Hello everyone. Let me offer the warmest of welcomes for the 2012 school year. I pray that this will be a wonderfully productive year for the College and its students and a joyous one for all our College families.

The construction of our playground is nearly completed, having been delayed because of rain in December and January. We need about 2 weeks of dry weather to complete this project. The lower level will be concreted and used as a basketball court. It will also provide additional parking spaces on the weekend for the parish.

The upper level will be marked out for mini-soccer, netball and volleyball and will be an artificial grass surface. The car parking area will be remodelled for improved pedestrian safety. These facilities will dramatically enhance the College when completed and approve the appearance of the site significantly. In the mean time, however, there continues to be some serious inconvenience, most notably the lack of playground space. Accordingly, the car parking areas will remain out of use, while construction is finalised. This will allow the students to use these areas as recreational space. Morning and afternoon drop-off and pick-up arrangements carry over from the end of last year. I thank you for your cooperation and assistance and ask that we collectively maintain our vigilance to ensure the safety of our children.

The school is looking to reinvigorate the P and F, with many of the parents who have carried the load over recent years having moved on. If you are able to assist, please become involved. We thank the many parents and friends of the College who have given so much of their time and talents to help in so many areas. This is your school. Your involvement sends an important message to your children about the worth of their education.

Our second Year 12 cohort, consisting of 18 students, completed their HSC examinations in 2011, with many pleasing results, ranking highly again. I invite parents to visit www.bettereducation.com.au to see how well our College ranks, particularly against the schools of our region. There is a tendency to undervalue our College’s achievements and over estimate the worth of some other establishments. Let the results speak for themselves. While the College has access to the student’s HSC results, we are not privy to their ATAR or university offers, unless they choose to share them with us. To the best of my knowledge these are some of the students’ results. Ibram Saleeb was our best performed student, with an ATAR of 96.75. Ibram will be studying petroleum engineering. Anthony Bekhit achieved an ATAR of 94.7 and Sylvana Moussa achieved an ATAR in the 90s, allowing her to take up a scholarship with UWS. There were many other sound results. We had best ever results in Advanced and Standard English; Extension 2 Mathematics; General Mathematics; Chemistry; Legal Studies; Ancient History; Studies of Religion; and Arabic Continuers and Extension, amongst a series of strong results. The College is very proud of our students’ achievements, with the results confirming that we offer students the opportunity to succeed across a wide range of courses.
A number of Year 11 students completed HSC studies. Mark Gerges completed HSC study in Mathematics Extension 2 last year, achieving a top band results. Nark Mesiha of Year 11 achieved close to top band results in Arabic Continuers and Arabic Extension. Joshua Roffael and Monica Gaid achieved Band 5 and E3 results for Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 1. We congratulate them on their success. We are quietly confident that the new Year 12 will perform creditably in 2012 and be rewarded for the hard work that we know they will bring to bear.

Our School Certificate results for Year 10 were also impressive in English, Mathematics, Science and Computing and dramatically improved for Geography and History. I congratulate the students and their teachers on their efforts and results. We are still fighting community attitudes that suggest to our students that studies in the humanities are not as important as English, Mathematics and Science. We must change this attitude within our community. All subjects are important. The skill sets acquired from the serious study of a wide variety of subjects best equips students to be able to cope with a rapidly changing world, where the ability to acquire new knowledge quickly will give them a competitive edge in the workplace. Also, it is important to develop the desire to do one’s best at all times – remember the parable of the talents. You will never regret having done your best!

We welcome two new permanent members of staff to the secondary school. Mr. Percival Joseph joins the College to teach English and HSIE and brings a wealth of experience to the role. Miss Karen Sampson will be teaching Music and Drama and brings impressive experience and skills to her role. I know that they will enjoy strong support from our College community.

That is my wish for all of our students this year – that they do their best in all that they attempt. I look forward to celebrating the many successes that we will collectively achieve this year as we work together.

We are in a position that now allows us to expand in numbers. Growth is critical for the College’s survival. This expansion can allow us to split our larger classes and provide more specific assistance and procure better resources for our children. If you are happy with the College tell your family and friends; if you are not happy tell us, so that we can respond to your concerns. Fee collection was down in response to the economic circumstances of our community. We understand that times are tough for many within our community. Similarly, the College’s resources have been stretched. If any parents are able to pay off fee arrears, this will be of great help to the College. If we work together, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

As always, your families are in my prayers. I pray that God continues to bless our College community.

