



# the vine

NEWSLETTER OF PENRITH ANGLICAN COLLEGE  
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25<sup>th</sup> June, 2009

No 10, 2009

## Introduction

At the Senior School Headmaster's Assembly last Friday I spoke about a Frenchman named Jean Dominique Bauby. In 1995 this man suffered a severe stroke which left him completely paralysed except for being able to move his left eyelid. He was a victim of an extremely rare condition called locked-in syndrome.

Under such adverse conditions Jean Dominique developed a system of blinking his eyelid to communicate with those around him. Using this method he has written a best selling novel!

I asked those at the assembly to consider what it is that makes some people take up the challenges that are before them to overcome adversity whilst others never really seem to recover.

All of us at some time need to consider these four questions:-

- can you accept the situation in which you find yourself?
- can you focus on what you can do?
- are you prepared for hard work?
- can you persist?

Against all odds Jean Dominique Bauby made his mark on the world.

The important point is not what mark he made but how he did it.

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your soul."

Matthew 11:29

## Important dates for your diary

### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

P.1 Chapel

7:00 – 9:00pm Youth Group at the College

### B Block

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June

9:30am Christ Church @ the College  
Recital Room

6:00pm Night Church @ the College  
Recital Room

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June

SASC Concert – Arndell Anglican College  
12:30pm – 3:00pm

### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June

College Senior Athletics Carnival, Harold Corr Oval, Herbert Street Cambridge Park

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July

College Junior Athletics Carnival, Harold Corr Oval, Herbert Street Cambridge Park

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

12:30pm Years 10- & 12 Careers Market  
University of Western Sydney

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

P.1 Chapel

Term 2 ends for staff and students

7:00 – 9:00pm Youth Group at the College

### B Block

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

9:30am Christ Church @ the College  
Recital Room

6:00pm Night Church @ the College  
Recital Room

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Tabitha Service Trip to Tibooburra

### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Staff Day

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Staff Day

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Staff Day

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July

9:30am Christ Church @ the College  
Recital Room

6:00pm Night Church @ the College  
Recital Room

Important dates for your diary cont.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

Term 3 commences for all students K – 12  
Year 6 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

Year 6 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

Year 5 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields  
Year 6 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July**

Year 5 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

Year 5 excursion to Canberra & Snowfields

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The College Production – Sherlock Holmes

Congratulations to the cast and crew of this year's school production Sherlock Holmes. For all of us who had the pleasure of seeing any of the three performances it was a wonderful experience.

Thank you to every performer and back stage crew member and a special thanks to the staff involved for your hours and hours of preparation required for such a successful show.

I look forward with great anticipation to what is in store in 2010.

Junior School Public Speaking Finals Evening

Thirty two students from Years 1 to 6 competed in the Junior School Public Speaking Finals on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**.

At the same time twenty five Years 4 to 6 students were involved in dramatic performances at this same event.

The night was nothing short of extraordinary because of the incredible gifts and talents of so many of our Junior School students that were showcased this evening.

A special thank you goes to our Junior School Masters of Ceremony Matthew Huckstadt, Laura Hinrichsen, Karanveet Dhillon and Mikaylee Dawson as well as to Mrs K Halcrow and Miss A McMurray for their work preparing students for this event.

Public Speaking Finalists were:-

STAGE 1

**Year 1**

Alessio Felli  
Anna Bradbury  
Samantha  
Swallow  
Sophie Reeves  
Caitlin Schofield

**Year 2**

Joshua Clift  
Jake Dawson  
Samuel Bell  
Anika Leydon  
Nadia Parris

STAGE 2

**Year 3**

Abbey  
McPherson  
Gus Grinham  
Angus  
McDonald  
Gemma  
Cacciola  
Charlotte Arkle  
Emi Foster

**Year 4**

Eliza-Rose  
Gordon  
Jordan  
Andreatta  
Richard Stewart  
Thomas Loos  
Alexandra  
McDonald

STAGE 3

**Year 5**

Ellyse Pye  
Noah Rayner  
Ashleigh  
Vassallo  
Caitlin Brown  
Charmian  
Stewart  
Mikayla Bell

**Year 6**

Isaac Dunn  
Matthew  
Robson  
Eleanor Soane  
James  
Behringer

Junior School Drama Group members were:

