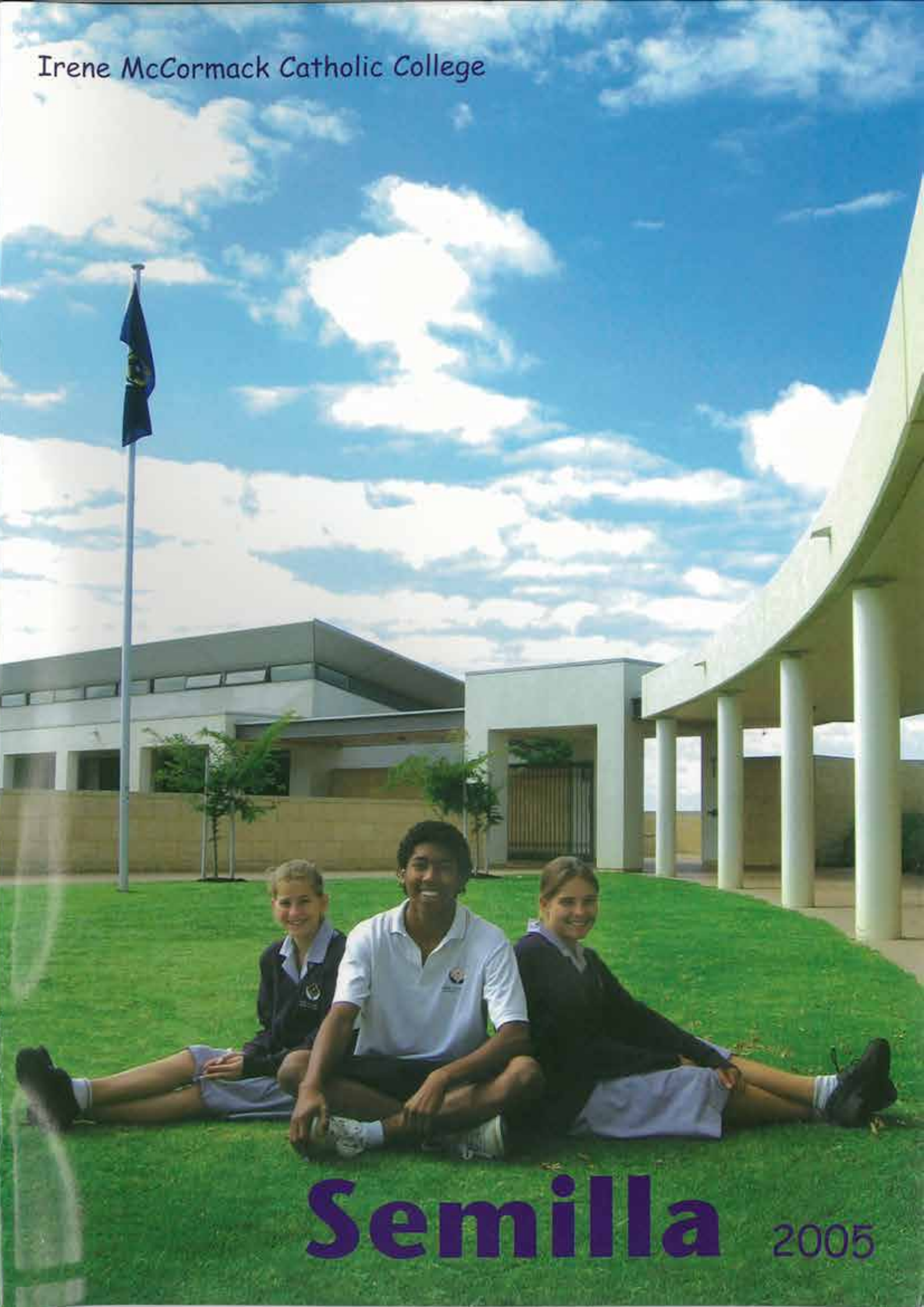


Irene McCormack Catholic College



Semilla 2005

*Respect for Self
Care for Others
Skills for Life*



memories of 2005

Semilla – the Peruvian word for 'seed'.

