Early Stage 1 Coordinator  
Ms Marie Claire Hawwa

It is with great joy that I extend a warm welcome to you as we commence Kindergarten 2010. My name is Marie Claire Hawwa (Ms Hawwa) and I am the Early Stage 1 Coordinator. This is my 10th year at St Charbel’s College and 6 of these years, I have spent teaching Kindergarten. I am so excited to be working with you this year to ensure your child has a fantastic start to their schooling life. I’ll be working alongside Miss Borg who is the KB teacher, Miss Sammul who is the KS teacher and Mrs Naada Kazzi who is the Kindergarten Arabic teacher. We are all available to speak with you about any concerns you may have so please feel free to make an appointment with us.

The following are some reminders to ensure that the year runs smoothly. Could you please ensure all of your child’s items of clothing, hats, books and stationery are labelled with their name and class. Your child needs to have a bottle of water with them each day and some fresh fruit and a healthy sandwich to eat. Between $1 and $2 is plenty of money for a Kindergarten child to spend at the canteen at any one time and please ensure they have a wallet or plastic bag to store the money safely. Kindergarten sports days are Mondays and Fridays and sports uniform is to be worn on these days.

The first Term is always emotionally difficult for Kindergarten children and their parents, so please approach myself or the Kindergarten teachers for any support that you may need. It is important to allow your child to become independent and responsible by leaving them at the lining up area and by not lingering around the classrooms.

Thank you for your co-operation and I look forward to getting to know both you and your children better as the term progresses.

Stage 1 Coordinator  
Ms Sue Durham

The first weeks of Term 1, 2010 have been very busy and productive. Year 1 and 2 classes have settled in well, with most students usually showing their new teachers good work habits. A minority of students however, are still developing satisfactory habits and it is hoped that the coming weeks will show the improvements needed.

As in past years, parent helpers are welcome in every classroom. If any parents, mums or dads, are able to assist with reading groups, writing, art lessons (or absolutely anything!) please let teachers or myself know and we will certainly be grateful and put you to work! It doesn’t matter if you think your English isn’t good enough, your presence can well assist children’s learning in lots of areas.

Home can help all students to realise their potential. Please work with the class teacher and ensure that your child completes homework and has the necessary materials for classwork. Show an interest in their schoolwork and praise and encourage efforts.

I welcome back all teachers, students and parents who have been a part of St Charbel’s progress in years gone by and I offer a warm welcome to our new families who have become a part of our school community.

Stage 2 Coordinator  
Mrs Mary Anton

Welcome back to the 2010 Academic School Year. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Year 3 and 4 teachers: 1st Year 3 Miss Michelle Ievelevitch 2nd Year 3 Mrs Gutierrez 3rd Year 3 Mrs Abu Ghanem 4th Year 3 Mrs Mary Anton 5th Year 3 Mrs Bednous 6th Year 3 Mrs Anton 6th Year 4 Mrs Hawwa. Stage 2 teachers and students have been busy to date working on their class programs. We all look forward to meeting you at the Year 3 and 4 Parent Information Night which will be held on Wednesday 24th February. I would like to encourage all parents to attend and meet their child’s classroom teacher. This will be a great opportunity to clarify any concerns that you may have about your child’s education.

In Week 3 the Year 3 and Kindergarten Peer Support program will commence. Each Year 3 class has been allocated to a Kindergarten class. Each child has been assigned a buddy for the Term. The Year 3 teachers and students will be working alongside the Kindergarten teachers and students to implement the Program. This Program will cover two strands of Personal Health Choices and Interpersonal Relationships, from the Personal Development and Health curriculum area. The Peer Support Program was designed to build positive relationships between the Year 3 and Kindergarten students and assist in the transition of Kindergarten students into Primary School. Each week the students meet and complete a particular activity that reinforces a value, such as respect, generosity, love, justice, honesty and kindness. Some of the aspects that will be covered this term include:

Getting to know your Buddy - Generosity in the Playground

- Getting to know your Buddy - Generosity in the Playground - Generosity in the Library - Generosity in the Classroom.

Stage 3 Coordinator  
Miss Elizabeth Woodin

The third term is already in full swing – welcome back to all Year 5 and 6 students. A brand new year, a fresh start, a time to make positive changes and to set goals and resolutions for the year ahead.

Welcome to our new teachers in Stage 3: Miss Guiguis in Year 6 and Miss Ahal and Miss Alikan in Year 5. Our new team is energetic and enthusiastic. We are looking forward to a successful and exciting year.

School Fees

First instalment for school fees is now due. Payments may be paid in cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card or directly into our bank account. Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink.

Rector’s Message  
Rev Fr Antoine Tarabey

Every new school year is always like the Spring season beginning: sunny, cheerful and promising. I would like to seize this opportunity to welcome our students back to St Charbel’s College and I extend a very special welcome to the staff and students who are new in our community. I wish you all a successful and rewarding scholastic year at all levels.

As announced at the end of 2009, the construction of the New Multipurpose Hall has been awarded to Dydam Development and work has already commenced. The project is expected to be ready by the end of this year. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this time as the new hall will provide a much-needed facility to our students.

At the beginning of this school year, I would like to congratulate our 2009 Year 12 students on their HSC results. Congratulations to all the students who worked hard to achieve notable results. These results are the result of your diligence and commitment to your studies. And to our 2010 Year 12 students, we wish you a fruitful year. Bear in mind that your work this year is the passport to your future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

I would like to thank the Leadership Team of the College composed of Rev Fr Joseph Sleiman, Mr Ghasan Chehaid, Mr Jaime Rodriguez, Mr John Klump and Mrs Karen Jubb for their work, especially throughout the holidays, to prepare for the new scholastic year.

Finally, as the Catholic Church enters the Lenten Season I invite you all to seize this opportunity that Lent offers us all to grow in our relationship with God. Let us take the time to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we have done and failed to do, and to be generous to those in need. We especially remember our brothers and sisters in Haiti as they deal with the aftermath of the earthquake, asking the Lord to comfort those who are injured and mourning and to protect and guard all the volunteers and rescue forces.

Principal’s Message  
Rev Fr Joseph Sleiman

I would like to send my best wishes to our students, parents and families and to our teachers and all staff members. The beginning of a new year opens up many new horizons for children commencing school, for new teachers and those taking up new appointments and for everyone who is committed to Maronite Catholic Education. I am immensely proud of our Maronite Catholic School and I pray regularly that it remains a place of respect and inclusion for all. Jesus once said “I have come, that you may have life and have it to the full” (John 10:10). May Jesus bring life and hope to us as we launch into the challenges of 2010.

There is a famous quote encouraging us to become students of change because change is the only constant. This is certainly true at St Charbel’s College. We are a living testament to all the changes that have occurred in Sydney during the past 25 years. Perhaps the most obvious example of change in our school community is the construction of the new High School Building as well the Mary Mackillop Centre and now the new Multipurpose Hall which will be ready by the end of the 2010 school year. As we expand our facilities, staffing and student numbers, we once again realize that indeed, change is the only constant.

Our long school history is also a living testament to our commitment to our children and their families. St Charbel’s College was established over 25 years ago to serve the Maronite Australian families. We seek to instil in our students the Gospel values of accepting diversity, respecting the individual, working together through the implementation of the best education practices. Remember that my door is always open to parents and students who have concerns or suggestions so we can work together for the betterment of St Charbel’s College.

Wishing all the parents, staff and students a fresh start and a prosperous year ahead, hoping that our hands and hearts will always work together for the welfare of our students.

On the 8th of February, the Maronite Church celebrated the Feast Day of its patron, St Maroun. This is particularly important this year as His Beatitude Patriarch Nasrallah Boutros Cardinal Sfeir has declared 2010 the year of Saint Maroun. I wish you all a Happy Feast Day and I pray that we may all be inspired by the example of St Maroun to bear witness to Christ in our lives, through our words and our actions.
Deputy Principal Secondary School

Mr Jaime Rodriguez

It is with great enthusiasm that we begin the work for the 2010 academic year. We are pleased and encouraged by the achievements of 2009. Our efforts are focused now on learning from last year’s experiences and improving our performance in all areas. We spent the first three days of the year with essential professional development for our teachers. During these days we set the direction and priorities for the year that begins. Teachers were exposed to the changes in legislation that affect our work with children as well as the new developments in national curriculum matters that affect all subject areas.

As we begin this new year we hope to count on the support of all families in ensuring the safety and smooth development of students at St Charbel’s College. I particularly remind parents of the need to ensure that school policies of uniform and discipline are respected all the time.

As the safety of our children is paramount, I remind parents of the need to drive carefully around the school areas when collecting their children. Please respect traffic signs and crossing points and exercise caution at all times.

We are interested in providing the best possible educational opportunities for all students under our care. Your feedback is necessary and appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss any matters that you feel require our attention. God Bless.

Deputy Principal Primary School

Mr John Klumpp

Welcome back for 2010. I am looking forward to a year that will bring opportunities, success and enjoyment.

As with all years there will be many opportunities for children to learn and develop new skills and understanding, and to join in with community events. I hope that they take these opportunities and grow academically, socially and spiritually.

Last Friday I spoke to the students after our first mass, I spoke about what I hoped for them to achieve in 2010. This came down to three simple things:

- Work hard: when it is time for work, do your best at all times
- Play fair: when it is time to play, be fair in your interactions with others, and
- Care for others: at all times consider how your actions impact on others and show that you care for them.

I certainly pray that we can all use these simple points to make our community the best it can be.

I look forward to seeing everybody during the year and hope that we all work for the benefit of our children. Have a good 2010.

Counsellor’s Corner

Mrs Helena Paras

Welcome back students and families. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their good wishes regarding the upcoming birth of my baby! My last day will be 26th Febuary 2010, so feel free to see or call me before then.

I wish everyone a thriving learning year!

HSIE Coordinator

Mrs Amanda Jones

Welcome to 2010. This year the teachers in the faculty are: Mrs Jones, Mrs Bejjani, Mrs Dell’Orefice, Miss El-Tahche, Mr Mawad, Mr Mc Keliever, Mr Mc Convle, Mrs Nicolas, Mrs Nenadic. The HSIE faculty is responsible for the following subjects: Geography, History, Commerce, Ancient and Modern History, Business Studies, Economics, Legal Studies and Studies of Religion. I hope all students enjoy their studies this year and will apply themselves with diligence and achieve outstanding results.

Best wishes and God Bless all our families.

Science Coordinator

Miss Rita Angel

Another year of Science Fun! I am Miss Angel, the Science co-coordinator of the High School. The other Science teachers for 2010 are: Miss Yacoub teaching 7,8,9, 11 & 12 Chemistry, Mrs Hitti teaching 7, 8, 11 & 12 Science, Mrs Abi Elias teaching 11 & 12 physics and Mrs Ghoukroueliels lab assistant/teacher.

We would like to welcome you all back to another academic year. We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of a few expectations in Science: Be prepared for all lessons, participate in activities that enhance your learning, ask questions! Do not disrupting the learning of other students. Happy learning!

Library News

Ms Christine Goltz

Welcome back I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable holiday.

A reminder that our library is open before school from 8.00 and after school till 4.00 o’clock every day. We are also open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, lunchtimes for Primary & High School, Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes for Infants.

Please ensure your child brings their library card every day to school to enable them to borrow books from the library.

Optional survey of parent satisfaction

please circle and return to the office or library

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q 1: I am satisfied with the literacy standards being achieved in my child</td>
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<td>Q 2: I am satisfied with the numeracy standards being achieved in my child</td>
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<td>Q 3: I am satisfied with the school’s educational standard (Basic Skills SC HSC results)</td>
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<td>Q 4: Parents have a say in school decisions</td>
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<td>Q 5: I am satisfied with the Religious education provided</td>
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<td>Q 6: The school deals appropriately with bullying</td>
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<td>Q 7: I am pleased with the school’s pastoral care policy</td>
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<td>Q 8: I am satisfied with the school’s class policies</td>
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<td>Q 9: The school is well resourced to support learning</td>
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<td>Q 10: Overall I am satisfied with the school</td>
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Year 7 Coordinator

Mrs Joanna Zidras

I am pleased to report that the start of the year for Year 7 has been a very smooth one. Our Year 7 students have enjoyed their first few days in High School.