Matthew Huckstadt (Yr.6), Ashleigh Vassallo (Yr.6), Alexandra Nematalla (Yr.5), Thomas Loos (Yr.4), Karanveet Dhillon (Yr.4), Zachary Comfort (Yr.4), Hanna Oloffs (Yr.6), Matthew Graydon (Yr.5), Nina Carrasco (Yr.5), Scully Beaton (Yr.4), Noah Rayner (Yr.6), Olivia Collins (Yr.4), Luke Busby (Yr.5), Christian Catto (Yr.4), Eliza-Rose Gordon (Yr.4), Mikaylee Dawson (Yr.4), Brittany Reeves (Yr.4), Katrina Hadden (Yr.5), Ellyse Pye (Yr.5), Laura Hinrichsen (Yr.6), Caitlin Palomba (Yr.4), Brayden Letta (Yr.6), John Nolan (Yr.5), Brandon Smith (Yr.5).

da Vinci Decathlon

The da Vinci Decathlon is an academic interschool gala day run in the spirit of an Olympic Decathlon with events of an academic nature. It is held annually at Knox College Wahroonga attracting over 45 schools from NSW.

PAC fielded teams in all year groups and participated in activities such as Art and Poetry, English, Code Breaking, Forensic Sleuths, Mathematics, Creative Producers, Engineering Challenge and General Knowledge, Games of Strategy and Science.

All teams represented PAC admirably. A special mention to the Year 7 team which was placed 17<sup>th</sup> overall and the Year 9 team which was placed 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Year 9 team also deserves mention for achieving first place in the Code Breaking discipline.

The Year 7 team achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Code Breaking.

Congratulations to all students who were chosen for this prestigious event. They are to be commended for their efforts and great attitude throughout the day.

The following students attended the da Vinci Decathlon.

#### Year 7

Rebecca Heins, Monique Andreatta, Cassandra Galea, Abbey Duke, Jack Seeds, Aidan Payer, Joshua Karp, Liam Thurston

#### Year 8

Melissa Quinn, Laura Davison, Jessica Huckstadt, Loren Shaw, Andrew Leader, Nathan Wheeler, Peter Morian, David Belcher

#### Year 9

Madison Behringer, Georgia Ashworth, Georgia Kennedy, Rebecca Tweed, Michael Payer, Joshua Wildig, Trent Nelson Cranfield, Matthias Comfort

#### Year 10

Amina Jansz, Elizabeth Ogunsiji, Alice McKeown, Skye Burton, Jonathan Dunn, Connor Finemore, Matthew Quinn, Isaac Gledhill

*Mrs K Toland*

*Senior Gifted and Talented Coordinator*

Board of Studies 2008 Annual Report  
Each year the College is required to submit to the Board of Studies an annual report of our activities here at the College.

The report for 2008 is now with the Board and is available for parents either on our College website or in hard copy at the College Reception.

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

In **June 2009** the Universities Admission Index (UAI) was changed to the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

I have attached to the Vine a leaflet explaining these changes in detail.

If any parent would like to discuss the matter further please contact Mr Laurence, the Director of Studies.

Youth Leadership Summit

On **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2009** Stephanie Watts, Matthew Kelly (Yr.10 Captains), Brooke Palmer, Trent Nelson Cranfield (Yr.9 Captains) and Mrs Walker attended the Youth Leadership Summit at the Joan Sutherland Centre, Penrith. The Mayor, Councillor Jim Aitken, opened the Summit and he shared with us about how we should lead others

in our school, the community and that "our greatest power is the power to choose."

Cr Guillaume and Cr Ardill told us about their "journey to a place of leadership", from there, group sessions were held and topics such as: transport, safety, youth services and sporting facilities were discussed. A common concern with all groups was the safety of people around Westfield Plaza on Thursday nights. It was a great opportunity for our thoughts to be heard and documented.

The final session was a discussion with a member of "The Frank team." We were encouraged to be "at the wheel" or in control of our lives, thinking about our choices, actions and reactions. We realised that our parents are still a large part of our lives but that we need to start making wise choices and become more independent.

The catering for this event was spectacular with delicious cakes, home-made sausage rolls and fruit platters for morning tea and chicken and salad rolls for lunch. Congratulations to the chefs for this event, it was a smash!

We would like to thank Penrith City Council, ICE (Information Cultural Exchange), the Frank Team and Mrs Jones for organising this amazing and educational day. Thank you all!

A DVD will be sent to the school for people to see what went on throughout the day.

Written by: *Stephanie Watts, Brooke Palmer, Matthew Kelly & Trent Nelson Cranfield.*

Civic Reception for Prefects

College Captains Ruth Kohlenberg and Joshua Chapple and their families were recently invited to a civic reception at Penrith City Council's Civic Centre.

The reception was held to publicly recognise the achievements of School Captains in the Penrith area. They listened to an address by Jim Aitken OAM, Mayor of Penrith City, exchanged ideas with each other and enjoyed a delicious supper!

It was wonderful to see the calibre of our future leaders and take the opportunity to publicly encourage them in their role.

Perez de Cuellar Shield

Congratulations to six of our Year 12 students for being selected as finalists in the Perez Cuellar Shield 2009 organised by the NSW United Nations Youth Association! Ruth Kohlenberg, Ben Brooker, Mikaela Coleman, Siobhan Getley,

Dara Ogunsiji and Lisa Leicester will be debating against 11 other schools at NSW Parliament House in August.

Well done and good luck!

*Mrs Jones*

*Prefects' Coordinator*

### CIS Cross Country

Congratulations to the 21 Penrith Anglican College students who represented PAC and NASSA at the CIS Cross Country Carnival, held at Eastern Creek. Every single PAC competitor gave their absolute best. It is an amazing achievement to reach this level, so well done.

	CIS Placing
1. Angus Harold (Yr 3)	22nd
2. Jack McAllister (Yr 3)	35th
3. Zach Vassallo (Yr 2)	49th
4. Harrison Nematalla (Yr 3)	82nd
5. Suzanne Robinson (Yr 3)	58th
6. Richard Stewart (Yr 4)	24th
7. Thomas Heeps (Yr 5)	48th
8. Hugh Kermond (Yr 4)	64th
9. Jess Freeman (Yr 4)	55th
10. Justin Keightley (Yr 5)	67th
11. Renee Hanson (Yr 4)	70th
12. Ainslie Harvey (Yr 5)	80th
13. Jayden Irwin (Yr 5)	55th
14. Sean Payer (Yr 5)	78th
15. Matthew Graydon (Yr 5)	64th
16. Melanie Kirk (Yr 5)	18th
17. Mikayla Bell (Yr 6)	59th
18. Jack Kuipers (Yr 5)	39th
19. Ben Hartsuyker (Yr 6)	69th
20. Jaime Lakke-Benson (Yr 6)	58th
21. Ashleigh Vassallo (Yr 6)	65th

*Mr J Rodgers*

*Junior School Sports coordinator*

### Meet our New Mayor and Penrith City Councillor

Brittany Reeves (Yr.4) and Stephanie Portelli (Yr.5) have been selected as Mayor and Councillor for Penrith City Council's Family Fun Day celebrations later this year (see article attached to the Vine).

Congratulations to our two aspiring politicians.

### Swine Flu Information Sheet

NSW Health have instigated new strategies for dealing with the Human Swine Flu pandemic.

It is important that all College families read the Information Sheet regarding the latest strategies. This sheet has been attached to the Vine.

### Lolly Fundraiser

Choc/Snakes money is due back THIS TERM – not long to go – and we haven't received half the money back yet!!!

Please bring your money to the office ASAP.

Chocs - \$57.60

Snakes \$60

Thank you

*Mrs Drover*

## Praise and Prayer Points

### Praise:

- give thanks for a wonderful College production and the involvement of so many students
- give thanks for the many Junior School students involved in the recent College Public Speaking Competition
- give thanks for the mufti day support for Diabetes Australia
- give thanks for our College Annual Dinner
- give thanks for Jesus.

### Prayer:

- pray for safety for all families during the upcoming holidays
- pray for our weekly Chapel services and their long term impact on students
- pray for a very positive tender for our new College theatre
- pray for those in our community experiencing great difficulties at this time.

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The College's second term mufti day on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June** raised \$1500 for Diabetes Australia.

Jesus said we are to love our neighbours as ourselves. Such generosity by this community is a strong reflection of that love.

"No one has ever seen God; but if  
we love one another, God lives in  
us and His love is made complete  
in us."

I John 4:12

Barry Roots,  
HEADMASTER