

AQUINAS CATHOLIC COLLEGE MENAI NEWSLETTER

27th May, 2014 Vol.22.No.14

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The ACMA website [www.cybersmart.gov.au] has a number of resources that are informative and brief on online safety issues. Whilst cyber bullying is an issue and needs highlighting online activities like identity theft, financial scams of all types and privacy settings on home networks are all topics worthy of research and action by all internet users whether they be 'digital natives' like our children or 'digital migrants' who remember a world that did not begin with 'http://www'. Many smart phone users do not use the "Lock" function on their mobile telephone. By using this security code, telephones are less attractive to thieves, encourages misplaced handsets to be handed in and importantly prevents inappropriate texts being sent as a "prank" by people other than the owner of the telephone. Embracing new technology is essential and educative; however older human centred 'technology' like discernment and wisdom also need to be used in equal measure in the online environment. The 'Find my iPhone' or 'iPad' application is another under used strategy that allows genuinely lost devices to be found or tracked when stolen. Some other parental strategies to ensure appropriate use of technology include:

- ♦ Make it clear that computers and computer behaviour are not off-limits to you.
- ♦ Check the History file on your browser to see what sites are being visited. If the History is often 'empty' this can be a sign that someone is trying to cover their tracks.
- ♦ Keep the computer in the family room or other shared space.
- Tell your sons and daughters not to send emails or 'chat' when they are angry or upset and never to write anything they wouldn't say to a person's face.
- Let them know you think they should tell someone if someone else is being cyber bullied.
- ♦ Show them ways to block unwanted communications and contact the Internet provider.
- If you have any particular concerns contact the school to tell us what is happening.



A number of our Year 11 students, Mrs Nolan and I were fortunate enough to be able to spend time last Friday at St Mary's Cathedral with secondary students from all the Catholic schools in the archdiocese celebrating the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians. It was a beautiful liturgy and a fitting way to acknowledge the Patroness of Australia.

Congratulations to Jayden Brailey of Year 12 who has just been selected in the NSW Combined Catholic College's Open Rugby League side to compete in the Australian Championships in Darwin next school holidays. Jayden is also playing in the Sharks' Under 20 side and is having a fantastic season; he also becomes only our third representative in the NSWCCC Opens team in the College's history. Well done Jayden!!

James Corcoran Principal Jayden Brailey Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges team 2014



Anzac Road Menai NSW 2234 info@aquinasmenai.catholic.edu.au

Phone 9543 0188 Facsimile 9541 0398 www.aquinasmenai.catholic.edu.au

'Enlivened by the Spirit'

Assistant Principal



Week 5(B) Term 2

Monday 26 th May Tuesday 27 th May	 Staff Development Day/Pupil Free NSW CCC Football trials at Coffs Harbour Year 7 & 9 Exam week
	 NSW CCC Football trials at Coffs Harbour Science and Engineering day—Selected Year 10 students
Wednesday 28th May	 Year 7 & 9 Exam week Cronulla Rugby League school boys carnival-U/16's Regional Catholic Schools debating Round 4 World MS Day Fundraiser
Thursday 29th May	Year 7 & 9 Exam weekThe Ascension of the Lord
Friday 30th May	 Year 7 & 9 Exam week Year 11 and 12 Study skills day—Year 11 from 9am to 12.15pm, Year 12 during sport Seniors Blood Bank visit during sport Sport

Week 6(A) Term 2

Monday 2 nd June	 Year 8 & 10 Exam week Year 11 Hospitality work placement week 2015 enrolment offers posted this week Year 7 World of Maths incursion
Tuesday 3 rd June	 Year 8 & 10 Exam week Year 11 Hospitality work placement week NSWCCC Touch Football in Wagga Year 12 Geography field trip excursion to Cronulla
Wednesday 4 th June	 Year 8 & 10 Exam week Year 11 Hospitality work placement week Round 5 Debating UNSW Science Competition Day - Period 5 & 6
Thursday 5 th June	 Year 8 & 10 Exam week Year 11 Hospitality work placement week World Environment day
Friday 6 th June	 Year 8 & 10 Exam week Year 11 Hospitality work placement week Year 12 Biology excursion Year 12 Business Studies excursion Sport

Robert Nastasi Assistant Principal

A reminder to all Fee Payers that your Term 2 School Fees are due by Friday 30th May.

