The Year 6 students will be exploring Australian identity in HSIE and visual ventures in Science.

Term 3 promises to provide many exciting learning opportunities and experiences for the Stage 3 students. Year 5 are delving into learning new things. The term began with a visitor who had an important message for us. His name was Tony and he was an expert player with yoyos. Tony was a comedian and for 45 mins he kept us entertained with his yoyo and yoyo tricks. He had a friend called Ned and they went on an amazing journey. Throughout this journey, Ned came across quite a few obstacles and in the end succeeded because he never gave up, encouraged others and did his best. The children discovered what NED stood for – NEVER give up, ENCOURAGE others and DO your best. An important message for ALL of us!

This term is jam packed with fun and interesting topics to enjoy. Year 1 are studying “The Senses” and at the same time are learning new things.

A busy second half of the year ahead and it looks like being very energetic, inspiring and fulfilling.

Principal’s Message

On Sunday, 21st July 2013 we celebrated the Feast of our Patron Saint, St. Charbel. St. Charbel spent his life always in prayer and self-denial. He pronounced the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and decided to die to the world and cut off all ties in order to devote himself completely to God. May we, followers of Christ draw from the life, spirit and example that St Charbel left us. Let us be prayerful, obedient and dedicate our lives to practise good virtues as St Charbel did.

The beginning of Semester 2 has already seen many great events. In particular, we keep in mind our Year 12 students who are currently completing their trial examinations and our Year 2 students who made their First Reconciliation last week. Please keep these students in your prayers.

Our Year 10 students will also be going through a very important formative stage where students will be requested to reflect on their studies and progress. I ask that parents continue to have conversations with their children to ensure that their children are on the right track and are focused and committed to their studies. This will allow for a smoother transition into their senior years.

I thank the many parents who were able to come in to collect reports and meet with their child’s teacher. It is great to see the commitment and dedication that parents possess in working with teachers regarding their child’s progress and development. For parents who have not yet collected reports, these are available from the administration office for collection.

I would like to thank you for taking this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of safety when dropping off and picking up your children before and after school. Please be patient, mindful of other children and observe all the appropriate road rules to ensure the safety of all our children. I would like to remind parents not to park or use the school driveways as a drop off point as this creates a risk to students who are entering or leaving the school premises.

Welcome back to Term 3, Semester 2. I hope all Stage 3 students and teachers enjoyed a restful break. Thank you to all parents for their attendance on Report Day. I hope that the feedback provided you some insight into your children’s learning and academic and social progress. This term will be focused on developing Year 5 student leaders, supporting Year 6 personal development and overall a promotion of good health as the Gutsy Challenge approaches.

Term 3 promises to provide many exciting learning opportunities and experiences for the Stage 3 students. Year 5 are delving into learning about Electricity. The Year 6 students will be exploring Australian history in HSIE and visual ventures in Science. Please continue to assist the Stage 3 teachers by checking and signing your child’s diary, ensuring that your children arrive promptly to school, are dressed correctly and have the necessary stationery and equipment with them at school every day. Encourage reading at home and be actively involved in your child’s learning.

Head of School’s Message

We have started the term with amazing energy. The students have come back re-energised for the second semester of the year and teachers have organized quite an eventful term ahead to keep our young minds active. As a community I am constantly uplifted by the wonderful work of all staff. I wish to extend my gratitude and appreciation to each and every child who witnessed on a daily basis here at the College. St. Charbel’s spirit truly lives and works constantly within us.

I have a few items which I would like to bring to your attention for the coming weeks.

Year 12 HSC Trial Examinations: I wish to extend my prayers to our Year 12 students as they work through their Trial HSC Examinations. It is hard work trying to remain strong and focused on achieving great goals. Remember your absolute effort will always reward you in the long term, so make sure that you give your studies the priority needed to achieve the best possible results.

Parent Information Evenings: This week I was privileged to attend the Year 10 Parent Information Meeting informing students and parents about the next most important step in their education which is the Higher School Certificate. I absolutely enjoyed meeting the parents and getting to know the students. Further to the information received on the night, I would like to encourage students and their parents to make contact with staff if there is any further clarification needed or questions to ask. At St. Charbel’s College we are extremely blessed with excellent teachers who go out of their way to assist our community, I look forward to meeting the parents and students of Year 8 for the next Parent Information Evening.

Primary School Awards: This semester we are continuing with our Primary School Awards. Parents will receive a note to inform you if your child is receiving an award at assembly. I encourage parents to attend as the children absolutely love the wonderful attention they receive from the College community at these events.

Staff Professional Development: As you are aware we started this term with teachers partaking in a week of Professional Development activities. These undertakings assist us as a College to ensure that the Teaching and Learning programs for your children are constantly reviewed and updated. Moreover, as of next year all schools will need to begin teaching the new Australian Curriculum. To this end, the College has been working very hard to ensure all appropriate changes will take effect as of next year. During this week staff also took part in a Spirituality program as this is a most important aspect of our College. Ensuring that the Maronite Catholic spirit is constantly working through our efforts with our children and parents is an essential aspect of the work here at the College. It also contributes immensely towards strengthening the spirituality of our staff.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the wonderful work of our parents in readying the children for Term 3. We came back to a smooth start to the term with the students settled and ready to begin their studies.

