Early Stage 1 Coordinator

Ms Marie-Claire Hazwaa

As we say goodbye to the 2010 school year I would like to say thank you for an outstanding and successful Kindergarten for 2010. All students have given their personal best and achieved excellent results due to their hard work and dedication. It has been a pleasure working with all the students, teachers and parents this year! 2010 was the most successful year for parent initiative and assistance, we are eternally grateful. I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Miss Krystle Borg, thank you for all your effort, dedication and commitment to Kindergarten for the last 3 years. We will miss you and we wish you success and happiness for your wedding next year, and your new teaching appointment. Finally, have a Blessed Christmas and may the birth of our Lord fill your life with joy, peace and love. See you in 2011!

Stage 1 Coordinator

Ms Sue Durham

The Christmas spirit is alive and well at St Charbel’s as you can see by the photo here of Santa’s Year 1 little helpers. There are children happily giving Christmas cards and candy canes to their friends, smiling faces creating Christmas art in the classrooms and songs of joy coming from rooms. Apart from all the fun, our children understand the true meaning of Christmas- they know that Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable in Bethlehem and they know that He is Christ the King. Let us all remember this reason for our Christmas celebrations. Stage 1 teachers have given 100% effort this year and I thank them all sincerely for their hard work and dedication. A well deserved break awaits you! Mrs Alam is leaving us to await the birth of her first child in March and I, along with her colleagues, wish her and her husband all the very best at this exciting time. To all members of St Charbel’s School community, I wish you a holy, happy and safe Christmas.

Stage 2 Coordinator

Mrs Mary Anton

The 2010 Academic School year has come to an end. Stage 2 would like to thank all the parents for their tremendous support throughout the year. Our parents contribute to and support our school community in so many ways: in-class support, attending excursions, buying resources for their children to use, attending parent teacher meetings and the list goes on! A big thankyou goes out to all the teachers in Stage 2; Mrs. R. Zubak, Miss J. Zeibouni (3Z), Mrs. P. Luca (3L), Miss Chan (3C), Mrs. P. Badrous (4B), Miss J. Rahme (4R), Mrs. N. Bayeh, Mrs. N. Kazzi, Miss Roly, Mrs. N. Azzi and Mrs. P. Sayde. These teachers have placed all their efforts into ensuring the students gain as many different experiences as possible to help them develop spiritually, academically, socially and emotionally into all they can be. Finally, on behalf of all the Stage 2 teachers we would like to wish the parents and students a very safe and enjoyable holiday. May the blessings of Christmas be with you and bring you safely into the New Year.

Stage 3 Coordinator

Miss Elizabeth Woodin

Thank you to all teachers, parents and students for their participation in the Year 6 Graduation Mass and Ceremony. It was a very special day in the lives of our Year 6 students. Thank you to the P&F for their generous donation towards the morning tea, and to the parents who assisted by contributing platters of food. Your kindness is much appreciated. As the year draws to a close, the Year 6s look forward to their Day Out to Jamberoo and their Spirituality Day on the 7th and 8th December respectively. The Year 5 students are eagerly anticipating the announcement of the 2011 SRC, their end of year awards ceremony and Report Day. And then our time of rest begins! Wishing all parents and students a Blessed Christmas and a happy and safe holiday. Enjoy spending time together over the festive season and come back to school in 2011 refreshed and ready for another year together.

ST CHARBEL’S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 9 - 10 December 2010

Issue 12

Rector’s Message

Rev Fr Antoine Tarabay

Another very busy school year is coming to an end. It has been a year filled with events and spiritual blessings, the most notable ones being the two new saints, St Mary MacKillop of the Cross and Blessed Estephan Nehme. We pray for their intercessions and we look up to them for inspiration and example.

The Parents and Friends Association Annual Elections were held Tuesday 30 November 2010. Although the attendance level was quite disappointing, the 2010 Committee presented to the parents a report on all their work throughout the year. We wish Mr Joe Labban and his team for the great work they have done in 2010 and for supporting all the school activities. We also congratulate Mrs Gisele Doumit, the new P&F President and all the elected committee members for 2011, wishing them a successful year!!

As you may be aware, the General Chapter of the Lebanese Maronite Order took place in September of this year and new appointments result from these elections. As such, Fr Joseph Sleiman will be moving to Lebanon to take on the role of Treasurer at St Anthony’s Monastery- Kozhaya and a new Principal, Fr Ronny Chaheen, will take on the role of Principal as of January 2011. We thank Fr Sleiman for his dedication and work and we assure him that he will be missed around St Charbel’s Parish and College. We also wish Fr Chaheen all the best in his new appointment asking the Lord to bless both Fathers with the graces they need to pursue their responsibilities.

