



# Francis Douglas Memorial College

Catholic College in the tradition of

the De La Salle Brothers

30 July 2010

## From the Principal

We are proud of the modified format of the reports we sent out last term and welcome any suggestions as to how they might be further improved. It is important for us to keep optimising reports so that parents are best informed in assisting their sons and the teachers in the partnership that we foster.

Our senior students have been reminded of the responsibility they have this term to perform with diligent input. With the winter sports season drawing to a close, as typified by our Rugby XV's wonderful competition victory last Saturday, it is now time to focus firmly on studies. A further change in reporting this year will see our senior students receiving their next report as a results-only document as immediately as possible following the practice school examinations after the start of Term 4. The intention will be to give an earlier wake up call in the areas which something can be done about before the external examinations. We now regard such a report to be more effective than a later one when the 'horse may have already bolted' or be found to be still snoozing in its stable...

The Year 7 and 8 students' reports featured reporting on the National Standards for the first time. These have been a political football but we have chosen to approach them in a positive manner by recognising the value of better informing students and parents as to relative competence and then giving advice on methods for improvement. Provided National Standards are not misused on the wider stage to reduce education only to test-based measurements and blindly rely on those results to be infallible, they should be a worthy innovation.

Student safety is being compromised by parents parking their cars too close to our entrance on Tukapa Street at the end of the school day. We recognise the less than ideal street scape but those who park illegally, including across the pedestrian-crossing in one recent case, are putting others' lives at risk. For the few who are parking too close, parking further away is likely to add only one minute of inconvenience to your son's day.

We have 28 new computers in Room 21. Not only does this provide us with a state-of-the-art com-

puter room: it also provides for the redeployment of replaced machines, which are still more than functional, into our careers, Gateway, art, music and library spaces, which have long needed upgrades.

*St John Baptist de La Salle – Pray for us  
Live Jesus in our hearts – forever  
Martin Chamberlain*

## Health Checks for Year 12 students

The Health Nurse is available for students to visit during lunch hour every Monday.

In addition, next week we will begin health checks for all Year 12 students as part of a local pilot scheme.

Guidelines are:

- ⇒ All Year 12 students will be given a personal 15 minute consultation time slot for a general and psychosocial health assessment
- ⇒ Two nurses will work simultaneously and individually during class time only until all students are seen
- ⇒ Upon arrival for their scheduled consultation, students may opt out
- ⇒ A questionnaire confidential to the health service will be completed in consultation with each student by the nurse during the session
- ⇒ Our Board of Trustees endorses the concept but has stipulated the following because of our Special Character:
  - The nurses are authorised to discuss, test for, examine for and transport students to an off-site clinic in regard to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
  - The nurses are not permitted to give information about, write out scripts for or transport students to an off-site clinic in regard to contraceptive provision
  - The nurses may supply information regarding outside agencies where help not permitted onsite can be accessed.

Parents who do not wish their Year 12 son to be rostered for a Health Check should confidentially notify the Dean (Mrs Marris) through the school office.

*Martin Chamberlain*

## Taranaki Scholarships – attention this year's Year 13 students

Our graduate students are fortunate to have access to Taranaki Scholarships Trust Board funding. Last year eight of our students received this \$1000 community gift and one student received \$500. We congratulate: Jacob Blanks, Louis Grainger, Isaak Mischefski, Zachary Mooney, Matthew Munro, Reuben Perry, Liam Poppelwell, Callum Tanner and Thomas Hobbs. The criteria for the award of a scholarship from this year's results will be:

- Must have attended a Taranaki secondary school for 2009 and 2010
- Must be able to prove they will be attending a NZ tertiary institution as a full-time student
- Need about 95 credits in no more than 5 subjects at Level 3 or 4 (Number is set each year depending on the funds available. Cut off was 97 credits in 2009.)
- The maximum number of credits eligible in any subject is 24
- The subjects eligible are those on the NZQA 'Approved Subjects' list and a maximum of two subjects that are not on the list. This will include Religious Studies for the first time. Unit Standard credits may also be counted in the cases of some subjects
- Level 3 credits from previous years can count as long as not more than 5 subjects are involved
- If students receive other scholarships, the value of them is deducted from the \$1000 awarded (An additional six of our students from 2009 received no funding because of this rule)
- Payment is made around midyear.

Our school will notify the Board of our eligible students so that they can be supplied with an application form in late January.

**Students should not contact the Board themselves but they must respond once written to. Three of last year's students did not reply and missed out!**

*Martin Chamberlain*

### Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent / Teacher interviews will take place on Tuesday August 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 8pm in the school Gym. Students will be given sheets to make appointments with their teachers prior to this. So that a more useful discussion can take place on your son's work and progress our expectation is that students attend with their parents. Interviews are five minutes.

