven to ensure they don’t miss out on the opportunity for their sons and daughters to attend St Joseph’s College.

Seek to make a difference in our College community this coming week!

Mr Mark Browning
Principal
P & F News

Dear Parents and Friends. We are getting closer to our Mothers' Day Stall to be held Friday 12 May 2017 on the veranda in front of Cunningham Block. Students will be able to pick a Mothers’ Day gift from a huge range of items priced at $5, $3 and $2. There will also be a Raffle to be drawn on the day, tickets are just 50 cents. Parents will be able to purchase raffle tickets at the Mother’s Day Morning Tea being held after Mass. Thank you so much for all the wonderful donations we have already received. You still have time to leave any donations in the school office until Monday 8th May 2017. Notes will be coming home in the Junior School this week so we can get an idea of how many gifts we will need, if you haven’t returned this note already please return it on Monday. The stall will be open at lunchtime for students to be able to purchase a gift. Thank you for your support.

REMINDER

P & F Meeting

Tues 9th May, 6pm
College Staffroom

College Notices

Saints Swim Club Welcome Session 2017

We would like to extend a warm invitation to any new swimmers who are interested in joining the Saints Swim Club in 2017 to our “Welcome Session for 2017”. This will take place at ALAC on Friday Week Three, Term Two (12th May) at 3.30pm. Students who are in Year Three or above are invited to come along and join in the fun and games! Swim sessions will then be conducted on each Friday of term from 3.30-4.30pm. Hoodies and shirts will be available for purchase on the day at $25 each. A gentle reminder that any current swimmers unpaid fees are to be paid by the end of Week Two, Term Two please.

Junior School News

Scholastic Book Fair

There’s only two weeks until Scholastic Book Fair is here!

This year’s Fair will be held in the new Junior School Undercover Area, which will give us lots of space - previous years have been held in Cunningham Block. There are always lots of posters, novelties, and of course so many fabulous BOOKS! So come along and have a look. We will open each morning from Monday 22 May to Wednesday 24 May 8:15-8:45am, and Monday and Tuesday afternoon 3:00-3:30pm. The children will get a preview on the Friday before the Fair.

Middle and Senior School News

Congratulations to our Netballers on a fine performance at the recent Bendigo Bank Regional Netball event in Albany. Thanks to all our helpers, both parents and ex-students. A special thanks to Ms van Hulssen for organising the teams and to Mrs Hunter and Mrs Loveridge for supervising the players on the day.

Our first group of Year Ten students attended the P.A.R.T.Y. at the Albany Health Campus on Tuesday and from all accounts it was both a successful and very worthwhile experience. Thanks to Mr O’Donnell for his organisation and to our student teacher, Mr Shaw and Mrs Trichilo for accompanying the students. Our second group of Year Ten students will have this opportunity next week.

On Friday, Mr Colin Chinnery spoke to our Year Twelve students about extra tuition and preparation for the ATAR Exams. Mr Chinnery and his company, TEE Consultants are long time sponsors of the College Presentation Night. His company offers courses during the school holidays. I am sure students enjoyed the opportunity to listen to Mr Chinnery and no doubt some will avail themselves of the holiday courses.
Middle and Senior School News

Events coming up next week include:

- The Inter-School Cross Country...Good luck to all our runners (hopefully it will be dry, but just in case don’t forget your “wellies”).
- Senior Boy’s AFL against Clontarf
- Year Twelve Life Long Learning Seminar at UWA (Albany Campus)
- Round Two of the Inter-School Debating Competition...good luck to all our budding public speakers.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Have a great weekend.

Susan Alderman
Head of Secondary

Debating Season Opens with a Bang!

All four St Joseph’s teams claimed victory in the first round of the Albany Debating League competition last Wednesday. This year, the competition is being hosted by St Joseph’s College. Every fortnight for the next ten school weeks, our students will be competing against teams from ASHS, NASHS and GSG for a place in the semi-finals. The grand final will be held on the big stage of the Albany Town Hall on 2nd August. Students will be debating on a range of topical issues such as the teaching of Indigenous languages in schools, the allocation of regional parliamentary seats, affordable public housing, and eco-tourism.

All members of the College community are very welcome to come and support our teams on debating evenings throughout the competition. We would love to see you there.

Grace Larham delivering an erudite and winning argument as to why Albany should install traffic lights in Round One of the Novice debates.
WA Equestrian Inter-School Championship

In the April school holidays, I got an amazing chance to again represent St Joseph’s College at the WA Equestrian Inter-Schools Championships. The competition went over three long and hard days, and schools from all over Western Australia came to compete. There were a variety of events; dressage (like horse ballet), showjumping (a variety of different obstacles to jump over) and a show horse/hunter event (completing a series of patterns whilst being judged on it). In these different classes, the riders were based on the grade they are in at school, so there was ‘primary’, ‘intermediate’ and ‘secondary’. Even though I am in Year 8, only a few classes were broken down into intermediate and secondary, so I had to compete against people from Year 7 to Year 12! I am very honored that I was able represent St Joseph’s College at such a massive event, and even though I was the only person from the school competing, on my two horses the team did very well.