Irene was described by Peruvian villagers as "the seed which will grow, the star which will return".
Our mission at IMCC is to nurture this seed of life.



from the principal



When parents arrive at my office seeking enrolment at IMCC I often pose the question 'why'? Apart from the obvious reason of location the answer is invariably a combination of good discipline, a pastoral program and the resources to accommodate their child's needs. I'm sure most good schools

would adequately satisfy these requirements but why come to a Catholic school? Most schools have impressive Mission statements. The easy part is writing them - the hard part is in living the mission.

At IMCC we unashamedly believe that as unique creations of God our children are entitled to be treated with dignity at all times - even when their behaviour requires modification. We will continue to challenge students to consider their 'reason for being' and work on an examination of what constitutes a 'life well lived'.

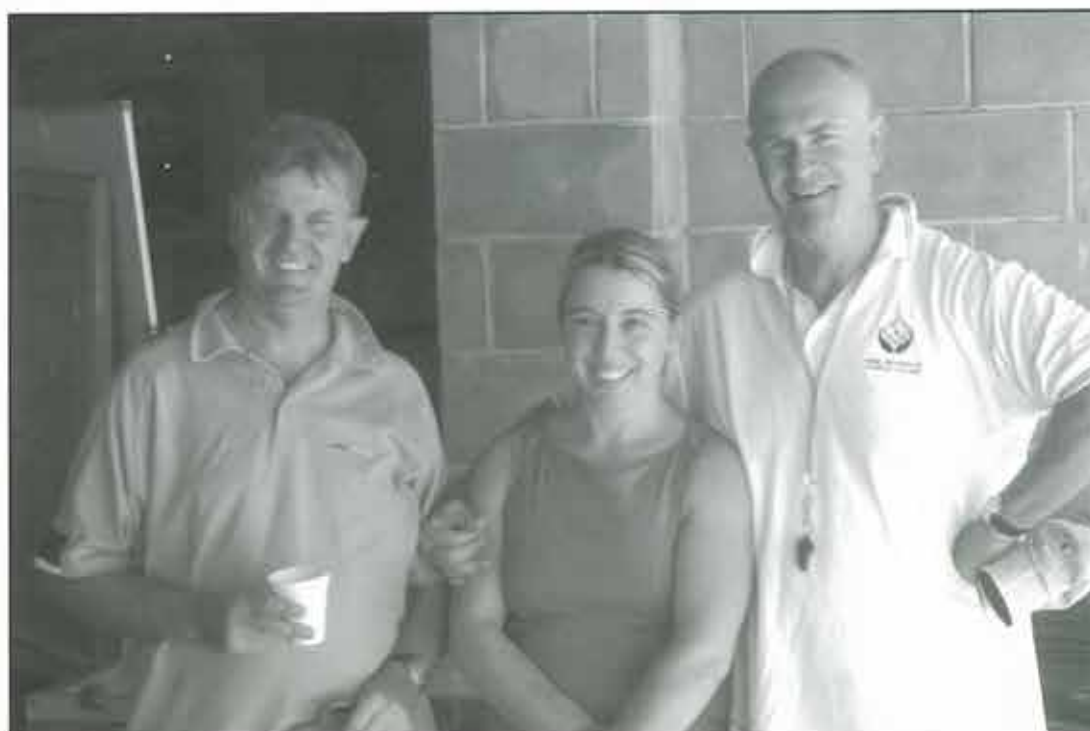
This year, the College's fourth, has been most notable for the attempts of the community to confirm and consolidate our stated mission. We have persisted with the pursuit of values which we believe underpin everything that a true education represents.

It is a sad fact of life that when a community seeks openness, justice, selflessness, generosity, compassion and an honest work ethic we will inevitably be required to become somewhat counter-cultural. Nevertheless our beliefs prevail, as do our practices.

I believe our students are far more understanding and supportive of the College ethos as each year passes. It was gratifying to see how quickly students and parents voiced their support when our standards were publicly questioned during the course of the year. Increased enrolment enquiries would seem to endorse the culture which we are seeking.

