From the Principal

Former Governor of West Virginia in the United States, Bob Wise, visited the Parramatta diocese on Friday 26 August to explore how digital learning is being incorporated into education in Australia.

President of the Alliance for Excellent Education, Governor Wise co-chairs the Digital Learning Council with Jeb Bush the former Governor of Florida. The council advocates integration of digital learning in to the American education system. As part of his tour of the diocese, Governor Wise visited Parramatta Marist High School, and was extremely impressed by what he saw.

‘I came here to see how Catholic schools in the Parramatta diocese use digital learning and I learned so much more,’ said Governor Wise. ‘I am struck by the deeper learning that is taking place. It was amazing to capture so much in just a few hours.’

‘This experience has made me the richer, you have shown what works,’ he said. ‘We are looking for the best practice and policy and would like to use the Parramatta diocese as a sounding board for our work in the US.’

Executive Director of Schools, Mr Greg Whitby, said it was a pleasure to host Governor Wise and showcase the learning and teaching happening in the diocese.

‘Bob said he was struck by the commitment we have made as a system to improving student learning by improving teacher learning,’ said Mr Whitby. ‘It is a great testament to the work we are doing in our schools, for it to garner international interest from our colleagues in the United States, which will inform their direction in learning and teaching.’

Celebrate Student Learning Evening

Thanks to Mrs West for organising the Celebrate Student Learning Evening which was held on 10 August 2011. Thank you also to all parents and staff members who braved the cold night air and supported our students. I’m sure that the parents who attended were very impressed by the displays.

English Conference

On Saturday 6 August, Mrs D’Souza and Mr Horsburgh presented workshops at the ETA (English Teachers Association) 2011 Conference. The ETA is a professional association of teachers committed to stimulating teaching and learning in English and seeks to present examples of best practice in the profession to promote rich learning experiences for teachers and secondary students. The comments below were received following the conference:

“Hi Ms D’Souza, I was intrigued by your presentation at the recent ETA Conference. I would love it if I could get to see a copy of the program you created for Othello. We’ve just finished teaching Othello to our Year 11 students and it would be great to try and work towards your method of teaching our seniors. Thanks in hopeful anticipation.”

“Hi Brad! I was one of the delegates who sat in awe on Saturday during your presentation on all the amazing things going on at your school! ... or should I say “sat in jealousy”!! Thanks so much for presenting - I’ve not heard much about PBL but it just makes so much sense... let me tell you that the conversations I heard and had in the lunch queue after your session were buzzing! I’d love to be able to show my faculty just what a PBL Shakespeare unit could be, and some of those great logistical aspects that you and your colleagues have been able to address in your units.”

School Resumes for Term 4

Monday 10 October is a pupil free day. Students resume school for term 4 on Tuesday 11 October.

Br Patrick Howlett
Principal
Year 12 Graduation

Major Awards

The Brother Alman Prize for Sportsman of the Year
Fred Sghaby

The Brother John Thomson Prize for Contribution to the Arts
Nathan Ndeira

The Brother Etheired Prize for Public Speaking
Steven Zeater

The Andrew Ziolkowski Memorial Prize for Service and Initiative
Stephen Noone

The Edward B Clancy Prize for Contribution to the religious life of the School
John Lahoud

The Brother Anselm Prize for Leadership
Nathan Haddad

The Studies Prize for Outstanding effort in studies
Joe Nassif

The Senior Cup for All-Round Proficiency
The Premier Award of the Graduating Class
Nathan Haddad

The Australian Defence Force Award for Leadership and Teamwork
John Lahoud

The Younis & Co Business Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business Studies
Gaby Elsusu

The George Khattar Award for outstanding Achievement in Building and Construction
Anthony Harb

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award
Gaby Elsusu

Senior Cups
Creative & Performing Arts
Maroun Younan
Social Sciences
Gaby Elsusu
English
Alessandro Cowley
Mathematics
Gaby Elsusu
Religious Education
Nathan Haddad
Science
Stephen Noone
Technology
Minh Pham
PDHPE
Emil Feghali
History
Joe Nassif
Languages
Daniel Andrejczy

First Place in Courses
Ancient History
Joe Nassif
Biology
Vaish Madhav Rao
Business Studies
Gaby Elsusu
Catholic Studies
Joshua Regis
Chemistry
Gaby Elsusu
Earth and Environmental Science
Adrian Lee
Economics
Gaby Elsusu
Advanced English
Alessandro Cowley
English Extension 1
Alessandro Cowley
English Extension 2
Rehan Prins-Ahangangoda
English Standard
Michael El-Bacha
History Extension
Joe Nassif
Industrial Technology
Shrey Anand
Information Process & Technology
Kenneth Wong
Legal Studies
Joe Nassif
Mathematics
Shreyash Annapureddy
Mathematics Extension 1
Gaby Elsusu
Mathematics Extension 2
Sherron Peiris
Mathematics General
Timothy Nicholas
PDHPE
Emil Feghali
Physics
Sherron Peiris
Senior Science
Stephen Noone
Software Design & Development
Steven Zeater
Studies of Religion
Nathan Haddad
VET Construction
Raymond Mokdassy
VET Hospitality
Joseph Murace
Visual Art
Peter Diana

Principal’s Awards
Camile Gerges
Mitchell Burt
Tanuj Kakkar
Daniel Van Dongen
Jonathan Haddad
Dylan Blom
Joseph Bechara
Nicholas Hackenberg
Benett Nirmal Raj
Congratulations

To Patrick Kramer of Year 11 who won the Campion College Essay Competition for 2011. At a presentation ceremony on 12 September Patrick Kramer was awarded with first prize of $3,000 and a trophy for his essay entitled “Identity and Dissociative Modes of Experience in Contemporary Society”. This was Patrick’s response to the question “Man was born free and everywhere he is in chains”. Entrants had to assess whether the statement by the XVIII century French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau is still valid in the XXI century.

