Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2! I know you enjoyed having your children home for the holidays and I hope you had the opportunity for some relaxation as well. Term 2 has started very smoothly with all the students settling back down to work very quickly.

In the last week of Term 1 we had our Student of the Term Assembly to congratulate the students who were nominated by their teacher to receive this special award. These students were presented with a specially designed certificate, had their photo taken for display and enjoyed morning tea with Mr Rose and myself. Congratulations to the Students of the Term for Term 1 2013.

Maximus Konstantinoff, Sabine Escueta, Cyanne Dela Cruz
Grace Boktor, Amra Tokhman, Jayden Ramia, Nicole Suarez, Jonathan Buttigieg, Francis Fronteras, Fritzy Serrano, Sabrina De La Motte, Yasmina Mekhael, Chantelle Lansangan, Joshua Ghazawy, Sabrina Nakhl and Willson Go

Madeline and Christen from our Student Council presented an overview of the term which is printed below.

To start of the term, the Year 6 classes took on the role of being a buddy to the new kindergarten students. Year 6 students showed their kindergarten buddy around the school, taught the rules, where to play and how to make friends.

Then on 1st of February we had the school swimming carnival for Years 3 to 6. Everyone participated and were good sports.

Soon after that Steve the Puppet Man came on the 15th of February for his last show. He taught us that we mustn’t bully anyone. Afterwards we presented Steve with a Certificate of Appreciation.

A week later the students who made it through to the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival participated in their events. Some students made it through to the next level. It was lovely day with lots of sunshine. Many people wished they could stay in the pool longer.

Later on in the term, Year 2 went on their excursion to Elizabeth Farm on 5th of March. Year 2 had the chance to dress up as people from the early days of Australia; when the first-fleet arrived.

Ten days later the kindergarten students, the new staff and new students
Enrolling in other grades were welcomed at our 2013 Welcome Assembly.

Next we had our Primary Cross-country on 22nd of March. Everyone enjoyed it and again we all were good sports.

Then on 25th of March, the Student representative Council got to go to the Sydney Entertainment Centre at Darling Harbour. There we listened to 5 speakers Mark Martin, Creel Price, Brett Lee, Jess Fox and Nathan Hindmarsh.

On 4th of April Year 6 got to show their wonderful artwork at the Art Exhibition in the Multi-Purpose Room. Many families and teachers that attended the night commented on how beautiful the artworks were. Thanks to Mrs. Kersivien, the night was spectacular.

We remember all the Merit Assemblies and times the primary have gone to Mass on a Thursday.

Finally, we mustn’t forget Ash Wednesday and the times we went to the library for prayer time in Holy Week.

This term was surely hectic but amazing. We must thank all our teachers for making this term truly outstanding. We all look forward to the next exciting term.

Staff Development Day

The staff spent our Staff Development Day on 29th April becoming familiar with the new NSW Board of Studies Syllabuses including Australian Curriculum content which are being phased in over the next few years. The Board of Studies have mandated that the new English syllabus be implemented in 2014, Mathematics and Science in 2015 and History in 2016.

Art Exhibition

Huge thank you to Mrs Kersivien for organising the Art Exhibition we had on Thursday 4th April. This exhibition was part of our submission for the 2013 Anzac Day awards. We were the NSW Primary School winners in 2012! Our special guests Mrs Anna Dickinson from the Catholic Education Office, Mr Paul Howard from the Blacktown Arts Centre and Mr Graham Banks from Legacy were most impressed with the standard of artwork on display. My thanks to Mrs Dobrzynski, Mrs Rose, Mrs Sultana and Mrs Bayada who guided the students through their art work. An exceptionally successful evening which provided an opportunity to showcase the talents of the Year 6 students and also raised $741 for Legacy. My thanks to the families who came along to support the evening, your presence was greatly appreciated. Please see letter of thanks from Legacy included in this newsletter.

Welcome Back Mrs Stanley

We welcome back our Music teacher, Mrs Stanley, who has returned from maternity leave. Mrs Stanley’s beautiful little girl, Eva, is almost 12 months old! We thank Mrs Thoms for the great job she did teaching music during Mrs Stanley’s leave. Mrs Thoms will continue to teach 6R every Friday.

