



MAZENOD COLLEGE

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IMPORTANT DATES

YR 12 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Monday 18 March

YR 7 FATHERS & FRIENDS BREAKFAST
Friday 22 March (7:45am-8:45am)

SCHOOL CLOSURES (EASTER) 3:15pm
Wednesday 27 March

EASTER MONDAY Public Holiday
Monday 1 April (Boarders Return)

SCHOOL REOPENS
Tuesday 2 April

P & F MEETING
Tuesday 9 April – Boardroom 7:30pm

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Thursday 11 April

SCHOOL CLOSURES
Thursday 18 April 3:00pm

OPEN DAY
Thursday 18 April 3:30-6:00pm

BOARDERS RETURN
Monday 6 May

SCHOOL REOPENS
Tuesday 7 May

NAPLAN TESTING
Tues/Wed/Thurs 14-16 May

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS
Friday 17 May

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
Tuesday 21 May

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Thursday 30 May

WA DAY (Public Holiday)
Boarders return
Monday 3 June



NEWSLETTER NO. 6

15th March 2013

Dear Parents and Students

The Gospels remind us that the greatest of all trees (mustard tree) begins as the smallest of seeds.

Is it not also a fact that the vast expanses of the Nile or Ganges begin their lives as a tiny trickle of water flowing silently through rock pools?

This week, in Mazenod, I feel the momentum rise ever so slowly and soon I can see a torrent of comments cascading over cliffs, thundering through valleys, sweeping all in their path, returning true fertility to our new and sad looking Newsletter and, once again, restoring creativity and order out of chaos.

This week I include just one of the copious letters of support I received from parents regarding the original format of our Newsletter.

It speaks for itself and so I include with names withdrawn but otherwise unchanged:

“Hi Lyn,

Thought I’d drop a few lines about my thoughts on the newsletter. (Repetition intentional)

I enjoy the school newsletter on email. Great, I can reread sections and even forward to family to enjoy.

One hot topic is that much has been said about Father Brian’s fonts and possibly rambles.

But guess what – I enjoy the whole lot, fonts, type, colours and rambles. I find the humour a lovely part of the day and where Father Brian puts his additions obviously means to make a point.

So to all the complainers – life must be boring to have all in orderly monotone pigeon holes.

Life is enjoyed by finding the interesting and differences in all things great and small. Everything written was and is Father Brian – warts and all. (only an expression). It had personality.

Bring back the old fonts etc. Enjoy Father Brian’s quirks and humour, treasure them for the smile you get (or smirk for others) and know they have made you feel something, surely that is better than feeling nothing.

I do also enjoy the high regard Father Brian has for Lyn which I believe is well deserved and it is lovely to see it expressed. Many newsletters lack emotions or a writer’s warmth or feeling. Very true that behind every great man is a greater woman. Well done Lyn.

Treasure the newsletter as it was, I feel like it’s the end of the rainbow now rather the start or middle.

Warmest regards to all,”

This is but one of several such messages I received last week. I am hoping that the end of the State elections last weekend has but an end to the bureaucracy of Government and once again opened all of us to the colour, shape, surprise and dimensions of beauty.

Needless to say, a trickle by itself will simply be absorbed by the earth and never become the unstoppable waterfall or cascading torrent.

I know I will need a lot more such messages before ‘famine, sword, fire and pestilence’ returns to the fire from whence they came.

There may be dark days ahead but my faith in the Gospel and the tiny mustard seed is very real, and so, with lots more help from right-minded, creative and interesting, parents I feel sure that beauty and interest can still win out and Mazenod may survive as the saviour of artistic expression in the Hills.

Wouldn’t it be a shame if our Art Exhibition and Sale in August continued to be a highlight of creativity in the Hills while our Newsletter faded into a dull, boring, monotone shadow of its former self.

So.... I await the present trickle of support to quickly break its banks and carry all Mazenod conservatism in its wake.

Sorry, Lyn, but it is now my turn, “to cry, Havoc! And let slip the dogs of war.”

Purely as an aside, did you know that British colonial troops were very well disciplined?

...2/.

When they overran a town or city in one of their Colonies and the natives surrendered to their might and chipper Oxford accents, there would descend on the town or city an uneasy silence.
This would remain until the officer in charge cried, "Havoc!" at the top of his voice.

This single word gave the exhausted troops permission to loot, pillage, rape, burn, kill and get drunk until sunrise.
I suppose it is akin to, "bounce-down" in modern AFL games!!

Now, don't let it be said that my Newsletters are all nonsense and that the reader learns nothing at all!
Who knows? This gem of knowledge could win you a million dollars on, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire". When that happens remember Mazenod and we will name a new development after you!

