Early Stage 1 Coordinator

Ms Marie-Claire Hawwa

The Kindergarten students had an exciting fun filled Term 4. We have been delighted with their learning which we attribute to the implementation of the Jody Phonics program and the use of De Bono thinking hats as a means to teaching critical thinking. Students enjoyed the swimming program in Term 4. They were introduced to the text type of Narratives. They put on plays, and surprised everyone with their ability to read, follow and perform from a script.

We wish them all the best in Year 1. May their holidays be safe and fun filled! May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you now and throughout the next year.

Stage 1 Coordinator

Winding down for the end of this school year, I look back and wonder where the year has gone. One thing I do know is that 2011 has been a very productive year which has seen many achievements and development of talents both in and out of the classroom. We have seen all students progress, some faster than others but nevertheless progressing to successfully move on to the next grade. It has been pleasing to see the increase in fluency in our readers and with this improvement has come an enjoyment of reading and an increase in self-esteem. Reading Recovery this year has assisted 20 children and a new program, the Reading Intervention Program, based on the Reading Recovery strategies, has assisted the literacy development of 46 children in Years 2, 3 and 4.

Assessments and report writing are occupying teachers’ time in between Christmas preparations. We see beautiful Christmas art hanging in the classrooms and children have started exchanging Christmas cards with their friends. Our photo shows Year 1 children welcoming Santa. It is wonderful to see the Christmas spirit alive in our children but let’s not forget to remind them that it is the celebration of our Lord’s birth and that it is a happy but also a HOLY time.

May the spirit of Christmas and the true meaning of this time be with you all. On behalf of the Stage 1 teachers, I wish you a happy, holy and safe Christmas. May God bless you.

Stage 2 Coordinator

As we come to the end of the year, I would firstly like to thank all the hard work and dedication by Mr Klumpp and all the Stage 2 teachers. I am also pleased with the students of Stage 2 who have worked extra hard this term and all deserve a well earned break.

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other. Best wishes to you all! God Bless!

Stage 3 Coordinator

Term 4 is drawing to a close with many sights of relief from students, parents and teachers. What a successful and frenzied term it has been for the students and teachers in Stage 3! The students have been exposed to many meaningful experiences that have enriched them as Christians, as learners and as leaders. The Year 5s looked to the stars in Science, the Year 6s to Parliament in HSIE. They improved their swimming in the intensive two-week program and elected the SRC for 2012. The Year 6s prepared in earnest for their Graduation Mass and learnt about the expectations and routines in High School as part of their Transition Program.

The Year 5s eagerly anticipated their visit to MacKillop Place. Teachers frantically wrote student reports while trying not to dream too much about the upcoming holiday! Filming got under way for a new children’s TV show, “Kitchen Whiz”, to be aired in a few weeks.

We shouldn’t forget to take a minute though. A minute to reflect on a successful and happy year. Thank you to the extraordinary, dedicated team of Stage 3 teachers for their enthusiasm and energy throughout 2011: Mrs Wells, Miss Alkan, Miss Sahyoun, Mrs Tahhan, Ms Delorii, Mr Lewis and Mrs Taylor. Thank you to the parents for their unwavering support and to the students for their hard work and determination.

We look forward to 2012 and we bid a sad farewell to the Year 6s of 2011. We wish you luck, love of learning and life ahead. God bless you all, make us proud. Thank you to the 2011 SRC for their service to St Charbel’s College.

Have a safe and happy holiday, Stage 3 teachers, students and parents. May the light of Jesus shine in your homes over the festive season.

Primary REC Report

Mrs Mary Wells

Our year has ended with wonderful mini-parallelograms to celebrate the Season of the Birth of the Lord. Congratulations to all the Students and teachers for their efforts right up to the end. May there be blessings aplenty on all the people who live under the banner of our Charbelian community.

REC Report

Ms Sue Durham

As we stand on the threshold of Christmas and a New Year, we look back on the past year to evaluate it and plan for the coming years. At St Charbel’s College, we strive to offer quality learning that will help students achieve their educational goals. These goals and our plans for 2011 are charted in the College’s Strategic Improvement Plan 2011-2013 which is reviewed on an annual basis to develop the Annual Improvement Plan. The Strategic Improvement Plan offers a clear vision and direction for school improvement over the next 3 years.

We are aware that we cannot achieve these goals on our own but together as school, parents, students and the broader community. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the College community: students, parents, teaching and non-teaching staff. Thank you for all your contributions to St Charbel’s College. I would like to also thank the Leadership Team members for their dedication and especially Fr Ronny Chahen who has showed great dedication in his first year as Principal.