Congratulations

To Miss Kaempff who was married during the holidays and is now Mrs Rutherford (6R).
More Congratulations
To Matt Moylan, son of Mrs Moylan, who made his NRL debut for the Penrith Panthers last Monday night. Matt was awarded the Man of the Match and is the first ex-student of our school to play NRL Rugby League. I could hear the Moylan family cheering very proudly in the stands from home!

Even More Congratulations
To our newly elected sports captains:

Green (Watts)  Red (O’Neill)  Gold (Smith)  Blue (MacKillop)
Jun Ray Marticio  Ed Miguel De Los Reyes  Freddie Giunta  Ivy Perez
Patrice Pascual  Kiara Kumar  Isabella Said  Blayde Horn

Sports captain badges were presented at the Merit Assembly on Friday 3rd May.

Chess Competition
This year we have seven teams in the NSW Chess League Friday afternoon competition. The competition begins Friday 10th May and runs through til August on a home and away basis. Good luck to all our Chess players. We know you will be very welcoming to visiting schools and great ambassadors for our school when playing away games.

Nathan Haber, Julian Esposito, Angelo Alimpia, Ethan Sibucao, Kartik Kumar, Blayde Horn, Shaun Muinoi, Gavriel Gutierrez, Adam Camage, Luke Haber, Oscar Camage, Jacob Bayada, Justin Cruz, Kyrolos Ghannami, Paul Park, Santiago Flores, Thomas Hogan, Maxwell Hogan, Jocelyn Chen, Lachlan Zorzut, Aidan Mercado, Cameron Cunningham, Shawn Hendrickson, Ethan Pua, Pranay Singh, Andreas Kaskanriotis, Jayden Carbonaro, Aaron Carbonaro.

Winter Uniform
Now that the weather is turning cooler it is time for students to dress in their winter uniform. Students should have been dressed in their winter uniform from Monday 6th May. It is timely to revisit our uniform dress code at the change of season.

Uniform Dress Code
- children are to wear the correct school uniform neatly and with pride.
- parents are asked to ensure their children wear the correct uniform
- all items of clothing must be clearly marked with the child’s name and class
- girls are permitted to wear plain gold or silver single sleepers or studs
- ornamental bangles, bracelets, anklets or earrings are not to be worn.
- girls may wear one signet ring
- a necklace of Religious significance may be worn underneath the uniform
- boys are not to wear earrings to school
- nail polish is not to be worn
- boys hairstyles are to be neat and simple – no pronounced undercuts or designs, no rats tails or hair impeding their vision girls with shoulder length hair are to
have it tied back away from the face
- girls’ hair accessories are to be in school colours of blue
- school shoes are to be black and polishable
- sport shoes are to be a jogger design predominantly white and are to be devoid of bright colours, patterns or slogans.
- children are to wear the school hat everyday with the flap down and the peak of the cap facing forward.
- children without hats will be directed to the designated shade areas
- Yr. 6 students may wear their souvenir polo shirt on sports days

**Note on socks** ~ Please note boys and girls are to wear navy ankle style socks with both summer and winter uniforms. In winter girls may wear navy tights. On sport days children wear white sport style socks.

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**NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy)**

On the **14th, 15th and 16th May** Year 3 and 5 students will sit for the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). NAPLAN is a national assessment and the students will be assessed in Language Conventions, Writing, Reading, and Numeracy. Parents of students in Years 3 and 5 have received a letter explaining the assessments.

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**Kindergarten Enrolments 2014**

If you have a child commencing Kindergarten next year and have not returned your Enrolment Form please do so. We are now enrolling children for Kindergarten for next year.

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**INVITATION**

**Friday 10th May**

- 9.30am  Mothers’ Day Assembly - led by Kindergarten
- Morning Tea for Parents and Visitors

Please join us in the Multi-Purpose Room
Family Reflection:

You have a gift for bringing joy to others, day by day.
You have an understanding heart, a gentle, thoughtful way.
You have that special something often called a ‘mother’s touch’
that makes you so exceptional and loved so very much.

God Bless

Mr. Glenn Patchell
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATIONS NEWS
MAY ~ MARY’S MONTH ~ PRAYING THE ANGELUS
Traditionally, the month of May is dedicated to Mary, the mother of Our Lord, Jesus. The Church teaches that Mary is the greatest Christian saint of all. She has been loved and honoured from the beginning of the story of the Church.