To Shane Cassell of 12.1 who has been selected in the Australian Under 19 Cricket team which will tour India and will take part in a Triangular Series between Australia, India and Sri Lanka. We wish Shane all the best for the upcoming training and tour.

To Keelan Tautahi of 9.5 and Jayden Tautahi of 7.6 who represented Northmead Squash in the Junior Pennant Competition and won the Grand Final last Saturday against Year 11 students from Barker College and Know Grammar.

ParraSIP Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received recognition for their effort, work ethic and attitude in:

Construction
Year 12 - Joseph Bechara, Bradley Zammut and Peter Diana

Hospitality
Year 11 - Andrew Chalouhi (employer nominated); Alex Soldatos (employer and school nominated).

The award ceremony was held at Riverside Theatre, Parramatta on the evening of 30 August. It was well attended by parents, teaching staff, employers and hosted by ParraSIP. The boys represented Parramatta Marist firstly by being recognised by school and employers. And secondly, by being neatly attired, well-presented and well-mannered. Thanks to Mrs Pather, Mr Pather, Mr Walsh and Mr Barton for attending the ceremony.

Q & A Excursion

Year 11 English Advanced students have been participating in ‘Q and A’ style panel discussion presentations to discuss issues in texts they are studying in class including the novel ‘Brave New World’ by Aldous Huxley and the film ‘Gattaca’ by Andrew Nichols.

They were invited to be audience members at ‘Q and A’ at the ABC Studies in Ultimo, Sydney on 19 September. 22 students attended with Miss D’Souza and Mrs D’Silva.

2011 Vinnies Winter Sleep Out

Last term some of our senior boys were involved in a winter sleep out to raise money for a charitable cause. The boys in years eleven and twelve gained sponsorship from friends and family to trade their warm beds for a few sheets of cardboard in an effort to raise money and awareness for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

Thousands of homeless men, women and children are forced to sleep “rough” every night in Sydney alone. The Winter Appeal conducted by Vinnies each year, helps to support Sydney’s homeless and needy through the provision of blankets, financial support and through the funding of shelters.

The boys had a fantastic night constructing the shelters that would become their temporary homes, followed by a movie marathon. Despite the cold and the uncomfortable sleeping provisions, the boys enjoyed their experience and it gave them an important insight into the experiences of those less fortunate.

Congratulations must go to the following boys who demonstrated an extraordinary sense of social justice through their participation in this event: Carlos Chon, Nicholas Hackenberg, Preshalin Moodley, Samarth Yadev, Patrick Salvador, Jordan Ternovy, Jonathan Saad, Mark Elias and Stephen Noone.

Thanks must also go to Northwest Packaging, Storage King North Parramatta and ABCO Appliances for their support of this initiative.

Lastly, this event could not have occurred without the support of our teachers. An enormous thank you must go to Mrs Vu Nguyen, Mrs D’Souza, Mr Ma, Ms Jones, Ms Mari, Mrs Clark and Br Patrick for their involvement.

Mr Kurt Challinor
HSIE Coordinator
PMH OLD BOYS’
ANNUAL REUNION DINNER 2011

Catch up with school mates & reminisce about the good ol’ days; plus get an update on the school.
Ex-students and teachers of Parramatta Marist High are invited to attend the annual reunion dinner and auction night. All proceeds from the night go to the Brother Coman Scholarship, which is fully funded by the Old Boys Union.

Time: Friday, October 21st 2011 at 7:00pm
Where: Wentworth Room, Parramatta Leagues Club, O’Connell St Parramatta
Cost: $50 (for buffet dinner) plus drinks
RSVP: For catering purposes, it is essential to book and pay by Friday, 7 October

Please send your cheque payable to Parramatta Marist Old Boys and place in an enclosed envelope addressed to the Secretary, Parramatta Marist Old Boys, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead NSW 2145

OR

Please pay by direct deposit into the Parramatta Marist Old Boys Union. Commonwealth Bank account (BSB 062 223 Acc. No. 0080 1103). Please ensure you include your surname as a reference on the deposit and send a confirmation email (including personal details) to one of the committee members listed below

OR

Contact a committee member below to reserve your place or for further information:

Adam Hendry ahendry@parra.catholic.edu.au 9635 7066
Peter Bowd pbowd@parra.catholic.edu.au 9635 7066
Mark Currie mark.currie@team.telstra.com 0419 411 468
John Flynn flynn@bigpond.net.au 0417 377939
Mark Procajlo procajlo@kempstrang.com.au 9235 2597
Stefan Procajlo stefan.procajlo@srvorg.au 9421 5345
Michael Procajlo mprocajlo@parra.catholic.edu.au 9654 2118

Please pass on this invitation to other ex-students who may not have been contacted.

Name(s) ______________________________ Tel: __________________________
Email/Address ___________________________ Last Year at School: ______

☐ Enclosed is my cheque for $______ for the annual dinner.
☐ Please accept my donation of $_____ towards the Brother Coman Scholarship.
☐ I can donate a raffle/ auction item for the night or memorabilia.
☐ Please record my above contact details for future mailouts

This mailout is proudly sponsored by

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