Farewell to the Class of 2011

On Tuesday 25th October all staff and students gathered in the stadium as the Year 12 class of 2011 were presented at their final assembly. A large number of parents and family members attended the celebration and it would have to be said that it was a most joyous occasion.

The students were all excited and filled with enthusiasm as they walked down the centre aisle to receive their congratulations from our Principal, Mr. Bernard Neal and the Year 12 Coordinator, Ms Carly Bilke.

The assembly was led by Mr. Paul Carson and our new student leaders for 2012 in Mary Paino and Nathan Whinray. Each student received a gift from the school as a moment of their time at Galen Catholic College and the gift box became symbolic throughout the prayer as we reminded the students that they too are a gift and as they go out into the world they should share their gifts and talents with others.

An excerpt from Bernard Neal’s address:

"After 13 years of formal schooling, we come to the day of farewell for the class of 2010. These young people are before us today with only their final exams between them and possibly the biggest milestone in their lives so far; the completion of life at school...

...Today, we celebrate and give thanks for these wonderful students and for the contributions they have made to Galen in their years here. Today, no doubt, they will remember the funny times, the serious times, the difficult times and the times of great celebration. We give thanks and praise for all this and we pray for these young men and women as they embark on a new and exciting stage of their lives...

...As they leave us today, we wish them well on their live journeys, which, in the short term, encompass the forthcoming exams – and we wish them all the best for those exams. In the longer term, we wish them well in creating a meaningful and fulfilling adult life. We trust that the Christian values they have learned at Galen serve them well. Congratulations, to the class of 2011!"
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Farewell Year 12s of 2011

The Galen Catholic College family celebrated in great fashion on Tuesday of last week to mark the final day of classes for this year’s Year 12 students. In a ceremony of high energy, poignant reflection and excited looking-forward, the entire student body and a good number of parents and invited guests gathered in our transformed stadium to congratulate this group of young people on completing thirteen years of primary and secondary schooling.

School Co-Captains, Candace O’Keefe and Henry Dayman, led a reflection on memorable events that this cohort faced in their six years at Galen. Misdemeanours and gaffs from years past were re-visited and re-lived to the great enjoyment of the Year 12 students. There was a commendable atmosphere of celebration, humour, respect and joie-de-vivre as the ceremony progressed. The Year 12s entered the stadium to an individual welcome and introduction and then departed at the end of the ceremony in dual conga lines that extended throughout both sides and the middle aisle of the audience.

The MCs for this final assembly were the newly appointed Galen Co-Captains for 2012, Mary Paino and Nathan Whinray. Congratulations to Mary and Nathan on their appointments and on how well they accomplished their first public duties in their new roles.

Santa Teresa Mission Experience

Our group of committed students have returned from their Santa Teresa mission experience. Led by Mr Paul Walker and Ms Kate Howard, the group spent just over a week in the desert country of central Australia working and living with the local indigenous community.

Experiences of this kind provide outstanding opportunities for our young people to see the work of the Church in action in their own country. They also have the chance to see that how things are in their own backyards is not the same as it is for all Australians.

No doubt, over the coming weeks and months we will hear more details from this enthusiastic group as they share their experiences with us. Already, at least one of the participants has already declared that Santa Teresa is where she wants to spend her Gap year!

Headstart and Year 10/11 exams

As parents are already aware, Galen will be implementing a two week Headstart program for all 2012 Senior School students for the last week in November and first week in December. This program is compulsory for all 2012 VCE, VET and VCAL students.

Prior to the Headstart program, of course, there will be exams for the current Year 10 and Year 11 students starting on Monday 21 November. This means that these students have only two and a half weeks more of classes at this year level, so the pressure will be on them to complete their assignments and prepare for their exams before launching into their 2012 studies in the Headstart program.

Regards
Bernard Neal
Principal
Issue 17, Wednesday 2nd November, 2011

Reflections, page 3

**Concert Bands to perform at Bands Showcase 11**

David Ashfield – Director of Music

All three concert bands have been preparing for a wonderful evening of music on Monday November 7th.