Mary was a woman of faith who trusted God and was always ready to do his will. She is a true model of discipleship within our Church.

This year, Bishop Anthony Fisher has asked all schools in the Parramatta Diocese to pray the Angelus daily at around noon.

The Angelus is a simple devotion that causes us to recall the gift of God’s Son. It consists of 3 short verses, each followed by the Hail Mary and then a concluding prayer.

The rhythm of the Angelus reminds us that there is more to life than daily toil. The interruption is deliberate—causing us all to stop and pause for just a few moments amidst the busyness of our work to remember God’s great love for us.

“The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.”

“I am the handmaid of the Lord.”

‘And the word was made flesh—and dwelt among us.’

Mothers’ Day Wish

May God bless all Mums on their special day! I hope it is a day of great love and joy for you all.

Happy Mothers’ Day!

Georgie Cox
REC
## TERM 2 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9th May</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Friday    | 10th May | 9.30am Mothers’ Day Assembly ~ Kindergarten Morning Tea  
           |           | 11.30am Mothers’ Day Stall P&F  
           |           | Chess begins                                      |
| Tuesday   | 14th May | NAPLAN Yrs. 3 & 5 (Language Conventions and Writing) |
| Wednesday | 15th May | NAPLAN Yrs. 3 & 5 (Reading)                        |
| Thursday  | 16th May | 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
|           |          | NAPLAN Yrs. 3 & 5 (Numeracy)                       |
| Friday    | 17th May | 10.15am Pentecost Assembly                         |
|           |          | P&F Meeting 2.00pm—Staffroom                       |
| Tuesday   | 21st May | Computer Competition - Yrs. 3-6                    |
| Thursday  | 23rd May | 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
| Friday    | 24th May | Bathurst Excursion ~ Yr. 5                         |
|           |          | Infants Tabloids Sports K-2                       |
|           |          | 2.15pm Merit Assembly                              |
| Thursday  | 30th May | 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
| Friday    | 31st May | 2.15pm Merit Assembly                              |
| Wednesday | 5th June | Australian Pioneer Village Excursion ~ Yr. 4       |
|           |          | Science Competition—Yrs. 3-6                       |
| Thursday  | 6th June | 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
| Friday    | 7th June | 2.15pm Merit Assembly                              |
| Monday    | 10th June| QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY                    |
| Thursday  | 13th June| 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
| Friday    | 14th June| K-6 Reports go home                                |
|           |          | 2.15pm Merit Assembly                              |
| Monday    | 17th June| Writing Competition—Yrs. 3-6                       |
| Tuesday   | 18th June| Spelling Competition—Yrs. 3-6                      |
| Thursday  | 20th June| Canberra —Yr. 6                                   |
|           |          | 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
| Friday    | 21st June| Canberra—Yr. 6                                    |
|           |          | 2.00pm P&F Meeting                                |
|           |          | 2.15pm Merit Assembly                              |
| Monday    | 24th June| Parent/Teacher Conference Evening Session          |
| Thursday  | 27th June| 9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6                        |
|           |          | Team Beat—Salaka                                   |
| Friday    | 28th June| 10.00am Student of the Term Assembly               |
|           |          | LAST DAY OF SCHOOL                                |

**SCHOOL RESUMES ON MONDAY 15TH JULY**

**FOR ALL STUDENTS**
MERIT CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to the following students

KINDERGARTEN
Marc Cuevas
Avria Bergado
Ian Ceniza
Chelsea Hidalgo
Kyle Camp
Elizabeth Angok

YEAR 1
Frienczel Espino
Lucas Perez
Andrew Lovering
Dean Ocampo
Alexandra Prokhorov
Mathew Xerri

YEAR 2
Samuel Gutierrez
Kimrena Joe
Veronika Pino-Undzillo
Sebastian Franjic
Jacob Bolton
Liam Micallef

YEAR 3
Caitlyn Xerri
Aaron Sabio
Zara Lobo
Jaxyn Vickers
Marc Aducayen
Anna Javier

YEAR 4
Andreas Kaskaniotis
Marc Go
Aidan Morris
John Mekhael
Annaliese Zammit
Thomas Hogan

YEAR 5
Vayda Hoy
Andrei Andaya
Allyssa Perez
Georgia Sultana
Jason Ocampo
Justin Cruz

YEAR 6
Joshua Diaz
Joshua Ghazawy
Irene Baik
Julian Esposito
Kartik Kumar
Stephen Egalla
**Woolworths Earn & learn Program**

We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between **Monday 8 April and Sunday 9 June 2013**. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

For every $10 spent at Woolworths you will receive a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. Pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it's completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program, and we’d like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for mathematics, English, science, art & crafts, through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at school.