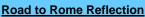
Religious Education at Aquinas

Our Lady, Help of Christians & CWF Appeal

On Saturday the Church celebrated the solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians, one of the patrons of Australia. Last Thursday morning our College community marked this important celebration, gathering for prayer, in a sea of colour, raising money for the CWF Appeal. Thank you to all of the students and staff who actively supported the day, particularly the senior students who led our liturgy and ran fun activities during lunch.



On Friday, a group of Year 11 students also represented our College at a special Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. The celebration, led by Bishop Peter Comensoli, the Apostolic Administrator of our Archdiocese, gathered staff and students from each Catholic Education Office Sydney secondary school. It was a beautiful liturgy, with CaSPA students, including three of our Year 7 students, leading the music. We were fortunate to also explore parts of the Cathedral and it's crypt after the celebration.



Over the past two newsletters I have reflected on the first part of my 'Road to Rome' pilgrimage experience with over forty leaders, teachers and staff from CEO Sydney. After our visit to Lake Como we returned to Milan. On our last day there we had the opportunity to celebrate Mass again in the amazing Duomo, before taking part in a tour of La Scala Theatre, Milan's famous Opera House.

We then travelled to Florence, taking in the incredible view of the beautiful city at Piazzale Michelangelo. During our stay in Florence we also had the opportunity to celebrate Mass and have a guided tour of the Basilica of Santa Croce, the burial place of many famous people including Michelago and Galileo. We then walked through the city, visiting places such as the Ponte Vecchio, before taking part in a guided tour through the Academy of Fine Arts, where we viewed some amazing pieces of art, including Michelangelo's statue of David.

Our next stop was Siena, the birthplace of St Catherine. After celebrating Mass at St Dominic's Basilica, where we also viewed the head of St Catherine, we walked around the beautiful city, including the Piazza del Campo. A highlight of Siena was a guided tour through the Cathedral of Siena, an elaborately decorated Cathedral. From the marble mosaic floors, to the ornate ambo, the amazing fresco's, the chapel of St John the Baptist, which contains an arm of the saint, and the chapel of Madonna de Voto... it is a very special place.

Mrs Catherine Nolan **Religious Education**









View from Piazzale Michelangelo, Florence





Reflection on the Gospel

In Sunday's Gospel (John 14:15-21) we hear of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will come to the disciples when Jesus returns to his Father. The word 'Advocate' comes from the world of legal dealings. It can seem a strange word but it is the image Jesus offers to emphasise that we have God on our side. John's community was engaged in a struggle with both the Roman world and the Jewish world where Christianity had its origins. This is the context in which Jesus speaks of the Spirit as the Advocate in these struggles. The one who will answer their call, who will help and offer support.

Today, our context is different but we still have much to struggle with in a society that no longer lives out and publicly espouses Gospel values. We still need the Spirit to be on our side as we struggle to live as Jesus lived; we still need the Spirit of truth to offer guidance and counsel as we struggle with the complex moral issues raised in our times. The Gospel still needs to be given a voice through the example and words of Christian men and women supported by our Advocate, the Spirit of truth.

Adapted from a reflection by Mary Coloe

GIFTED EDUCATION NEWS

NSW CRYSTAL GROWING COMPETITION

Celebrating the International Year of Crystallography



Students in Year 7 and 8 are invited to enter the

NSW Crystal Growing Competition.

Crystals are everywhere. Sugar, salt, diamonds and emeralds are crystals and LCD computer and TV screens work because of the many tiny crystals inside.

- Enter the competition and create your own crystals within a four week period. (Please note: students will need to be available at lunch times to work on the project/ growing of crystals)
- Division: Years 7-8
- Competition closes: Friday 27th June 2014
- Winning entries: Displayed during Science Week and entered into a national competition

If you are in Year 7 or 8 and would like to enter the competition please email Mrs Capovilla at catherine.capovilla@syd.catholic.edu.au expressing your interest by Thursday 30th May. Spaces will be limited to a maximum of 12 students.

Useful websites:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdYS-3J85Pw How to grow Alum crystals

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oy5xgoFAcRs Grow Alum crystals

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnjiEdoSEvA How to grow large Alum crystals by crystallization

GIFTED EDUCATION NEWS

Last Friday night 9 Red and a few other Year 7 and 9 students attended a performance of "The Stones" at the Monkey Baa Theatre, Darling Harbour. We picked the perfect night to attend the performance as it was the opening night of the Vivid Festival and Darling Harbour was abuzz with people, admiring the beautiful light spectacular. The organisers must have known we were coming as they put on an amazing fireworks display minutes after our arrival!