Mr Stephenson
College Principal

CHANCE OF DETAILS
Please notify the school office of any changes of personal details including name changes, addresses, phone numbers or emergency contacts. This is to ensure that we can contact you in case of emergencies and so the school reports are sent to the correct addresses.

SCHOOL WEBSITE
Take a look at our school website! The website has many links. There are photos, the year’s calendar as well as many other areas. Take a look http://www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au, you may even see a picture of yourself on there 😊

SICK
Please note: If your son or daughter is sick, do not send them to school as other students may get sick or even the teachers. Please seek medical advice if your child is unwell. ☹️ If your child is absent due to sickness, please provide a note the following day for your classroom teacher.
KIDS CORNER

Sudoku

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Joke

What did the frog say when the librarian gave him a book?

“read it”

PARENT TIPS

As you all know nuts, nut products and chocolate (of any kind) is NOT PERMITTED at St Bishoy. Here are some examples of healthy snacks to replace foods containing nuts or chocolate;

- Vanilla Custard or Fruit Yoghurt - instead of chocolate custard or pudding
- Dried Fruit - instead of nuts
- Fruit Bars (ie Uncle Toby’s Fruit Breaks) - instead of muesli bars
- Vegemite or Cheese Spread - instead of nutella
- Plain LCM Bar - instead of chocolate

Other Healthy Lunch Box Snacks may include;

- Cheese and Crackers
- Fresh Fruit
- Carrot, Cucumber or Celery Sticks
- Yoghurt Frozen for lunch on a hot day

FIVE WAYS TO PRAISE YOUR CHILD

We all enjoy a little praise now and then here are some words you can use to praise your child.

* Wow
* Way To Go
* Super
* You’re Special
* Outstanding

P.S. Remember, a smile is worth 1,000 words!

TERM 1 SPORT

**Wednesdays Sport for Primary – TERM 1**

St Bishoy students will be having the pleasure to participate in a program during their sports session on Wednesdays of this term. We will be having professional coaches from OZ SPORTS SOLUTIONS come into the school each week to deliver various sports and activities to our children. Notes will go home about the program this week and all monies need to be handed into their classroom teacher with their name, class and amount in a sealed envelope.

Miss Macri
Sport Coordinator
St Bishoy College would like to thank all students, parents, grandparents, friends and the community for all your support during the Coles and Woolworths Voucher drive. We are expecting the 2011 Coles and Woolworths sporting equipment to arrive throughout this Term.

The College had a few problems with Coles and receiving our equipment from the 2010 Voucher drive. However, Coles were very helpful and we finally received our sporting equipment late Term 4 (2011). Just to name a few of the many new sporting equipment that the College has received so far are:

- Fitness and agility equipment including Skill step ladder/s, mini hurdles (15cm, 30cm)
- Indoor Air Foam balls
- New carry bags for all balls and equipment
- New outdoor soccer balls, and Volleyballs
- Portable Volleyball / Badminton Net
- Junior Classroom Kit assorted equipment
- Rubber Junior Bases for T-ball and softball

Please watch this space for more updates from last year’s Coles and Woolworths Voucher drive once they arrive early this Term.

Once again St Bishoy College would like to thank everyone for all your hard work and efforts.

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**REBATE AVAILABLE**

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Including ALL meals

53-59 Methven street Mount Druitt

PH: 96753320

Web site: www.angelosccc.vpweb.com.au

Email: angelosccc@stbishoy.org.au

VACANCIES EVERY DAY FOR ALL AGES, ALL MEALS PROVIDED, FRIENDLY AND EXPERIENCED STAFF

OPEN 7AM TIL 6PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

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**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**FIRST IN BEST DRESSED**

There is a resort to rent at Forster 3.5 hour North of Sydney for a weekend $200.00 or the whole week for $600.00. Cleaning fees to be paid upon arrival ($39.00) flat rate.

This includes using all the facilities on site (tennis court, table tennis, lawn for a soccer games play area, giant trampoline swing for the kids ) board games and balls also available, bike riding swimming pool, boat hiring for fishing or riding at a low rate half or full day.

The unit accommodates 6 people regardless of age. 2 bedroom fully equipped kitchen with microwave TV DVD BBQS in front of the units. All units are one story level. Close to shops beaches and parks.

Camp site also available with your own tent and use the same facilities. $20.00 per day. Cleaning fees to be paid upon arrival ($39.00) flat rate.

Available during the whole year excluding school holidays.

For booking please ring Eva on 0405 180533 after 3.30pm