ST CHARBEL’S COLLEGE

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Term 3, Week 4 August 2013
Issue 6

Welcome to Semester 2. Term 3 will be a term filled with lots of learning and lots of fun.

In Science Kindergarten will be learning about ‘Living Things and Their Needs’. The students will develop investigative skills by observing the changes and the needs of a variety of class pets.

On the 3rd August Kindergarten went on an excursion to the Golden Ridge Farm at Dural where they had an opportunity to feed baby farm animals as well as milk a cow. A delicious lunch was provided by Farmer Keegan and his team. Also, from Term 3 Kindergarten will be attending church for the Paraliturgies.

Thank you all to the parents for their attendance on Report Day. I hope the feedback provided you to the Early Stage 1 teachers was beneficial. The Kindergarten teachers are very appreciative of all the help and support parents give them.

As the term progresses please visit the classrooms - you will be amazed by their work!

Stage 1 Coordinator

It was good to see so many parents come to school on Report Day to collect their children’s report and to speak to the teachers about their progress. It’s important that your children see you taking an interest in their learning and I’m sure that when they see that, they try just that little bit harder to please you. We had enthusiastic children return to school after the Semester 1 break and they are already into the swing of learning new things.

The term began with a visitor who had an important message for us. His name was Tony and he was an expert player with yoyos. Tony was a comedian and for 45 mins he kept us entertained with his yoyo and yoyo tricks. He had a friend called Ned and they went on an amazing journey. Throughout this journey, Ned came across quite a few obstacles and in the end succeeded because he never gave up, encouraged others and did his best. The children discovered what NED stood for – NEVER give up, ENCOURAGE others and DO your best. An important message for ALL of us!

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Stage 2 Coordinator

Term 3 has commenced and so has the learning. Overview of Stage 2 Term 3 Programs:

YEAR 3: English: Text Type: Narrative Integrated with CAPA Unit ‘Drama’
Maths: Variety of sub-strands across Number, Space & Geometry, Measurement, Data, Patterns & Algebra.
CAPA: Drama
HSIE/Science & Technology: Mini Beasts
PD, H & PE: Gymnastics - SPORT: Getting Along Together- Personal Development
YEAR 4: English: Text Type: Explanations Integrated with Science Unit ‘Cycles In Our World’
Maths: Various sub-strands across Number, Space & Geometry, Measurement, Data, Patterns & Algebra.
CAPA: Drama
HSIE/Science & Technology: Cycles In Our World

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2013 Semester 1
Primary Awards Ceremony

Ms Paras Luca

Stage 1 Coordinator

Ms Sue Durham

Stage 2 Coordinator

Ms Mary Anton

Stage 3 Coordinator

Ms. Marie-Claire Hawwa

Early Stage 1 Coordinator
Dear Parents, welcome to Term 3 of Semester 2 in your College “St Charbel’s College”.

Welcome to Term 3. Year 12 are completing their Trial Exams; one more week to go. Year 12 students will come back to normal timetable lessons on Tuesday 13th August. The last term of the Secondary Schooling is full of activities, academic as well as extracurricular. On Tuesday 6th of August we had a Curriculum evening for Year 10 who are completing their School Exams. Book Week is from the 17th until the 23rd of August, the theme is “Read Across the Universe”. In celebrating Bookweek classes will be involved in a variety of activities to encourage a love of reading and enhance student literacy.

Please keep in mind the school expectations at all levels of their school life. Many of our Year 7 and Year 8 students have received Bronze Awards and some have received Gold Awards. We continue to acknowledge on a daily basis the achievements of students in this process.

Several keys are paramount in order to make this life of faith be practical.

- Live the faith you want to pass on. Make faith a top family priority
- PRay family rosary together
- Commit to sacramental life
- Fill your home with faith images
- Participate in Eucharistic Adoration
- No one ever graduates from “faith formation”
- Minister Together as a family
- Speak the language of our Maronite Catholic Faith in your family discussions.
- May the Love of God accompany you all the days of your life, and may His Grace fulfil your spirit with His eternal blessings.

Minister Together as a family

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- Support one another & build inter-family networks of faith and life support.
- Pray family rosary together
- Commit to sacramental life
- Fill your home with faith images
- Participate in Eucharistic Adoration
- No one ever graduates from “faith formation”
- Minister Together as a family
- Speak the language of our Maronite Catholic Faith in your family discussions.
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FIGHT THE COLD WAR!!!

FIGHT THE COLD WAR!! And that is exactly what we as a community have achieved. Thanks to our students, parents and teachers for their overwhelmingly generous response - 250 blankets were donated to the needy! That total is more than double last year’s! Organisations that were delighted to receive these gifts of life include Maronites On Mission, Drug Arms and Mission Beat. A huge thanks to the Year 10 cohort for displaying such community spirit. This is testimony to why we love being a part of the St Charbel’s College community.

Advance notice – Year 12 booklists will be distributed shortly so please ensure your orders are returned to the library WITHOUT MONEY by the end of term, September 16th: Yr 12 will be delivering orders selling Year 12 textbooks on Tuesday 8th of October, Term 4 in the Library Seminar room between 8.00 and 11.20 am.

Upcoming events...