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

I hope this week to provide you with an update on recent changes to government policy with respect to the funding of Catholic schools and to advise you of decisions relating to school fees.

Gonski Review

As you would be aware, the funding arrangements for our Catholic schools have recently been under review. So far the Federal Government has suggested a reduction of funding for Catholic schools in NSW with an assurance that no school will be worse off under the new Federal formula. At this time however, there has been no formal announcement made by the Federal Government and there exists some concern that some higher socio-economic areas such as in Sydney may be disadvantaged. We await more information around that.

State Government Funding Cuts

Perhaps the biggest surprise was the announcement of funding cuts for Catholic schools last term. Following strong representations, the Government has confirmed that the cut will apply evenly across all school systems. However, over $116 million will be withheld from non-government schools over the next four years and this will mean that the impact will be $21 million or potentially, a higher loss to our system.

Taking all of this into account, there has been great need to review all cost items and seek opportunities for savings within our Catholic system to ensure that fee increases are kept to a minimum. The follow on effect of all this means that there has been a recommendation that our tuition fees for 2013 will be increased in line with the previous year’s average weekly earning. For 2013 this means an increase of 4.2%. Having said that, we have been assured that the Catholic Education Office Sydney and the system of schools will continue to provide support for those families who struggle to meet fees, charges and levies set. Should you have any difficulty making payments or meeting the requirements of fees I encourage you to make contact with Gary Williams, our Business Manager.

There will be opportunities for us later this term to exercise our voice as parents of children in Catholic schools and show our disappointment at the State Government’s sudden decision to cut funds to schools. Our Executive Director, Dr Dan White continues to negotiate and seek the best possible outcome for our Catholic schools and the future of our students and children.

Students having Breakfast

I draw your attention to an article written by Mrs Alex Lupton where she has identified the importance of our students having breakfast before they come to school. I raise this with you because we have become aware there are a significant number of students who attend school without eating. Many of the students in Mrs Lupton’s class have reported that since they have begun to have breakfast, they have found that the first two periods of the day have been a lot more rewarding in terms of their learning. It is particularly important during times of assessments, exams and stress that students are eating and indeed sleeping well. At a recent P&F Meeting we explored ways where we might be able to assist some students here at Clancy and give them other opportunities to eat when they come to school.

The Holy Rosary

My thanks to Mrs Melham and the College Leaders for leading the Holy Rosary everyday by the statue of Mary in our College. I would like to congratulate the number of students who attended and participated in this in a very reverent and sincere way. This has become a part of our Clancy tradition here and one of which I am very proud.

Finally, can I remind you that at this time of the year more so than any other, routine and consistency is important. Students are expected to be at school everyday and on time. Uniform guidelines are available on our website and we have recently added photos of school shoes to guide you in your deliberations and discussions with your children.

Thanking you for your ongoing support!

Iris Nastasi
Principal
From the Religious Education Department

As we begin the month of November, we celebrate two significant days in the Liturgical calendar: ‘All Saints Day’ and ‘All Souls Day’. We continue to be inspired by all Saints who showed unwavering devotion to their faith, in particular, to our House Patron St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, who challenges each one of us to ‘never see a need and not do something about it’. We take up this challenge in the coming weeks with the launch of the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers. We encourage each member of our community to bring in items like food or toys to provide for those in our larger community who have very little. Our community has always been generous in their support of those who need it most. I anticipate that these hampers will receive the same consideration.

In remembering those in our families and communities who are no longer with us, All Souls Day is significant to us all. In the month of November, the St Mary Mackillop Intentions Book in the Chapel is available for all students and staff to write the names of loved ones we remember. Prayers will then be offered for them at Tuesday morning Mass during November. All students are encouraged to take the time to come to the Chapel to remember and pray for them, as they are always in our hearts, forever in our prayers and never out of our thoughts.

Finally, a special thanks to our Year 11 students who have led the Rosary every lunchtime during October, they will be again assisting with Advent Prayer that will begin in December each lunchtime in the Chapel. The leadership of these students in the faith life of the College is appreciated, as it not only provides them with the opportunity to develop their faith, it encourages others to do the same.