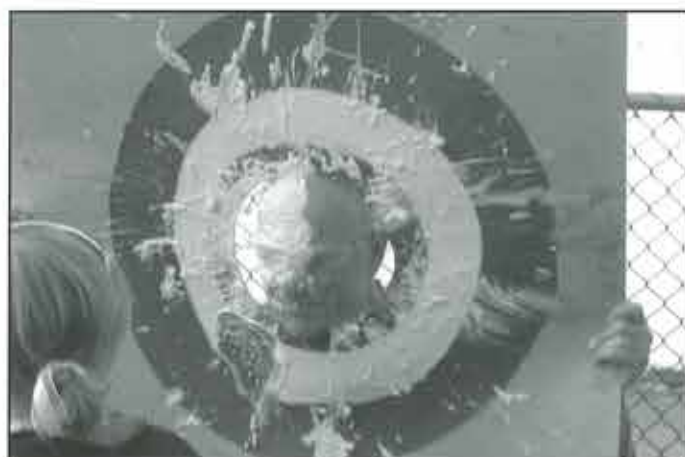
There is an evolving 'school spirit' which is clear to see on public occasions like sporting carnivals and concerts - the most pleasing feature being the enjoyment students gain from the success of their peers. It is the generosity and co-operation of the students on a daily basis however which adds most to our spirit. I sense a mutual respect between staff, students and parents which must give stability and direction to our kids as they grow.

I am ever grateful for the commitment of staff to the students' needs - on many occasions well beyond the call of duty. I will continue to prioritise a system where all students are recognised, challenged and cared for. During the course of this year one of our students moved to another school and left us the following reflection,





'I knew that even when I mucked up and got busted I was loved.' I am ever hopeful that this sentiment is widely spread among our student population and that we, the staff, can honestly say we have worked tirelessly for the best interests of our kids:



The growth of subjects being offered at the school has been quite exciting and already there is a significant return of quality work - this trend will continue into '06 as will the expansion of teaching staff. As soon as the primary school vacates our property to take up its own premises we will commence Stage 3 of the building program - expected to be in the vicinity of some \$5 million. I can see the day when our Hospitality, Tourism, Performing Arts, Industrial Arts facilities will be the envy of schools in the northern region. It is also evident that traditional academic subjects and standards will experience rapid growth in the College.

The Community Service program has taken on the very high profile promised in our early years with students honouring their commitments to donate their own time for the betterment of others. The lessons gained from this selflessness are lessons for living and hopefully will be retained throughout life.

The sporting interests, growth and opportunities continue to expand at the College with our success at the Interschool Athletics being just reward for the sacrifices made by staff and students. I look forward to a future of committed and competitive performances in netball, rugby, soccer, football, touch, basketball, cricket, tennis, swimming, cross-country, triathlon, hockey, softball and athletics.



The cultural program in the school is also on a sharp growth curve. There is every indication that students will be given first class opportunities to excel in the performing and visual arts. I look forward to the time when students create, exhibit and perform publicly as a matter of course.



Our continuing mission will be a rather unique brand of education where the well-being of the child is central and we constantly seek to provide every opportunity for each child to discover and satisfy her/his potential not just as a student but as a 'unique and precious creation of God'.



year 8



8cassidy



dunlea8





evans8



8golding



8mackillop



mcgarry8





year

9





9cassidy



dunlea9





evans9



9golding



9mackillop



mcgarry9





year 10



10 cassidy



dunlea 10





evans10



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year 11

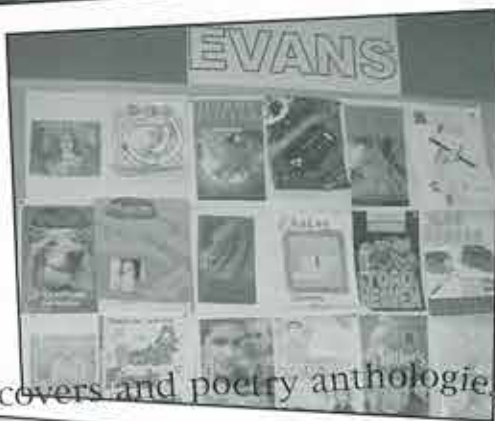






english

The English Department has had a busy year working on producing episodes of original soap operas, dramatic monologues, book covers and poetry anthologies to name but a few - English isn't always about writing essays!



mathematics



It is exciting to see the depth of Mathematical



talent development
the College expands and this year many students have been challenged by the more rigorous Maths program offered by the College.



health and physical education



Students from Years 8-11 were again involved in a wide and diverse Physical Education and Health programme in 2005. As in previous years the PE Department was committed to skills learning in the early secondary years, culminating in a challenging and games based programme in Years 10 and 11. To that end, Years 8 and 9 students were taught the basics to a wide array of physical skills and activities, ranging from the traditional pursuits such as swimming, athletics, AFL, soccer, hockey, netball and cricket to the more diverse activities such as touch rugby, minor games, ultimate frisbee and handball.