As we reach the end of every school year, there are usually staff changes that take place. We thank all the staff members who will be leaving and we wish them all the best in their new positions and we welcome new staff members on board. I would particularly like to thank Mr John Klumpp, Deputy Principal-Primary who is leaving us at the end of 2011. John has been an esteemed staff member at St Charbel’s College for 23 years. He has always undertaken his duties with great commitment, dedication and with a fair and open mind. The College will sadly miss his contribution as Deputy Principal.

In 2012, the College will be focusing on further integrating ICT in teaching and learning. Over the last 3 years, we have improved our IT facilities, upgraded our network, and added new computer rooms, more laptops and interactive whiteboards in classrooms. This will continue in 2012 as more laptops are put in use. On behalf of all us at St Charbel’s, my most fervent good wishes for a Holy and Happy Christmas to you all! May this season be a time for the family, for giving and for celebrating our faith and the Birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2012

Wed 1: First day for Primary Year 7 students
Thur 2: First day for Kindy and Years 5-12 students

Rector’s Message

Rev Fr Antoine Tarabay

As we draw to the close of the 2011 school year, I want to thank our school community, our staff, parents and students for all of their hard work and efforts to support our school. It has been a very fast and successful year and I would like to highlight just a few of the events held in Term 4.

On Wednesday 16 November, the 2012 Kindy Orientation Evening was held and it was followed by orientation days at the college on the 17th and 18th of November. It was extremely pleasant to watch our 2012 Kindy students enter the classrooms with eager faces and enthusiastic spirits. We hope this new journey on which we embark together in 2012 is fruitful and successful.

November 22nd marked Lebanon’s Independence Day. A special ceremony organized by the Arabic Department was held at the College. We pray for peace and dialogue in our homeland asking the Lord to guide its leaders and bless its people. The Parents and Friends Association Elections were held on Wednesday 30 November 2011 and a new committee has been elected for 2012. Congratulations to the new committee and new president, Mrs Zena Khalil. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and extend our sincere thanks to our 2011 P&F Committee for their time and dedication. Their support of the school and all its activities is appreciated.

Christmas Blessings!

“Those were shepherds keeping watch…”

The teachers in our College shepherd our students to a greater knowledge of the God who loves us so much He sent us His only Son to be our Saviour. Our Parents shepherd their children year in and year out, keeping watch by night and by day, so that their children can enjoy the greenest pastures and know the Good Shepherd Himself.

There are shepherds all around us still keeping watch in many pastures, and like the shepherds of the Christmas Gospel, they have heard that Christ has come among us.

To all our shepherds, may the glory of the Lord fill your eyes and ears, touch your hearts, and draw you into singing constantly with all you have and all you are, “Glory to God in the highest!” May God bless you and may you all have a holy and peaceful Christmas and an enjoyable break as we prepare for another exciting year ahead.

Principal’s Message

Rev Fr Ronny Chahen

Email: info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au
Tel: 9740 0999   Fax: 9740 0900

Stage 1 Coordinator

Ms Sue Durham

Stage 2 Coordinator

Miss Charlotte Ahal

Stage 3 Coordinator

Miss Elizabeth Woodin

Primary REC Report

Mrs Mary Wells

LOTE Coordinator-Primary

Mrs Marie Sandruissi

ST CHARBEL’S COLLEGE

Rector’s Message

Rev Fr Antoine Tarabay

Principal’s Message

Rev Fr Ronny Chahen

ST CHARBEL’S COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 9 - December 2011

Issue 9

142 Highclere Avenue, Punchbowl NSW 2196

Website: www.stcharbel.nsw.edu.au

Tel: 9740 0999   Fax: 9740 0900
Deputy Principal Secondary School

Dear Parents, students and friends of St Charbel’s College,

2011 has given us lots of very rewarding experiences. We have worked on areas of professional development for teachers, greater integration of technology in teaching and learning, and concerted efforts to improve students’ academic performances whilst enhancing their social development. We have celebrated achievements and have evaluated our processes and are learning from our mistakes. We are a learning community.

Throughout the year we have counted on the support of our parents. The P&F Association has given us continuous support and been actively involved in the life of the school. We appreciate this partnership and hope it will continue and develop into the next year.

I express my sincere thank you to all the community of family and friends of St Charbel’s College. I continue to be humbled by your generosity, inspired by your dedication and encouraged by your support.