Last week, I gave some space to the sad fact that Mums who give birth to boy babies live 8.5 months shorter than those who give birth to girl babies.

This extremely sad news also provoked a response from our Community.
If anyone expected a response along the lines of, "seal the perimeters and nuke the lot of them." they would have been hugely disappointed!

The responses I received, and there were several, would cause a stone to shed tears of sheer happiness and humility. Mind you, I will admit some of the same messages caused me to wonder if we had the same boy in mind!

Nonetheless, I include one, unedited – apart from names – e-mail which accurately sums up the rest of them:

"Hello Father,

Just a quick thought about the said article we read the other day regarding us poor mums birthing sons for them to only shorten our lives.

I have 4 sons, my eldest being a boarder at Mazenod, my youngest being 2 years and possibly a fifth to be born in four months time, so this article was very much of interest to me! I had a friend stop me in our local store only to shake her head and say, "oh poor you, I read this article....."

My response to her and also to anyone else would be rather straightforward.

Even if my boys have happened to shorten my life it is only because of the great moments I have shared with them from the moment they entered my life by enriching it fully and all the bumps, bruises, triumphs and tantrums along the way just keep us buzzing!!

My sons enrich my life so fully that what are a few months less??

Have a lovely weekend

Yours sincerely

I can say categorically that I did not receive a single message which did not more than welcome sons no matter what the cost.
Am I surprised? No!

I love what I do in Mazenod and I trust and respect each individual boy as he is – an angel with shining white wings; a beatific smile, an ever gentle voice, always immaculately dressed, groomed and ready to work and NEVER, ever stubborn, disorganised, in foul mood.

Perhaps my tendency towards Irish exaggeration is stretched a bit here but the truth remains the same.

Our parents of boys would not swap them – even to live longer! What a genuine compliment.

As Principal of Mazenod I would echo this. Our students (boys) are a wonderful group of cheerful, helpful and honest young men and every parent should be extremely proud of them.

I very sincerely hope our boys read this and thank their parents for the incredible love parents have invested in them over so many years.

Teenage and 'testosterone challenged boys' should bear in mind that DESPITE your worst efforts your parents still love you and would be willing to die early for you!

This must be Sainthood!

Appreciate it and please do say thanks.

This Newsletter seems to be a Newsletter of letters from parents.

Before Mazenod decided to introduce a 1:1 Laptop Scheme we thought long and hard about it. We did not wish to become part of a 'fad' but we did wish that every one of our students would have the opportunity "to strive for excellence" in all that he did in Mazenod. This is one of our Key Values.

As a staff we spent a full three years looking, learning and experimenting before we decided on what we felt was best for our boys.

Even as I speak our IT Strategy Team and IT Implementation Team meet weekly to ensure that we are totally 'on-top-of' IT developments and are always working to further enhance learning rather than provide an expensive toy or an expensive pencil.

The letter we received this week from a Boarding parent simply sums up the work we have done in Mazenod to properly use IT while also protecting your children from the very real dangers which are, "out there".

We see it as a vindication of the work we have – and are doing – to provide our boys with the technology they need to enhance their learning while also ensuring (in so far as we can) a safe, secure and stable IT environment.
This letter comes from a boarding parent:

“I wanted to write to you to tell you about the wonderful praise for Mazenod I have just heard. Recently in we had the privilege of having Robyn Rishani present her “Your Children Online” Seminar. Robyn spoke very highly of Mazenod. She told us how the boys are all so well behaved and polite.
She also said that Mazenod has one of the best IT systems for keeping the students safe online out of all the schools she has visited. Well done to everyone involved.
Thank you for giving all the boys at Mazenod a fantastic education and having their well-being front and foremost.
As a boarding parent it is paramount for me to know that is well looked-after emotionally and academically but also that cyber-access is also a priority.”

Finally, if you are feeling depressed and alone and you are sure that nobody cares whether you are alive or dead....try missing a couple of car repayments or mortgage repayments and discover just how popular you really are!
Until next week.....

Fr. Brian Maher OMI (Rector)

**Mazenod College is now 47 years old. The College we have today owes its origins to the vision, dedication and extremely hard work of those Oblates who laboured before us.
No thanks is enough for the sacrifices made to build Mazenod into what it is today.**

On Saturday March 16th (tomorrow) FR. JOHN CRANLEY celebrates his Anniversary as 60 years an Oblate of Mary Immaculate (OMI).

John was Rector of Mazenod for six years and he laboured in the vineyard when things were building and difficult for Mazenod.

