Dear Parents, Guardians, Friends and Students

Our senior students are heading off for Workplace Learning for the next two weeks and we wish them all the best. It is always a wonderful opportunity and many apprenticeships have been gained as a result of the chances they receive during this time. We wish them all well and look forward to hearing of their experiences next term.

As a College this is the time when we start the process of preparing for next year, thus ensuring that everything is well planned and ready when students hit the ground in 2016. It is also a time when families are looking at their options for the following year and this may mean that students will be leaving us to explore other options. If you are considering a move for your son or daughter, please contact the College and let us know. I would particularly like to know if there is anything else we could have done to make your decision a different one.

I have mentioned previously that we are in partnership with you in the education of your children. We have done significant work since my arrival to improve across all areas of the College to ensure that we are offering the best opportunities for our students. If you believe there is something else that we should be doing, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are genuinely interested in your feedback. Many of the changes that have taken place have been as a result of the feedback received from parents.

Could I please ask that you assist us in checking that your son/daughter has enough pens, pencils, etc. for the remainder of the year and making sure that they have them ready for term three? Staff will be giving students exercise books, file paper, etc. as required so you will not need to replace these.

As this is our last Chronicle for the semester, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students a great holiday break and we look forward to seeing you Day One, Term Three.

God Bless

Marie Barton
Principal

The Grail Prayer

Lord Jesus,
I give you my hands to do your work.
I give you my feet to go your way.
I give you my eyes to see as you do.
I give you my tongue to speak your words.
I give you my mind that you may think in me.
I give you my spirit that you may pray in me.

Above all,
I give you my heart that you may love in me your Father and all mankind.
I give you my whole self that you may grow in me, so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who live and work and pray in me.
Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to experience my first Winter School. For those of you unaware, Winter School is a wonderful opportunity for students and their families who are considering attending Catholic Agricultural College in the future to visit the College and experience all the learning opportunities that Catholic Agricultural College has to offer. To begin with, students and their parents shared an afternoon tea with staff members. While the students got to know each other a little better by playing ice breaker games, the parents were taken on a tour of the College facilities. Farewelling the parents, the students made their way to dorm and settled in to their accommodation for the night before enjoying a delicious dinner in our dining room.

Come Saturday morning, students were up early for breakfast and then down to experience Cattle Club, a tour of the farm and machine safety. Students were then taken to equine where they experienced firsthand feeding and walking the horses and preparing the horses for show. After lunch, students participated in a variety of challenging Outdoor Education games before finishing with a tour of the woodwork, metal work, automotive and engineering classrooms.

The students involved had a wonderful time with lots of positive stories to tell their parents at the end of the day.

I would also like to thank the staff involved in Winter School.

Jason Sutton
Deputy Principal
Free Dress Day

This term we think locally and we fundraise for Lifelink which supports various projects sponsored by the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth. These include a women’s refuge, a centre for people living with AIDS as well as the Shopfront at Maylands which is a drop in centre for people coping with mental disabilities.

Thanks to all who supported our free dress day for Lifelink on Friday, June 12.

Musk - $27.00
O'Sullivan - $75.20
Rice $33.00
Total contributed - $135.20

Bro Tony Hackett CFC
Chaplain
College Identity Development

The ongoing legacy of Edmund Rice in our College is demonstrated through the engagement with our connectedness to the EREA family and the Touchstones. This month two clear examples of Catholic Agricultural College enshrining the Touchstones come to mind. Where do we find Edmund Rice like behaviour in our College? Edmund was a reflective person, a successful business person and very much lived his life with Jesus as his heart motivation.

The first example of a heart person at work in our school is Mr Mike Hillyer. I see a man who continually takes duties at morning tea and lunch to support his peers and students. I see a man who looks out for and mentors others, using his ten years of experience as a teacher at Catholic Agricultural College to support and encourage. I personally cannot thank him enough for his care and guidance.

I recall a great deal of anxiety last year as I prepared to have an O’Sullivan Home Room liturgy. I was stressed about getting the process, tone and content just right. At the start of the music in the darkened candle lit room, I saw Mike there taking photos and being a professional colleague. Over the past year I have seen these behaviours from Mike time and again. I have heard Mike speak with balance and care for every member of staff and for all students. His sporting metaphors are always on hand and legendary.

Mike, I guess this is an open letter and my message is thank you for demonstrating Edmund like character and I pray you forever ‘run’ your race, with your common touch of humour, deep Grace and humility.

At the other end of the school scale are students Chloe and Gaydar. I had the privilege to spend the weekend with these two students, from hockey playing, to King’s Park and onto horse riding. I sat on Sunday night looking at these two indigenous young women from the Kimberley and pondered the wonderful possibilities their lives will unfold. These two young women have something in common with Mr Hillyer. They are ever present and quiet achievers. They both have the goal of being the first people in their families to complete secondary school. There is a pride and confidence that they have developed during their time at this College.

Edmund Rice had successes and setbacks in his life and I suspect Mike Hillyer, Gaydar and Chloe will also have these. My prayer and faith is guided by Edmund in this regard. With Jesus living in their hearts, I pray for deep peace and happiness for them all, and for the whole of the College family.

With Jesus in our Hearts.

Paul King
Head of Religious Education

“...there is a pride and confidence that they have developed during their time at this College.”
Last Monday a group of Year 11 and 12 students travelled to Joondalup to donate blood. The staff were extremely nice to us and there were plenty of refreshments. They told us that each donation saved 3 lives, so in total we saved 12 people that day.

Benjamin Goodgame
Year 12
Student Success

Year 8 student, James Way's performance at the Geraldton Interclub Australian Bow Hunters Association Competition, was true to form. James got Champion Cub in all divisions. James and his Dad head off to Norfolk Island on the 25th June for the 15th Annual Norfolk Island Open Championship. This is a 4 day 3D Bow hunting event that boasts 9 competitors from WA as well as competitors from the Eastern States of Australia and New Zealand. James will have his first shoot in the “Junior Division” (13-17 years old).

Good luck James.
On Tuesday 9th June, Keith who is a paraplegic himself, came to our school to talk about why you should drive safely in your car at all times. He told a story about one night he crashed his car from drink driving and the consequences he suffered from his decision which killed his best friend, severely injured his other mate and made him a paraplegic.

The main statement of this article is to make the right choice before getting behind the wheel.

Erikah-Louise Potter
Year 10
Last month a group of year 10, 11 and 12 farm students had the opportunity to go see and learn about the Muresk Institute. We spent a whole day learning about the courses they provide along with the accommodation options and some history about the farm. While we were there, we were lucky enough to witness students learn to shear. They gave us a very nice lunch after our tour around the farm and a lesson in the science lab. We learnt a lot and many of us are considering the Muresk Institute as an education option. Thank you for the farm staff for taking us.

Rebecca Young
Year 11
This term, students were given the opportunity to participate in the highly successful and fun-filled program of Community Recreation and Strategic Games.

The aim of the course was to provide students with the opportunities to participate in a wide variety of recreational activities outside of the school setting that encourage healthy lifestyle practices. The program also focuses on the role recreation has in the life of individuals and the community. In addition to students learning how to integrate themselves into the local community, students gained unique experiences working with younger students by implementing their own self-designed strategic games. The challenge of planning, implementing and creating games for others enjoyment and active participation was an ideal vehicle in which to develop interpersonal skills and enabled them to appreciate their own involvement in recreational leadership roles. This program is the precursor to the VET course Certificate 1 in Community Activities.

Our students were lucky enough to attend Outback Splash during the term where they analysed the design of the many activities on offer. Some crafty students used this opportunity to take ideas from this outing and integrate them into their own clever designs for practical assessments. Students also met with the local Tennis Club and discovered why volunteers are so important to our community. To finish students also participated in modified tennis games, each with varied goals rather than just competition or skill development. Another highlight to the term was the ‘Treasure Hunt’ week where we used our resources (College property) to the full.

