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

The recently released NAPLAN results acknowledged the achievement of students and staff in our College. I refer you to Mr Dooner’s more detailed report further in the Newsletter, but there are a number of things in general we can celebrate. Clancy Catholic College achieved the greatest growth in Numeracy from Years 7 to 9 of all Catholic schools in the Sydney Archdiocese. Our results around writing are significantly strong in Year 9 and I would like to pay credit to our English teachers, in particular for the work that they have done around writing and our Mathematics teachers who have worked tirelessly to support our students around numeracy.

We have a commitment at Clancy that all our teachers are literacy and numeracy teachers. It is the responsibility of every teacher in the classroom to improve literacy skills and next year, the focus will be particularly around reading. We would hope for a greater growth around our students’ reading skills and as we all know, these skills are vital not only whilst at school, but also outside of school.

Our results this year continue to inform our teaching and learning programs so that we are effective in improving our student learning outcomes. Some of these programs include:

- Targeted intervention through withdrawal for a Numeracy program.
- A whole school initiative around the development for English for Academic Purposes.
- A whole school project around Literacy The Next Step, which will ensure that literacy activities are taught in the context of the Key Learning Areas.
- Particular focus developed on the reading skills of our students.
- Ongoing professional development of our teachers in the areas of assessment, differentiating the curriculum and a continuation around UBD (Understanding Backward Design) programs and assessments, which enhances the role and authenticity of learning and assessments.
- A review and redevelopment of programs in Mathematics, Science, English and History in preparation for the new Australian curriculum with a particular focus on meeting the needs of students in Years 7 and 9.
- Connecting with primary schools around the needs of students for whom English is a Second Language and around the needs of those students who need added support.
- Providing enrichment through our involvement in the Newman Research and Design Project, which focuses on the needs of gifted students.
- Providing enrichment for our students through Clancy University to extend students with greater potential around independent learning.

We will continue to work towards greater improvement at Clancy. We have been buoyed by the results we have attained in Year 9. We have learnt a great deal around our students in Year 7 and we hope to provide the same opportunities of growth for our Year 7 students in the next two years.

Much of our success is also due to your support and the ongoing communication between home and school. Please feel free to contact us if you need more individual feedback regarding your son or daughter’s NAPLAN report.

Can I ask the community to join with us and pray for Michael Bell, our Sports Coordinator, who last Saturday was diagnosed with a brain tumour. Mr Bell had an operation to remove the tumour on Monday and yesterday we received the wonderful news that the tumour was benign, however, he will be away for the rest of the term to recover from his surgery. We pray for Mr Bell’s full recovery and his wife Penny.

Iris Nastasi
Principal
CLANCY YEAR 7 RESULTS (195 students)

Results are in expressed as percentages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>READING</th>
<th>WRITING</th>
<th>SPELLING</th>
<th>GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</th>
<th>NUMERACY</th>
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<td>(minimum standard)</td>
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<td>7.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>(below minimum standard)</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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What can we celebrate?
- For all students, being above the state average in Writing (+17%) and Spelling (+1%).
- Fewer students in the lowest two bands in numeracy when compared to the State averages.
- Significantly fewer students in the lowest two bands in all literacy when compared to the State averages.
- Non-LBOTE students being above the state average in Number, Patterns & Algebra.
- More students in the top 2 bands in Writing when compared to the State averages.

Areas to target
Focus moving student into the highest 2 bands in all areas.
Reading, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy.

CLANCY YEAR 9 RESULTS (167 students)

Results are in expressed as percentages.

<table>
<thead>
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What have been the learning gains?

**NUMERACY:** Average Schools Growth = 59.4 marks which is 16 above the State average and 15 Above the Diocesan average.

**Highest average growth in Sydney CEO!!!!!!**

**READING:** Average Schools Growth = 41.1 marks which is 1 above the State average and 1.4 below the Diocesan average.

**WRITING:** Average Schools Growth = 39.8 marks which is 15 above the State average and 5 Above the Diocesan average.

**SPELLING:** Average Schools Growth = 47.4 marks which is 4 above the State average and 3 Above the Diocesan average.

**GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION:** Average Schools Growth = 43 marks which is 3 above the State average and 2 Above the Diocesan average.