The swimming and surf survival skills was the feature of the Physical Education programme throughout Years 8 -10. Year 8 students participated in their swimming programme at Arena Joondalup which varied from water familiarisation and water safety to technique and stroke development depending on the swimming ability of the student. Year 9 and 10 students undertook their swimming at Quinns Beach where they were involved in a surf survival programme that focused on the skills of stroke development, surf rescue and beach awareness.

The athletics programme in Term Two focused on aspects of teamwork and



self-management. Students were competing in the various disciplines of track and field athletics both individually and as a member of a team or country. Countries that worked well together and encouraged team mates throughout were invariably the teams that finished on top of their medal tallies.

This was the inaugural year of Year 11 PE Studies where the students enjoyed a mixture of theoretical and practical-based activities. The students took an in-depth look at the workings of the human body and how to apply this knowledge both on the sporting field and within the community. Students were involved in extended units of self-defence, tennis and fitness training which not only provided plenty of fun, but were excellent adjuncts to the theoretical components of the course.

Health Education in Years 8, 9 and 10 this year have focused on subject areas that stretch far and wide. Students have engaged in topics including water safety, first aid, active lifestyles and smoking in Year 8, nutrition, puberty, body image/self-esteem and relationships in Year 9 and communication, sexuality, drugs/alcohol and personal health and fitness in Year 10.



Brad Giles

Head of Physical Education / Health



religious education



The first Saturday evening of every month saw the students of IMCC heavily involved with the St Andrew's Catholic Parish 6pm Mass. The students led and played the music and then the senior students directed the Youth Group which ran until 9pm. The parish provided pizza and drinks. Heaps of fun and games opened the way for a serious message on God's desire to share a relationship with us. Thanks to all the students who gave generously of their time and energy in supporting this initiative throughout the year.

Religious Education at Irene McCormack Catholic College challenges us all in the call to build on our relationship with God. His love for us is revealed through the events in our lives, our interactions with the world in which we live, and the relationships we have with those around us. God's enduring gift to us is His word in the Bible lived out through our life in the church. Our RE programme hopes to unravel the revelations of God so that they may give meaning to our lives.



This year has seen a number of students partaking in the Sacramental classes held on Wednesday and Friday mornings before school. Roberto Boscarino, Shara Young, Kurt Bent and Jack Juncal were Baptised at the August On Fire Mass. Josh and Peter Donaldson and Amba Drake received their First Communion in September, whilst Amba, Peter and Lauren Connolly-Brown were Confirmed in October.

society and the environment



Humanities is the study of how the decision making of people in the past and present will

impact on future communities and environments.



PERFORMANCE





technology and enterprise



This has been an exciting year for the Technology and Enterprise Learning Area. We have moved into our new location and

are offering senior school courses in Food Production, Digital Media, Information Systems and Metals Technology.

and are offering senior school





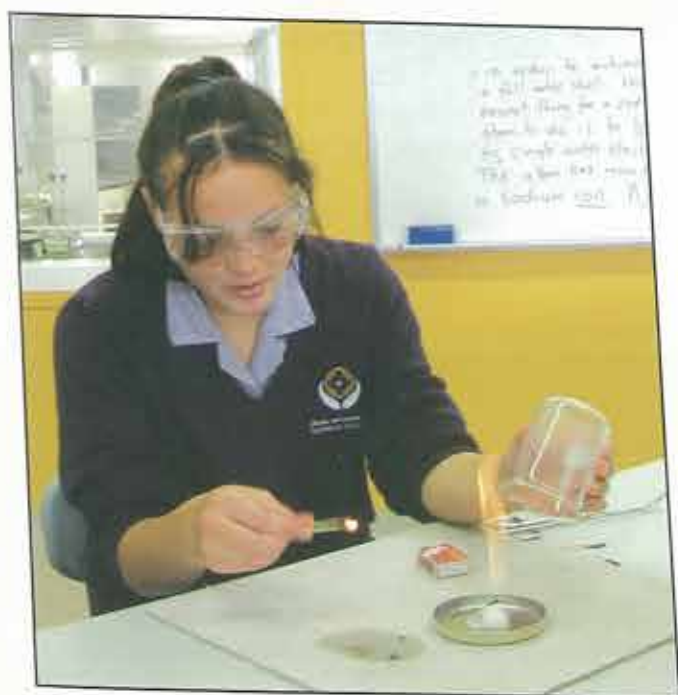
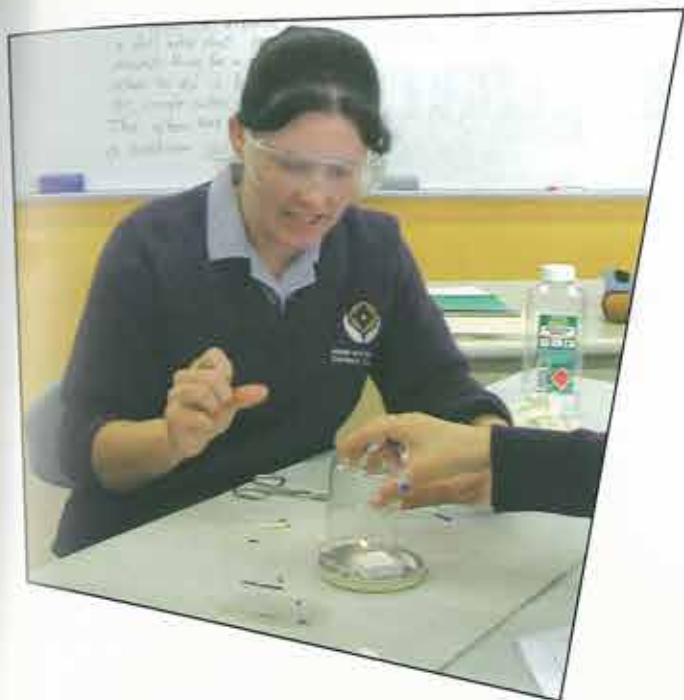
science



From dissections to working with electricity to excursions to field work (and as much as possible in other areas in between), Science has attempted to do it all. This year has seen an increase in students, staff and ideas on how best to access and learn new information. With Ms Tonkin's expertise in all things Biological, Miss Martin's rocket attacks, Mr Summer's foray into the world of Forensics, Miss Broderick's musical and dramatic approach and Mrs Bell and Mr Boylen dealing with their "huge" upper school classes (particularly on excursions) there has seldom been a dull moment in Science. We look forward to doing it all again (but bigger and better) next year.

Peter Boylen
Head of Science







pope john paul II



April this year saw the passing of the most widely travelled and one of the most loved Popes of all time, Pope John Paul II.

People of all nationalities were touched by the sincerity, humility, passion and steadfastness of this wonderful Pope. Already he is popularly being named Pope John Paul II "The Great".



He spoke to religious leaders and leaders of many great nations in an effort to bring peace and cooperation between people of differing world views.



While Pope John Paul II was loved by his supporters even his critics had respect for him. People of different ideological or theological perspectives had good things to say about him and his funeral was attended by many such people.

He is mourned by millions but millions are also anticipating good things from his successor, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger who took the name Benedict XVI.





house system

Sr Joan Evans - Presentation Sister

Sr Evans was born in Perth and spent many years teaching in Catholic Colleges across the metropolitan area, including stints as Principal.

In 1991 she went on mission to Thailand to work among the people in Khlong Toey slums within the network of the "Human Development Centre", with the Director Fr. Jo Maier CSSR.

She now conducts a milk run which involves handing formula milk to mothers who are too busy to breastfeed. She cares for the poor while living, working and being with them. She assists children in their education.



Fr Thomas Dunlea

Born 19th April 1894 (Ireland) Died 22nd August 1970

Ordained a priest 20th June 1920, he took up duties in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Parish Priest, Sutherland 1934 - during the Depression he rode a white horse and delivered food and hope to parishioners who lived in caves and humpies. He housed homeless boys in his Presbytery until the Sutherland Shire Council forced them out and they tented in the nearby National Park.

He was given a gift of 7 Acres at Engadine where 'Boys Town' started in August 1940. 1942 the De La Salle Brothers came to assist. Dunlea resigned his parish work and moved to Boys Town in 1947. In the late 1940's he brought Alcoholics Anonymous to Australia which was run for a time in Boys Town. In 1965 he was awarded an O.B.E.

Golding Sisters

Annie

Born 25th October 1855

Died 28th December 1934

Kate

Born 13th June 1861

Died 3rd February 1949

Belle

Born 25th November 1864

Died 1940

The sisters were members of the Womanhood Suffrage League of NSW in 1893.

The sisters with Louisa Lawson (Henry Lawson's mother) formed the Women's Progressive Association which lobbied for women's equality before the law, supported University reform with establishment of a School of Domestic Science, supported the reform of the child welfare law. They had a strong concern and became advocates for the welfare of Aboriginal children.

They led deputations for equal pay, the removal of the sex barrier in employment and the appointment of women as justices of the peace and police officers. All were practising Catholics.



Cardinal Edward Cassidy

Born July 5 1924

Born in Sydney, Australia, Edward Cassidy was ordained to the priesthood in 1949, and after studies in Rome began a career in Vatican diplomacy. He served in India, Ireland, El Salvador, Argentina, Taiwan, Bangladesh, South Africa, and the Netherlands. Returning to Rome in 1988, he was an assistant Secretary of State for some months before being named president of the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity in 1989, remaining in that post until his retirement in 2001. He was raised to the College of Cardinals by Pope John Paul II in 1991.

Mary MacKillop

Born - January 15, 1842

Died - August 8, 1909

Mary was the eldest of 8 of children, who whilst working as a governess to her cousins in Penola, South Australia was inspired by Father Tenison Woods to found the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1886. She dedicated her life to the education of poor children. Hundreds of young women joined Mary in opening Catholic Schools across Australia and New Zealand. Despite many trials and difficulties, Mary remained steadfast in keeping the vision for the Sister's work. She was the first Australian founder of a Religious Congregation for women and also the first Australian to be beatified as a Saint.



Frank McCarry

Died 21 November, 1955

Enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces 1917 and joined the 45th Battalion in France in August 1918. On his return from the War he became a member of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul where he secretly visited lepers at the Coast Hospital. In 1935 he travelled to Alice Springs, NT to assist Fr. P.J. Moloney in establishing a mission to the Aborigines - The Little Flower Mission. There he fed, clothed and taught Aboriginal children, he was responsible for obtaining the services of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart teaching the children, obtained food by begging or bargaining in the town and acquired clothing from the proceeds of the sale of Aboriginal artefacts and weapons. He then established an Aboriginal settlement which was moved to Yuendumu, near Mt Doreen. He was solely responsible for the welfare of 400 people.



inter-house swimming



This year's Swimming Carnival was fantastic with an increased cohort of students bringing to the College more wonderful gifts and talents. Evans won the overall Inter-house Swimming Carnival with fierce rivalry all day from the other care groups. Mr Boylen was an enthusiastic commentator and actually won an award for the most over commented carnival in the seven years that the Royal Life Saving Society had been on site.

It was incredibly pleasing to see students go above and beyond with their commitment to have every race filled despite their swimming abilities. Thanks to all the parents who came and supported the day.



inter-school swimming



Once again our students represented the College to the best of their ability not only in the pool. Our Year 8's led by an enthusiastic and well dressed cheer squad secured the spirit award for IMCC.





liturgies and retreats

Everyone needs to take time out of their busy lifestyles to stop and reflect on who they are and where they are heading in life. This time is invaluable for each of us to take stock of what is going on deep within us. So too for our students, we take time out each year to focus on our relationship with God and discover how deeply He wishes to invest in each of our lives.

"For I am Yahweh, your God ... I regard you as precious ... and I love you. Do not be afraid, for I am with you," (Isaiah 43:3-5)

Our Year 9 students travelled to Kallaroo on the 25th May where they were led by the Youth Mission Team Australia to reflect on their self worth and how to deal positively with peer pressure.





The Redemptorist Monastery in North Perth played host to the Year 10 Reflection Day, held on the 23rd of March, directed by the Youth Mission Team Australia. The day focussed on how we can take time each day to build our relationship with God, allowing Him to empower us to make positive life decisions.



Ern Halliday Recreational Camp was the setting for the overnight retreat, where under the direction of the Youth Mission Team Australia, the students reflected on how the Holy Spirit can empower us to grow in the respect of the gift of our sexuality.





community service



Despite the pouring rain 40 students and two parents joined Mrs Traeger and Miss Lavis at the City to Surf this year to run a Drink Station. What an amazing experience! Our team spirits were high as we prepared the station for the entourage. We set up tables, filled jugs and wheelie bins with water, prepared cups and stacked them 5 rows high between layers of plastic and stood at the ready in mini teams. Then before we knew it... picture this, 100's of runners and walkers speeding past at the same time with 30 students passing out water and 10 refilling non stop for about an hour! What an adrenalin rush and a great opportunity to support the ACTIV Foundation's fundraising efforts!



It is through students living the Gospel values exemplified by Irene McCormack's and having a passion to serve and care for others that the students are able to grow in awareness of themselves, each other and their local community. This year has seen some great opportunities to participate in events and activities that have been run through the school, within the local community, including:

- Working in St Vincent de Paul Stores in both Merriwa and Clarkson,
- Back Yard Blitz - helping people with disabilities or medical conditions which hinder them from keeping up with general maintenance and gardening around their homes.
- St Vinnies Buddy Days - mentoring young kids on excursions and outings.
- Gum Blossom Hall - Supporting elderly working on craft projects and activities and the community centre.
- RAAFA Estate - Helping the maintenance volunteers around the estate.
- RAAFA Nursing home - visiting elderly.
- Mofflyn House - helping maintain and clean the community vegetable patch.
- Australian Red Cross' Annual Appeal - Tin shaking at Ocean Keys
- City to Surf - running a water station.

This year the students made a great contribution to the community through their fund raising efforts. The students supported Project Compassion, Life Link, Catholic Mission and St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal through different fundraising activities. The biggest success this year however was Irene McCormack Day. The students came in free dress; ran food, drink and lolly stalls; as well as games and a variety of activities to raise money. It was an amazing success raising over \$1700 which we were able to donate to a variety of organisations. Majority of the funds went to Brother Olly's wheelchairs for Kids and the rest was divided among the St Vincent de Paul's Winter Appeal, Rotary's concert for kids with disabilities and Cycle of Learning India project.



A group of Year 10 boys had the opportunity to make regular visits to the RAAFA Estate and work with a group of Estate volunteers who call themselves the 'Maintenance Men of Merriwa'. Each Tuesday morning the boys helped with general maintenance of the grounds and homes as well as the collection of papers and bottles around the Estate. There were many laughs amidst the hard work and great relationships were built. The most fruitful part of the experience was having the opportunity to listen to the older men share their stories and life experiences.



A group of year 10 girls had the opportunity to make regular visits to the RAAFA Estate nursing home. It was a great chance for residents, who do not normally have many visitors, to share stories and life experiences. Beautiful relationships were built and students had a wonderful time keeping their new friends company, sharing a cup of tea and chatting about their lives.





incursions and excursions

Students at IMCC have opportunities to learn outside the regular classroom by way of incursion speakers and going on excursions. Students are involved in hands-on constructivist learning in these activities.



Year 11 Career Link students put training into practice in the workplace one day a week at various locations including Meerilinga Childcare and West Coast TAFE Conservation and Land Management.



Visiting chef, Jacob Ferreo, demonstrates the fine art of cooking to Year 11 Food Production students.

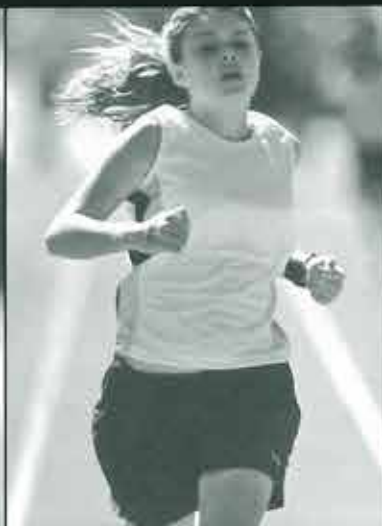
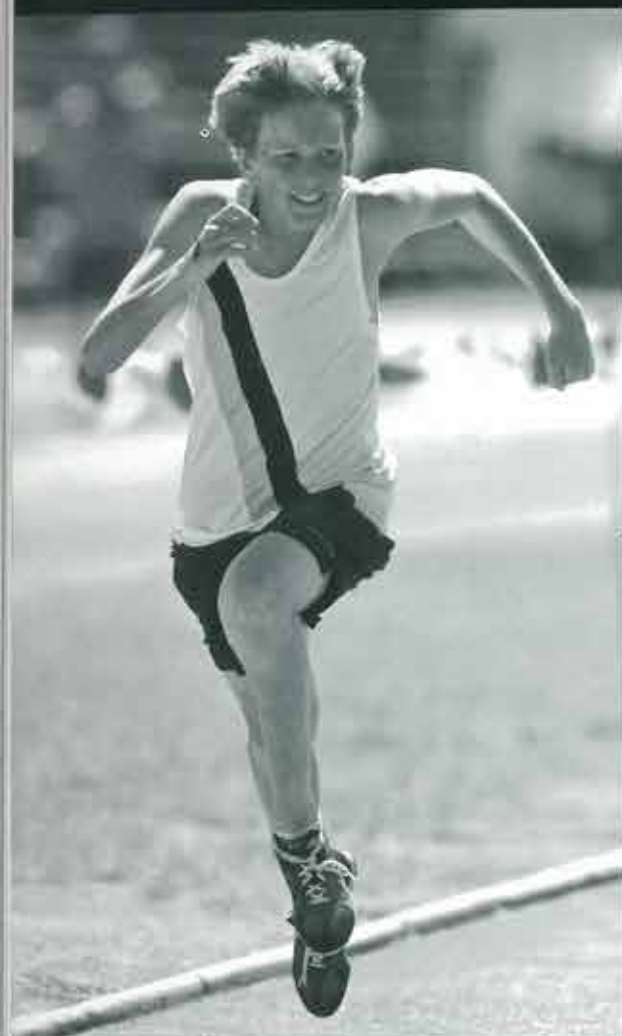


Year 9 students visited
Star Swamp Bushland
Reserve as part of the
topic *Life and Living:*
Ecosystems. Activities
included identifying
macro invertebrates,
environmental report
writing and analysis of
urban impacts on
different
environments.





athletics



We won the overall aggregate shield which means we now move up to the next division. The team was magnificent on the day and the guts and determination they displayed are to be commended. Every member of our team really worked and supported each other. The Senior and Junior boys both won their respective divisions and were rewarded with a shield. Consequently, we won the overall aggregate shield bringing the total to four shields. The girls were not to be outdone by a fantastic fight to the finish only to be placed second in a tight competition all day. Overall it was a sensational finish to what was a long term of dedication from the Athletics Team.





athletics





after school sports



Fun, participation, teamwork, enthusiasm and competition. The students have a range of activities they can participate in, to contribute to the College Community and have fun at the same time.





after school sports





lightning carnival





champions



INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CHAMPIONS

INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS



Ethan Heywood
Cross Country
Champion.
Went on to
represent WA
in Adelaide.



CASSIE HAMPTON
OPEN GIRLS CHAMPION

ACC ATHLETICS
CARNIVAL SHIELDS





student special awards

Tyler Grey



Prayer

Exploring prayerful communication with God and recognising our obligation to each other as human beings.

Stella Donnelly



Service

Developing and demonstrating understanding of our responsibility to assist those in material, emotional or spiritual need.

Daniel Forster



Justice

Being an active advocate for the wellbeing of others, especially the marginalised in our community and beyond.

Lisa Henderson



Irene McCormack Award

Outstanding contribution to the Spiritual, Academic, Service, Cultural and Sporting features of our College.



Irene McCormack College Prayer

Dear Lord,

Help us to live the Gospel values as exemplified by Irene McCormack.

Assist us in recognising injustice and finding Irene's courage
to act in the face of it.

Give us her vision and passion to serve those in need.

Grant us her openness and serenity to treat each day
as your gift to be celebrated and shared.

May we use the words of the College motto - Prayer, Service and Justice
as the guiding light for our daily lives.

Amen.

Irene McCormack Catholic College

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