Then it was off to the theatre for the performance. "The Stones" is based on a true story of two boys charged with manslaughter after throwing rocks from a freeway overpass and killing a motorist. We had front row seats and our students were confronted not only by the proximity of the actors but the physicality of the play. The actors shocked many by asking questions of the audience, performed risky stunts with ladders and ran through the audience as part of the performance. The play highlighted the skill of the two actors as they interchanged characters, used very few props and costume changes were minimal.

Viewing live performances is a mandatory part of the Stage 5 English syllabi and is most valuable to the students for so many reasons. In speaking with the students afterwards it was evident that they had not expected a performance like that! Comments ranged from:

"I loved how close we were to the actors, even though it was a bit scary at times'

"I liked how the play was based on a true story"

"The actors were amazing the way they changed characters so quickly. One minute the actor was a 13 year old boy then he was a 50 year old detective. They were very believable!"

The theatre was only small and it helped to create a real intimacy that drew you into the performance'

I loved the Vivid light show!"





On Wednesday 21st May our College Book Club attended the Sydney Writers' Festival at Sutherland Entertainment Centre.

We enjoyed four very different presentations from professional writers. Fiona Woods, author and screenwriter, provided insight into the attributes useful for becoming a writer and gave advice on how to play to your own strengths. Will Kostakis, who had his first writing deal in Year 12, had us in fits of laughter with stories of his Yia Yia and how shamelessly he exploited her in writing his novel, 'The First Third'. Lisa Forest took us through the complex process of re-imagining herself as a writer after her stellar swimming career and made some interesting connections between the sporting life and the basics of narrative. The programme was completed by an interactive session with David Stavanger, aka 'Ghostboy", one of Australia's most innovative spoken word artists.

It was an enjoyable and motivating day and we will all be looking forward to 'The Sydney Writers' Festival 2015'.





'Enlivened by the Spirit'

Curriculum Matters

Examination reminder

This week sees the beginning of the examination period for Years 7 & 9 and Week 6 for Years 8 & 10. Examinations form a compulsory part of our school assessment and students and parents are reminded that any appointments should be made outside of the exam periods. If a student is unwell during the exam block, the absence note should reflect that parents were aware their son/daughter missed an examination.

In terms of preparation, all students have notifications that clearly outline the content of each exam. Additional support regarding appropriate study can be found on the Study Skills website. There are invaluable resources on the site, not only about how to study, but how to make effective study notes for various subjects. Students can access the study skills website through the school site.

Our username: Aquinas Our password: 10success

Year 10 students are reminded that, in the absence of a School Certificate, ALL Year 10 grades form the first formal part of their academic record and will appear on their ROSA (Record of Student Achievement).

I am happy to support students who are struggling to organise their study timetable/preparation/notes. If this sounds like you and you have already visited the Study Skills website, you are welcome to pay me a visit either before school or during your lunch break.

Lisa Mirabello Learning and Curriculum Coordinator

SOUTHERN SYDNEY CROSS COUNTRY

On Monday 12th May approximately 30 students represented the College at the Southern Sydney Cross Country Championships at Sutherland. All of our competitors ran extremely well, displaying amazing stamina and endurance.

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Southern Sydney at the NSWCCC Cross Country Championships at Eastern Creek on Friday 13th June:

Thomas Allen, Mackenzie Selmon, Jordan Hughes, Alec Cotterill, Alexandra Bolton, Madison Kelly-Makovec, Chelsea Cryer, Tara Stortenbeker, Blake Sale, Callum Docherty and Claire Serwa.

Special mention to Mackenzie Selmon who was named the 12 years Girls Age Champion, congratulations Mackenzie!



SHARKS KNOCKOUT

U/13 Rugby League Cronulla KO Grand Final Victory

It was a stunning day last Wednesday for the Cronulla Schoolboy Rugby League Knockout and the U/13 boys were brimming with confidence. Schoolboy football can always be difficult considering short 10 minute halves and a number of games to be played, however, this year's competition also included unusual field set ups with two games played on the one field with limited space available.

Running games across narrow fields, took some getting used to as the boys began slowly against Cronulla High School. The score was locked at 4-4 for some time before we scored again in the second half to close out the match 8-4. This close encounter early was the tonic we needed to ramp up our effort and the boys produced some excellent football in the following two matches against Menai and Heathcote High School. Whilst strong running and some incisive plays lead to some terrific tries, it was our defence that signaled our intentions in this competition. 7 tries were scored for a 28-0 win against Menai, while 6 tries for a 24-0 win accounted for Heathcote.

