Dear Parents, Guardians, Friends and Students

Welcome to the first Chronicle of the 2016 academic year. It has been an exceptionally busy and hot start which has certainly impacted on all the community here. We are welcoming 60 new students to our College community, 40 of them into the boarding community.

Staff are working hard to get to know the new students and their families. I have asked the home room teachers and house parents to make contact with all of our families during term one and at least once a term. First term they will be chatting with you about any concerns which you or your child may have about the start of the year. They will also let you know about any celebrations or concerns which the staff may have. The hope is that we will be able to develop great relationships with all of you to support the well-being and education of our young people.

During the holiday the maintenance team worked tirelessly to complete maintenance work and prepare the buildings for the start of term 1. They also painted the corridor in the main building, you will see that the house colours are represented in the main foyer as you come into the hall or library. It is important that I acknowledge the outstanding work of this team as well as our farm staff who continued to work while the rest of us were enjoying the holiday break and time with family. Thank you gentlemen.

A number of new staff, who will take on the responsibility of caring for your sons and daughters in all areas of the College joined us at the start of the term. I know you will welcome them in the same way that you always do.

- **Dr Brigitte Burg** will be teaching **Mathematics and English**
- **Ms Samantha Mallon**, will be teaching **Science, Agricultural Science, Religious Education and Physical Education**
- **Mr John Runciman**, will be teaching **Science and Agricultural Science**
- **Mrs Michelle Dempsey**, **Ms Ashley Glass** and **Patricia Shemeld** have joined our Residential team as **House Parents**
- **Mr Brett Nelson** and **Ms Ashley Shea** will be working as **Aboriginal Teaching Assistants**
- **Mrs Rachael Nguyen** will be working in **Marketing** (1 day/week) and in classes as a **Teaching Assistant** (4 days a week)

Throughout the year we will be highlighting members of staff in the Chronicle. I have asked them to share some of their story with you about the families and careers to date. I hope you will enjoy getting to know the staff through these insights. John Runciman is kicking off the first edition; his article is on page 8.

(Continued Page 2)
From the Principal

The students and staff were all excited to meet our other addition to the staff of the College. We have been extremely fortunate in obtaining a career change dog from Guide Dogs WA. His name is Harry and he is joining our Pastoral Care team as a Therapy/Companion Dog. Harry was not able to continue in his original career as he has epilepsy, and we have been selected to adopt him. He had completed the majority of his training to be a guide dog, so he comes to us well prepared and trained.

He will be spending time in the Student Services area, as well as classrooms and providing support to students who may be struggling throughout the year. He belongs to our whole College community and the students have welcomed him with open arms.

We will be reminding all of our students about our core values of excellence, respect, tolerance and honesty. These are core to the work that we do within this community and it is important these are embedded in their daily activity. As a Catholic School in the tradition of Edmund Rice we will always strive to develop young men and women who have been enriched by a liberating education, in an inclusive community, based on Gospel spirituality, within an environment where justice and solidarity are at the core of all that we do.

I look forward to getting to know all our new students and their families during the year. Don’t forget if you are in the school please ask if I am free, as I appreciate every opportunity to catch up with you and hear how things are going and possibly things we can do to improve.

God Bless,

Marie Barton
Principal
It was with much sadness that the Catholic Agricultural College community learnt of the passing of Br Pat Kelly. Br Pat had been a member of the College Board since 2014. He brought to the role a wealth of experience and a passion for education. He was a long standing supporter of Catholic Education and a life member of the Catholic Secondary Principals’ Association. He was a Principal of a number of schools which included Aquinas College and Christian Brothers College, Fremantle.

After 22 years as a Principal in three Colleges he was appointed to the Christian Brothers Leadership Team in WA and SA for the next eight years. He was Cluster Leader for the Christian Brothers in WA from 2007 – 2014. At this time he was asked to take on a new role working in the Professional Standards team working directly with victims of abuse. In addition to this, Brother was on three boards: Clontarf Aboriginal College, Trinity College and Catholic Agricultural College.

Those of us whose lives he has touched have been blessed. He gently guided, wisely counselled and always listened. He will be greatly missed by all.

May he rest in peace.

VALE
In Memory of Br Pat Kelly
(30/09/1937—12/02/2016)
From the Deputy Principal

As we begin the new year, I would like to welcome back our parents and students from last year and also welcome our new students and parents to our College. Being the start of a new year, I would like to share with you all a reflection entitled, “24 Things to Always Remember... and One Thing to Never Forget.”

Your presence is a present to the world. You're unique and one of a kind. Your life can be what you want it to be. Take the days just one at a time.

Count your blessings, not your troubles. You'll make it through whatever comes along. Within you are so many answers. Understand, have courage, be strong.