*Richard Marris*

## YES Programme

### Moulded Metals

A tripod fire brazier used for outdoor

entertainment has been created and built by the Young

Enterprise Tech Team. The Braziers are made out of high quality reinforcing steel rod, plate, chain and an iron wok. Price for 1 brazier is \$80.00

For more information or to order contact:

Ethan - 0272887169

Email - [mouldedmetals@gmail.com](mailto:mouldedmetals@gmail.com)



### Rakau Creations

We design and craft hardwood cheeseboards with paua inlay. The paua shell is designed

to be used as a dipping bowl. The board is finished with a polished oil finish. Our product ranges in size and shape, and are made in a variation of wood types.

We also have optional cheese knives to go with the board for those who want to pay a little extra. Our cheeseboards can be specific to the buyer by making it to their desired measurements, shape, paua and detail.

E-mail: [fdmc\\_yes@hotmail.com](mailto:fdmc_yes@hotmail.com)

Check us out on TradeMe, search Rakau-Creations



## FDMC In-Line Hockey

Pictured below are some of the FDMC In-Line Hockey team who were placed 3rd in the National Tournament held in the July holidays. Noticeably absent is Julian Beardman who had to travel to America with the New Zealand team.



## Skills Bus Tour

The vans were a place of excitement on 8<sup>th</sup> July. A group of Year 10 boys were waiting to be off on an exciting tour for the day to visit trade and industry workplaces around New Plymouth, to explore future career possibilities. As the two GAP Year students, Herman and Hendrik arrived, the 10 boys going on the trip, piled into the van.

Our first destination was the Heath and Safety Education Centre (HSE). We ended up almost being the last school to arrive, only to be followed by Waitara High. We spent about an hour there going through various workshops giving us ideas on how to be safe in trade and industry workplaces, as well as general health and safety ideas. This was a great start to the day, to prepare us for the adventures ahead of us.

After a small bit of travel, we arrived at our second stop - McKechnie Aluminium. Here we received a pair of safety goggles and earplugs, while we split into two groups to explore the factory. We were shown around all the areas in the factory and how aluminium objects are crafted, with my favourite room being the powder coating workshop. This again took another hour, and once more was a great experience to have.

Another fifteen minutes of travel brought us to our final destination before lunch, the new Waiwakaiho Bridge. Here, we were shown around the structure by the builders of it, Whittakers Civil Engineering, and shown some surveying equipment from a local surveyor. We also received an explanation of all the jobs involved in the process of constructing it, and a great description of what these people all did. After a great lunch at McDonald's we were off to our final stop of the day, the Barrett's farm. All the schools arrived here and were directed into the milking shed out of the rain. We received a talk from the President of the Federated Farmers, and also Murray Barrett himself. They told us all they possibly could about farming, agriculture and their experiences in the industry. They also gave us a quick talk about how to get into the industry as well. We were then shown outside to view a fenced-off river, and given our final talk about how protecting waterways with fences is necessary. All in all, we had a great time on tour. We learnt of some great career pathways in trade and industry, and had an amazing day viewing some places not normally accessible to the general public.

*Brock Wills - Year 10 Student*

### The Mass in Slow Motion

Bishop Peter Cullinane and team will be in attendance at the last evening to deepen our love of the Mass leading to 'full and active participation' on **4 August** at 5.30 pm - 9.00 pm.

Everyone is welcome (NB shared finger tea)  
Enquiries please phone 06 350 3823 or email [mrichards@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:mrichards@pndiocese.org.nz)

## Visit to John Paul College

Last week, on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, a team of three Francis Douglas students, Alejandro Barrientos, Tane Butler and myself accompanied by our Principal, Mr Martin Chamberlain and Leodrina, set forth to our fellow Lasallian school, John Paul College. We were chosen to represent our College for the opening of The Edmund Rice Centre, followed by an amazing Founder's day. The trip started with a long drive to Rotorua, but upon arrival we were immediately welcomed with a dinner and taken on board by various billets - most being familiar faces due to past experiences. We all gathered the next day in what seemed like a very "institutionalised" school with many new buildings and equipment. The day followed a programme that started with Mass, celebrated by the Most Reverend Bishop Denis Brown. The Mass marked the official opening of JPC's new gym, known as the "Edmund Rice Centre". There were a diverse number of representatives from across the region including the Josephite Sisters, Christian Brothers and the De La Salle Brothers. Continuing on, there was a fluoro dance party, Zumba classes and even a talent show where the school teachers featured.