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**SCHOOL FEES ~ TERM 2**

Accounts have been posted out by the Catholic Education Office. Fees are payable by **Monday 3 June**. Please contact Mrs. Fletcher, before the due date, if you are unable to finalise your account.

Payment of fees can be paid by Eftpos, Bpay, Postbill, Cash and Cheque.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Premier’s Reading Challenge

There are some very eager readers at St. John Vianney’s, with students already completing the 2013 Reading Challenge.

Congratulations to: **Chelsea Oliver & Shayna Fernando**

Well done everyone!

Mrs. Cheryl Kersivien
Teacher/Librarian
BOOK CLUB
Orders were sent home on Thursday 2 May, and are due back to school by this Thursday 9 May. Please remember to put your **child’s name** and **class** on the back of the order form, place their order form together with the **correct money** in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class.

Please be aware the organisation and collating of orders and monies received at school takes sometime to process. Please be patient as your child will receive the book club orders within a couple of weeks.

If you have any questions about Book Club please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Cheryl Kersivien or Mrs. Anne Fletcher.

Thank you for your continual support.

GARDENING NEWS
Have you noticed the wonderful vegetable garden beds outside the Year 3 classrooms and the native plants surrounding them? To create this lovely space in our school has been the combined and wonderful efforts of many people and I would like thank them for all their help and continued assistance.

**Year 6 Gardening Team**
This team meets each week on a Wednesday and under the guidance of **Mrs Rutherford**. These students weed, plant, water, harvest and mulch our gardens each week. These students are Bethany Locke, Jordan Barford, James Diaz, Jacob Borg, Zachary Kayafis, Matthew Dib, Andrew Girgis, Kristian Straub, Blayde Horn, Julian Esposito, Joshua Ghazawy, James Blanco, Angelo Alimpa and Gregfelics Dosado. *Thank you!*

This garden was funded from a grant from Blacktown City Council. Thank you to **Mrs Bown** who assisted me in applying for this grant. Another thank you to **Mr. Shaw** who built the vegetable beds and helps with our gardening needs. *Thank you!*

*Thanks to 3V who water the plants each day*

**Year 6 Worm Farm Team**
Each Wednesday a team of students collect organic waste from the infant’s playground to feed to the worms. They also collect the worm tea and mix it with water to fertilise the plants around the school. These students give up their morning tea and lunchtime to collect the organic matter to feed the worms. These students are : **Jordan Barford, Joshua Ghazawy, Stephen Egalla, and Nataliya Tamanika.** *Thank you?*

It takes many people to make our school a wonderful place – many thanks to you all.

Mrs Kersivien
NEWSLETTERS DATES FOR TERM 1

Wednesday 22 May
Wednesday 5 June
Wednesday 19 June

Please look for the newsletters on these days. The eldest child in each family will be responsible for taking it home.

COMMUNICATION ~ Staff value communication with parents and welcome the opportunity to meet. If you wish to meet with a staff member please make an appointment through the office for a mutually convenient time.

SUPERVISION ~ Morning supervision from 8.30 am. I ask you to ensure that your child is not at school before 8.30 am as there is NO supervision before this time. School finishes at 3.00pm and children should be picked up promptly. Afternoon supervision in the amphitheatre finishes at 3.30pm.

MOBILE TELEPHONES ~
We request that no mobile phones be brought to school. If your child needs it for safety reasons e.g. walks home alone, please send a note to the classroom teacher. In such circumstances the phone will be handed to the teacher in the morning and returned at 3.00pm.

CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION REQUIREMENTS

Child protection law require all volunteers and other visitors who may have direct unsupervised contact with children while completing tasks in or for Parramatta Catholic systemic schools to complete an online training module. After successfully completing the module, an email notification will be sent automatically to the volunteer’s email address and to the school email address. This email is a confirmation that the training has been successfully completed by the volunteer. Child protection for volunteers may be accessed through the following web address:

ANAPHYLAXIS
A LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY

Throughout our school we have several children with life threatening allergies to various forms of food. This is a serious issue the school must address and we have implemented various management strategies to cater for these children.

In order for our school to continue to be allergy aware we ask that you consider not including nuts, eggs, yoghurt or foods cooked in peanut oil as part of your child’s recess or lunch.

Thank you for considering the special health needs of these children.
Parents & Friends News

P & F Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Thursday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>School Banking books to be submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 10</td>
<td>11:30 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 17</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting, Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 24</td>
<td>11:00-1:30pm</td>
<td>Infants’ Tabloids Sports Day</td>
</tr>
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Mother’s Day Stall – Friday 10th May 11:30-1:30pm
The annual P & F Mother’s Day Stall will be open this Friday 10th May after recess in The Shed. All gifts are $7.00 Cards, $1.00. Children will visit the stall with their class or siblings. Please put the money in an envelope with your child’s name, class and “Mothers’ Day Stall” clearly labeled on it. The P & F Committee have been working very hard to source tasteful, practical or sentimental gifts from new suppliers at a bargain price. We have gifts specifically for Mums and Grandmothers, too! Our gifts include manicure sets, nail polish and lipstick caddies, photo frames, mugs, kitchenware, aprons & tea towels, large selection of jewellery, scented candles and cut glass holders, scented drawer liners, shopping memo packs & tote bags, beach bag & sarong, travel mugs, thermo water bottles, scarves and more!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!
We would love a team of helpers to sell the goods at the stall. If you can spend an hour or two after the Mother’s Day Assembly on Friday, please make your way up the The Shed. All volunteers most appreciated!

RECIPE BOOK GIVEAWAY!
In 2011 the SJV community published a recipe book of Family Favourites! We have a limited number of these books still available. The P & F are giving away FREE copies of the A4 size book at the Mother’s Day Morning Tea on Friday. If you don’t already have a copy, please feel free to take one. One copy per family, please.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK LAUNCH – 2013/2014
The new Entertainment Books are now available for purchase. These will be available on Friday after the Mother’s Day Assembly. You are welcome to buy on site or place an order for your book. For just $65.00, the Entertainment Book entitles you to over $15 000.00 worth of valuable offers! See the separate flyer sent home this week.

INFANTS TABLOIDS SPORTS DAY BBQ – Friday May 24
The P & F will be coordinating a BBQ for the WHOLE school on Friday 24th May during the Infants Tabloids Sports Day. We need volunteers to make this possible – especially a few Cooks! Whether you a are Sausage Sizzle Superchef or a first time eager cook – we would love you to come along and help! We also need some folks to help set up and serve as well. Please leave your contact details with the office or post a comment on our SJV Facebook page. Many thanks in anticipation.

School Banking – Every Thursday
Banking continues every Thursday. Children will hand their yellow bank book to their teacher for the office box in the mornings.

Any parents who wish to start banking for their children can open an account at any branch of the Commonwealth Bank: you just need to take the child’s birth certificate with you and then send their yellow bank book to school with them each Thursday.
**Staying In Touch**

We realise that it is difficult for many parents to attend P & F meetings and events due to their work commitments, inside and outside the home.

Now you can stay in touch with news and events, contribute your ideas and helpful contacts through our new “SJV Parents & Friends” page on Facebook!

If there are any last minute changes to the school calendar, you will find this information on our FB page. Mr Patchell will notify the P&F on Thursday afternoons to confirm Merit Assemblies or any special presentations to be made at the Friday assembly so that parents will know which year groups will be involved in any ad hoc assembly events.

We hope our FB page will continue to grow in membership and be a useful direct means of communication with parents. We currently have 87 parents active on our page! Special welcome to the OCAMPO family – thanks for joining us online! If you have your own FB page, click on ours and “Like” us.

**Next P & F Meeting – Friday May17 at 2pm - Staffroom.**

Come and join us to plan the events of Term 2 and hear some insights about what is happening at school via Mr Patchell’s report. Grandparents and extended family are always most welcome!

**Good Guys Prospect**

When purchasing from Good Guy’s Prospect please mention our school as the school received $1 for every $25.00 you spend. Thank you to the Rindfleish & Lacson Families for your recent purchases.