Words are never enough but on behalf of the entire Mazenod Community I can only thank Fr. John for all he has done for us in Mazenod WA and say to him:

“We would not be who we are today without you.”

Thanks for 60 Years as an Oblate from all in the Mazenod College Community.

**Brian Maher OMI.
(Rector)**

YEAR 12 INFORMATION EVENING for PARENTS and STUDENTS Monday 18th March at 7:00pm – PAC



All Year 12 parents and students are invited and encouraged to attend an important part of the process of preparing students for achieving success at the Year 12 level. The Year 12 parent and student information evening on **Monday 18th March** is to provide you and your son with information relevant to maximizing his chances of obtaining his preferred post schooling option.



Year 12 teachers have been asked to be present, providing the opportunity for informal interviews and up to date academic results. The main presentation will commence at **7.00pm** in the **Performing Arts Centre** followed by ample opportunity to discuss your son's progress with his teachers.



There will also be a University, TAFE and careers display with representatives available to answer questions. Tea and coffee will be provided.
Anna Scanlan - Head of Year 12

YEAR 7 NEWS

**FATHERS' AND FRIENDS' BREAKFAST
FRIDAY 22nd MARCH 2013 - 7:45am – 8:45am**

PARKING available on the COLLEGE OVAL – please do not park in the main car park or “set-down” area.



The aim of the breakfast is to give fathers or significant males an opportunity to become even more involved in their son's education.

While it is preferable for each boy's father to attend, we appreciate that there are circumstances that may prevent this from happening. If a student's father is unable to attend then we would suggest that a grandfather, uncle, family friend or significantly older brother attend.

The boys were given a letter on Tuesday to take home outlining the arrangements for the day, so please ask to see it.
I look forward to meeting everyone.

Mr Tom Floyd - Head of Year 7

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

Each year the CEO conducts a survey of all WA Catholic schools, including staff, students and their families. The information provided by this helps guide the College in decision making and in reflecting on the work we do.

Sixty families will be receiving a package in the mail from today with the details on how to complete this survey. To those families that receive the package, thank you for your support of the College in completing the survey as a sample of our Mazenod family community.

Bruce Derby – Deputy Principal

SCUBA DIVING



For several years now Mazenod College has offered scuba diving courses and overseas dive trips as extra-curricular activities. This programme has given students the opportunity to become involved in the co-curricular life of the College and to learn to dive in a safe and enjoyable setting.

Last week 15 students took part in the Open Water Scuba Diving Course, which was run with the assistance of Perth Scuba. The theory and pool work took place over several afternoons and then on Saturday the boys completed two dives at a dive site in Rockingham. The final day on Sunday saw the boys head over to Rottnest Island to complete their final two dives. The dives at Rottnest were an exciting and interesting experience for the students, with the array of fish and marine life and the ability to swim under overhangs and swim-throughs.

The next course we will be running will be the PADI Advanced Open Water and the Deep Diver Specialty. Both of these courses will run early next term and are available to all students who have completed their Open Water Certification. The advanced course teaches students to become better divers, and focus on navigation, deep diving, night diving and boat diving. There will be a meeting next week regarding these courses which will be advertised in the morning notices.

A big thank you must go out to **Mr Liam Mallon** and **Ms Susanne Biffin** for their help with running the course last week and a big congratulations to Liam and all the students who completed their dive course.

Daniel Rogerson

COMPUTER TALK REVISITED

GOOGLE TIPS

You know a company's onto a winner when its brand name becomes a verb: "Google it!"

Nevertheless, anyone who has ever searched the Internet through Google will share the frustration of having to filter out all the rubbish results in order to find good information. What many don't realise is that there are ways of narrowing down your search to find just reputable information.

In the segment, we will show you a neat trick to only get results from certain types of sites. The key to the trick is to use **site:** in your search. If I am researching climate change, I might search in the following ways:

- To only get results from educational sites (the addresses for this include **.edu**)
 - *Site:edu climate change*
- To only get government sources:
 - *Site:gov climate change* (for American government information)
 - *Site:gov.au climate change* (for Australian government information)
- To only get Icelandic information (the country code for Iceland in **.is**)
 - *Site:is climate change*
- To only get information from a specific site, such as *The Australian* newspaper:
 - *Site:theaustralian.com.au climate change*

This simple strategy can really make a difference to the amount of time spent searching for information and can help to find exactly the information that you need.

