



31st August 2007,

Year 10 Parents Meeting

A successful meeting was held with the parents of Year 10 students during this past week. Discussed were the courses and the expectations for Year 11 students. Parents were apprised by the teachers of Year 11 of the expectations for their children during the evening. Years 11 and 12 are a special time of growth for children, as well as their education. It is a "voluntary" part of their education, where they will also be treated as young adults, and given special responsibilities: this is in preparation for tertiary education. It was pleasing to see the aspirations of these young adults were aimed high: Father Anton's establishment of the school was aimed at improving the outcomes for all children attending the school and this has been borne out over the years.

New Computer System Unveiled

A new computer system was unveiled at the school, by Mr. Michael Ghougassian this past week. As parents would be aware, our school was the first school to implement a full computer laboratory in NSW. Since then, every three to five years, we have had a major upgrade of the computer system. The latest upgrade will lead to enhanced capabilities and speed of computing for the children and staff using the computer system. It entails the progressive rolling out of equipment over the next 3-6 months: the first computer has already been installed in the office. The new computer system has a much quicker start-up time and should be relatively maintenance-free with little administration input required. The new computer system will be transferred to the new computer laboratory once the senior (permanent) high school is built.

June Dally Watkins

During term four the senior children in high school (in Years 9, 10, 11) shall have the opportunity of attending, the June Dally Watkins School of Department at the school. Parents may remember that we have had this special presentation previously two years ago. All children should have their parents' permission to attend. Parents are also invited to make special arrangements to attend: please speak to our Deputy Principal as the event is advertised.

National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA)

The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) will be invited to present a Workshop during term Four for the senior students in high school (Years 9, 10, 11). This was a very successful event when last held two years ago. Children learn how to act; co-operate in a disciplined production; how movies and acting are taught (the background to the dramatic arts); moviemaking. Students will again need their parents permission to attend.

Hantes / Gala

Preparations the Hantes for this year are well under way and students had been busy every week. There are new items to this year's Hantes and we look forward to this major celebration. It will be held on Sunday, 23rd September at Mount St. Benedict College, 449C Pennant Hills Road, corner of Beecroft Road.

Art and Photography Exhibition

The Hamaskaine-sponsored bi-annual Art and Photography Exhibition shall be held toward the end of October. It will be held in the Global Gallery in Paddington. All students who turn 13 this year are eligible to enter their artworks (a nominal fee of \$10 entry per item is charged) for the "Youth" prize. This is a major exhibition and the whole community is encouraged to attend: parents should make an effort to attend to support their children and community.