The evening will start at 7.30pm at St. Patrick’s Hall in Wangaratta and will take the form of cabaret seating. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own food and non-alcoholic drinks.

The night will begin with a performance from the Year 7 Band and the improvement this group has made during the year will surprise many in the audience as the students only began learning their instrument in term 1 this year.

The Year 8 Band will perform next with a varied program of pieces that display their confidence and maturity.

The Senior Band who recently performed in the Great Hall of Parliament house in Canberra will demonstrate how far they have developed their skills since last year.

A guest performance from the Wangaratta City Concert Band will also be a highlight on the evening. Several awards will be presented during the night recognising high achievement in each band and the grand finale will be a performance from all three bands performing together.

The friends of music support group will provide tea and coffee throughout the night and will be selling tickets to the raffle featuring a wonderful hamper as first prize.

Tickets are available at the door - $10 for an Adult, $5 for a child and $20 for immediate family members.

Please note – This is an alcohol free event.

**The Arts were Alive at Galen**

Julie Nolan, Head of Arts

On Tuesday the 18th of October, Galen visual and performing arts students along with the technology students wowed the attending audience at the Opening of the Arts and Technology Exhibition.

The weather was perfect for a night of visual delights and fine performances. The large crowd was very appreciative of the wonderful talent on display.

As the crowd entered the Phillipson St entrance, there were wonderful artistic exhibits from year 7 to 10 lined along the footpath. Inside the auditorium the VCE Arts, Food, Media, Technology (Wood) and Visual Communications students were responsible for displaying both their finished products and folios.

During the Opening Ceremony, three VCE drama students presented their Solo piece. Elaine Brown-Graham with all her service and dedication to the school was an excellent choice for the Guest Speaker. A surprise visit from our very own Julia Gillard (Jesse Sanderson) ensured that the opening ended on a very entertaining note.

Beautiful food and punch added greatly to the ambience of the night. Thank-you to all who attended and to the staff for their continued professionalism and support of their students.

**Arts Acquisition Award**

Each year, Galen recognizes the work of year 12 Studio Art students by selecting on piece of artwork to ‘acquire’. The artwork selected is displayed to inspire younger students to produce good quality work, and to recognise a student who has achieved highly.

Congratulations to Katey Carton who has won the 2011 Galen Catholic College Arts Acquisition Award for a series of photographs titled ‘Chev Rise’ (left).

**Youth Expo**

(Billeting available)

Friday 25 - Sunday 27 November 2011

St Patrick’s Parish, Albury

Youth expo: weekend retreat for youth between 12 and 30.

Be inspired through talks, fellowship, liturgy and prayer.

Experience the POWER of Christ’s Real Presence!

Don’t miss out! Register online: www.youthexpo.site90.com

Or contact Miriam on 02 6021 0100, 0438 484 000, or email mkirley@csoww.catholic.edu.au.

Facebook - Wagga Wagga Youth & Young Adults.

‘DO NOT BE AFRAID’

(Blessed JP II)
Year 10 Exams

Parents and students of Year 10 are requested to read the following information in respect to Year 10 exams.

As has been school policy in recent years there will be a formal Year 10 exam in each of the core subjects, Religious Education, English, Maths, Humanities and Science. Please read and note the exam timetable attached to this article.

Some elective subjects will also run exams in normal timetabled double lessons in the week preceding the core subject exams. The exception to this is Italian which will run an exam in the same timetable as the core subjects.

Over the next 2-3 weeks students will be briefed by their subject teachers as to what will be required for each exam. It is important that in the remaining time before exams are held that students spend study time revising content for each of the subjects in which they will be examined.

Any queries or concerns in respect to Year 10 exams are to be directed to Keith Willett at school.

