



Red Bend Catholic College

Newsletter No. 1 - 15th January 2009

From the Principal

HSC Results

My congratulations go to our 2008 HSC class on their excellent results. I have never been more proud of a group of students. Their results are a testament to the work ethic and dedication of this group of students over a number of years. It is also a reward for the hard work and dedication of their teachers.

Red Bend Catholic College was listed in the top 200 schools in the State - ranking in 117 the State and second in the Orange region.

Band 6 Results

Band 6 results (a mark of over 90) were achieved in the following subjects: Ancient History, Biology, Business Studies, Community and Family Studies, English Advanced, English Extension I, English Extension II, Food Technology, Geography, Industrial Technology, Legal Studies, General Mathematics, Mathematics, Mathematics Extension I, Mathematics Extension II, Modern History, PD/H/PE, Studies of Religion, Visual Arts and Hospitality. In total there were 51 individual Band 6 results and 139 Band 5 (mark between 80 and 89) results were obtained by our students.

Dux of the College

This year the Dux of the College is Rosemary Atkins who achieved a UAI of 99.45. A very special mention also to the 7 other students who obtained a UAI of over 90.



Rosemary Atkins
99.45



Emily Tighe
99.0



Lauren Canellis
97.3



Alex Poon
94.45



Sarah Sweeney
94.4



Sarah Dempsey
94.4



Nicole Warner
90.85



Samantha O'Kane
90.4

School News

Brother Bryan Leak

Welcome to Br Bryan Leak who will be joining the Brother's Community in 2009. Br Bryan will be working in the area of Literacy and Numeracy Support. Some of you may remember Br Bryan who spent some time here at the College in the 1980's.

Start of the College Year

The College office will not be open until 11.30am the morning of Tuesday 27 January. Each year we join with the St Laurence's Primary School staff in celebrating Mass to commence the new school year. This year it is St Laurence's turn to host us in town. The Mass and morning tea will not conclude to shortly after 11.00am. The staff will not be back at the College until after this time. I believe it is vital that as a Catholic College we mark all significant events in the College year by celebrating the Eucharist. I hope this does not inconvenience anyone.

Boarders Optional Weekend

During the Boarders Optional Weekends classes take place a normal on Friday, 27 February and Monday, 3 March. These days are not a time off for Day Students or weekly boarders. The Optional Weekends in Terms 1 and 4 are to provide time for full-time boarders to get home for a short time. I expect that parents will support the College in this and ensure their son or daughter is at school on both the Friday and Monday of the Boarder's Optional Weekend.

School Shoes – Another Reminder

Last year I wrote in a number of newsletters of our concern about the type of shoes being worn by a number of the girls. I stated that the shoes are a serious OH&S risk and did not conform to the College's Uniform Policy, which states that shoes are to be leather, polishable, shoes that cover the whole of the foot. 'Slides' and shoes with straps and buckles are not to be worn. I expect that all students will arrive at the College in 2009 wearing shoes that comply with this policy.

Grooming / Jewellery

It is also timely to remind both parents and students of the College's Grooming and Jewellery Policy.

Girls:

- Make up and nail polish are not to be worn at school.
- Hair neat and tidy; if below the collar needs to be tied back.
- Hair should be a consistent and natural colour.
- If a ribbon is worn, it must be navy blue; sky blue or white.
- No facial piercing is allowed.
- Students may wear a single, simple neck chain, wrist watch, signet ring and sleepers or studs worn in the ear lobes only.

Boys:

1. Clean-shaven.
2. Hair neat, tidy and of an acceptable style. Hair needs to be above the collar and out of the eyes. Haircuts should be no shorter than a Number 2.
3. Hair should be a consistent, natural colour.
4. No facial piercing is allowed.
5. Students may wear a single, simple neck chain, wristwatch, signet ring, and sleepers or studs worn in the ear lobes only.

The staff do not enjoy having to remind student of this policy and I am seeking the assistance of parents in ensuring that their son or daughter abides by the College Policy.

School News

“Welcome to a new year of education for your child”. Hang on! Should the school be welcoming families or should families be welcoming the school: “Those who are in charge of schools must never forget that the parents have been appointed by God himself as the first and principal educators of their children.” Pope John Paul 11.

Education is about valuing and nurturing every young person’s uniqueness and assisting them to fulfil their capabilities as students and later as adults. Parents and schools have a joint interest to ensure that our school provides an environment that is conducive to successful learning and personal achievement. If education is valued in the home and seen as life-enhancing, then children will view their schooling as being positive for them and worth investing their energies in. Parents and teachers working in collaboration can present education as a happy and fulfilling experience for children.

Research, anywhere in the world, confirms that when parents are partners in their children’s education, their children improve their achievement levels. So, keep in touch with the school. Don’t leave it always to the school to let you know how your child is achieving. Stay aware of what your child is learning, what their assignments are and how they perform in them. Arrange a visit to the school to talk with your child’s teacher or schedule a phone call. Good communication between home and school is vital to create and sustain a climate that is conducive to productive learning.

So welcome to the commencement of another school year when home and school come together to bring success to a new phase of development for your child.

“God, our Father,
May Your guiding Spirit be strong within our hearts and minds throughout this school year,
Amen.”



Br. John Hilet
Principal

Upcoming events

January

Wednesday 28th

Thursday 29th

Boarders return

Classes Commence (classes as normal no sport)

February

Thursday 5th

Tuesday 10th

Thursday 12th

Wednesday 25th

Friday 27th

Year 7 and New Parent Information night

Induction Mass 9:15am at the College Gym

College Swimming carnival

P & F Meeting in Parkes

Boarders Optional Weekend **(Classes as normal for Day and**

Weekly Boarding Students)

March

Monday 2nd

Boarders Optional Weekend **(Classes as normal for Day and**
Weekly Boarding Students)