Overall it turned out to be a very eventful and memorable Founder's Day with Year 13 students coordinating the day's activities. I greatly appreciate the hospitality of John Paul College and would like to see more interaction between our schools.

*Jan Coetzee*

## FDMC Cricket

Even though it's cold and wet outside, the 2010/2011 Cricket season is rapidly approaching! Planning is well underway for the upcoming season and cricketers in the College have some exciting things to look forward to. A group of 13 cricketers ranging from Year 9 - 12 will play in the annual Christian Brothers' Cricket Tournament held in Brisbane in January. Training for this group will start in the next fortnight. Also our Milo Cup Year 7/8 Cricket team have won the Taranaki division of the national tournament and this season look forward to playing teams from further afield. Peter Ingram has been selected for the Black Caps again and at the moment is playing in a Tri-Series tournament between NZ, India and Sri Lanka. We are very proud to have Peter teaching at the school.

**TIMBERCO** are major sponsors of FDMC cricket again this season and we are extremely grateful for their contribution to College sport! Please support them for all your building needs. If any parents would like to coach, manage or play in FDMC cricket teams, please ring Mark Wales at the college.

*Mark Wales - 1st XI Cricket Coach*

## Photos

Class & summer sports photos are on display in the college foyer. Order forms are available at the office.



## Gateway News

Our first Gateway student has been successful in gaining an engineering apprenticeship. Congratulations to Lloyd Keegan who did his engineering work experience component at Croucher & Crowder and was offered the apprenticeship by them. All the best Lloyd.



Two other boys are also working towards achieving units in their Engineering Gateway packages - Hayden Murray who does his work experience component at Taranaki Engineering, and Casey Reihana Dombroski who is at Murray Engineering (owned by two ex FDMC students - Joshua and Hamish Murray).

*Lauren O'Reilly - Gateway Co-Ordinator*

## Auckland University

Courses & Careers Day Saturday 28 August 2010.

For more information go to

[www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz)

Engineering Futures Evening at the Quality Hotel Plymouth International Monday 23 August 6.30pm.

RSVP by 19 August to

[m.denninger@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:m.denninger@auckland.ac.nz)

## Scholarships

Check with the Careers department for information on all sorts of scholarships that are available.

### Taranaki Careers Expo at the TSB Stadium

All Yr 10, 11, 12, students will be going to Taranaki Careers Expo on Monday 23rd August, departing from the College by bus at the beginning of Period 4 and returning from the TSB stadium, bus departs at 1.10 to be back at school for P5. All students will need to bring their lunch. All Yr 10, 11, 12 students must travel by bus. Yr 13 students are invited to attend but attendance is not compulsory. They may arrange their own transport. If they prefer to travel by bus they need to see Ms Land as buses are ordered for a set number of students.

## Calendar Term 3 August

Monday 2	Science Fair (3 days) PTA Meeting 7.30pm in boardroom
Tuesday 3	ICAS English competition
Wednesday 4	The Mass in Slow Motion 5.30pm Yr 13 Economics trip to Wellington
Thursday 5	House Mass S1-S4 10.20 in chapel TSS Junior Basketball Squash Nationals in Christchurch WITT promotion - lunchtime
Friday 6	ACC Safety Day
Sunday 8	TSS Ten Pin Bowling
Monday 9	Life Education Bus - Yrs 7 & 8
<b>Tuesday 10</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30 pm - 8.00 pm in the gymnasium</b>
Thursday 12	TSS Junior A Basketball
Sunday 15	TSS 8 Ball @ Stratford Club
Tues 17	Taratahi Ag Training 10.25am
Wednesday 18	Year 12 Geo field trip to Auckland
Thurs 19	House Mass S5-S8 10.20 in chapel
Sun 22	Careers Expo at TSB Stadium
Mon 23	Careers Expo at TSB Stadium
Tues 24	Year 12 Retreat
Wed 25	TSS Indoor Bowls Army Leadership Day Canterbury and Lincoln Uni course planning 10.25am
Thurs 26	Waikato & Auckland Uni course planning 10.25am

## NZQA Entries

NZQA fees have been added to Yr 11 - 13 students' accounts and these are due by 1 August. Financial assistance is available in the following circumstances:

- 1 The parent/guardian is receiving a Work and Income or Study Link benefit.
- 2 The joint family income would entitle the family to receive a Community Services Card.
- 3 There is more than one child undertaking these qualifications in the same year to a total of more than \$200. Note that this is irrespective of income or school(s) involved.

Financial assistance must be applied for. Further information and forms for this can be downloaded from

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/acrp/secondary/forms.html> or can be obtained from the school assessment manager (Mr Marris).

**These need to be completed and returned to Mr Marris at school by 1 August.**

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