Santa Teresa Gap Year Experience - Mark Gilbert, 2010 Galen Graduate

That if every Non Indigenous person, just simply, within the everyday power that you have, in your work place. With the regular authority that you have, with the everyday resources that you have, just simply turn your mind occasionally to what you could do with that for the benefit of Indigenous Australians and do that just once a year and that would be a movement of 20 odd million people which I’m sure over a decade would result in a situation or circumstance that I can’t possibly imagine for that small 500,000 fellow Australians.’ (c) Professor Michael McDaniel.

As the first Galen student to have spent a gap year in Ltyentye Apurte, N.T, I would love to share my experience with the staff, students and affiliates of Galen College. My journey towards becoming a part of the Ltyentye Apurte community began at Galen, during 2008. My passion for Aboriginal reconciliation stemmed from the opportunities Galen offered and my interest in politics, especially in regards to the handling of the intervention. Combined with my sense of justice and a desire to create positive change in the world, I felt compelled to question why things are the way they are. It is how we choose to express our faith and integrity that determines the influence we have on each other and the global community.

For me, spending 6 months in a remote Indigenous community was one way I could pursue my interest in aboriginal culture, as well as getting to travel to various part of the N.T. Having been involved in a number of volunteer projects at school, such as Soup Van and regular youth masses, I felt as though I found the perfect way to spend my GAP Year, which would allow me to call upon the social skills I had learned through extra-curricular experiences.

Living in a remote Indigenous community is not without its challenges. It is never easy living in another culture, especially one so different from your own. The hardest thing I have found is accepting the fact that one person cannot change and remove the difficulties that entangle today’s current indigenous Australians. I chose the quote at the beginning of this article because it is a summation of how we can work together to bring unity and resolution to black and white Australia. We must work together and earn from each other, as well as past mistakes, in order to create a better future for our country. Change will not happen overnight. Change will not happen next year, or the year after. It is a long process of healing that takes generations. I have begun to understand this and am finding that patience is essential for healing to take place.

Following on from the previous paragraph, it has been difficult for me to witness the potential of youth here not being put to practise, or at least the potential that I see in them. The students I tutor are incredibly intelligent, contrary to what many believe and encouraging them to pursue their own aspirations hasn’t been easy due to cultural factors. Indigenous Australians don’t see the value of education in the same way as westernised Australians do.

[We’re still here now, and our old people have the accumulation of 40,000 years of knowledge. We must be valued for [the] contributions we make to this society on our own terms and on our own points of view because we’re not exotic and romantic or remnants of people. We’re here and now and we’re just human beings with a different culture and history.]

Participant, HREOC Indigenous Youth Forum, August 1999]

Having lived here since July 2011, my values and beliefs have changed dramatically. The people of this community have taught me more than I thought they could, and I am forever grateful for the impact they have had on my own outlook on life. I discovered that success lies not in having the most well-paid job or being the most intellectual student. Success lies in your ability to learn and grow, whilst fulfilling your dreams and helping others realise their dreams.

If I could offer advice to current VCE students of Galen College, I would encourage you to keep your options open and pursue what you enjoy. Your life does end once you have finished year 12. Your ATAR score may be an indication of your efforts in school but it is not a measure of how successful you are and what you can achieve after school; you have your whole life ahead of you.

And for those who return from such immersion trips as Santa Teresa: don’t let the experience become just another fun holiday. Listen to the communities you become involved in and learn from them; they want to share their stories with you.
GALEN CATHOLIC COLLEGE MUSIC FACULTY PRESENTS

BANDS SHOWCASE 11

Monday 7th November
7.30pm St. Patricks Hall – Ford Street

Featuring performances from:
SENIOR CONCERT BAND
YEAR 8 CONCERT BAND
YEAR 7 CONCERT BAND

Special Guest Appearance from WANGARATTA CITY CONCERT BAND

FINALE featuring a performance from ALL THE GALEN SCHOOL BANDS COMBINED

Several awards throughout the night will be presented
Senior Concert band shield – best band member of senior band
Year 8 best band member award
Year 7 best band member award
Directors award – student who has achieved outstanding results in other musical groups

Raffle drawn by Friends of Music Support Group

$20 – Immediate Family $10 – Adult $5 – Student/child
(Tickets available at the door – Cabaret Seating, BYO Food & Non Alcoholic Drinks)

Please note – THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT
TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE

WORDS FROM WELLBEING

THERESE RODWAY

Revivify Leadership Camp
3 day activity-based camp incorporating personal growth sessions, helpful skills and strategies for dealing with life’s tough stuff with inspirational local young camp leaders. WHEN: Friday 16th December - Sunday 18th December. WHERE: Valley Homestead. WHO: 14yr olds (Boys & Girls) at risk of disengaging from mainstream schools have experienced challenging life experiences want to socially connect with other young people want to participate in this project and the camp. AIM: Local young leaders share their journeys and experiences to empower, support and encourage the young people. To share the life skills that they have learnt and found helpful in handling the tough stuff life can throw at us. If you are interested please let Therese Rodway in wellbeing know ASAP.

Beating the Flames

Parenting Adolescents Workshops
‘Staying sane in the insane world of parenting teens.’
When: Wednesday 9th November, 7-8.30pm.
Where: Ovens and King Community Health Service (Downstairs community room). Focusing on understanding brain development, understanding emotional changes, communicating with your uncommunicative teen, teens and technology, what NOT to worry about. Tea, coffee and light supper provided. Presented by the staff of Counselling and Support Services. Please contact Intake on 03 5723 2000 for bookings.

For any other wellbeing concerns speak with your child’s homeroom teacher or contact a member of wellbeing on 5721 6322.

Celebrating Languages Festival

Jarrod Fife, 7/2

On Thursday two Galen groups went to Benalla to the ‘Celebrating Languages Festival’. The year 10 Italian group used Commedia dell’Arte masks to perform a skit from the series ‘Muzzy’. The Indonesian group used puppets to retell an Indonesian Children’s story ‘The Talkative Tortoise’.

There were many acts, African, French, Japanese, Indonesian and Italian. We enjoyed watching all of these groups but particularly enjoyed the group that was learning English in Shepparton. They sang the Australian Anthem, My Island Home, I am Australian and finished with a song about crossing the water and starting over again. After each English chorus, students from the group went up and sang the chorus in their own language. There were students from Syria, Sri Lanka, India, Africa, China, Pakistan and perhaps a few others. This was a very touching performance.

The day finished with the Asanti African Dance Group. They were from Ghana in West Africa. They danced and played music and we all joined in! It was awesome!

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The day finished with the Asanti African Dance Group. They were from Ghana in West Africa. They danced and played music and we all joined in! It was awesome!
Financial Assistance for parents/guardians with children commencing Prep or Year 7 in 2012.

Education Maintenance Allowance: The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to assist low-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card or Pension Card you may be eligible to receive the EMA.

The allowance is split evenly between the parent and the school, and is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August. The parent portion is often used for uniforms and excursions, while the school portion may be used for expenses such as textbooks, stationary and special programs.

You can elect to have the parent portion of the EMA paid into your nominated bank account or receive a cheque. In 2012, the total annual amount is $235 for primary students and $470 for secondary students – these amounts are split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

School Start Bonus: The School Start Bonus is provided by the Victorian Government to assist low-income families with the costs associated with their child starting Prep or Year 7 at a government or non-government school. If you hold a valid Health Care Card or Pension Card, and you have a child starting Prep or Year 7, you may be eligible to receive this one-off $300 payment.

The School Start Bonus will be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) into your nominated bank account in late January 2012. The School Start Bonus is separate from, and additional to, the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

How to Apply: Contact the school office to complete an application form for the EMA/School Start Bonus.

Closing Date: Parents/guardians with prep or year 7 children commencing in 2012 need to lodge an EMA/School Start Bonus form before 15 December, 2011. For late enrolments, applications will be accepted up until 29 February 2012. For more information about the School Start Bonus and the EMA, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/financialassistance

Education Tax Refund: The Education Tax Refund is a Commonwealth Government tax refund to help with the cost of educating primary and secondary school children. Eligible parents, carers, legal guardians and independent students can be reimbursed for half the cost of it, such as computers, educational software, textbooks and stationary.

For more information visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au.

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**CAREERS NEWS**

From Rob Walker

### CSU $20,000 Competition

**CSU $20,000 Competition**


### FOCUS ON SUMMER SCHOOLS

It’s not too early to begin planning for career events during your school holidays. The holidays are the perfect time to explore career areas you are interested in, learn about the higher education system and to get motivated about your 2011 subjects or future pathways.

**Discover Architecture at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS):** An intensive 2-week program will be run for year 11 students who are interested in exploring architecture at UTS between Monday 9th January - Friday 20th January 2012. The program will be structured around a diverse range of learning experiences that encompass design studio and computer lab based design exercises, seminars, lectures and field trips. Only 40 students can participate, so book now! For applications and more information, go to [www.utsarchitecture.net/discoverarchitecture](http://www.utsarchitecture.net/discoverarchitecture/).

**Science Experience:** Are you in year 9 this year and have a passion for science? Then you should consider attending the three day science program at RMIT in Melbourne. There will be plenty of bangs, flashes, smashes and fun and you will be able to go behind the scenes and sample the exhilarating world of science. You will perform experiments, participate in field excursions, listen to university lectures and experience the excitement of life on campus. The program runs between Wednesday 18 – Friday 20 January 2012. For more information and to register, go to [www.rmit.edu.au/scienceexperience](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scienceexperience).

**Student Union VCE Summer School**

The Student Union at the University of Melbourne are running their annual VCE Summer School between 9 – 20 January. This event provides an introduction to the VCE and assists students to develop practical and academic skills. You will be able to participate in VCE workshops and tutorials, and you will get to know other students from across Victoria. Rural and regional students will be able to access accommodation at the University. For details about the program, how to apply and about bursaries for financially disadvantaged students, please go to [www.union.unimelb.edu.au/summerschool/student-application](http://www.union.unimelb.edu.au/summerschool/student-application).

### VOCATIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

**Interested in Architecture and Design?** The University of Melbourne are running their annual Architecture and Design Summer School between 12 – 15 December. You will be introduced to a range of key design skills including architectural and spatial drawing, urban design, design software, model making and landscape architecture. Cost is $450. Rural students are invited to stay at Trinity College, which is $76 per night (includes breakfast and dinner). To register, go to [www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/summer](http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/summer)

Galen Catholic College @ www.galen.vic.edu.au
Science & Engineering Challenge

Brian Carr, Head of Science

After competing in the Regional Challenge and the Victorian Super Challenge the Galen year 9 & 10 team was invited to the National Grand Challenge which was held in Wangaratta. School teams from all over Australia converged on Wangaratta for 3 days of competition. Galen competed against eight other schools in the Bronze competition which was held on Tuesday.

The Grand Challenge was a little bit more stressful than the previous Challenges as the students did not know which challenge they would be doing until it was pulled out of a hat on the Tuesday morning. Our students performed admirably on the day. The final activity of the day was the testing of the balsa wood bridges which was telecast live on the Web. Our bridge, built by Ben Seager, James Pond, Ben Harvey and Michael Kalkandis was the winning bridge on the day.

Although we did not win the competition overall our students enjoyed the experience and were a credit to the College. Thanks to Mr Paul Benedetti for his help with all three challenges.

Right: Austin Fendylk, Maggie Snowdon, Montana Lindsay, Elena Sewll-Dolphin, and Monique Semmens with their ‘airship’.

Hiskens scores a rare Hat-trick! By Isaac Willett, 10/7

On Tuesday the 11th of October the Galen Year 9 and 10 cricket team played in the annual Hume Cricket Competition. The first game was meant to be played at Wareena Park, but after the pitch had not yet been uncovered the game was unable to start. The team made its way over to the South Wang soccer grounds who had a spare hard wicket that could be used.

The first opponent was Wodonga High School. Galen were first to bat and the Galen boys was able to capitalise on some inaccurate bowling, brutalising 16 runs off the first over. Isaac Willett top scored with 26 as Galen made 108 with a good knock from Beechworth’s Dylan Westra who ended up with 19.

Once in the field, Galen’s bowling spearhead Drew Hiskins was able to claim a hat-trick and send the crowd into wild jubilation. Wodonga were bowled out for 48 and the GCC cricket squad progressed into the final against Wang High School at the ‘home of cricket’... Bindall Avenue.

The ground was in mint condition for what was set to be a tight game. Galen elected to bat first and crawled to 84 before being bowled out. The High School were also wobbly with their batting with Galen’s bowlers really slowing down the oppositions run rate. Dylan Landgren was Galen’s most successful bowler with 4/15. Pat Eefting who had never really wicket-kept before did a terrific job behind the wickets. Unfortunately for Galen, Wang High passed the set run target thereby bringing down the curtain on Galen’s season. The Day was great fun and all the boys had a great time.

Thanks to Mr Carr for supervising and umpiring on the day.

Thirty Galen Shooters make a lot of noise at Sporting Clays!

Keith Willett, Middle School Director

The most successful individual result was the second placing of Bailey Hourigan in the Individual New Shooters. To achieve this result Bailey shot 16/20 in the event and then followed up with 3/5 in the pressure cooker atmosphere of the shoot-off. With about 100 spectators all adding to the excitement and tension this was a fantastic effort by Bailey.

For the second year running Galen also won the New Shooters Teams Event. Bailey Hourigan, Jaden Scobie, Codi Rasmussen, Bryan Green and Braden Ellis were the members of this team and each received a trophy in recognition of their accurate marksmanship.

The 2011 Benalla Sporting Clays was a great day. All shooters shot somewhere near their potential and the behaviour and range etiquette displayed by all students was exemplary.

Thanks are extended to Darren Stewart, Rod Green, Angelo Grassi and for their support and attendance on the day. Special thanks are also extended to Mrs. Carla Murphy for her contributions with encouragement, supervision and for taking some great photos of the Galen team.

Reflections, page 7
The best way to contact Galen staff members direct is by email. All staff have email addresses which follow the formula: firstname.surname@galen.vic.edu.au

For example, to contact Geoff Welch you would address an email to: geoff.welch@galen.vic.edu.au

School Board
- Monsignor John White: Parish Priest
- Tony Lane: President
- Bernard Neal: Principal
- Geoff Welch: Deputy Principal - Staff & Students
- Max Fletcher: CEO Sandhurst Representative
- Cameron Butler: Parent and Community seat holder
- John Byrne: Parent
- Suellen Loki: Parent
- Angie Semmens: Parent
- Mark Williams: Parent
- Darren Hovey: Staff Representative
- Mick Grogan: Staff Representative
- Elizabeth Holligan: Staff Representative
- John Pasztor: Staff Representative

Parents Association Executive
- Allison King: President
- Graeme Spence: Treasurer
- Trish Impink: Secretary

Who’s Who at Galen...

Leadership Team
- Bernard Neal: Principal
- Geoff Welch: Deputy Principal—Staff & Students
- Darren Hovey: Deputy Principal – Teaching & Learning
- Paul Maher: Deputy Principal – Catholic Identity
- Dom Giannone: Business Manager
- Bern Albertson: Professional Development Co-ordinator
- Paul Carson: Senior School Director
- Keith Willott: Middle School Director
- Pat Arcuri: Junior School Director
- Marlene Kittel: Staff member

Night of the Australian Notables

Maggie Snowdon, 9/7

On Monday 24th of October in the Max Fletcher Auditorium and the Senior Library was the night everybody had been waiting for. After weeks of research and planning the event, the very rare occasion and unforgettable experience had arrived. The Night of the Notables was all about dressing up and acting as a person who is or who was a famous Australian Notable. The night was very successful with many parents commenting on the confidence and knowledgeable presentations by the students.