For prior entries on Computer Talk, go to: <http://maz-ale-01.mazenod.wa.edu.au/groups/parentlaptopinformation/blog/>

Bruce Derby – Deputy Principal

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

NOTE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS: Please note that if any uniform is ordered via email or over the phone and is requested to be left at Student Services, it should be picked up within the week, or it will be returned to the Uniform Shop and must be collected from there on a Thursday between 8am and 4pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

Maechell & Robyn uniform.shop@mazenod.wa.edu.au

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT NEWS

2013 PERFORMING ARTS TOUR SHOWCASE – FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 7pm – 9pm

Imagine enjoying a platter of succulent fresh fruit, sipping a latte and relaxing in a bustling square in an ancient European City. Buskers are performing amazing tunes on their varied instruments, street performers dazzle you with their skills and humour and the occasional artist is carefully rendering in full colour this cultural experience on a small canvas. On **Friday 22nd March** and without destroying this perfect image, the ancient European city will in fact be the College gymnasium and the performers our very own Music, Drama and Visual Arts students.



The **2013 Performing Arts Tour Show Case** is a variation on our **Senior Variety Night** and includes performance items not only from our senior performing arts students but will provide an opportunity for our touring students to present, for us all, a cultural extravaganza which they themselves will be experiencing in April this year. This will be an evening of cultural exchange **not to be missed**.

Tickets can be purchased at the College administration office for \$10 adults, \$5 children and \$25 a family. Please form tables of **ten** or combine with other families to share this wonderful experience. Whilst tea and coffee will be provided, the evening is designed to be quite informal so we invite you all to bring along your own platters, drinks and supper. To assist with Tour fundraising and not unlike any world city, we will have our own street vendors in the form of a silent auction of donated items that can be bid upon/bartered upon during the night.

Please attend and enjoy the evening or contact the Performing Arts Office on **9291 1535** if you have any queries.

Mr Nick Allen – Head of Visual & Performing Arts

MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

To enter the **Math's Problem of the Week**, please place your entry in the **GOLD BOX** in the student foyer with your **NAME, FORM and HOUSE** affiliation. All correct entries earn House points.



PROBLEM:

In 1936 Grandpa was twice as old as Glen was in 1999. In 1944 Grandpa was three times as old as Glen was in 1999.

How old was Grandpa in 1999?

Mr Phil Keddie

COLLEGE SPORTS NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Nik Sequeira (Year 12) and **Jesse Sequeira** (Year 11) who have been selected in the **State Schoolboys Baseball Team** to represent WA. The national tournament takes place in Geelong and is from the 5th to the 11th of May. They are the first Mazened baseballers to be selected in the State Schoolboys Team since 2009. Well done and good luck to the Sequeira boys!

Mr Tim Grabski – Head of Sport

School Tennis Championships

The Junior School Tennis Championships were held last Saturday. The top two players from each of the 4 round robin were promoted through to the quarter finals. There was some great tennis and as usual great sportsmanship shown throughout the afternoon.

The final was played between **Wade Southcott** (Year 9) and **Tom Oliver** (Year 7) with Tom finally winning a close and exciting encounter. Congratulations must go to Tom and Wade for putting on a great spectacle. Thanks to all players and the wonderful band of spectators who came along in support.



We will be forming a couple of teams to participate in the interschool **Herbert Edwards Cup** competition to be played later in the term. Training will be held on Thursday afternoons leading up to the event for those players wishing to be selected to represent the College at this tournament.

Mr Peter Douthie – Deputy Principal

11TH OLD BOYS versus STUDENTS' ANNUAL SPORTS DAY



On behalf of the Mazenod Old Boys Association I would like to extend an invitation to the College Community for the above event.

Where: Mazenod College

When: April 7th Sunday

All a welcome to have a laugh at the "has beens" of the Mazenod sporting world. Food will be available for purchase as will bar facilities. There will be licensed areas so you will not be allowed to bring alcohol into the grounds. More details to follow.

Jeremy Logan – Old Boys Liaison Coordinator



MAZZA FOOTY TIPPING 2013 – DON'T DELAY - JOIN TODAY!!

With the 2013 AFL football season opening game only a week away, the 2013 Mazza Footy Tipping competition needs you!!

You can logon onto the tipping website to "join" the competition at the following link:

<http://www.footytipping.net.au/mazenod/>

To join please click on the red "join" icon in the top left hand corner on the footy tipping webpage and enter the joining password of **mazza13**

Please then follow the prompts and enter your details as requested. The process is very straight-forward but if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me for assistance.

We've had a great response to our special offer mentioned in last week's Newsletter with a **\$10.00 canteen voucher** on offer to the **first twenty current Mazenod students who join our tipping competition online.**

There are still a few vouchers available to claim - so be quick to avoid disappointment!!