Melinda Melham
Religious Education Coordinator

Vampire Shield Blood Bank Donations

On Wednesday 31 October, some very generous Year 11 students travelled out to Liverpool Blood Bank and donated their blood to save the lives of others. This selfless act of generosity will not go unappreciated considering blood supplies are quite low. When 1 in 3 Australians will need a blood transfusion to save their lives it is sad to know that only 1 in 30 people donate blood.

Leading into the Christmas season, blood supplies around Australia will fall short and it is up to us to ensure that we can help in anyway we can. Please make an appointment with Liverpool Red Cross Blood Bank on 13 14 95 and demonstrate the best way to love like Christ - to sacrifice like Christ.

A huge congratulations go to the following students, most of whom do not have another of their first time: Stephanie Bacan, Chelsie LeCordier, Cyril Baran, Andres De La Paz, Alex Xotta, and Gabriel Bustamante. Thanks to Mr Kyritsis as well! The combined efforts of our donations will go towards saving the lives of 27 people!

Josephine McKell
Blood Bank Coordinator

Weekly Academic Awards

English
The following students have been presented Academic Awards for outstanding achievements in their Assessment Tasks and Exams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Giselle Pineda</th>
<th>Phillip Sabine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aimee Manicaro</td>
<td>Stephanie Alfonzo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veronica Casha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Anna Richardson</td>
<td>Madeline Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Andrew Lentini</td>
<td>Andrew Massa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paula Okajgin</td>
<td>Maria Vitagliano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Sarah Ashcroft</td>
<td>Laura Perkov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Keiti-Anne Reyes</td>
<td>Sarah Casha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vanessa Habibeh</td>
<td>Rachel Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Katriel Longo</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Josephine McKell
English Coordinator

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

It was with great pleasure that the HSIE Department presented a number of students with the last HSIE Awards for the year. The students below have achieved at a high level and are working steadily towards excellent grades in their end of year reports. The level of both test results and research assignments have been outstanding. Congratulations to one and all.

| Year 7 | Clare de Vires |
| Year 8 | Bridgett Agostino |
| Year 9 | Alex DeMartin |
|        | Andrea Desouza  |
|        | Nikita Nissen   |
| Year 10| Paige Flores    |
| Year 11| Sarah Casha     |
|        | Dylan Villanueva|
|        | Katriel Longo   |
|        | Ivy Ly          |

David Timilero
HSIE Coordinator

Laptop Care

We have had a number of laptop breakages in the last couple of weeks, this unfortunately comes at some cost to the parent. Could I please ask you to remind your child to keep their laptops within their protective bags, especially when placing the laptop within the school bag.

John Coppola
eLearning Coordinator

Linking Learning to Parents

Breakfast

In an effort to educate students in Physical Activity and Sports Studies about nutrition for athletes, it became evident that some of our students are not eating breakfast daily. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, as we need energy to start the day, otherwise students fatigue during the early stages of the day limiting effective learning.

In the PASS elective we have held a breakfast lesson to discuss nutritional needs and the value of eating certain foods. Can I suggest that we all engage in this type of discussion around breakfast so that all our students can be actively engaged in their learning throughout the entire day without fatigue? Breakfast can range from cereal, toast and fruit with yoghurt.

Some of the students in Year 10 PASS are already seeing the benefits and so I set the challenge for all students to try and eat breakfast to see the positive impact it has towards their learning.

Alexandra Lupton
PDHPE Coordinator
**Year 9 Textiles and Technology**

As part of an Assessment Task, the Year 9 Textiles Technology class kept with the trends in fashion by using recycled clothing to create toys. These students had a large task at hand when they turned their old jumpers and scarves into bears and dolls. They all did a great job in finding a practical way to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Nadia Montibeler
Textiles and Technology Teacher

**Hospitality**

**Year 11 Chef of the Week**

Congratulations to the entire Year 11 Hospitality class for their efforts in their practical last week. They made prawn cocktails with Thousand Island Dressing as well as golden chicken nuggets with a dipping sauce. Their challenge was to present these ordinary dishes in an extra-ordinary way. The entire class worked so well that it was almost impossible to select one chef of the week. However, after much deliberation, chef of the week goes to Jessica Haines, Benjamin Vitagliano, Tiarne Barrie and Kimberly Evans! They all worked extremely well and presented two very sophisticated versions of prawn cocktails and chicken nuggets. Job well done!!!