Major assessments included a ‘Boardgame’ submission where creative minds and strategic play were a significant focus, and to end the term our final outing and final assessment day began with a visit to Bindoon Primary School. Students were required to deliver a self-designed, 6 minute practical game for Year 4, 5 and 6. Primary students rotated in a circuit from station to station where students were marked highly on interpersonal skills with a focus on being approachable and fun. Management skills and adapting in varied situations were highly important but the successful students really learnt want it meant to be a volunteer and to bring joy to others.

Ms Drummond
The Agricultural Science department have had some new additions in Term 2. The Year 10 Agricultural Science classes have been incubating chicken eggs as part of their poultry studies this term.

The students have learnt about controlling particular variables required for the hatching of chicks. Monitoring the temperature and humidity are of particular importance, as students have learnt that even small changes in the incubator environment can have an effect on the development of the chicks.

Rory Bennett  
Agricultural Science Teacher
On the 9th of June, the Bindoon DFES cadet unit departed the College for the shores of Lake Leschenaultia in Mundaring for our annual Junior Camp. This camp is designed to introduce the cadet recruits to a three day camping experience, whilst also providing an opportunity for our senior cadets to design and lead activities. Having never used this campsite before, we arrived Tuesday evening with a significant amount of nervous excitement and were impressed by the lake and the surrounding camp ground. As beautiful as the scenery was, we had half an hour before sunset to put up the tents and prepare dinner. We have always been blessed in cadets to have leaders that know how to get things done, and so it was our seniors who set up camp, assisted the junior cadets and prepared dinner. As the sky darkened they had completed all of that, as well as managing to get a campfire started. Soon we settled in for a large helping of pasta, hot milo, and some toasted marshmallows in anticipation of a great camp.

Indeed, we were not to be disappointed, as the sunny weather made for a very enjoyable 3 days. The cadets participated in several outdoor recreation activities including mountain biking, canoeing, hiking, and orienteering. Our junior cadets were put through their paces in applying their knowledge around radio communications, knot tying, the phonetic alphabet, and compass use. In between these activities, we played games of capture the flag on the beach and learned a few card games which were played with great earnest. The staff members were all very impressed with how well the cadets worked together, demonstrating leadership during each activity. All in all, a fantastic experience was had by each cadet and before we knew it, it was time to depart. A big thank-you must go to Mrs Donna Rush-Harvey, Mr Murray Kay and Mr Rory Bennett for the generous gift of their time and energy in helping run this camp, and to the senior cadet leaders Christine Stephens, Everett Coumbe, and Rania Edwards, it made for a truly awesome experience.

Mr Tam Nguyen
Cadet Unit Leader

“...The staff members were all very impressed with how well the cadets worked together.”
Equine Report

B Show

On Saturday the 13th of June, a small group of equine students stayed the night at Foxwood for the B Show on Sunday 14th. We also brought along two extra young horses to work with; Hive a three year old and Karen’s horse, Willow, who is two. The small group of Equine students watched people compete. One of the competitors was Montana Reynolds (Year 12). Her results were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Best Presented</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Mare Halter</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Showmanship</td>
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<td>Hunter Under Saddle</td>
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<td>1st</td>
<td>Hunt Seat Equitation</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Trail</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Western Horsemanship</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Western Pleasure</td>
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There were so many nice horses and it was good fun. It also was a wonderful experience for those who went and saw a horse show for the first time.

Chloe Ockerby-Latham
Year 12
From the 3rd to 5th of April, 2015, I attended the Western Australian Quarter Horse State Show. The show started on Friday when I competed in the Senior Youth Trail. On Saturday, I competed in the Senior Youth Showmanship and a number of halter classes with my horse, Merlot and Equine Manager, Karen Nicoletto’s horse. On Sunday I participated in the Western Horsemanship and Hunt Seat Equitation class. I would like to thank Karen for taking me and letting me participate in the show. It was a great opportunity and a great experience.