What can we celebrate?
- For all students, being significantly above the State average in Writing (+28).
- For all students, being above the State average in Spelling (+7), Grammar and Punctuation (+3) and Numeracy (+16).
- More students in the top 2 band in Writing, Spelling and Numeracy when compared to the State averages.
- Having fewer students below the minimum standard in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy when compared to State averages.
- Growth in all areas (except Reading) from 7-9 greater than the State and Diocesan averages.
Areas to target

- Focus moving student into the highest band in all areas.
- Growth in Reading and development in student’s Writing.
- Need to focus on students at or below national benchmarks

Here is a sample of our growth from Years 7 to 9. You can see how Clancy (green) compares to other schools in the Sydney Diocese.

Michael Dooner
Curriculum Coordinator
In Week 2 our Year 11 students participated in their Senior Retreat Program. This Residential Retreat is the last opportunity for the students to engage in several days focused on their faith development. This cohort of young men and women participated in the three days with an ‘open mind’ and an ‘open heart’; their engagement, faith and care for their peers was inspiring and it was a privilege to journey with them. We are very fortunate at Clancy to have teachers who are wonderful facilitators, we do not need to outsource our senior retreat. This also provided the opportunity for the students to develop a great rapport with their teachers that will assist them in their preparation for the year ahead. Thank you to Mr Timillero, Miss Palumbo, Mr Ghignone, Miss Volpato, Ms Abdo, Mr Holland, Mrs Batty, Mr Mulford and Mr Nuske who attended the retreat, and to Mrs Nastasi and Mr Mooney who joined us at Stanwell Tops to share in the experience. Finally to Ms Stirling and Mr Bolonia who were away with both groups for five days, their efforts and organisation was instrumental to the success of the retreat.

Today is All Saints Day when we remember those inspirational figures in our Church who devoted their life to the mission of living out God’s Word. Tomorrow, on All Souls Day, we take time to remember those who have gone before us, we remember the impact they have had on our lives, the legacy they have left to us and pray that they find peace in the Kingdom of God. Those who have died may not have monuments that celebrate their achievements, or statues created in their honour, rather they are remembered in the picture frames in our homes, in the stories we tell of their achievements, and in the laughter we remember in our hearts. During the month of November we invite all students and staff to take time to visit our Chapel and write the name of a loved one who has died in the Mary MacKillop Intention Book. We will pray for those people at Tuesday morning Mass during November.

A reminder that Mass is celebrated every Tuesday in the Chapel at 8.00am, all families are welcome to join us.

Melinda Melham
Religious Education Coordinator

From the Library

In his presentations, Richard spoke about his personal experiences as both an avid reader and successful author. He also spoke to students about the work of a writer and what it takes to be published. The students listened to an animated, exciting reading from the author’s latest novel, Song of the Slums, which he delivered with great flair, keeping the audience entertained. He also presented a selection of interesting visuals and props, including his “Steampunk” guitar, which he played loudly with great enthusiasm. Students in the audience were encouraged to read often and to expose themselves to a wide range of books until they discover a genre for which they are passionate.

Since the author’s visit to Clancy, several students across Years 7-12 have expressed great interest in the emerging genre, Steampunk Fantasy. Many have also shown greater enthusiasm for reading for pleasure. Some have been moved to purchase his latest novel, to borrow his previous novels, Worldshaker and Liberator from the Library, or to go online to carry out their own research about Steampunk Fantasy, which is fantastic.

Overall, the feedback from students has been extremely positive. In fact, there is a great buzz around the College and an increased demand for fantasy novels. Many students have commented that they can’t wait to read Song of the Slums or to start writing their own future bestseller. We thank Richard for his time and passion and for inspiring students at Clancy to actively engage in reading and creative writing.

Here’s what some students have had to say...

“It was the best excursion ever!” – Chiara Moro, Year 7.
“It was a very interesting, inspiring presentation.” Sofia Brigo Year 7.
“I liked the author’s “Steampunk” props. They looked really awesome!” – Peter Everingham, Year 8.
“The readings (from his novel) were very engaging.” Serenade Molina, Year 7.
“I wanted to be an author before… now I really want to be one!” Elise Vitagliano, Year 7.
“It was creative and imaginative, and the author was very enthusiastic” Danler Tan, Year 8.

