



### Mottos

- Primary** Hal was grateful to his folks;  
He kept the most immaculate notes.
- Years 7-9** I don't pretend to be different from my real self.
- Years 10-12** "It is much easier to be critical than correct."  
—Benjamin Franklin

### From the Headmaster

**St. John Vianney** - "We must say many prayers for the souls of the faithful departed, for one must be so pure to enter heaven." The month of November is a special time for us to remember those that have gone before us. We keep in mind our loved ones and pray and offer suffrages for their souls. We must never forget to pray for the dead. Saint John Paul II said, **'Prayer joined to sacrifice constitutes the most powerful force in human history.'** We'll have a special Mass this month for those from the school community who have passed away.

Please come along this Wednesday and have a look at the great work that is being done in the Art and Design and Technology Department. It is amazing how far we have come in such a short time. From working in the cramped confines of a shared Art and Design and Technology room to having the new modern state-of-the-art facility that we now have, and the results have been impressive. So come along and support Joe Tabone and the boys. Congratulations to Sonal Suresh of Year 10, the winner of the Secondary Chess Competition. Joe Woolnough was his worthy grand final opponent. Well done, Sonal!

Teachers have been delving deeper into the NAPLAN results and are coming back with some useful information. Unfortunately, the individual results that are sent home do not provide a great deal on how a student has improved from one NAPLAN test to another. The 'Student Growth' indicator is the best possible data to analyse whether a school is enhancing student improvement as a given cohort moves through that school. It was fantastic to see that our 2014 school data indicated extraordinary growth in a number of areas. In Year 5 our improvement figures in Numeracy and Grammar were 10%+ better on average than the figures for other Independent Schools. In Year 7 our improvement figures were over 10% better in Grammar and Writing, while in Year 9 Numeracy, Grammar, Reading and Spelling were our best areas of improvement, surpassing the average figures for Independent Schools in excess of 10%.

Thank you to all the parents and students that have been so helpful to me and my family since the birth of our baby girl, Cecilia. I am so appreciative of the support and prayers that we get on a regularly basis, as are so many others that have been in need of an extra helping hand lately.

### INSIDE

**FAREWELL  
YOUTH MASS  
WITH BISHOP  
ANTHONY  
FISHER**

**WOLLEMI ART  
AND DESIGN  
EXHIBITION  
WEDNESDAY 5  
TO FRIDAY 7  
NOVEMBER**

## FROM DIRECTOR OF STUDIES (SECONDARY)

### Mobile Phones

I spoke to one of our classes last week explaining SEVEN good reasons why we don't want them to use their phones (or other web-enabled devices) at school. They are:

- So they can talk face-to-face with real human beings instead
- So they can play sport in their break times
- To avoid wasting time
- To go some way to stopping a growing obsession with social media
- To avoid distractions from what they are meant to be focussed on at school
- To protect all students from inappropriate content
- To decrease total screen time
- So their phone isn't confiscated. (That's not a *good* reason.)

If a student chooses to use his device without the express permission of a teacher, it will be confiscated and returned to the parents the following week, at the earliest.

If you believe your son needs a phone at school, then he must keep it off and in his bag during school hours. He can turn it on when he is dismissed at the end of the day. Also, there is a student available to run messages from the office during the day if need be, so please do not expect him to answer any texts from you.

If students cannot follow this simple procedure then I will have no sympathy for them 'needing' it in the afternoon. Furthermore, repeat offenders may not be allowed to bring them at all or may have to hand them in to the office each morning.

### Computer games at school

I have been quite concerned of late at the number of students being removed from the library at lunchtime for playing games on the computers. They should be outside in the fresh air, socialising and playing sport with their friends.

Any student caught this term playing any computer game on the school computers will have his school account closed down for the rest of the year. If this makes assignments or study difficult, he can reflect on the error of his ways as he reads an old-fashioned reference book and uses a pen to do his work.

*Brett Wright*

## YEAR 4 CAMPING FUN

You are invited to a Family Camping Holiday from Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 at Glenmack Caravan Park Kangaroo Valley ( <http://www.glenmack.com.au/> ). There is plenty to do including swimming in the river and bushwalks and for the more adventurous there are kayaks available for hire.

The park has cabins for hire and a tent camping ground. Prices for the camping ground will be \$12 per adult and \$8 per child(over 4) per night. We will be camping, and camping cannot be booked, however we have camped there on a number of occasions and have not had any problems pitching a tent. If you would prefer to stay in a cabin you can check the **off peak** prices on the site ( <http://www.glenmack.com.au/tariffs.htm> ). The cabins can also be booked if you wish.

