Dear Parents, Guardians, Friends and Students,

On Monday 28th August, we celebrated our successful School Renewal with a liturgy and shared lunch. Dr Wayne Tinsey, EREA Executive Director and Mr Terry Roberts, Director Regional Support - Western Region joined us for this wonderful occasion. I would like to share with you my address to the community during the liturgy.

Catholic Agricultural College is part of an Australia wide network, Edmund Rice Education Australia. Each school within that network is a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. We are called to be a school which provides a liberating education, based on the gospel values, in an inclusive community which demonstrates justice and solidarity for all. This provides the basis for all that we do at the Catholic Agricultural College and all our dealings with each other and others.

Within schools there are many opportunities for tests, reviews and assessments both in class and outside. In the same way that you, as students, are asked to study, review and then are assessed on the work you have done, so too are teachers, staff and the whole college.

EREA schools undergo a process called School Renewal. During this time a team of people come into the school and look at key areas of school life. In particular those core aspects of identity which are in the Charter and were read today by Mrs Baker, Mr King, Mr Nguyen and Mrs Crisp in our Liturgy. Last year the Catholic Agricultural College were involved in School Renewal. When the team came they spoke to members of the leadership team, staff, students, parents and other community members. They also looked at newsletters and other reports to learn what it is about our College which makes it an authentic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition.

The team then writes a report which commends the school on those things that it does well and makes some recommendations which will guide the work of the school in the following few years.

We received numerous commendations, too many to mention here. However, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight a few.

- Students appreciate the fact that the smaller school environment helps the building of personal relationships and the ability of teachers to give more personal attention.
- The willingness and generosity of staff in taking on the multiple tasks demanded of them in a smaller school environment.
- The school models Gospel values of forgiveness and reconciliation in the way that students are able to make mistakes, remain in the community and learn from this.
- The strong sense of community felt by the students and parents.
- The presence and impact of the Christian Brothers at the College, including for the boarders during the weekends.

From the Principal

From the Principal

From the Deputy Principal

Work Experience Program

Agricultural Science Report

Dowerin Field Days

Beverley Show

Society & Environment Excursions

Equine Report

Sporting Achievements

(Continued page 2)
We are indeed a unique school, the only Catholic Agricultural College in WA. We are blessed because we are a small community and this means that we are able to get to know each of you much easier than may be the case in a large school. Each of you is a special part of this community and are supported by our wonderful staff who take on many responsibilities because there are so few of them. They do not complain and they are always thinking about what is best for each of you and for the whole college. It is important that we continue to be a place where all are accepted, and

We are very blessed to have four Christian brothers, living and working at the College. Their commitment to you and to this place is amazing and we hope they will be with us for many years to come, sharing their gifts and talents with all of us.

The objective of school renewal is positive change for our College community. There are a number of recommendations, areas which we can work on. I would like to share two with you.

- Consider ways to enrich the student leadership experience for those elected to positions at the various levels of the College by providing more guidance and opportunities to lead.
- Consider a strategic approach to planning and providing student retreats and other faith formation experiences to provide opportunities for individual and group growth in faith and spirituality.

These two recommendations will guide our work in developing student leadership and retreat programmes. Staff has already begun the process of working with the student leadership and this is being led by the work that Mrs Ball has started this year with the student council. We are also working to develop a retreat programme which begins in year seven and will continue through until year 12. The hope is that this process will be completed in readiness for the 2015 school year.

Today we celebrate our identity as a Catholic school in the tradition of Edmund Rice. We should all be proud of our achievements and our school community. I applaud all of the staff and students for their effort to live out the Touchstones in our daily work. I am extremely proud to be a member of this wonderful community.

I hope you all have a wonderful extended long weekend with your families. The staff will all be attending professional development on Monday and Tuesday. The teachers and teaching assistants will be attending the CEOWA 2014 Curriculum Conference – Leading a Call to Action at the Perth Convention Centre. The Residential Carers and Pastoral support members will be attending STORM on site both days.

God Bless

Marie Barton
Principal

Prayer
May all I do today begin with you, O Lord.
Plant dreams and hopes within my soul,
revive my tired spirit:
be with me today.

May all I do today continue with your help, O Lord.
Be at my side and walk with me:
be my support today.