I am looking forward to working together with you in this important stage of your child’s life giving encouragement and support in building a firm foundation for their future. Most important I want your child to enjoy High School life and all that it has to offer.

Year 8 Coordinator

Mrs Kathy Nikolas

As the new Year 8 Coordinator, I would like to welcome all students and parents back to another year of learning at St Charbel’s College. I thank Father Sleiman for giving me the opportunity to look after the welfare of our Year 8 students. I remind all parents that a happy, safe learning environment can only be achieved with the support and co-operation of the staff, students and parents in particular. With this in mind, I would like to remind parents to communicate any concerns via the student diary, telephone or email (knikolak@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au).

I would also like to stress that there will be great focus on behaviour and discipline this year. I urge large parents to talk to their children about the College’s expectations on discipline & uniform (school diary pg12-17).

Finally, I wish everyone a happy 2010.

Year 9 Coordinator

Mrs Amanda Jones

Welcome back students and families, and parents. I would like to welcome you and to thank everyone for their good wishes for the year ahead.

I am pleased with the school’s pastoral care policy that all students have to comply with all school rules especially care for others; at all times consider how your actions impact on others and show that you care for them.

I am pleased with the school’s educational standard (Basic Skills SC HSC results) for the year ahead. This year will be a busy one! With events including the School Swimming Carnival, St. Charbel’s Catholic School, Year 11 Coordinator

Mr Joe Mawad

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to what is a challenging year for students and teachers alike in the senior school. I would also like to stress that all school rules especially uniform, hair cut, punctuality, mobile phones and shaving. To this end, I urge you to ensure that your child is appropriately dressed and groomed for school.

Should you have any concerns about your child’s wellbeing or education in Yr 11, I would urge you to contact me in order to address your concerns.

Year 10 Coordinator

Mrs Vania Bejjani

I am delighted to be working with the students of Year 10 and their parents again throughout this schooling year.

The first week of the schooling year has gone by smoothly. I have pleased, with some exception, most students are wearing the correct uniform and are regularly presented. Last week, you should have received a letter from your child reiterating expectations re- garding punctuality, uniform, mobile phones and general behavior. If you have not done so already, please fill in the slip and return it to the school as soon as possible. I ask that you read this letter carefully and support the school rules by ensuring your child is following them.

This year will be a busy one! With events including the School Certificate, work experience, dinner dance, and decisions about senior study and/or entering the workforce, this will be a highly demanding and thought provoking year. Consequently, I aim to continue to work with the students and you, their parents to support and guide them to make sound decisions that are reflective of both their needs and their wants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child.

Year 11 Coordinator

Mrs Ingrid Azziz

To all Year 12 students, I would like to welcome you all back to your last year as students of St Charbel’s College. I hope you had a pleasant break and managed to work through your assessments efficiently. As you are all aware, this year involves consistent dedication and discipline towards successfully completing studies in preparation for the Higher School Certificate. Also, to prevent anxiety and stress, I would encourage students to take time out to relax both their body and mind through exercise and wholesome recreational activities.

In order to assist the students to have ample time to complete their work, they have been granted permission to leave during Thursday sport in order to give them extra time to work on their assessments. This privilege can be forfeited at any time if other school rules are not complied with. This will apply to leaving morning or afternoon classes because they do not have a lesson, Period One, on any given day. NO STUDENT HAS BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO ARRIVE LATE OR LEAVE EARLY IF THEY DO NOT HAVE CLASS.

I would also like to remind students and parents that the school uniform code that was issued in Week One via newsletter, must be complied with at all times. Failure to adhere to these rules will see your child sent home at the discretion of the coordinator.

I wish the students the best of luck in their upcoming HSC Exams and if there are any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at the school. God Bless.

Primary LOTE Report

Miss Rolly Maroun

High School Swimming Carnival

Tues, 23 March 2010

Year 12 Info Night

Wed, 24 March 2010

Year 11 Info Night

Wed, 17 March 2010

Year 10 Info Night

Wed, 10 March 2010

Year 9 Info Night

Wed, 3 March 2010

Year 8 Info Night

Wed, 2 March 2010

Year 7 Info Night

Wed, 17 February 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS