From The Principal

Reflection

Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves ‘Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace’. John 2:13-25

When I imagine Jesus having a ‘meltdown’ in the temple I see the eyes of a young man not so much glinting with anger but filled with enormous pain, disturbed and frustrated because of the greed of the sellers who exploited the poor (in the name of religion) and mocked and disrespected the house of God. Jesus is displeased and disappointed when people are exploited, used, abused, in any way, be it physically, emotionally and/or spiritually. Jesus gets despondent when people who know better do nothing.

What upsets Jesus (and ought to upset us as well) are systems, authority and places, that obstruct the immediate, open, inclusive, and simple access to God through prayer. In the name of religion, liturgy and worship, we can often complicate prayer. It is the Spirit who prays in us, all we have to do is to keep the space open, so we can log on, tune in and ‘be present’ to the presence of our God, who desires conscious contact with us. Do we create open spaces for each other to pray?

God asks us, in Jesus, to share his anger when in the name of religion, people’s dignity is diminished, love is abused, the poor are exploited or when God is neglected. We cannot close our eyes in prayer in order to overlook injustice. Are we selling more of Jesus than sharing Jesus?

For us, Lent is a time for cleansing our hearts, minds and body, driving out of our lives whatever clutters our discipleship, blocks our ears to the Word of God, obstructs or complicates our prayer and distracts us from trading justly and lovingly with the gifts God has given us. To act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God.

What is happening at Hennessy

Student / Parent / Teacher Conferences

The comments I have received so far have indicated that the trial of Student/Parent/Teacher conferences was a success.

- I wish to thank the students for their preparation for the conferences.
- I wish to thank the parents for engaging in the process with an open mind (and being patient)
- I wish to thank the staff for again putting in the quality time to ensure that student learning is the focus at Hennessy.

The conferences are an attempt to focus students on the importance of their learning. It is hoped that students will gain from the process and that teachers will also gain from the stories being told to them.

College Open Day 1st May

The College Open Day is scheduled for the 1st May and I would encourage you to invite your friends and neighbours to this day. Hennessy is an outstanding school, with great students and teachers. Feel free to tell you friends about our story.

Invitation

On Thursday 22 March – I am inviting parents to tour our classrooms, to see the outstanding teaching and learning that is happening at Hennessy.

There will be two tours
9.00am to 10.00am and 11.00am to 12noon
Parents will need to book a session. To book ring Fiona on 6382 1486
Booking close on Monday 19 March

**Triathlon Championships**
The NSW All Schools Triathlon Championships was conducted last Tuesday in Sydney. Hennessy was represented by Anna Bewley.

Anna did exceptionally well placing third in the event. Anna is now first reserve for the Australian All Schools Championships.

**Leadership Opportunities**
The range of leadership opportunities seem to be endless at Hennessy, with the College seeking every available forum for our students to have input into their world.
Last week we had Year 11 students visiting Canberra, the Year 10s assisting with Peer Support, our Year 9 and 10 PASS students assisting with the Archdiocesan swimming carnival.

I am proud when I get the strongest endorsement from the organisers of these events, that our students have represented Hennessy with distinction.

**Retreats**
Year 7 will be engaged in their Retreat this Friday at Murringo, this is a special event that the students will enjoy and get to know a little more about their special talents.
The Year 10 will be a special event this year with Hennessy students coming together with fellow students from Sacred Heart Cootamundra, St Anne’s Temora, McAuley Tumut and Mt Carmel Yass. This begins their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Rio in 2013.

**McKinsey Report**
The McKinsey Report into schooling identified that the best schools did three things:
1. Identified and attracted the best teachers;
2. Continually developed these teachers; and
3. Focused on Teaching and Learning

I hope you can see at Hennessy that we are addressing each of these areas with diligence. It is our aim to provide the best education for all members of our community.

Dr Peter Webster
Principal

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**Dates for Your Diary:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>Year 7 Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Immunisations Yr 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Yr 10 Retreat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yr12 Mid Year Exams begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd April</td>
<td>Yr 12 Excursion</td>
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**Welfare**

**Youth Advisory Group (YAG)**
Thank you to those students who applied to be part of the YAG on Cyber safety. All 19 applicants were accepted to take part and a letter is being sent to their listed address regarding details and arrangements in the next few days. Please advise Mr Simms if you do not receive a letter.

**Uniform for Term 2**
Reminder to check you winter uniform as next term we return in winter uniform. All uniform requirements can be purchased locally.

**Year 12 Exams**
Good luck to Year 12 as they begin their half yearly exams at the end of next week (23rd March)

Gerard Simms
Assistant Principal Administration and Welfare

**Assessments Due Week 9**

| Year 7 – Maths, Geography |
| Year 8 – Technology, RE  |
| Year 9 – Geography, Science |
| Year 10 – PDHPE theory, Comm, RE |
| Year 11 – Business Studies, Biology, Chem               |
| Year 12 – Mid-Year Exams                                  |

**Sport:**

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Archdiocesan Soccer Trials</td>
<td>16th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>CCC Swimming Homebush</td>
<td>30th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Western Region Rugby League Trials U15/Opens</td>
<td>4th April</td>
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4th Sunday Lent

With the Easter ceremonies approaching, we are as usual looking for more people to become involved with the liturgies. This is a great public opportunity for our schools and all parishioners. Contact the Office. We need good readers, singers and musicians, people to handout palms and candles, to carry flame torches, to serve at the liturgies, and most of all, to attend the Easter ceremonies.

This is our schedule:
7pm Thursday 15 March - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (Confession before Easter)
6pm & 9.30 am 31March/1April – Palm (Passion) Sunday. 7.30am Wombat
7.30pm Monday 2 April - Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 7.30pm Thursday 5 April – Mass of the Lord's Supper. Our parish pilgrims will be having their feet washed as part of this ceremony and as a blessing for their upcoming pilgrimage starting 11 April. This Mass concludes with Adoration in the Chapel until 1000pm.
1100 Friday (Good Friday) 6 April – Stations of the Cross next to the church. Wet weather - church.
3pm Good Friday – Solemn Passion of the Lord, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. 7pm Saturday 7 April – Easter Vigil. Note the 7pm start, not 6pm like the usual Saturday Mass. 9.30am Sunday 8 April – Easter Sunday

Keep this notice on the fridge or somewhere ha

Fr Richard

Science News:

“Professor Frink Science Quiz 2012” - Each week there will be a science question put into the newsletter. The first person who gets to the science department and tells Mr Boshier the correct answer will win a freddo! The person who answers the most correctly through the year will win the coveted 2012 Professor Frink trophy. Don’t run!

Week 8 - In chemistry, what is the common name for the hydrocarbons with the general formula $C_nH_{2n+2}$, the simplest form of which is the methane (CH$_4$) gas?

Rugby Union:

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from anyone whom would be interested in coaching the 7/8, 9/10 or Opens rugby sides. Please contact the office on 63821486.

Hennessy Debutante Ball:

Hennessy Debutante Ball is being held on Saturday 12th May. Tickets are $50.00 p/p and will be available at Deb practice from this week

Billets Needed:

Billets are urgently required for the Youth Ministry Team whom will be assisting with our Year 10 Retreat on Friday 23rd March. Accommodation is required for Thursday night 22nd March 2012. We will have approximately 4 females and 3 males aged between 18 & 25 who need a bed for the night. If you are able to assist please contact Cheryl Hamill – 63821486.

Cancer Council:

Interested in becoming active and effective in the fight against cancer?

Connective – Monday March 26, 2012
Millard Centre, Young
5:30 – 7:30pm

At Connective you will hear from local advocates that have helped to affect positive and lasting change, both for the local community and NSW at large. Contact Fran Horne on 42230203 or email: franh@hswcc.org.au

YOUNG GOLF CLUB PRESENTS
A JUNIOR GOLF WORKSHOP
From
Tuesday 17th April to Friday 20th April
The golf classes are open to boys and girls between 9 and 17 years of age.

FEATURES:
Qualified Coaching
Skill building and testing
Play on most days
Games
Prizes
Professional:
Phil Cartwright (PGA)
Young G.C. Resident Professional
Total Cost $55.00 incl. GST
FOR MORE INFORMATION
PHONE - 6382 1543