As in previous seasons the entry fee is \$50.00 for the whole season, with payment due by the start of round three. Payment can be lodged at the front office or via direct payment to the following account:

Account Name: Mazenod College

BSB: 066 112

Account Number: 00900369

Please also include your name or alias in the reference line.

I look forward to having you amongst the winners this season. Go Pies!!

Janine Fisher - Mazza Footy Tipping Coordinator fishnets@westnet.com.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

WORLD YOUTH DAY FINAL BOARDING CALL

Don't miss out on the pilgrimage of a lifetime and a chance to meet the New Pope in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil July 2013. This pilgrimage is for 18-35y.o. and is an opportunity to experience the Catholic faith in South America, serve in mission work and deepen your faith life throughout the WYD week. The bookings for the Rio WYD will **CLOSE on 31st March** - you can register online at www.wydtours.com . For more information contact **CYM Perth 9422 7912** or email admin@cym.com.au

Thank you and God bless,

Anita Parker

Director of Catholic Youth Ministry - Archdiocese of Perth

CANTEEN ROSTER: 18th – 22nd March 2013

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Leonie Cecich Lisa Haigh Sharon Hindle Anita Burn	Collette Copeland Susan Joiner	Yr 11/12 Drama Excur Simone Spanjers Cherie Alvaro Sue McHugh	Shea Price Gaye Lunn	Yr 7 Breakfast Freddie Povey Maxine Britten Janine Fisher Deb Alderson

INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose - Australia's leading parenting educator



Do less, not more, for your kids

With school-aged children we can find ourselves making lunches, getting kids out of bed and cleaning out schoolbags rather than giving these basic tasks of living over to them.

The basic task of parenting, whether you have a two year old or a twenty-two year old, is to work yourself out of a job at the first possible chance.

REDUNDANCY should be the aim of the game! We never become redundant in a relationship sense – the emotional connection between our children and us is never severed.

In a practical, physical way we need to make children less, rather than more, reliant on us.

Developing independence is really about stepping back to allow children in. Doing less rather than more!

We develop greater independence in our kids one job at a time.

Recently I gave my 22 year old son a job that I had been doing for a while. He lives in North America and I had taken on the job of being the connector between him and one of his sisters, who lives in the UK. It had been my job to pass messages on between the two via telephone and emails. I would update each of them about how the other sibling was going.

Frustrated being the go-between I made sure he had contact details and let him know that it was his job, not my job, to connect with his sister.

We easily take on children's responsibilities

It is easy as parents to take on the jobs and responsibilities that really should belong to our children. With toddlers it is so easy to dress, feed and clean up after them rather than give these jobs over to them.

With school-aged children we can find ourselves making lunches, getting kids out of bed and cleaning out schoolbags rather than giving these basic tasks of living over to them.

And as I discovered, it is easy to still do the basics of life for adult-aged children.

TIP NO. 1 for developing independence:

Be clear about who owns jobs or tasks in your family and never take on a child's job, or part of a task, unless there is extenuating circumstances such as illness.

A mother I met recently is very clear on who does what in her home. It is her job to wash the clothes of her early teenage children but it

is their job to place them in the washing basket. She doesn't check bedrooms as it is not her job to place kids' clothes in the washing basket.

Okay, I can hear your thought processes. Sounds good but what happens if kids don't give a toss and they don't mind being dirty.

Good point. In this case, this mum has a son who is, to say the least, fairly slack in the area of hygiene. But she didn't become overly fussed about that.

She certainly didn't get fussed when he played a game of football in the wet, muddy jumper that lay in his sports bag for a week. And she happily showed him how to work the washing machine when he wanted his favourite shirt (that he forgot to put in the washing basket) to be washed for a special night out.

TIP NO. 2 for developing independence:

Never be more worried about a child's job than they are, otherwise it becomes your job, not theirs.

This mum remained very clear that it was her job to wash the clothes but not to place them in the washing basket. She would remind kids about washing night, but never nag them to put clothes in the basket. She knows that as soon as she keeps reminding them, it becomes HER job rather than her children's job to put the washing in the clothes basket.

The school holidays provides a good opportunity to reflect on the whole notion of job-sharing. It's also a good time for kids to increase their job load when they are not burdened with schoolwork and extra-curricular activities.

Here's my challenge for you: Think of a job that you regularly do for your child that he or she can do for him or herself. Then step back and enable your child to do that for themselves on a full-time basis. Do less not more for your kids.

If you do that, then you can congratulate yourself as you have moved one step more toward REDUNDANCY.

Published by Michael Grose

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For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au



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