Mum, Dad and I, with my friend Asha (also from St Joes) left on Wednesday for the long trip with my horse Montcalm Baylaurel Joe (Joe for short) and pony Baylaurel Tomoaki (Tom for short). After the long six-hour trip to Perth, Asha and I let Tom and Joe graze, while Mum and Dad set up our ‘home’ (i.e. tent) for the next four nights.

On Thursday the day started at 5am. My first event was the working hunter on Tom. This consists of four stages: a small 60cm show jump round, then a hunter workout pattern judged on how well your horse performs, a rider workout judged on rider position and technique and to finish it off a led class, where you lead your horse in a set pattern. I placed second in this event, and that was AMAZING as there were about thirty people in the class from Year 7 to 12. Then I had my show horse class on Joe. This consists of three stages, a show horse workout, then a rider, then a led class. Joe went really well, and he is quite young, so he did a great job, and was placed around 13th out of twenty-five people from Year 7 to 12. That night, I had my most challenging round of showjumping on Joe. It was night jumping under lights in the massive indoor building, and we were quite nervous as neither of us had done this before. Joe was a star, and went clear in the 60cm, and placed around tenth. On Tom later that night, I had my 70cm jump round in which I placed 5th, then my 80cm course which I pulled a rail and just dropped out of the placings.

For Friday, it was another early start with my combined training phase which is a dressage test, then a showjumping round with the points added together. Both horses did lovely dressage tests and scored well. Then I had my 80cm show jump round on Tom, which I went clear in, with a good time and it felt like we were flying! Then my 60cm round on Joe, which I also went clear with a good time. Tom ended up with an awesome second place in a class of about thirty people. Joe placed a respectable ninth in his class. Tom’s overall placings will give me an opportunity to be selected for the team to represent WA in the National Interschool’s competition.

On Saturday the final day I had my dressage test novice 2.3. Tom was tired and did an ok test, but didn’t score to well. Then with Joe, he did another ok test, but was super tired as well.

Sunday was a super long drive home. The horses were very very happy to get back into their paddock and have some well earnt grass and stretch their legs and I think I was also very happy to sleep in my own bed and not listen to the tent flap in the wind!

Caitlin Pritchard
Curriculum News

2018 High School leaver scholarships will open online in June 2017 and close 30 September 2017. To be considered for a UNSW Equity Scholarship, applicants must apply through UAC Equity Scholarships. Closing dates will be listed on the UNSW Scholarships website. As always please don’t hesitate to contact us with any queries or concerns.
FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2017

GIFTS $5, $3 & $2.

Cunningham Block

Supporting P&F St Joseph’s College
Are you a high school student or do you know one?

Natalie Jarvis and Andrew Wenzel, Community Engagement Officer and Manager from headspace Albany, are presenting a mental health information evening at Brooks Garden Chemmart Pharmacy.

This information evening will discuss the following topics;
- Early warning signs: depression and anxiety
- Helping a friend
- Technology to help your mental health

This free information evening will present you with up to date information and strategies to assist you in helping and managing your mental health during high school.

For further information or to book a spot call Tom on 9841 3841 today! Parents are encouraged to attend.

Date: Tuesday, May 16
Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm (nibbles provided)

Introducing the GREAT SOUTHERN FEMALE FOOTBALL TALENT ACADEMY

Mondays 5pm – 6pm
North Albany Football Club
Troode St, Collingwood Park

FREE!
For females of all skill levels aged from Year 7 to Open
For more information, please contact
Female Football Coordinator Shelley McIntosh | 6613 700 669 | shelleymcintosh@wac.com.au
Regional Football Manager Tom Holt | 0228 429 449 | nholt@wac.com.au

activ pathways
Creating Opportunities Together

SCHOOL-BASED TRAINEESHIP WORKSHOP
for parents and students

Tuesday 16th May
5.30 – 6.30 pm
Albany Local Education Office
85 Serpentine Road, Albany

- Introduction to the SUPPORT WORKER’S role – Talia’s Story
- Mars bars exercise
- Passions, skills and people with a disability
- Activities – working with people with a disability
- About Certificate III in Disability & doing a school-based Traineeship
- What it’s like to be a trainer – Stacy’s Story

The School-based Traineeship (SBT) enrolment process starts in September and the recruitment process is carried out in partnership with the school, workplace and ACTIV Pathways.