Linda Hogan  
*P & F Secretary*
Catholic Education Office

Child Protection Information Line - Royal Commission
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has established a Child Protection Information Line in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

The dedicated information line will provide information about how schools are handling child protection matters and will be able to respond to individual enquiries and assist people who have concerns or help them take allegations to the police. It can also put people in touch with appropriate support services if needed.

The Child Protection Information Line is 1300 661 015 (cost of a local call within Australia). The line is available outside of school hours and connects directly to a Catholic Education Office staff member. A message service is also available on this line.

CCSP/PRC Parent Conference - 25–26 May
Register now and join parents, educators and guest speakers for the 10th Catholic Schools Parent Conference at the Novotel Hotel, Parramatta. The theme for the 2013 conference is iConnect with Learning, in Partnership, in Faith and focuses on technology as a communication, learning and social networking tool. Guest speakers will discuss interesting topics. Daily rates available and early bird benefits. Places are filling fast. Full program, speaker topics and registration at http://www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au/

Cybersafety Help Button
The CyberSafety Help Button has been publicly available since October 2010 and was designed following advice received from the Youth Advisory Group on Cybersafety (YAG). The Help button is a free downloadable resource providing a one-stop-shop for cybersafety information. To date, the Help Button has been downloaded and made available on over 880,000 computers and mobile devices. The CyberSafety Help Button can be downloaded from the department's website at: www.dbcde.gov.au/helpbutton.

Bishop’s Office

Theology on Tap: 21 May
Topic: True Love Need Not Wait: The Case for Twentysomething Marriage. Speaker: Bradford Wilcox (Director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia, US). Theology on Tap is a casual and relaxed forum where friends from all walks of life gather for straight talk, hard facts and real answers on our faith and how it applies to daily life. Come for a listen (and maybe a drink). Invite your friends, especially those wanting to learn more (or debate) about the Catholic faith. Fire off the questions you have never had the opportunity to ask. Get on the Tap with other young adults and learn about the Catholic faith in a new and refreshing way. The Commercial Hotel, 2 Hassall St, Parramatta. No need to book. Live music from 6.30pm. Talks start 7.30pm. Ages: 16-35 years. No age range for priests/religious.

8th National eConference on St Mark’s Gospel: 16 May
This month’s eConference topic: Gospel of St Mark: A Crucified and Risen Messiah. Keynote educators: Fr Francis Moloney SDB and Sr Michele Connolly RSJ. This FREE eConference is presented by The Broken Bay Institute in association with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The Institute for Mission in Blacktown is a host site – please let them if you will be joining them on the day from 10.30am-2.30pm tel (02) 9831 4911. Anyone who has internet access can participate in this eConference. For individual registrations and how to get online contact Rhonda Andersen tel (02) 9847 0726, econferences@bbi.catholic.edu.au More info at http://grace.vividas.com

To the Core’ of Love and Marriage in Modern Society: 17 May
Campion College is holding its annual National Core Conference, titled ‘To the Core’ of Love and Marriage in Modern Society, with internationally acclaimed speakers Dr Pat Fagan, Dr Ryan Messmore and Dr Bradford Wilcox. From 1-3pm (12.30pm seating). The Lyceum, Castle Hill RSL, 77 Castle St, Castle Hill. All are welcome to attend – FREE entry. Details: Eileen Reyes (02) 9896 9300 or info@campion.edu.au
Annual May Pilgrimage on Pentecost Sunday: 19 May
Mount Schoenstatt: Your Shrine – Our Cenacle. Program: Welcome & setting the scene (10am), Holy Mass and Recommissioning of Pilgrim Mother Coordinators (10.30am), Eucharistic Procession & Benediction from the valley to the Shrine (2pm), alternative program for the sick and elderly at the Shrine. Outdoor event – please bring your own chairs and rugs. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Tel (02) 4773 8338, www.schoenstatt.org.au

Pentecost Sunday: 19 May
Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday with Prayer & Praise, Mass and Teachings by Fr Ken Barker MGL, Moderator of the Missionaries of God’s Love, commencing at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. BBQ lunch will be available. Inquiries tel (02) 9634 1654, (02) 9810 2499, www.ccrnsw.org.au