Alison Rooke
Leader of Information Services

Year 9 Drama Excursion

On Wednesday 16 October the first Year 9 Drama Class had the great privilege of visiting the Sydney Opera House. Mrs McKell, Mr Boggs and sixteen Clancy students watched one of the most well-known Shakespearean classics Romeo and Juliet, staged by Sydney Theatre Company. We were very lucky to be seated in the second row, having a great view of the performance. This was an inspirational experience which left us wanting more. For some of us it was our first time visiting a theatre and it definitely has left a special impression on us all. It was a pleasure to see what skill is out there in Australia and we were given the chance to watch and learn. The theatre is such a mesmerising place and we cannot wait to go back there. The performance was captivating in every aspect from the rotating stage, to the choreographed fight scenes, to the gun fight, to the intriguing costuming. The final moments of the play left us all guessing (even though we knew the final outcome). A few memorable things about the day included meeting some Japanese tourists and having lunch at McDonald's as a class. I encourage all to take up the opportunity to study Drama as it is a fantastic subject.

Jaig Calabrese
Year 9 Drama Student
On Wednesday 16 October, Andrew Massa and Giselle Sagredo of Year 10 competed in the MISA Year 10 Public Speaking Competition hosted at Thomas Hassall Anglican College. The students were required to present an eight minute prepared speech and a three minute impromptu speech. In their prepared speeches, Andrew and Giselle presented insightful, perceptive and thought provoking arguments about their nominated topics; Andrew spoke in regards to the topic of “That Dictator the Media” and Giselle on “The Price of Freedom”. The students also spoke about the “Three Keys to Happiness” in the impromptu speaking round. Despite not placing in the competition, Andrew and Giselle are to be commended on performing exceptionally well in a challenging situation that is Public Speaking. I would like to thank Andrew and Giselle for their dedication to preparing for the competition and for being outstanding representatives of the College. A thank you must also be given to Mrs Massa and Mrs Sagredo who attended the competition to show their support for their children, as well as the MISA initiative for developing leadership and speaking skills of young adults.

Eleonora Agazzi
Public Speaking Teacher

Academic Weekly Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roy Tristan Dela Cruz</td>
<td>Monique Alilovic</td>
<td>Daniel Kovicz</td>
<td>Alex De Martin</td>
<td>Carissa Dunn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Krishneel Singh</td>
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<td>Georgette Shearer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Georgina Grubisic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Giselle Sagredo</td>
<td>Adrian Rak</td>
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Josephine McKell
English Coordinator

Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marcelline Querubin</td>
<td>Sebastian Garcia</td>
<td>Jessica Markoska</td>
<td>Samantha Ramos</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oscar Oudomvilay</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jasmine Cassidy</td>
<td>Isabella Markoska</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Brittany Bartolo</td>
<td>Nicole De Leon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cynthia Giitsidis</td>
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<td>Stephanie Laguna</td>
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<td>Mitchell Davies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lochlan Tabone</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nicolas Garcia</td>
<td>Samuel Collado</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jaig Calabrese</td>
<td>Sabrina Raso</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elizabeth Giusti
Acting CAPA Coordinator

From the TAS Department

Creative Cakes
On Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 October, the Year 9 Food Technology students showed off their cake decorating skills as part of their ‘Food for Special Occasions’ Assessment Task. Each student was required to design, bake and decorate a birthday cake in the allocated time frame. All students did a marvellous job. Well done, Year 9!

Saher Jajo
TAS Teacher
Year 10 Geography Excursion

On Friday 25 October, Year 10 ventured to Cronulla for their coastal management field study. We were very lucky to visit our beautiful coastline in near perfect conditions. The students broke up into five seminar groups and listened to different presentations from the teachers. With Miss Deguara, we explored the Sea Bee Wall and overdevelopment at North Cronulla. Ms Abdo outlined the management strategies amongst the dunes at Elouera. Then with Mr Holland we used a clinometer and constructed a beach profile. Mr Wilson helped us measure the wind speed and direction and analysed the relationship between the wind and the waves. Finally, with Mr Aitken we analysed longshore drift using a tennis ball and the rock formations of the cliffs. It was great to see first hand the things we have been learning in class.