Don't put limits on yourself. So many dreams are waiting to be realized. Decisions are too important to leave to chance. Reach for your peak, your goal, and your prize.

Nothing wastes more energy than worrying. The longer one carries a problem, the heavier it gets. Don't take things too seriously. Live a life of serenity, not a life of regrets.

Remember that a little love goes a long way. Remember that a lot . . . goes forever. Remember that friendship is a wise investment. Life's treasures are people . . . together.

Realize that it's never too late. Do ordinary things in an extraordinary way. Have health and hope and happiness. Take the time to wish upon a star.

And don't ever forget . . . For even a day . . . How very special you are.

Jason Sutton
Deputy Principal
Chaplain’s Report

Ash Wednesday was commemorated on February 10th. It signals the beginning of Lent – the forty day period of preparation for the great feast of Easter. The school community gathered in the College Chapel for a prayer service including the Imposition of Ashes. The Ashes – not the cricketing ones – come from the burnt palm and olive branches of last year’s Palm Sunday. The Ashes are an ancient sign that our earthly life is a passing journey towards the fullness of new life promised to us through Jesus’ resurrection at Easter.

This day was preceded by Pancake Tuesday. In France it is known as Mardi Gras – Fat Tuesday – and in Italy it is called Carnevale – Goodbye Meat! In the days of very strict fasting during Lent, Pancake Tuesday was the last day for partying. Many thanks to Mrs Kemp who worked hard to provide us all with pancakes for morning tea.

Fundraising this first term is focussed on Project Compassion which is the annual Lenten appeal by the Australian Catholic Church for overseas development projects such as wells, schools and hospitals. We generally raise over $500 mainly from our weekly collection at the boarders’ Mass. Some day students may also take home a Project Compassion box to contribute to over Lent. You are asked to return them to school after Easter. We recently had a letter of thanks for the $750 we raised during term 4 for Pregnancy Assistance - a group which assists women especially young single mothers in their desire to raise their own children.

Bro Tony Hackett cfc
Chaplain

“In the days of very strict fasting during Lent, Pancake Tuesday was the last day for partying.”
At the start of the New Year, it’s timely to remind ourselves of the four Touchstones that unite and harness our collective focus.

As Catholic schools in the Edmund Rice tradition, we aspire to be faithful to these four touchstones:

- **Liberating Education**: We open hearts and minds, through quality teaching and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is equipped, and free to build a better world for all.

- **Inclusive Community**: Our community is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationships and committed to the common good.

- **Justice and Solidarity**: We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the faith itself.

- **Gospel Spirituality**: We invite all people into the story of Jesus and strive to make his message of compassion, justice and peace a living reality within our community.

Early on in this I am already reflecting on the student exemplars of intuitive engagement with the Touchstone. I’d like to suggest that ‘Openness’ to experience, might be a crucial quality, that helps community members begin to unpack these core values, and core action responses. It’s this openness to possibility, to new experiences and relationships, that I’d like to acknowledge.
One of the amazing aspects of teaching religious education at this College is the diversity of student experience with ‘formal churching’. As I teach a Catholic tradition curriculum in this academic area, I marvel at the student stories that are both direct by-products of what’s being taught and tangent off shoots. I listened to two new students this week, Hope and Makayla-Mai. Hope is a Toodyay equine enthusiast, originally from Lancashire in the UK, while Makayla-Mai hails from Sydney, where she played and excelled in rugby. Their stories and their story telling, was fluid, bright and open.

They also spoke of different religious affiliation and life experience, and although the values and aspects of life at Catholic Agricultural College were new, they expressed a desire to explore, learn and question. This spoke to me powerfully. They felt free to express themselves and what shone was their image/reflection of God, a God of confidence, awe and delight, hopefulness, peace, freedom, joy, and happiness. What this reminded me of, was my accountability to openness of the Spirit at work in these young people, with all their interests and skills.

With a new year, and the formation of the year 12’s leadership aspirations, it was also moving to listen to Christine and Ethan and their peers this week. Whenever they spoke in class, the ‘numphthy-ness’ disappeared and was replaced with unity. There is this ‘seed’ of purpose, within the whole group that is life giving. Again, as a group, they are showing openness to their call. As I reflected with the College leaders, we could sense the growth that Mrs Ball planted, seeded, last year, and was now beginning to show buds of life.

This openness to the Spirit was emphasised by both Mrs Barton and Brother Tony this week, through their Lenten call to reflect and open our hearts. So I end with passage from Jeremiah 29: 11-14;

" I know the plans I have in mind for you, 
It is God who speaks,
Plans for peace, not disaster,
Reserving a future full of hope for you.
When you call to me, and come to plead with me, 
I will listen to you.
When you seek me you shall find me,
When you seek me with all your heart; 
I will let you find me. "

With Jesus in our Hearts
Paul King
STAFF PROFILE

Science/Agricultural Science Teacher—John Runciman

My wife, Elizabeth, and I have four sons. I am from a farming background in Victoria, mainly dairying, beef and pigs. I enjoy swimming, tennis, table tennis, cycling and bushwalking. I have had a life long interest in parrots and dung beetles. Elizabeth and I have worked in 6 countries, each from 6 to 12 months. We recently spent two and a half years working in remote parts of the NT. We enjoy travelling to different parts of the world. Our most recent long trip (6 months) was to the Galapagos Is, Amazon basin in Peru (where we also worked for 2 months in the Andes) then onto other places in South America then onto the Kruger National Park, Cape town and Namibia in southern Africa.

Oh! I forgot to mention…. Go the Mighty Hawks (4 in a row)

School Psychologist—Michelle Sladen-Mottram

Michelle Sladen has been at Catholic Agricultural College since the beginning of 2014 for 3 days a week, in the role of a provisionally registered Psychologist. Michelle has undertaken several roles in the College with the students, teaching staff, parents and executive staff. She provides cognitive, social, emotional and behavioural Assessments, which obtain information guiding appropriate evidence based, short term therapeutic interventions, in order to improve the mental wellbeing of the students.

Michelle also contributes and facilitates the psycho-educational consultancy on prevention, diagnoses, intervention and practical strategies to parents and teaching staff. Michelle has been instrumental in the implementation of the nationally accredited “Mindmatters” program, increasing educative knowledge of mental health wellbeing with a whole school perspective.

Referrals to Michelle’s Psychological services can be made via the teacher, the parent or self-referral from the student which can also be re-referred to external agencies if needed. Michelle then liaises between the external agencies and other professionals providing an integral link between the agencies involved.

Together with the collaboration between the students, parents, teaching staff and executive staff, Michelle enthusiastically endeavours to assist in the improvement of the learning, social and emotional wellbeing outcomes.
Library News

The term has started with a bang. I liken it to horses dashing from the starting gates in the Melbourne Cup. The Year 7s and 8s have begun reading programmes through their English classes and with their teacher Mrs. Clark. I meet with them once a week, where they will participate in lessons focussed on improving literacy through reading fiction and non-fiction books.

In the lessons, the students will be introduced to various sub-genres within the fiction collection and given a little background information on each. The students will be encouraged to borrow books throughout the duration of the reading programme and complete activities that will go towards their English mark. This is the second year the programme has run and I am looking forward to getting to know and share my enthusiasm of reading with the students.

The library will also be starting a chess club that will run during lunch-time on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Beginners and chess aficionados’ will be encouraged to play and hopefully challenge staff members at a game. My goal is to establish a club of chess enthusiasts and run a competition to find CAC Bindoon’s first chess champion.

Library Staff
Miss Cavallaro and Mrs Dennis

“The students will be encouraged to borrow books throughout the duration of the reading programme and complete activities that will go towards their English mark.”
In Year Nine English, we have been learning about what makes us laugh? There are a lot of different ways people can get a laugh... from funny cat videos to epic fails. Here are a few examples of types of humour.

Triumph is when we win over someone else when something goes wrong – a sense of relief it’s not us, making us laugh. For example when a person attempts to do a back flip and lands on his back, we find this funny because he had hurt himself by doing something stupid... again, a sense of relief it’s not us. Another example was when the girl fell off her horse; we found it funny because she had fallen in an awkward position – therefore making us laugh. Triumph may be a bit nasty but it’s very funny.

Jessica King
Year 9

Surprise is when we are expecting something and it doesn’t occur the way we planned it to. This form of humour’s meaning is when we laugh at the surprise or shock after we expected something to happen that didn’t occur, but instead something unexpected happens and makes it funny. An example of surprise is when Hugh off ‘Simon’s Cat’ is crawling around the TV and all of a sudden a lion pops up and neither Hugh nor the audience were expecting this and we got a shock but this is what makes it humorous to us.

Megan Hunt
Year 9
Incongruity is when two things just don’t match up you find them funny because they just don’t go together. For example the funny cat videos example was when a cat was having a bath and cats and water do not go together. Another example was when a lady was getting married and she was in her big white dress and she tried to hop on a horse but when she got on, her horse bolted and she fell off. These two were funny because the lady was all dressed up nice and pretty then tries to hop on a horse. Overall incongruity is when two things don’t match.

_Toni Westerside_
_Year 9_

Learning about the elements of humour is the starting point for this term’s Media Studies unit in the year nine English classes. This term students will learn about how advertisers use humour to help sell their products. Our students will also learn about z-theory, light theory and other methods used to attract the audience’s attention. This unit links to the year ten unit on propaganda which prepares students for both General and ATAR courses in upper school. Students have been enjoying finding examples of triumph, incongruity and surprise and learning how to write extended answer to questions about these elements. We hope you have enjoyed our student examples and have noticed how polished their paragraph structure is.