May all I do today reach far and wide, O Lord.
My thoughts, my work, my life:
makes them blessings for your kingdom;
From the Deputy Principal

Our capacity as a community to welcome ‘the stranger’ and to be inclusive of others is at the heart of our identity as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

Key Points

At each of our College Assemblies we feature different aspects of our rich College life that is available to our students. These opportunities are the result of effective partnerships between students and staff members. They are the direct result of the teamwork and cooperation between many of our community members that occurs on a daily basis. These activities take time and effort and a significant amount of planning and expertise.

Examples of Outstanding Teamwork

I would like to share three examples of teamwork that have made an impression on me. I know that these are not the only examples. However, each example highlights the effort of our students to live out our core values through quality relationships.

The first of these examples is that of the teamwork displayed by our DFES Cadet Unit. This unit meets each Monday evening. They dedicate their time and energy to learning new skills and serving our community. They regularly use their skills to undertake community service activities, providing necessary assistance to those that need assistance.

Each weekend our CAC students participate in Netball, Football and Hockey. I have had the privilege of watching a number of these matches and I have been most impressed by the level of commitment and determination displayed by students to improve. Although success on the scoreboard has not come easily, the players have persevered and delighted in their improvement as a team and as individuals. More importantly, team members are respected for the gifts and strengths that they bring to the team, and for the contribution that they make to the game plan, regardless of their ability or level of experience.

Our Cattle Club team work effectively each day to manage and prepare the Statue Hill Shorthorn stud cattle for showing. Without teamwork and effective relationships between staff and students the program could not operate. Last Saturday the team was rewarded for their hard work, skills and vigilance at the Beverly Show taking-out almost a clean sweep in showing and judging categories.

(continued over)
The challenge for all of us and you is to seek out opportunities at this College where you can live out our values through quality relationships. It all starts with your desire to engage in your studies and education, and the many opportunities available to you at the College.

Achievements

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students that this week received certificates of merit for their performance during the first part of this term. It is pleasing to see that there are many students that are striving for excellence in their various subjects. One small way that we can acknowledge this effort is through the awarding of these certificates.

The Term Ahead

The remainder of Term 3 promises to be busy and productive. It will require the cooperation of all students and staff to successfully complete these various activities as well as completing our most important work – your education.

Our staff make a very generous effort each day in their teaching and participation in these events and often go beyond the call of duty. I encourage our students to continue to keep our College community in your daily prayer. You may consider spending a few quiet moments in the sacred space of our College Chapel. Pray that we may continue to be united in our efforts, for unity is one of the most important characteristics of our Catholic Christian community. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit and it does not mean that we are all the same, rather, that we are united in our diversity and difference.

Martin Tobin
Deputy Principal
Hi I’m Michelle Sladen the College Psychologist (Provisional). I began working with the College at the beginning of 2014 and am employed for three days a week (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday). I have a varied role across the College consisting of: psychometric assessment, counselling, problem-solving, developing interventions and conducting conflict-resolution. My key role has been working as a consultant to school personnel to aide in addressing the learning, mental health and social-emotional needs of students in the college. The Principal and I meet regularly and confidentially discuss any referrals that occur, these are then assigned on a needs basis.

Over the remainder of the year I look forward to providing some information on positive mental health and social-emotional wellbeing. Feel free to contact me on the details provided below if you’d like to have a chat.

Michelle Sladen
Psychologist
(Provisional)

Telephone: 9576 5542
Email: Sladen-Mottram.Miche@cathednet.wa.edu.au

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 28th September. This year’s Social Justice Statement is titled: ‘A Crown for Australia: Striving for the best in our sporting nation’.

The Statement celebrates the place of sport in our national life, especially the way in which it brings individuals and communities together and contributes to our health and wellbeing. At the same time, the Statement challenges to look at sport’s darker side—the potential for violence, abuse and corruption that blemish its image and disillusion those who love it most.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.
As many parents are aware, at the end of term 2 most of our Year 10, 11 and 12 students completed a two week block placement for Workplace Learning – Employability Skills. Thank you to the parents and employers who have made the program very worthwhile and successful. Congratulations to students who have made the most of this opportunity and impressed their employers with their work ethic. I have received Evaluation Reports back from employers and am proud to say that many students achieved ‘High’ and ‘Very High’ performance indicators for the various employability skills. Some senior students were so impressive that they have secured apprenticeships. These are some of the Evaluation Report comments from employers:

- Very keen to learn
- Polite and a good worker overall
- Hard worker who responds well to instruction and strives to better her work
- So impressed that she now works for us part time
- Positive attitude – quick and eager to learn new things
- An asset and pleasure to have in the workplace
- Communicates well and is self-motivated
- Pleasing personality, needs to work on his literacy
- Excelled at stock control and warehouse duties
- An amazing young lady who is very calm and approachable
- Well done and thank you for all the hard work
- A pleasure to have work with us and a very good team member
- A well-mannered and pleasant hard worker
- Hard worker, uses initiative and was a great help
- Amazing
- Lovely young lady
- Learns quickly and has a great work ethic
- Extremely polite and helpful
- Incredible young equestrian that I will be offering future work to
- Work ethic excellent, detail also excellent, nice kid with a great future
- Showed great initiative and was keen to learn
- Work ethic and standard well above what was expected
- Punctual, well presented and willing to get involved
- Always on time and completes tasks well
- Looking forward to him joining our team
- Great work ethics - probably the best dressed student to attend our workplace, which was a credit to him

Workplace Learning coordinator
Theresa Okely
WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience has really benefited me and has been a starting point to my future career as a makeup artist.

I loved being around a really talented and positive group of girls who have taught me a lot in a short space of time.

What I enjoyed most about work experience at WTM (Waxing, Tanning, Makeup) was learning something new every day and watching clients get their makeup done. I also loved being able to get familiar with the products and techniques used.

I now work at WTM and I’m also starting a makeup course at WA Academy, my goal is to keep working with Napoleon makeup and get to know the products inside out and become a makeup artist for Napoleon.

Summer Scott
Year 10
Year 9 English

Students in the Year 9 English class have been looking at the Horror genre in literature and have started the term by completing a poetry appreciation package and analysis of Edgar Allen Poe’s, *The Raven*. For most of the students this has been quite challenging and has required some depth of thinking and analysis of words used and meanings attached; however students have been fabulous and have each put in the effort to understand and participate in their class activities to their best of their abilities.

As a side fun activity to Poe’s *The Raven* students recently turned their hand to limerick writing and below is a small selection of limericks written by some of our students. In the coming editions I ask you to keep an eye out for more of these master pieces as each students work is published.

Mrs Tracey Crisp
Head of Department English

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**There was a girl with long hair**
She had a very big scare,
She had a nightmare
It was about a fair,
Which gave her a very big scare!

Stevie Crook

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**At midnight a young girl sang**
Just as the telephone rang
She answered the phone
With a very deep tone
Then there was a sudden bang!

Erikah Potter
Army Museum of Western Australia

Week two of the term saw the Year 10 students head into Fremantle to visit the Army Museum of Western Australia. The purpose of the visit was to consolidate students understanding of key events and individuals who fought in the Australian Defence Force during World War One & Two, Korean War, Vietnam War and the how the world changed as a result of the Cold War.

Students were highly engaged and both tour guides were extremely impressed with the behaviour displayed by students and the questions they both answered and asked.

Mrs Tracey Crisp
Society & Environment Teacher
Last term students from the Year 8-9 Society & Environment class visited the Fremantle Prison to consolidate their understanding of the development of the Swan River Colony and the significant role prisoners played in the development of the infrastructure and road works of the colony. The day was enjoyed by both students and staff; students were engaged and asked their guides for the day a variety of questions which furthered their understanding of the development of the colony and the prison.

One of my highlights of the Fremantle Prison was the gallows where people were hung. The tour guide, Sarah told us the story of three prisoners who were hung and how the contraption worked. Another highlight of the tour was when Brett our other guide took us to the water reservoir where the prisoners dug 20 metres down just to get water, branching off were ten tunnels all going for 1 kilometre.

Connor Willcocks
Year 9

One of the highlights about the Fremantle Prison was when Sarah showed us the gallows where 43 men and 1 woman where hung. She then showed us the prison cell and some of the artwork in them; some of them were very good.

A second highlight was the prison cell Brett showed us, I got to see Moondyne Joe’s cell and the church, I also saw the movie area and the watch tower. I had a fun time and learnt some facts.

Tekiasha Hart
Year 8
Teacher Tam Nguyen was challenged by students Luke Bernhard and Josh Bawdon to the latest craze, fundraising for Motor Neuron Disease the ice bucket challenge. He completed the task lunchtime Tuesday 26.8.14 with many of the college staff and students in attendance. Mr Nguyen then put the challenge to student Ned Bates who completed this with Mr Nguyen on Wednesday 27.8.14. Congratulations to both with a great fundraising effort by all students and staff at the college raising over $200 for the MND.
CATTLE CLUB FUNDRAISER

Students who participate in the Cattle Club at the college have been busy fundraising by setting up a car wash. Staff pay to have a wash and vacuum with the funds going towards new jackets and vests for the students to use in the judging ring at the various shows they attend.
STUDENT RESTORES PT COOPER SHEARING PLANT

This engine was stored in a shed at the Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon for a number of years. The former Farm Manager, Kevin Marshall, donated this motor to me in 2013 and told me to see if I could get the motor going and find some more information about what work it used to do back in the day.

I found out by the Machinery Preservation Club of WA Inc. that the engine is a portable shearing plant Type PT HP 1-1/3 RPM @ 2,400

With thanks to Jim Riddle, Stewart MacPherson and Nathan Miller for their contribution on this restoration.

Jake Dimovitis
Year 12
The College once again attended the Dowerin Field Days, this year we had our marketing stall in the Education Pavilion with the year 11 and 12 students attending on the Wednesday.

Certificate II in Retail is one of the new programs run at the college. Students who participate in this certificate were in attendance on the marketing stall for an hour at a time to demonstrate working in retail/marketing as part of the criteria for this certificate. This experience goes hand in hand with the work experience students have already completed and helps with their future employment opportunities.

The two days at Dowerin were very successful with many enquiries for enrolment at the college and the students doing a wonderful job communicating with the public promoting the college.

Ms Sharyn Jenkin
Registrar
It’s been a busy start to Term 3 in Agricultural Science with all classes jumping into their studies head first. The Year 7 and 8 classes have been investigating sheep production systems. This has included learning about some of the different sheep husbandry tasks, as well as some of the intricacies of the ruminant digestive system found in sheep. These studies will culminate in the second half of Term 3 as the college prepares to sell some of its’ prime lamb stock, which should provide a good opportunity for real world application of some of the theory learnt. Year 9’s have been investigating a number of different topics this term, this included learning about olives and was able to be applied in the olive grove. Brother Frank and Mr Whitely were able to share their expertise in olives with the class, who were then able to assist the farm staff to prune some of the olive trees. The year 9 class have also been researching the different cuts of meat found in a beef carcass and came up with some tasty looking recipes involving their favourite cuts of meat. The Year 10 class have been focusing on nutrition this term. This required students to research the different vitamins and minerals required by different species of animals. In summary a busy start to Term 3 has had all classes steaming ahead with their work in what has been an enjoyable term so far.

Rory Bennett
Agricultural Science Teacher
Saturday 23rd of August, the CAC Bindoon cattle clubbers all woke up at 4:00am and started loading their cattle to make the 2.5 hour trip down to Beverley Agricultural show. Down at the show the students judged and paraded the cattle like true professionals, with the school cattle taking all the prizes. The students then took to the floor with the student parades and student judging. Tamara Gibson won 1st in Paraders, Graeme Maitland-Smith 2nd and Robert Fitzgerald 3rd. Then followed the judging where unfortunately we missed out on first but Graeme Maitland-Smith cleaned up 2nd and Jake Dimovitis took out 3rd. All up it was a great weekend and the students really enjoyed themselves.
On Wednesday the 20th the year 11 and 12 equine students travelled to the State Equestrian Centre in Brigadoon for a nutrition clinic. In the clinic we learnt how the horse can be affected by certain nutrients for example how lucerne can help a horse with ulcers. At the end of the lecture the students were allowed to ask question and there was a variety of questions about oats, muesli and chaff, also about supplements how they can help your horse and the lecturer was able to answer them all with good detail.

Justine O’Donnell
Year 11
On Thursday the 28\textsuperscript{th} August, the year 7, 8 and 9 Equine class went to Serpentine to attend a farrier clinic with Kim and Tania Broad. First we learnt the parts of the horses foot. We then learnt to shoe and trim horses’ hooves. We all got involved and really enjoyed it. Steven Martin won the quiz we did and got a Clydesdale shoe made as his reward.

Taylah Jeffrey
Year 9

Below, left to right — Equine students complete paperwork on the anatomy of a horse hoof. Year 9 student Taylah Jeffrey practices shoeing and trimming the hoof.
This term everyone in boarding has been able to engage in more activities as residential care has organised socials outings and other fun activities around the college. On Thursday 17 August, nearly all the boarders went to AMF Bowling.