The further you progress in a knockout, the tougher the games get and our match up with Port Hacking High School was no exception. Port Hacking stunned us with scoring first and the scored remained at 4-0. Our hopes for reaching the Grand Final were slipping away when Jared Domazetovski went down the short side in the dying seconds to crash over to secure a draw and keep our hopes for a Grand Final birth alive. We waited nervously for the outcome of other matches when it was confirmed we were to meet Engadine High School.

The Grand Final was played on a full field this time and that certainly suited our game plan. We made it hard for ourselves early in the match with a number of errors and penalties. Engadine opened the scoring and we were immediately under pressure. Pressure though, brought the best out of the boys and they raised their level of intensity holding their defensive line desperately several times. When the opportunities came, the boys used the width of the field to score some crucial tries and take control of the game. The final score was 14-4 and a great victory was ours. This was a great effort boys on a long hot day and you certainly deserved the win. Winning a Grand Final is always special particularly in the local district. Well done, now let's look forward to the next challenge.

Thank you to the Parents who managed their own work commitments to support us on the day it was much appreciated. A special thanks to Mr Charles McGee and Mr Darrin Munro who brought the team together and assisted me with training and selections. Also to Blayke Brailey and Kyle Flanagan who ran the water and messages for me all day, thanks boys.

Mr Gair



SHARKS KNOCKOUT





Careers

I have just put together a long newsletter with events, open days and scholarships information. It is great for all students in Year 10, 11 and 12. I have posted it the Careers Site in the documents section. Please have a read of it.https://sites.google.com/a/syd.catholic.edu.au/aquinas-catholic-college-careers/

JOB JUMP I have recently signed the school up to a new website. It is extremely comprehensive, and provides a newsletter based solely on what your interests are, based on what you register for. I encourage all parents and students in years 10-12 to register for this wonderful resource. www.jobjump.com.au The password is falcons.

All Year 12 students are expected to make an interview with Mrs Higgins as soon as possible to discuss their plans for next year.

Thank you Lisa Higgins Careers Adviser (Tues, Wed and alternate Thurs)

NSWCCC

The Registration process for trials for CCC teams have changed. To nominate for consideration the following process needs to be followed.

REGISTRATION PROCESS ON WEBSITE

- 1. Go to www.csss.nsw.edu.au website
- 2. On top right hand side of page, click **LOGIN**. If you don't have a login or you have forgotten your login, go to the HELP button (located on the top right hand side written in Blue)
- 3. Once you are logged in, go to the NSWCCC Home Page.
- 4. Click on (Individual Sport you wish to trial for)
- 5. Click on Register
 - Please complete the registration process.
- **8.** Click on "Register for this Sport" at the bottom of the page.
- **9.** An email will be sent to your Sport Coordinator for approval and consent.
- **10.** You will also be required to pay online for individual sports which must be done before the event. Please allow 7-10 days for administration to process. (this is not done automatically)
- 11. You can login to your account at any time to view sport coordinator approval

NSWCCC Entry into individual Sports and Team Sports

TEAM SPORT ENTRIES

Southern Sydney Combined Catholic Colleges is the pathway for our students to progress to the NSWCCC Championships and NSWCCC selection.

SSCCC run trials for the following teams:

Baseball
U/15 and Open Rugby League
Swimming
Soccer
Rugby Union
Cross Country
U/15 and Open Touch
Athletics

If students wish to trial for the SSCCC teams there is a school trial first, before they progress. When students are successful in making the school team they will be asked to register on the NSWCCC website to progress to the SSCCC selection.

Individual Entries

NSWCCC selection trials are run for the following sports which are either individual sports or sports which do not have a selection championship.

AFL Cricket Diving Golf Hockey Netball Softball Tennis Triathlon Volleyball

Waterpolo

These Sport trials are for those students who perform at an **elite** level rather than just having a go. Therefore students are only progressed to the trials if they demonstrate the necessary skills in that sport for the NSWCCC standard. Sport experience is offered during Friday afternoon sport, weekday afternoon and weekend sport. As you can imagine with over 150 Catholic High schools, if every school sent a bunch of kids to have a go, the trial would soon blow out to a gala day and the NSWCCC selection trial would not serve it purpose of progressing the correct students to NSW All Schools and National level.

If you are interested in finding out more information on NSWCCC trials and events please look at the website, or email me on

Mark Barnes
Sports Coordinator

DEBATING NEWS

Last Wednesday the teams travelled to De La Salle Revesby for Round 3 of the competition.

Our Year 7 and 8 teams are proving that they are a winning combination with yet another victory against their opposition. Once again congratulations and keep up the quality debating.

