SAINT BERNARD'S COLLEGE VISION STATEMENT

"Achieve Excellence By Learning and Doing"

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

In the midst of the pressures of running a school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our school over the past 50 years. We have been blessed to have had wonderful teachers, valuable parents and the support of our students.

Fr. Jack Ayers, who was at the College from 1941-44 at the time of the College Jubilee, 1991 said that "at St Bernard's you learn to be a man for others. Fr Jack is also in Samoa and asks for prayers for our people, for the good people here, for full Christian growth, in true solidarity, civic and religious."

The conference was attended by many old boys of the College, including Br Bill Wittingham, Fr. Kevin's Toorak; Br Laurie Collins currently principal of St. Peter's Ballarat; Br Jeff Regan currently principal of St. Edmund's Gosford; and Br Pat Cronin currently principal of CBC Wakefield St, Adelaide.

Br John Wright was also one of the principals in attendance. He taught at St Bernard's in the first years that the College was located at the West Essendon campus during the mid-1960's. After working in Melbourne schools for a number of years he has more recently served in the Brothers' schools in Africa and is now at a school in the deep north west of NSW where there is a large number of aboriginal families. John spoke at the conference of the great difficulties that exist in Africa - even to the extent of his students at the Gambian school being executed by some of the warring armies in the region.

The conference had two main points of focus - Boys' Education and raising issues of social justice in our schools. It certainly struck me that the 50 schools which now constitute the Edmund Rice Schools in Australia have not only the opportunity, but also need to continue the work of Edmund Rice to educate AND to meet the needs of those less fortunate than ourselves. The Edmund Rice Schools in the Third World are a very immediate contact with the needy and I would hope each one of us, whether a current family or past student could manage some specific offer of support in the coming month.

One point of contact is the Edmund Rice Foundation [03 93474549]. The proceeds from this group go entirely towards the Brothers' schools in East Africa.

Frank M. FitzGerald

WEBSITE

The College publishes its weekly Newsletter and other important information on its website at sbc.melb.catholic.edu.au.

We urge you to check the site and keep up with the goings on at the College. Please contact us if you have information that may be of interest to the College community and we will certainly publish it where appropriate.