Christian Meditation: 19 May
You are invited to a Christian Meditation Renewal & Introduction Day at St Benedict's Monastery. Arrive 10am for 10.30am. Program includes presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. Concludes about 3pm. BYO picnic lunch. Tea & coffee provided. Books & CDs for sale. Monastery is at 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, tel (02) 9653 1159. For accommodation at ‘The Cottage’ guest house contact Br Bernard 0438 282 318. Inquiries: Ann Bergman (02) 9498 2625, anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas (02) 9456 4775, atlomas@bigpond.com

Australian Catholic Historical Society Colloquium: 19 May
Topic: ‘Left-footer’ linguists: the contribution of Catholic clergy to the documentation of Australian languages. Speaker: Dr Michael Walsh, Department of Linguistics, University of Sydney. Time: 2.30pm – all welcome. Crypt Hall of St Patrick’s at Church Hill, Grosvenor St, The Rocks. Inquiries: Dr John Carmody, President ACHS (02) 9417 2082, john.carmody@sydney.edu.au

The Great Grace: Receiving Vatican II Today Conference: 20-23
To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the commencement of the Second Vatican Council, a national conference will be held in Sydney. The Great Grace will be a wonderful opportunity for Catholics involved in all fields of Church life to come together and gain a renewed appreciation of the ‘great gift’ of Vatican II. Featuring international speakers Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop Allen Vigneron, Archbishop Arthur Roche and more. Local presenters include Cardinal George Pell, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Prof Anne Hunt, Prof Anthony Kelly and Prof Tracey Rowland. Lay people, clergy and religious all welcome. Venue: Australian Technology Park, Redfern. For more information call (02) 9281 0284 or www.thegreatgrace.org.au

Theology on Tap: 21 May
Topic: Vatican II & Beyond: Voices for the New Evangelisation. International speakers Cardinal Marc Ouellet (Canada) and Catholic Voices (UK) with Australia’s Cardinal George Pell. A special feature of this event will be the launch of the YOUCAT: Youth Prayer Book by Cardinal Pell. Theology on Tap is a casual and relaxed forum where friends from all walks of life gather for straight talk, hard facts and real answers on our faith and how it applies to daily life. Come for a listen (and maybe a drink). Invite your friends, especially those wanting to learn more (or debate) about the Catholic faith. Fire off the questions you have never had the opportunity to ask. Get on the Tap with other young adults and learn about the Catholic faith in a new and refreshing way. The Commercial Hotel, 2 Hassall St, Parramatta. No need to book. Live music from 6.30pm. Talks start 7.30pm. Ages: 16-35 years. No age range for priests/religious.

Women’s Night of Spirituality: 23 May
Step back from routine and take time to reflect, make connection and deepen your relationship with God. Join us as we reflect on the ‘Spirituality of the Women of the Gospel’ with Dr Michele Connolly RSJ, Academic Dean of the Catholic Institute of Sydney. Starts 7.30pm in St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Plc, Parramatta. Bookings: (02) 8839 8411 or admin@stpatscathedral.com.au

St Philomena Association Holy Mass: 25 May
Mass at noon with confessions from 11.30am. St John Vianney's Church, 17 Cameron St, Doonside. Station is Doonside, next one after Blacktown. RSVP: 20 May (please bring a snack to share) to Elizabeth tel 0423 15 44 63 or epeoples9@gmail.com
Catholic Schools Parent Conference: 25-26 May
Join parents, educators and guest speakers for the 10th Catholic Schools Parent Conference at the Novotel Hotel, Parramatta. The theme for the 2013 conference is iConnect with Learning, in Partnership, in Faith and focuses on technology as a communication, learning and social networking tool. Daily rates available and early bird benefits. Full program and registration at http://www.ccs.p.catholic.edu.au/

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST ANDREW’S COLLEGE
Applications for Enrolment for Year 7 2014 close on the 10th May.

St Andrews College is a Catholic secondary school located in Marayong, serving families in the Greater Blacktown area.

St Andrews College provides opportunities for each student to become a creative, competent, compassionate and confident person with an informed conscience and a firm conviction of faith.

Details of these are available in the College Prospectus.
Copies of the Prospectus and Application are available from the Registrar, Mrs Julie Sabine, phone: 9626 1999.

Further information and Enrolment Applications can be obtained from the web-site at www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au

DISCOVER OLMC PARRAMATTA
You are invited to join an Open Morning Tour at Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta on Monday, May 20 to discover contemporary learning, academic excellence in Mercy tradition.

OLMC is now enrolling contact the Registrar.
Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.