Commiserations to our Year 9 and 10 teams who despite their best efforts, were unable to walk away with a win. Unfortunately, our Senior team had to forfeit due to unavoidable circumstances.

I would like to particularly thank Mrs Fensom, who despite having Parent Teacher interviews, managed to adjudicate on the evening.

This week our opposition is St. Patrick's College Sutherland. We are once again hosting the debate here at Aquinas, and I look forward to seeing many supporters.

I would be most appreciative of any students who would be able to volunteer on the evening as chairperson or timekeeper. If you are available between 3.15 and 6.00pm could you please see me by Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Curis Debating Coordinator

MATHS DEPARTMENT RECALL CORNER

Maths Recall is included in the newsletter each week and is designed for Stage 4 and 5 or junior students. The questions may focus on Working Mathematically problems and all are intended to be done without a calculator.

- 1 A trip of $3^{1}/_{2}$ hours an average speed of 90km/h. How far was the journey?
- 2 Write 1.17 as a percentage
- 3 Write in simplest form 0.5 : 1 : 2 as a decimal
- 4 Simplify 8 x -3
- 5 Write 2014 in Roman Numerals

Mrs Catherine Fensom Maths Teacher



THE BOOK CLUB -- New to the Holy Family Parish

Come and have a cup of coffee. Meet up for friendship and discussion

Our First Book: Where the Hell is God?

In this book Fr Richard Leonard, SJ explores the question: Why do good people suffer?

A short book & an easy read -- only 67 pages.

"Moved by the terrible accident that left his beloved sister a quadriplegic before she turned thirty, Richard Leonard, an Australian Jesuit priest, tackles some of the hard questions such suffering raises."

When: Thursday, 12th June, 9.30 am Where: Parish meeting rooms

Price of Book: To be Advised

All Welcome!

If you would like more information or you want to come please contact us:

(We need to have numbers to purchase the books):

Margaret: 9543 5762 email: <u>margaret.keyes1@optusnet.com.au</u>

Ann: 0425 271 578





9th July 2014 Year 12 HSC Trial Preparation Maximise your HSC performance!

Hosted by Neila Darrough, K-12 Archdiocesan Mathematics Education Officer Open to all Year 12 students in the Sydney Archdiocese 9.30 am – 3.30 pm (lunch provided)

CEO Sydney 38 Renwick St Leichhardt

go to http://goo.gl/6Fe5bc to Join

Enrolments close 2nd July 2014



ncluding where people queue or gather. & <mark>L</mark>





ating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

spectator areas, while an organised sporting event is held The smoking ban applies to 🕫 &



The Tobacco Information Line can be accessed by non-English speaking people via the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50



UNIFORM SHOP TEMPORARILY RELOCATING

The Uniform Shop will be relocating from this week to the double gates near the Canteen entry

UNIFORM SHOP

THURSDAY 29 MAY

8:00am—9:00am

Please note the Uniform Shop only sells Sports Uniforms and School bags

The Uniform Shop does not accept Eftpos or Credit cards

College caps and sports socks can be purchased from the College Office

MATHS CHALLENGE

Answers:

- 1. 315km
- 2. 117% (bigger than 1 whole)



- 3. 5:10:20=1:2:4
- 4. -24
- 5. MMXIV

Maths Department

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 2

با رجا رجا رجا رجا رجا رجا وجا و المراجع المرا

TIME: MONDAY-THURSDAY 10:00-1:35, FRIDAY 9:30-12:45 **MONDAY** 26/5 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY TUESDAY CHRISTINE KLEIN, NICOLE KRAUSE 27/5 DIANE FIRTKO, PHILIPPA MCGUINESS WEDNESDAY 28/5 **THURSDAY** 29/5 CATHY FULTON, JANE LEGHISSA, CAROLINE RAMSAY **FRIDAY** 30/5 SARINA PANTAZIS, DEANNE BROWN, ANNE MAREE SIPEK, FRANCINE GUAJARDO, KATHY STEPHENS, JULIE CUPITT, CLAUDETTE FAKHOURI **MONDAY** 2/6 MICHELLE TURNER, SYLVIA KERMECI, JACQUI HARB **TUESDAY** 3/6 MICHELLE MCNABB, MELISSA TOWNSEND-CRYER WEDNESDAY 4/6 PENNII CASTLE, MEL COYNE **THURSDAY** MELINDA HUMPHRY, LEANNE CARPENTER 5/6 **FRIDAY** JENNY KNOKE, VERONIQUE THIBAULT, LOUISEBRYANT, SONIA BOGARD 6/6 JULIE BELLE

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