Melissa Mariani
Hospitality Teacher

**Mathematics Drop-In Centre**

In an effort to support the students at Clancy Catholic College, the Mathematics Drop-In Centre will be running again this term.

The Drop-In Centre is open to any student who would like some extra help in Mathematics. Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings (8:00 – 8:30am), a member of the Mathematics faculty will be available in A1 to offer students the opportunity to ask questions or get some extra help with their homework.

I strongly encourage the students at Clancy to ‘drop-in’ and take advantage of this service (especially now with upcoming Assessment Tasks!)

Spyro Kyritsis
Acting Mathematics Coordinator

**Creative Cakes**

On Monday 29 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 children’s birthday cake in the allocated time frame. All students did a marvellous job. Well done, Year 9!

Saher Jajo
Food Technology Teacher

**World Youth Day Raffle**

The WYD pilgrims will be selling raffle tickets throughout Week 5 at lunch time. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please do so through your son or daughter during this week. Tickets are $2.00 each. Of the money raised, 80% will go towards subsidising the pilgrimage costs for the students and 20% will go towards a mission fund which will help support any mission works that will be done overseas.

The prizes for the raffle are:

- **1st Prize**: Kia Rio, 3 Door Automatic Hatchback valued at $17,290
- **2nd Prize**: 2 x Economy Class Return airfares to Europe courtesy of Harvest INROADS flying Emirates
- **3rd Prize**: $1000 Visa gift card

Tickets will also be available for purchase at the Front Office from Week 5. Please consider supporting our students as they prepare for next year!

Angeli Kihi
World Youth Day Coordinator

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Angeli Kihi
World Youth Day Coordinator

**Sport**

**Berg Shield - Clancy Versus Parramatta Marist Brothers**

A hard fought game of cricket was played on Friday as Clancy took on Parramatta Marist in Round One of the Berg Shield. After losing the toss and bowling, we took an early wicket and some tight bowling from Jye Ellul and Kyle Nelson saw us on top early. The Marist batsmen then consolidated and started to increase the run rate. A good fight back in the later stage of the innings allowed us to get back into the game. Jye Ellul finished with 2/23, Grant Wilkins 1/16 and Dylan Abreu 1/19.

Chasing 166 for victory wasn’t going to be an easy task however the batsmen gave it their all. Ben Home (18) and Jye Hawes (12) got us off to a great start and Jye Ellul (38) and Kyle Nelson (33no) put on a great partnership in the middle overs. Unfortunately we were restricted by some economical bowling and good fielding to 4/120 after our 30 overs. The Clancy boys showed great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the day and should all be proud of their efforts.

Chris Thorburn
Cricket Coach

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Chris Thorburn
Cricket Coach
LEARNING LABS is a program for students in Years 7 to 10. The curriculum is pitched at Years 11/12. When: Thursday 17 and Friday 18 January Fee: $135 Time: 9:30am - 4.00pm Where: University of Wollongong Campus What to bring: Food, drinks, hat, sunscreen and stationery supplies.

LEARNING LABS is an academic enrichment program for students in Years 7 to 10. We are offering workshops that cover a range of academic fields. The program will be held at the Wollongong Campus and each workshop will be developed and presented by University academics who are leaders in their field. Workshops will be innovative, challenging and aim to stimulate the interests of high achieving students. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to socialise with like-minded peers within a university setting. We look forward to meeting you!

Applications Close: Friday 16 November 2012
For more information go to: www.uow.edu.au/educ/learninglabs

Catholic Education Foundation
Opportunities for all

Earlier this year, the Catholic Education Foundation was launched to honour our commitment that no Catholic child should be denied a Catholic education due to financial hardship. Bursaries will be funded to assist families in all Sydney systemic Catholic schools. To be successful, the foundation relies on sponsorship and donations and is therefore very grateful to the families within our school community who have made tax deductible donations via the foundation website: www.ceosyd.catholic.edu.au/foundation

Our school community also recognises the foundation’s sponsors, particularly Lowes/Beare and Ley, Dooleys Lindcombe Catholic Club, Club Central Hurstville and Club Central Menai. Their significant financial commitment is a great help to families in our school and in other Catholic schools in Sydney.

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