Montana Reynolds
Year 12

On Wednesday the 10th June, the Equine students and Miss Karen, took one of the school horses, Bella, to the Vet. There we found out that she had gas colic. We were lucky enough to watch and learn how to drench her. While we were there, a lady brought in her pony who was sick and we were allowed to watch the Vet do his best to diagnose and treat the problem. We all learnt a lot and thank Miss Karen for taking us.

Rebecca Young
Year 11
Boarding News

Rugging up in winter is very important in school time and boarding, so we have recently added black beanies and a thick vest to the College uniform. Please make an appointment to see Sr Celia to get one for next term. In residential time I recommend you get some warm pyjamas for students at night, as it is very cold and track suits and warm fleecy jumpers to bring back next term. Also a reminder to make sure the students have black leather lace up school shoes and black ankle socks for when they return to school. The boarders are permitted to have an electric blanket on their beds; however heaters are not permitted. Please be aware that if the student leaves their electric blanket turned on when they leave for school in the morning, it will be confiscated by the Residential Care staff.

A few weekends ago we decided to have a bit of fun and we dressed up as Zombies, making a short film about a zombie apocalypse at CAC. We will be showing the short film to the students at our in house movie night in a couple of weeks.

One of the boarder’s favourite activities is Ice Skating, so we took the students to Perth Ice Arena in Malaga. For some of the kids it was the first time on the ice and some of them took to it like ducks to water. The kids had an amazing time and even though a few had some spectacular falls everyone came back in one piece.

I would like to congratulate the young men who are representing the College and the wider Chittering Community in the football competition. Both the junior team and senior team are pulling on their footy socks and getting out and giving it their best every weekend. The weather is not so kind to us now and it can be really hard playing against teams that have been playing as a team together for years. They still do it, with smiles on their faces and their heads held high. I am really enjoying spending the time off the College grounds with the boys, learning more about them, singing to the music in the car and sharing some great yarns. Congratulations for a great first half of the footy season boys.

“Over the holidays I ask parents and guardians to organise a few things for their children to bring back next term.”
Over the holidays I ask parents and guardians to organise a few things for their children to bring back next term. There are a number of boys who are really getting into bike riding and have been working with Mr John on weekends fixing up the College bikes, however, we don’t have enough bike helmets for everyone. If the boys can please bring back a bike helmet, or if anyone has some sitting in their shed they don’t use I’d really appreciate the donation.

Sam Godfrey
Head of Residential Care
Game two found ourselves up against a formidable Northam line up.”

Football Report

On the 9th of June, Year 9 and 10 students participated in the Eagles School Boys Cup in Northam, playing against Toodyay Senior High School and Northam Senior High School. The boys started the day watching Toodyay and Northam duel it out before warming up ready to take on Toodyay. The boys went into the first match primed and ready to go and had the first score on the board in the blink of an eye. However, Toodyay steadied to lead by 20 points at half time. The side, led by Seth Bernasconi, rallied in the second half applying pressure like a new Bunnings compressor. Malik Kennedy continued his excellent form from the Moora Cup to be best on ground in game one as Toodyay eventually ran out winners by 30 points. Unfortunately Malik couldn’t repeat his efforts in game two after coming down with one of the worst cases of leather poisoning I’ve ever seen. Game two found ourselves up against a formidable Northam line-up, who appeared to have recruited from the local Man-Child centre. The stage was set. This was a true underdog story in the making; David vs Goliath, Ali vs Liston or Steven Bradbury. Like Melbourne in the 2000 Grand Final against a dominant Essendon side, no one gave Bindoon much of a chance against their fancied opposition. Like Melbourne in the 2000 Grand Final, we copped an absolute shalacking. Mitch Maindok’s efforts in an under siege backline were admirable as were Clay Prouse’s gutsy attack on the ball on the wing. Gus Walsh passed the flags onto some eager Northam school girls for the second game. But they weren’t required as we failed to register a major against a dominant Northam side. Highlight of the day was Luke "sledgehammer" Bernhard cleaning up one of the Northam players with a bone-crunching shepherd. He continued this good form at McDonald’s on the way home cleaning up a family pack all to himself. Thanks to all involved for an enjoyable day.

Rory Bennett
Football Coach