May the birth of our Saviour shine the light of hope, love and happiness upon all of you! Merry Christmas to you!

Mr Jaime Rodriguez

Deputy Principal Primary School

Another year has gone and we are all looking forward to Christmas and the Summer break.

I thank everyone for your hard work and effort throughout the year. We have been very lucky to have many occasions to celebrate during the year and it’s always a pleasure to meet up with everyone.

I pray that all members of the community have a Happy and Holy Christmas and that you all return to school safely in 2012.

Merry Christmas

Mr John Klumpp

Library News

Textbooks lists for 2011 have been sent out and spare copies are available from the office or the library. Yorke Book Orders can be collected and paid for on Tuesday, the 31st January 2012, at St Charbel’s College in the College Art Room.

Encourage your children to return the library books for the end of the year. The cost to the library of lost books each year limits the resources we are able to purchase for students.

Many thanks go to the library staff – Mrs Wakim, Miss Susie Yammmouni, Mrs Haddad and Mrs Mounira Akkar for their work during the year.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Ms Christine Golz

Counsellor’s Corner

What a rewarding experience and a pleasure it has been working here in my first year at the college. I would like to leave parents with the following ‘holiday tips’ to keep in mind over the festive season:

- Trust your child to do the right thing within the limits of your child’s age and stage of development.
- Make sure you ask for this responsibility.
- Speak to your child as you would want to be spoken to if you were helping them.
- Be clear about what you mean. Be firm and specific.
- Model positive behaviour. “Do as I say, not as I do” seldom works.
- Allow for negotiation and flexibility, which can help build your child’s social skills.
- Let your child experience the consequences of his behaviour.
- Make sure you stay in touch with your child.
- Help build your child’s self-confidence by giving them tasks to complete.
- Be short enough so you can move on again to the next thing that is so worthwhile and making a difference all together. We will continue to organise shuttle buses next year, so if you are interested, please contact the school office and leave your details. Join us in 2012!

Mr Peter Sara

Science Coordinator

Mrs Rita Angeli

HSIE Coordinator

Miss Vania Bejegian

Secondary TAS Coordinator

Mrs MaryRose Maatouk

LoTE Coordinator/Secondary Mrs Melhem Kairouz

With 2011 coming to an end I would like to wish all the St Charbel’s community a happy & safe festive season. In particular I would like to thank the Year 7 parents and students for their cooperation and efforts throughout the year. I hope that 2012 is a year of new beginnings allowing us to set greater goals for our students. I hope that your homes are full of peace & God’s blessings.

Mrs. Kathy Nicolas - Year 7 Coordinator

As we come to the end of another academic year, I would like to encourage all students to reflect on what they have learnt over 2011 and use the skills they have developed in their everyday lives. Furthermore I would like to thank all students, parents and teachers of Year 8 for their continuous support and hard work. Year 8 has been an interesting and caring group who have made my last year as a Year Coordinator an enjoyable one. I would like to wish all families a holy, safe and merry Christmas.

Miss Patricia Mousa - Year 8 Coordinator

P & F Corner

Mrs Gisele Doumou - President

The P&F Committee of 2011 would like to wish all the College families and friends a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year. The P&F Committee would like thanks all the parents who contributed to the P&F Committee fundraisers. Your generosity is valued and your support is esteemed. The Committee encourages your feedback and back in service.

We would like to thank Mr Jamie Rodriguez and Mr John Klumpp for their ongoing support and all the staff who assisted throughout the year. We thank Elise Chedid, Fadia Aoun and Ray Chahine who were available to assist with all our activities.

We extend a special thank you to Rev. Father Tarabay and Father Ronny Chahaen for their continuous support. We thank you for including the committee in all your activities, and ask that God bless you all in 2012.

The recycled uniform shop will be open on Friday 9th of December between 2-4 pm and Tuesday 13th of December from 8.30 am – 12.30 pm.

On the 30th of November 2011 the committee met to elect a new committee. I would like to congratulate the committee of 2012 and wish them success. The new committee consists of the following members: President: Zena Khalil Vice President: Carmen Gerges Secretary: Gisele Doumet Assistant Secretary: Joe Labban Treasurer: Clare El-Andari Assistant Treasurer: Rosemary Gea Gea Events Coordinator: Amira Semaan Assistant events Coordinator: Minerva Estephan Primary Liaison officer: Anna Azzi Secondary Liaison officer: Rima Jneid Advisers: Rosemary Gea Gea, Gisele Doumou and Joe Labban