The Park has communal bathroom facilities and BBQ's and a playground which are available for use. Hope to see you there, bring marshmallows and games.

**TEAM OF THE WEEK**

YEAR	AWARD
Three	Falcons
Four	Pumas
Five	Terror Brotherhood
Six	Stingrays

**CHAPEL ROSTER**

Week 6 —Week commencing 10 November	
Flowers	Magda Piotrowski
Linen	Tina Seecy
Cleaning	Sue Schembri

**THANK YOU**

Thank you so much for the well wishes, prayers, meals and offers of help. And to my Year 8 class, thank you so much for the wonderful surprise. It made my day!  
Love  
Ginny Gonzaga

**FAREWELL MASS**

A farewell Youth Mass with Archbishop Anthony Fisher is being held at St Patrick’s Church, Allawah Street, Blacktown.

Senior students are invited to attend the mass on Saturday 8 November. Mass will begin at 11.30am followed by a short presentation and lunch.

Please RSVP to the office if you plan on attending for catering purposes.

**UKELELE**

Beginner Ukelele players only this week. Thursday at lunchtime with Mr Fraser.

**MATHS CORNER**

This week’s question is for Year 8: Can you arrange four 8 to make it equal to 89? Use only two maths operators.

The first year 8 boy to email me at [michaelseecy@wollemi.nsw.edu.au](mailto:michaelseecy@wollemi.nsw.edu.au) after 4:30 with working and the answer will receive 5 points for his team.

**RETURN OF FORMS**

Tutor forms went out via email a few weeks ago. At this stage we are still awaiting a number of replies. Please reply via email to make a booking to see your tutor as soon as possible.

Also it would be appreciated if you could return any outstanding permission slips, in particular, swimming notes, as soon as possible!!!

Thank you for your assistance.

**FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT**



Please join us for our first Art and Design Exhibition and Awards night on Wednesday November 5 from 6pm onward. Awards will be presented at 6:30pm. The exhibition of students’ work will remain open for general exhibition in the hall until November 7 during school hours. We hope you enjoy the students’ fine work .

**BASKETBALL CLUB NEWS**

Game times this week

**Friday 7th October**

U16M1: 5.45pm vs Npn Sharks

U18M1: 8pm vs GP Jumpin Jammers

U18M2 warriors: 8.45pm vs CP Amigos

U18M2@ wizards: 8.45pm vs GP Purple Dunkers

**Saturday 8th October**

U12M2: BYE

U12M3: 1.50pm vs Npn Legends

U16M2: 4.30pm vs SC Wolves

**SWIMMING NEWS**

Congratulations to Kasper Piotrowski on his recent swims in the State Swimming Championships at Homebush. He was a member of two club relay teams: 4 x 100 freestyle and 4 x 100 medley. The team competed in country NSW and also in NSW State Age Championship, and both were in SOPAC in Sydney (5-6 July and 30-31 August this year, respectively). There were obviously difficult qualifying times applied in these competitions as there are many who wish to compete at this level. Well done!!

**FROM THE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT**

SCHOOL FEES: Non-direct Debit Families

Term 4 school fees were due on Friday, 17 October 2014. If you did not receive your family statement or if you have any queries, please contact Lydia Jocson on 4749 4722 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) or e-mail [Lydia.Jocson@pared.edu.au](mailto:Lydia.Jocson@pared.edu.au)

**LOST PROPERTY**

The lost property box is full with unclaimed items. There are jumpers, track pants, and even a small blazer (possibly a Year 3 or 4 boy). Some items are labelled with initials known only to the owner. It would be much appreciated if these items could be collected. Please label all items as it is a great help in returning lost items quickly to their owners. At the end of the year unclaimed uniform items will be taken to the uniform shop to be sold as second hand items.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Wednesday 5 November	Year 5 Excursion to the city
Monday 10 November—Friday 14 November	Primary Swimming Programme
Tuesday 11 November—Wednesday 12 November	Year 10 Exams
Thursday 13 November	Year 9/10 Electives Exams
Monday 17 November—Friday 28 November	Year 10 Work Experience
Tuesday 18 November	Year 12 Formal
Thursday 20 November	Year 2 Orientation
Thursday 20 November—Tuesday 25 November	Years 5-9 Yearly Exams

This Newsletter is published every Tuesday. Articles may be e-mailed to [paulineward@wollemi.nsw.edu.au](mailto:paulineward@wollemi.nsw.edu.au) before 10am.