We would like to thank our Geography teachers for organising the field study and taking us to Cronulla and Miss Portors who walked the groups from one end to the other all day.

10.5 Geography Class

Careers News

Any students interested in apprenticeships for 2014 please come and visit the Careers Office for current information.

* TAFE Colleges are now taking expressions of interest and enrolments for 2014. Go to their websites for details.

* Students interested in casual work over the Christmas period need to be accessing the websites of major retailers as they are advertising now. Please visit the Careers Office if you need assistance with your resume or application.

* Year 11 students, now is a good time to begin thinking about realistic options for your life after the HSC. Make an appointment to see me in the Careers Office on Wednesday or Friday to get started.

Anne Weeks
Careers Advisor
Year 11 Retreat - An Invitation to the Heart

In Week 2 of this term, Year 11 attended their Senior Residential Retreat, ‘An Invitation to the Heart’.

The retreat is an invaluable opportunity for the students to reflect upon and deepen their faith, consider their relationships with God, their families and friends. Students also consider how they might embark on the next twelve months and life after school, with courage, self-belief and generosity. Part of the Retreat Program involves a forgiveness liturgy, where students have the opportunity to repair and heal their friendships. It is an experience that unites the year group and fosters their advocacy for each other.

I would like to commend the year group on their participation, openness and maturity during this retreat. Many teachers have commented how the students have returned a little more focused on their study and goals for their future.

I would like to thank the teachers who attended and supported our students by sharing their own experiences: Mark Bolonia, David Timillero, Josie Palumbo, Marc Ghignone, Matthew Holland, Daniella Volpato, Fay Abdo and also Melinda Melham who led the Retreat.

Alix Stirling
Acting Year 11 Coordinator
**Dates to Remember**

Friday 8 November  
Year 7 2014 Orientation Day

Monday 11 November  
Year 7 Reflection Day

Thursday 14 November  
Year 12 Formal

Wednesday 20 November  
Parent Advisory Board Meeting at 6.30pm

**From the Finance Department**

Fee Statements were sent to all families earlier this week. If you didn’t receive a Statement, can you please contact the College.

A reminder to all families that all outstanding school fees are required to be settled as soon as possible. Payment may be made by Bpay, cheque, cash, Eftpos or credit card.

Any queries regarding fees or payments please contact the College Office. All conversations are strictly confidential.

Thank you for your continued support of Clancy Catholic College.

Gary Williams  
Business Manager

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**On Campus Uniform Shop**

We will be available for new Year 11 Senior students to try and purchase uniforms on:

**Thursday 12 December 12.00pm - 5.00pm**

Alternatively new senior students can also visit the shop during our open days in January:

**January Open Days** (last week of school holidays)  
Monday 20 January 10.00am – 4.00pm  
Tuesday 21 January 10.00am – 4.00pm

**On Line Ordering**

We are pleased to announce that On Campus Schoolwear now offers the parents and students of Clancy Catholic College the option to purchase their uniforms online.

To take advantage of this service please follow these steps:

**Step 1**

- Place your order at [www.ocschoolwear.com.au](http://www.ocschoolwear.com.au)
- Username - *clancy*
- Password - *charmichael*

**Step 2**

- Your order will be confirmed via email.
- Your order will be packaged/processed and invoiced.
- Your invoice will be emailed on dispatch.
- Your goods will be shipped directly to Clancy Catholic College Reception.

*Goods shipped by Fastway Couriers. $10.00 freight charge per order.*

**Step 3**

- Collect your order at Clancy Catholic College Reception.

*It is your responsibility to collect your order from the College Reception. Any queries please contact On Campus Schoolwear on 95404936.*

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**Arts and Culture Night**

*Excellence in the field of Creative & Performing Arts*

You have been invited to the Exhibition and Awards Ceremony for students in Years 7 to 12 who have excelled in the fields of Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance.

**Where:** Clancy Catholic College (D Block)  
**Date:** 27th November 2013  
**Time:** 6.00pm - Award Ceremony begins at 6.30pm