_Mrs Tracey Crisp_
_HOLA English & HASS_
Department of Fire and Safety (DFES) Cadets commences this week with a busy schedule for the forthcoming year already in place. We look forward to welcoming new Cadet members, who will be shown the ropes by our experienced seniors leaders. Last year, our cadets excelled themselves with their voluntary service and determination in all the challenges which they faced on camps (such as a 93km bike ride along the Munda Biddi).

As always, the cadets will be completing two core training units; teaching them vital skills in fire safety, search and rescue procedures, first aid, navigation, and communications. The cadets can look forward to three camps this year; junior, senior and end of year (the locations of which have yet to be decided). As well as this, our Cadets will join with fellow cadet members regionally for a city muster, and partake in several community service activities such as the Manna sleep-out for the homeless and Clean-up Bindoon Day. We look forward to what is sure to be an exciting year ahead.
Cattle Club has now commenced and I would like to welcome back our past and new students who have started with us for 2016. We have picked our show team for the year and have started breaking in the cattle, which we will be getting ready for the Wagin Woolarama that is fast approaching on March 10th to 12th and I am hopeful that we will do well once again.

I am looking forward to a great competitive team in the coming year and welcome you all again to Cattle Club 2016.

Abigail Lindsay
Cattle Club
Weekend activities

Since arriving at the College, boarders have already attended several fun activities on and off the College grounds. Students enjoyed a movie in the hall, had a BBQ lunch at Clune Park Bindoon and enjoyed shopping at Lakeside Joondalup. A number of boarders went to Hillary’s Boat Harbour for a swim and lunch, followed by some shopping at Whitfords Shopping Centre. If you would like to see what boarders are doing on weekend, please take a look at calendar on the College website.

Boarders require pocket money each weekend to attend outings. We recommend that you open bank accounts for your children so they can access money through their own bank cards. An alternative is that you pay money into the school account and this can then be given to your child. The College uses Bendigo Bank. To use this service please call Admin or Residential care staff to get the College bank details. If you do use this service please ring administration and let them know money has been transferred. If we are not aware that you have put money in, before 12noon Friday’s we are unable to give your child the money until the following week.

College Ball

The Year 11 and 12 students are all very excitedly getting ready for the 2016 CAC School Ball in a few weeks. The Ball is being held on Friday 4th March at Joondalup Resort. Please ensure you are at Joondalup Resort to collect your child at 11.00pm. All boarders will be returning to the College after the Ball, unless prior arrangements have been made with the myself. Boarding students and parents are reminded that Boarders Leave Request forms need to be sent to the College with details of who they are going with, where they are staying over the weekend and when they will return. We are able to transport the boarding students to and from the Ball, please contact Sam if this service is needed.

Year 11’s and 12’s need to get permission from the Principal to take only Friday 4th March, to make their preparations for the Ball.

We will take year 11 and 12 boarders late night shopping, Thursday 25th February to purchase any items for the Ball.
Boarders Camp

If parents would like their child home for the Labor Day Long Weekend they must be picked up after school on Friday 4th March, and return after 2pm Monday 7th March. All boarders who are on site that weekend will be going to Tuppin House at Moore River. The buses leave form camp Saturday 5th March at 9.30am and return to the College Monday 7th March at 1.30pm. Students are not to be picked up and dropped off from camp. Students who have displayed inappropriate behaviour in boarding will not be attending camp, parents are asked to make other arrangements for those students.

Leave Request Forms

Leave forms can be found on the College website, or can be collected from Administration or Boarding Houses. Each time a student leaves the College grounds a Boarder Leave Request form must be sent to the College by Wednesday night before departure. Parents and guardians must sign out their child in the Boarding House when the collect and drop off their child. Leave forms are to be sent by fax to 95761146 or resicare@cacbindoon.wa.edu.au

Boarding House contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Mobile</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musk House</td>
<td>0467719994</td>
<td>9576 5566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary MacKillop</td>
<td>0457518152</td>
<td>95765571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary MacKillop boys</td>
<td></td>
<td>95765570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rice</td>
<td>0457518154</td>
<td>95765569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph House</td>
<td>0467720944</td>
<td>95765544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine House</td>
<td>0437218346</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Samantha Godfrey
Head of Residential Care

Self Defence Class

Dear Parents

I am to start a Defence Class for the students of our College.

Mr Name is Brent Stubbs, I have extensive training in both boxing and martial arts. This class will be free of charge for I am volunteering my time on a Saturday morning between 9 am and 11 am.

If you are not in favour of your child attending or want any more information, please contact the school and I will return your call.

Thank you
Brent Stubbs