This for everyone was a really good way of getting away from the college for a few hours. Some students had never been bowling before but we managed to convince them to come and give it a go! Some of the students who just started playing were better than some of us that have played a couple of times before.

A couple of strikes and some laughs, it was great. We also had time to visit the arcade where you could play games and win tickets to buy items.

We were also lucky enough to have gone to Joondalup and done some shopping before and after bowling. Thank you to the Mrs Sam and Mr Evans for organising this great outing.

Luke Bernhard
Year 9
Saturday 9th August 2014

To start off I would like to congratulate all the boarders and some dedicated day students, for coming along to our annual football road trip in Kellerberrin and Merredin.

This road trip is always fun I was fortunate enough to attend last year’s road trip, but I think this was the better experience out of the two. When we left the college gate we were all pumped and ready to go off and play some country football. With one quick stop at Toodyay we picked up the hockey players and cadets from the Toodyay country muster.

We then stopped for lunch and hit the road again. Our first stop was Kellerberrin, we all piled out of the bus and went to our change rooms. We then warmed up and our first game against Merredin was won. With our defence strong and the midfielders marking and running the ball up to the forwards we were unstoppable. The next game we played was under the moonlight. We then versed Moora and one against them.

After the games we went to Merredin and had dinner. This was all hosted by the Merredin football club, and did they put on a good feed, not only at night time but also the morning.

We then made our way over to a place called Nungarin close by. It was here that we were to play our last games of our season. When we played Moora for the last time we won. In our first half we were behind by a couple of points, and after a motivation talk and some pointers we made it back by winning in the last half. We than played Merredin and this game was lost by a few points, but the effort was all still there and I think the boys were proud of the way they played this season.

Big Thank you to our 2 coaches Mr Bennet and Mr Evans for putting in training time after school on a Tuesday and helping with transport and organisation. And Mr King our new teacher at our school for coming along as a supervisor and helper, we all enjoyed your company.

Luke Bernhard
Year 9
INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The inter-house athletics carnival is the last of the major carnivals held during the school year, and with both Rice House and O'Sullivan House taking out the swimming and cross country carnivals, respectively, it was on Musk House to win a trophy for the team in gold. A slightly overcast and cool morning turned into glorious sunshine and what were near perfect conditions, and the students responded. After the first two rounds of activities, only 30 points separated the first placed Musk House and third placed O'Sullivan. There were many jubilant shouts of victory that could be heard all over Hanley Oval; it certainly was fantastic to see the students compete in such a positive mindset, and at lunch O'Sullivan had taken a 47 point lead over Rice and Musk Houses.

In a fitting conclusion to the day’s events, the result of the carnival would come down to the final events of the day, the senior high jump, junior 1500m races, and the 4 x 100m relay events. It was telling that the seniors of O'Sullivan House really rose to the challenge, led ably by captains Shana Helmers and Ellie Collier, as O’Sullivan piled on the points to be declared this year’s athletics shield winners. Thanks must go to the wonderful staff and volunteers that worked tirelessly all day, to the friends and families that cheered them on, and to the students who participated so very well.

Results:
O’Sullivan: 3440 points
Musk: 3232 points
Rice: 3095 points

“it certainly was fantastic to see the students compete in such a positive mindset.”

Right—O’Sullivan leading the way on the track.
HOCKEY REPORT

The CAC Cougars have completed another enjoyable season in the Avon Hockey Association U’17 (mixed) competition. The College entered the competition in 2013 and they performed admirably and were awarded the Sportmanship award by the association.

With a number of new players and a season’s experience behind them the team commenced the season with great enthusiasm. Their improvement was evident as they pushed a number of the dominant sides in the competition. The team played an attacking style hockey, maintaining possession and running the ball into attack.

The team is most grateful to the efforts of Mr John O’Dea (manager) who coordinated the squad in my absence and transported teams to and from fixtures. Kalinda Green (Year 12 student/Captain) led the team with distinction on and off the field. Her match day performances were outstanding along with her organisation of the team on a weekly basis.

The team is also very appreciative of Mrs Sue Hawkins who assisted with the management of the team each Saturday. Sue’s experience as a player and her support each Saturday was invaluable to the development of the team.

All players are to be congratulated for their outstanding effort this season. I am sure that the results will come in the next season as we improve our skills and understanding of the game. I encourage all players to continue to enjoy their hockey next season and into the future.

Mr Martin Tobin
Hockey Coach