Finally, as we continue through the Season of Advent in preparation for the Birth of Our Lord, we pray that the miracle of Christmas fills all our hearts with warmth and love. Christmas is the time of giving and sharing. May we all take the time to contemplate the love of God revealed to us in His Son Jesus Christ, the epitome of love. Merry Christmas to everyone!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2010

Tues, 14 Report Day / Parent-Teacher Meeting
Primary from 8.30am–12.30pm / Secondary from 9.00am–1.00pm

February 2011

Tues, 1 Yurke Educational Centre will be at school
Wed, 2 First Day for Students Years 1-12
Thu, 3 First Day for Kindy

Principal’s Message

Rev Fr Joseph Sleiman

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter for 2010 and the last one I will be writing as Principal of St Charbel’s College. It has been an immense pleasure to work alongside Fr Antoine Tarabay, our dedicated staff and the beloved students for the betterment of our College over the last 3 years.

The last couple of weeks have been extremely busy at St Charbel’s College. The Year 7 Orientation Day was held on Friday 3 December and it was a great opportunity for our Year 6 students and the new students joining our College to acquaint themselves with the High School, the teachers and the subjects. Thank you to Mrs Kathy Nikolais who coordinated the day and to all the teachers who helped.

The Year 6 Graduation on Monday 6 December was an occasion to celebrate the achievements of our students, reward the high achievers and commend the hard workers. Congratulations to all the graduating Year 6 students and to the Stage 3 staff for a great ceremony!

The final events for the year were the Awards Ceremonies on Friday 10 December 2010. These ceremonies are always filled with pride and joy as parents, teachers and students come together to acknowledge the achievers and to encourage the hard-workers. Thank you to all the teachers who organised them and congratulations to the students who received awards!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every person who has helped me over the last years to fulfil my role as Principal of St Charbel’s College. As I leave to take on other responsibilities in Lebanon, I assure you that you will remain in my thoughts and prayers. I wish you all a great Christmas, a relaxing holiday and a successful 2011!! I would particularly like to wish Fr Ronny Chaheen success in his new role as Principal of St Charbel’s College.

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Coordinators' Christmas Cheer

- I wish Peace and Joy to all our families this Christmas. Have a wonderful holiday and return to us safely in 2011.

Karen Jubb – Teaching & Learning Coordinator

- I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Year 7 students for all their dedication and commitment for a successful year. Wishing all students and parents a joy-filled and safe Christmas. I am looking forward to the New Year where students are setting new goals to accomplish in 2011.

Mrs Joanna Zidros – Year 7 Coordinator

- As we come to the end of another Academic Year, I would like to wish all students of Year 9, their parents and families, a happy, holy and safe Christmas. May God bless you and your families.

Miss Patricia Moussa – Year 9 Coordinator

- I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past term and a half with Year 9. It has been an exciting time of change where students displayed on-going commitment and maturity. I’d like to thank all Year 10 students and their families a relaxing and safe Christmas. I hope to see everyone focused, with a renewed and positive outlook for 2011.

Miss Renee Hajjar – Year 10 Coordinator

- As another year comes to an end, and we prepare ourselves for the festive year, we should stop for a minute and give thanks. I would like to give thanks to the English teachers for their ongoing hard work and dedication. I would also like to give thanks to our Dear Lord for giving us each day to experience and learn new things. During this festive time we, the English department, would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and blessed New Year. Remember to keep your mind active this Christmas break by READING...

Miss Georgia Tafteos – English Coordinator

- There has been a challenging and active year for the students and teachers in the PDHPE team. There have been exciting new initiatives introduced this year, including a visit from the Fire Brigade to promote Road Safety in an exciting and informative way for Yr 8. Looking forward to more learning and action in 2011. God bless you and your family and have a Blessed Christmas.

Mr Charlie Shala – PDHPE Coordinator

- The Science Department would like to take the opportunity to wish all the students and families of St. Charbel’s Colleges a happy and safe Christmas. May you all have a safe break and we look forward to seeing you in 2011.

Miss Rita Angel – Science Coordinator

- May the virtues of faith, hope and love found in the manger in Bethlehem, be giltied in your hearts this Christmas. May your families and be carried by the loving arms of Mary and Joseph. God Bless.

Mrs Jeanne Mansour –Secondary REC Coordinator

Year 8 and the Blue Mountains trip

On the 24th of November, Year 8 Geography students ventured deep into the world heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park. After walking down thousands of steps we found the majestic main look out. As we looked out we stood quietly and admired the natural scenery of thick green sheets of trees that stretched out for endless kilometres and also saw the ‘three and a half sisters’. The sounds of the amazing birds and the waterfall trickling down the rocks filled our senses with wonder and awe.

Some students had a chance to experience the wildlife up close as a brown snake was surprised to see students from St Charbel’s in its habitat. Our walk ended with a ride on the world’s steepest rail way train, with an exhilarating experience of being back in the 19th century. It was quite thrilling with a lot of students screaming in the dark tunnel, led loudly by Mr McConville. As the day came to an end the students were tired and filled with new knowledge about threatened habitats and protecting our world heritage sites. Year 8 would like to thank Mr McConville, Mrs DelRefice, Mrs Nakakpour and Mr Williams who prepared this day which was wonderful and enjoyable for everyone.

Rachele, Adrianna and Miray (Yr 8 Geography students)

School Fees

Third and final installment for school fees is now due. Any outstanding fees will result in reports being withheld. Payments may be paid in cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card or directly into our bank account. (Please family code must be included).

Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink.