Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College,

Welcome Back!
Welcome back to our second term of the year and can I start by congratulating you for your support around our high standards of uniform and grooming. The majority of our students have come back to school with all the equipment that they require and with laptops in working order and I thank you for all of that.

Year 11 and 12 Parent/Student/Teacher Night
We very much enjoyed seeing so many parents this week and I thank all the parents of Year 11 and 12 students who attended Parent/Student/Teacher Night on Monday. On that Night, we distributed information around cyber safety and also some understandings around communicating with our teachers. I have included these in the newsletter for those who did not attend.

Year 12 students are at a pivotal time in their preparation for their HSC. This is a time when they may be feeling flat, having completed some exams and perhaps not attained the feedback they were hoping. We try very hard at Clancy not to simply supply the mark to the student following an exam, because it isn’t the mark that informs the student. Useful feedback comes in the form of a constructive comment or a comment that comes with a mission. When I say mission, I mean within the comment there is a guideline for the student to improve. Try not to focus on the mark when your child comes home with a result, more so, ask questions around what has to be done to improve, what learning has occurred from the assignment. Try to keep the conversation positive but encourage structured study and goal setting.

Mother’s Day Mass
This week we also celebrated our Mother’s Day Mass and we welcomed over 200 parents. Our Mother’s Day Mass is increasingly becoming more important in the Clancy landscape. It’s a wonderful time for our students to acknowledge the great support mothers provide and the great love our students harbour for their mothers. Teenagers typically are not very demonstrative with their mothers, although I did notice a large number of students being very affectionate to their mothers on the day. I would like to thank the Clancy teachers for their support of this Mass, particularly Mrs Melham, Miss Jajo and Miss Deguara, who organised roses for over 200 parents. I would also like to thank Mr Ha and his hospitality students for their outstanding catering. Many of our teachers also brought their mothers to school, which made our celebration even more community oriented.

Clancy Teacher Climbing Mt Everest!
Lastly, I point to Mrs St Hill, Science Coordinator who continues to make her Mt Everest climb. I thank her for making this climb an inspiration to our students and for the speech she gave our students before she left. She hopes to summit Mt Everest towards the end of May. Within this Newsletter we have printed the speech she made before her departure. Mrs St Hill didn’t miss the opportunity to impress upon our students the huge challenge ahead of her and the work that she has done to properly
Climbing as a sport is no exception. Mountains have driven people to climb, ponder, admire, dream and pray. It is in our DNA to want to discover, push the limits, find new things. Climbing as a sport is no exception.

I didn’t climb and bushwalk when I was young. It all started about 14 years ago after an adventure holiday in New Zealand. When I came home I joined a bushwalking club, the Catholic Bushwalking Club. Since then, I have spent many weekends bushwalking in the Blue Mountains, canyoning and abseiling.

Back in 2000, I went to Nepal for the first time. It was an amazing experience. The people were friendly and generous, the culture intriguing, trekking in the Himalayan Mountain Range was a dream come true. I got my first look at Everest. It was a spiritual experience. I knew that one day I would return to Nepal, but at that stage I had no idea that it would be to climb the highest mountain in the world.

At Easter time, I will be going to Nepal to climb Mt Everest, the highest mountain in the world. It is 8848m above sea level. That is about the same altitude that jet airplanes fly at. When I summit I will be the 13th Australian woman to climb it. I am very excited and feel privileged that I have the opportunity to challenge myself and achieve beyond my expectations.

As Nelson Mandela once said, “Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is light, not darkness that frightens us”.

When we challenge ourselves we are never sure what we will learn. I recently read that you never know what you can achieve until you fail, that is, you have to push yourself to the limit and then some. We can all achieve to our potential. The power of belief, hard work and focus will get you there.

Mountaineering can be a little bit like school. It is very challenging, the task looks too big, too scary, too much effort. You may ask, what is the point? What effect will it have in my life? Have I done enough preparation? Am I ready? These thoughts are just barriers that prevent you from achieving your goals.

To overcome the enormity of the task, high achievers tell us to break it into bits. That is, break the climb, the assessment task, the study schedule into small manageable pieces. Focus on one bit at a time. That makes it achievable.

Someone asked Pat Rafter how he won the US Open and become a champion. He replied, “I just stopped focusing on the whole game and just tried to win one tennis point at a time”. So we all achieve great things if we just focus and complete one bit at a time.

Again, school just like mountains, are unpredictable. Things do not always go as planned. Perhaps we do not feel motivated one day, we don’t understand something, our homework or study takes more time than expected. If things are unpredictable, do not always expect everything to go your way. Have a plan, but be prepared to change the plan. Build resilience, problem-solving skills and become innovative. Remember that the achievement of goals requires more mental toughness than physical strength.

Just like studying for exams, training to climb Mt Everest does not get easier, but when you commit and accept the challenge you will become better at it.

I will summit Everest towards the end of May. I have a GoPro camera, so I hope to share some amazing footage at the top of the world with you when I get home in June.

Do not be afraid to dream, to set goals, to overcome barriers and achieve beyond expectation. Find your Everest and make it happen.

Thank you for your good wishes, the kind smiles will mean a lot when I am so far from the comforts of home.

Margaret St Hill
Science Coordinator

From the Religious Education Department

On Wednesday the College celebrated Mass with Fr Thu Nguyen for our mothers. The Mother’s Day Mass is a tradition at our College where we reflect and give thanks for our mothers, grandmothers and significant women in our lives who care for us. We also take the time to reflect on Mary, the mother of God, a truly inspirational woman and mother. Her unconditional love for her son is inspirational, even today, some two thousand years after she stood at the foot of her son’s cross, we remember her as the first disciple, with unwavering faith who made her own sacrifices to care for her son. I hope all mothers have a wonderful day on Sunday with their families.

As this is the month of May, the Rosary is prayed everyday to remember Mary. It is wonderful to see so many staff and students gathering together in prayer, and for the senior students volunteering to lead the Rosary. In the busy nature of our day, it is important that each one of us make time for what we hold most value for. At Clancy, we believe that our faith is at the heart of all that we do, prayer provides us with the opportunity to practice our faith.

In Week 4 of this term our Year 12 students will participate in their Senior Retreat. This is an opportunity for them to take time away from school to reflect on their faith, strengthen relationships and prepare for life after school. Our community prays for them as they prepare for the next step on the journey they are about to embark on.

Finally, a reminder to all families to join us for Tuesday morning mass. Every week Fr Joseph Trung celebrates Mass at 8.00am inviting parishioners and members of our community to join us. Each week a different Pastoral and Religion Class leads in the Ministry of the Mass, next week it is 11.5 Pastoral Class. Please consider joining us for Mass.

Melinda Melham
Religious Education Coordinator
Stage 5 Managing Laptops Information Evening Postponed

The Stage 5 Managing Laptops Information Evening was scheduled for Wednesday 15 May from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. This has been postponed and notification of a new date in Term 3 will follow shortly. This night will provide valuable information about changes in technology and how technology is used within the school environment to promote and assist learning in a positive way. Strategies and recommendations will be offered to assist parents and carers in the use of laptops at home. We look forward to providing more information about this in the near future and thank parents who have already expressed their interest.

MacBook Protective Cases:

MacBook protection is critical in preventing damage to the laptop. We have recently logged a number of jobs with hardware damage that could have been avoided if students were carrying their laptop in the provided case. Students were issued with a Targus laptop case when they received their MacBook and must carry their laptops in this case or another College approved case at all times. The soft envelope satchels some students are carrying do not provide enough protection. This has implications for warranty coverage. Students should not bring their laptop to school if they do not have the correct case. From Monday laptops will be confiscated if they are not in an approved case. Your support in ensuring your son/daughter is using the correct laptop case to transport their MacBook is greatly appreciated.

Lauren Batty
Acting eLearning Coordinator

Peer Support 2013

The transition into secondary schooling life can be quite difficult for students, parents and teachers. This year at Clancy, however, a large number of Year 10 students volunteered their time as Peer Support Leaders to help the new Year 7 students settle in and find their place in our community. Overall, the Peer Support Leaders performed their roles with pride and were very effective.

We thank all the Peer Support Leaders for their substantial contribution to the College

Luke Liceralde and Josie Palumbo
Peer Support Coordinators

Drama

On Friday evening, Year 11 and 12 Drama students attended a performance of their HSC play, Ruby Moon, presented by Chalkdust Theatre.

The play is a gothic fractured fairytale, exploring the grief experienced by two parents whose young daughter, Ruby, has gone missing. The seemingly picture perfect neighbourhood of the imagined Flaming Tree Grove comes undone as we venture down the cul-de-sac and peep behind each neighbour's curtain. According to playwright Matt Cameron, Australian suburbia is far more sinister than it seems.

The experience of seeing a professional live performance of the play was invaluable for the students. “The interpretation was not what I expected, but it made me reconsider my understanding of the play,” said the Year 12 students, who have just recently completed their study of the play. “The play is about more than just grief, it is about fear”, added Kerri-Anne Reyes.

The students will also be attending a rehearsed reading of a second HSC text, The Laramie Project, at The Sydney Theatre Company later in June. For many students, this is their first exposure to the theatre and it presents an exciting and instrumental educational experience.

Alix Stirling and Josephine McKell
Senior Drama Teachers

Year 11 Drama

Thursday 11 April marked the Year 11 Drama students’ first live drama performance for a live Year 10 audience. The students worked in groups of four and had to devise an original piece of theatre that goes between 6-8 minutes in length. The students created highly entertaining and comedic performances on the given stimuli, “The Case” and “Underground”. The audience members were able to see a variety of characters including hillbillies, a London Palace Guard, an infomercial host and his assistant, Hitler, a Mafia boss, two fighting children, a timid teacher, and two alien mutated pigs. I wish to congratulate the following students on their achievements: Daniel Aranda, George Diaz, Matthew Doria, Stephanie Laguna, Jordan Lemalu, Eros Morelli, Sarah Newman and Sabrina Rao.

Josephine McKell
Senior Drama Teacher
Cockatoo Island is a heritage listed island in the middle of Sydney Harbour. On Monday 8 April, two Year 11 photography classes had the fantastic opportunity to explore this unique island and photograph some amazing areas at this site.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to practice their photographic skills on an SLR Digital camera as well as develop their creative skills by searching for interesting areas from heritage, old convict prison to industrial machinery to photograph for a series of work.

The photographs will be on display later in the year at the Clancy Annual Arts and Culture Evening.

Elizabeth Giusti
Photography Teacher
Acting Youth Ministry Coordinator

Marc Ghignone

architectural and aesthetic genius. The ruins of Machu Picchu are wonders of both structures, carved from the gray granite of a remarkable state of preservation. These storage rooms and some 150 houses, all in ruins have palaces, baths, temples, Mountain Range. The cloud shrouded level on a small hilltop on the Andean in the world. Nestled 7,000 feet above sea most beautiful and enigmatic ancient sites world wonder, Machu Picchu.

The next morning we shall take a train to the incredible of uniquely Peruvian activities. and Plaza de Armas, which will be followed by an evening Upon our arrival in Cuzco, we will visit the Cuzco Cathedral and faith of a joy-filled Inca community. into the foothills to experience first-hand the people, culture and modern Peruvian life. It is

The ancient Inca capital of Cuzco sits at a 3,300m crossroads of centuries-old Andean tradition and modern Peruvian life. It is known all over the world for its proximity to the amazing archaeological ruins of Machu Picchu. For us, this will be the gateway into a true Peruvian immersion as we venture out into the foothills to experience first-hand the people, culture and faith of a joy-filled Inca community.

Upon our arrival in Cuzco, we will visit the Cuzco Cathedral and Plaza de Armas, which will be followed by an evening of uniquely Peruvian activities.

The ruins of Machu Picchu are one of the most beautiful and enigmatic ancient sites in the world. Nestled 7,000 feet above sea level on a small hilltop on the Andean Mountain Range. The cloud shrouded ruins have palaces, baths, temples, storage rooms and some 150 houses, all in a remarkable state of preservation. These structures, carved from the gray granite of the mountain top are wonders of both architectural and aesthetic genius.

Marc Ghignone
Acting Youth Ministry Coordinator

Meet our pilgrims

Name – Carissa Dunn
Age – 16
Hobbies – Modelling, running, spending time with friends and singing.
Favourite Singers – Pink, Ed Sheeran, Usher, The Naked and Famous, Birds of Tokyo, Neon Trees.
Why are you going to WYD this year?
I am going to WYD this year to strengthen my faith, enrich my soul and positively grow as a person. It is a bonus that it is taking place in such a remarkable country!

How do you expect your WYD experience to influence your faith?
I expect that by partaking in World Youth Day I will gain a clearer understanding of where God lies in my life. I am hoping for it to allow me to discover and appreciate the beautiful things in life and find God’s purpose for me.

What are you most looking forward to?
I cannot wait to partake in the Mission Work while we are in Lima, to use our knowledge and skills to better the lives of others. I am also really excited about traveling to Rio with a group of my close friends and being a part of and experiencing their rich culture and life of Latin America, as well as visiting some really beautiful sites!

How are you preparing for WYD?
In preparing for World Youth Day, I am seriously considering the place my faith has in my life and where I would like it to be and opening myself up to the unexpected places that I may find God. As well as this, we have been busily fundraising, researching and discovering astonishing things about Rio, which make us that much more excited! If it wasn’t for my grounded parents, I would have my bag packed already!

Favourite Quote -
“Because the only people for me are the mad ones; the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved; desirous of everything at the same time. The ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but who burn, burn, burn, like fabulous yellow roman candles, exploding like spiders across the stars.”
- Jack Kerouac “On the Road”

Name – Frankie Schirripa
Age – 16
Hobbies – Chilling with mates and family, and partying.
Favourite Singers – anything with a good beat.
Why are you going to WYD this year?
I’m going to World Youth Day to share my faith with the youth around the world plus its a once in a lifetime opportunity. Who wouldn’t want to go?

How do you expect your WYD experience to influence your faith?
I expect it to influence me with my faith significantly and make me grow close to God. I also think it is an opportunity to more deeply understand who I am.

What are you most looking forward to?
The most I’m looking forward to is the sleep out and final Mass with Pope Francis I, meeting new people from all around the world and just hanging with my mates and enjoying myself!

How are you preparing for WYD?
I’m preparing for World Youth Day in two ways. The first is preparing my self spiritually, reflecting on what I will make me grow close to God. It is also a bonus that it is taking place in such a remarkable country!

Favourite Quote -
“Every new day is a day to change your life.

Marc Ghignone
Acting Youth Ministry Coordinator
Homework Club
As part of our ongoing commitment to helping each student at Clancy Catholic College realise their potential, we wish to continue running a Homework Club throughout 2013.

What is Homework Club?
Homework Club occurs on Tuesday afternoon from 2.30pm - 3.30pm for students who wish to work on their homework and assessment tasks under the guidance of a teacher. Homework Club runs in the College Library.

How does my child participate in Homework Club?
All students are welcome to take part in this initiative. The process is outlined below.

Voluntary Attendance
1. On the Monday of the week your child wishes to participate in Homework Club.
2. Parents/caregivers are to sign the note, date and provide contact details.
3. Your child will return the permission note to the office by the end of recess on the Tuesday they wish to attend.
4. Your child is to meet the supervising teacher at the College Library at 2.30pm.

Please note that if your child collects a note from the Office intending to attend Homework Club but later finds they are unable, students must still return the note to the office stating that they cannot attend.

Additional information:
Your child is required to bring any relevant assignment, homework or class work material. If a permission slip is returned and your child is not present, you will receive a phone call from Office staff to inform you of the absence. If attending, your child must be present for the full duration of Homework Club (2.30pm to 3.30pm), unless you personally collect them and transportation must be arranged from Public Reception at 3.30pm.

We hope that your daughter/son can take advantage of the benefits of this initiative and look forward to helping your child to achieve their learning goals.

Thao Vu
Homework Club Coordinator

Communication with Clancy Catholic College
Can we draw your attention to our College Website where we have the email addresses of all our middle managers and the telephone number to ring if you wish to contact a teacher.

Please allow 24 hours for our staff to return a telephone call or respond to an email. 24 hours is required because of the busyness of a teacher’s day. Meetings begin at 8.10am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Teachers arrive at school between 7.30 and 8.00am in the morning.

Most teachers have a one hour period free for lesson preparation, all teachers are involved in meetings until 4.30pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, some teachers coach teams on Mondays until 4.30pm, Homework Club for some students runs on Tuesdays until 3.30pm and Homework Club is available for all students on Wednesdays until 4.30pm. Teachers also volunteer for senior student supervision and Mathematics support on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

Should you have any queries regarding the performance of your child in a particular subject, please don’t hesitate to call a classroom teacher and if you require more information, our Subject Coordinators are available to speak with you. The Year Coordinator is always available as well, to answer any questions or resolve any queries you might have.

If you wish to see Mr Mooney or Mrs Nastasi, you will need to make an appointment. In the case of Mrs Nastasi, this may take a number of days as she is often off-site at external meetings, in meetings with Catholic Education Office representatives, or in meetings around staff planning and student welfare. Any urgent requests or urgent queries, please direct them to the Front Office and indicate the seriousness of your call. Most issues can be resolved or responded to by the Year Coordinator.

We thank you for your ongoing support and feedback and look forward to hearing from you.

The Leadership Team

Weekly Academic Awards - Technology & Applied Studies (TAS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Hayden Thompson</td>
<td>Outstanding Performance in Technology (Mandatory)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Olivia Maurice</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Industrial Technology Timber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Thomas Con ditis</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Industrial Technology Timber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liam Misco po</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Industrial Technology Timber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perry Phimmachan</td>
<td>First Place in Industrial Technology Multimedia Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Brendan Santos</td>
<td>Outstanding Result in Information &amp; Software Technology Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Caroline Andrade</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Textiles Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>Sandy Choy</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 11 Hospitality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morgan Tchan</td>
<td>Outstanding Result in Industrial Technology Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaitlin Gonzalez</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 11 Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorena Dominguez</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Textiles Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grant Wilkins</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 11 Hospitality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorena Ghignone</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Food technology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acting TAS Coordinator</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 12 Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alex andar Taskovski</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 12 Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emily Gasparovic</td>
<td>First Place in Major Project Progress Portfolio</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isabella Polistena</td>
<td>First Place in Major Textiles Project Progress Portfolio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Cooper Smith</td>
<td>Outstanding Result in Information &amp; Software Technology Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Caroline Andrade</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 11 Hospitality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Acting TAS Coordinator</td>
<td>Consistent Effort in Year 12 Construction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ROUND 1: CLANCY vs FREEMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>AGE GROUP</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td>Year 7/8</td>
<td>Won 22 - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Won 20 - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oz Tag</td>
<td>Year 7 Boys</td>
<td>Drew 4 all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Girls</td>
<td>Won 6 - 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Year 9/10</td>
<td>Won 35 - 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Won 23 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Year 7/8 Girls</td>
<td>Lost 0 - 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9/10 Boys</td>
<td>Lost 1 - 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Boys</td>
<td>Lost 2 - 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMING UP: Tuesday 14 May

ROUND 2: CLANCY vs THOMAS HASSALL ANGLICAN COLLEGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Rugby League</td>
<td>St Greg’s College Campbelltown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7/8 Rugby League</td>
<td>Liverpool Catholic Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oz Tag</td>
<td>Paciullo Park, Liverpool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Woodward Park, Liverpool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Ash Park, Prestons</td>
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ROUND 3: Tuesday 21 May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Rugby League</td>
<td>St Greg’s College Campbelltown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7/8 Rugby League</td>
<td>Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oz Tag</td>
<td>Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball (Seniors Only)</td>
<td>Woodward Park, Liverpool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (Seniors Only)</td>
<td>Ash Park, Prestons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

College Athletics Carnival

The 7th Annual College Athletics Carnival will be held on Monday 13 May at Campbelltown Athletics Centre, (corner of Pembridge Road and Rose Payten Drive, Campbelltown.) It is a usual school day with all students expected to attend. If they cannot attend, they will be required to produce a doctor’s certificate on their return to the College. Students who cannot participate on the day are to bring a note beforehand stating the reason. They can still attend as there are many jobs they can assist with on the day as well as get involved in their house spirit.

The Carnival is due to start at 9:15am and should be completed by 2:15pm. All parents and families are invited to attend and enjoy the day with the Clancy College Community.

SOUTHERN SYDNEY REPRESENTATIVES:

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent the Southern Sydney area at the NSWCCC carnival in their chosen sports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Eddy Hamaty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Jeremy Cusic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abhishek Rai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isabella Moro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Jake Douglas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joshua Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby League</td>
<td>Avia Minute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We wish them the best of luck!

NSWCCC Representatives:

Congratulations to Tiana Mosca (Year 9) and Liana Hogarth (Year 10) who have both been selected to represent the NSWCCC Under 15s Netball Team. Well done on an outstanding achievement and we wish the girls best of luck for the next trial.

Michael Bell
Sport Coordinator
**Dates to Remember**

- Monday 13 May (Campbelltown Athletics Centre, Campbelltown) - Athletics Carnival
- Tuesday to Thursday 14-16 May - NAPLAN Tests
- Monday - Friday 20 - 24 May - Year 12 Retreat
- Year 8 -10 Exam Block
- Monday - Friday 27 - 31 May - Year 7 - 9 Exam Block

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**Careers**

- Sydney University is having an information night on Wednesday 22 May at Revesby Workers Club, 6.00pm - 8.30pm. This would be a great opportunity to hear about pathways into Sydney University. You need to register to attend at sydney.edu.au/yourpath by 15 May. Please see me in the Careers Office for more information.

- Any Year 12s interested in a Volunteer Gap Year in 2014 please see me for current information.

- A reminder to any Year 12 students considering studies in Medicine and some Health Sciences, please see me regarding the UMAT test.

Anne Weeks  
Careers Advisor

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**Reminder**

Applications for enrolment for Year 7 2014 closed today Friday 10 May. If you have a sibling enrolling for 2014 please ensure that your application has been submitted. For further information please contact the Enrolment Secretary on 8783 6000.

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**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset... Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend date: 14 - 16 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au  
Information: website www.wwme.org.au

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**“Challenges in Spirituality - the ripple effect of mental health”**

Come to a Reflection Day Saturday 11 May entitled - "Challenges in spirituality - the ripple effect of mental health". A dynamic day of interaction, encounter and reflection.

The day will contain 3 guest speakers from the Philippines. Located at St Patrick's Church Hill within the Crypt between 10.00am to 3.00 pm. BYO lunch. Coffee and tea provided. For more information go to www.maristflyaustralia.com or call: 0417 682 822.

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**Solo Parent Social Group**

The Mount Pritchard Solo Parent Group will be having dinner at the Blue Star Café, Stockland Mall, Polding Street, Wetherill Park (opposite Hoyts Cinema) on Saturday 18 May. A table is booked in the name of Madeleine for 7.00 pm. Single parents new to the group are most welcome. Please RSVP Madeleine 0410642383 if you would like to attend.

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**Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.**

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two hour workshop.

**The next workshop in your area will be held:**

- **TIME & DATE:** Tuesday 28th May 2013 6pm - 7.30pm  
- **VENUE:** Liverpool City Library  
- **BOOK NOW ON:** 9821 8835 or 9821 8838

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers
Dear Parents/Carers

As you would be aware, the Federal Government has now released details of its new school funding policy that will take effect from 2014. This policy was developed after the release of a major report in late 2011 (the Gonski Report) which recommended a new way of allocating government funding to all Australian schools.

The State Government is also a major player in the funding of schools. How much money each school or school system will now receive under this new model will depend on what each state is prepared to contribute.

NSW has been the first state to sign up to the new model. This means that there is now an agreement between the NSW Government and the Federal Government on how much money NSW will contribute to the new model, and how much the Federal Government will contribute.

What does this mean for our Catholic schools?

While the Catholic education community cautiously welcomes an agreement that will give some funding certainty for the next six years, there are still aspects of the agreement that are still not clear.

We welcome...

• the news that Catholic schools will still be able to operate as a system and allocate funds and resources to where the needs are greatest;
• the assurance given by the Prime Minister that our Catholic system of schools will not lose funding in real terms over the life of the agreement;
• the focus on providing additional resources to support students with special needs, Indigenous students and students from low socio-economic areas.

We remain concerned that...

• some of the key parts of the new funding arrangements have still not been clearly spelt out;
• there could be duplication with accountability arrangements under the new model. For example, the rollout of the National Plan for School Improvement (NPSI) which is part of the new arrangements, could impact on processes that already operate in Sydney Catholic schools. These processes have been acknowledged as best practice.

It is important that we never lose sight of the fact that...

• Catholic schools operate, on average, at around 90% of the funding of Government schools, even when parent contributions are included. We do not want this gap to widen;
• contributions from Catholic school parents save governments billions of dollars every year;
• Catholic systemic schools are high-performing and efficient, and deserve fair funding.

I will continue to keep you informed as more details of these new funding arrangements are made clear.

With warm wishes,

Dan White
Executive Director of Catholic Schools