Hello, everyone. With Easter fast approaching, let me take this opportunity to wish you and your families and friends all the blessings of this holy season. It is with great sadness that we mourn the death of His Holiness, Pope Shenouda III. We have been asked to pray for the Church, as it prepares to replace this great leader. His Holiness had a great love for the Coptic Colleges and we are reliably informed that he received news of our successes with real delight. Indeed, we would not have our Coptic Colleges in Australia if it were not for His Holiness.

During a visit to Australia, His Holiness challenged the Coptic people of Australia to establish schools so that Coptic children could be educated within their faith. His Holiness is often quoted as having said, “A Church without youth has no future and a youth without Church has no future.” In response, five schools have been established, with three in Sydney and two in Melbourne, beginning with St Mark’s in 1996 and culminating in St Bishoy College in 2001. We would do well to remember that the call for Coptic education came directly from his Holiness and we should follow his wise counsel. If you know of family and friends who are not currently utilising the Coptic education system, you may choose to remind them of its origins and encourage them to consider the spiritual and academic advantages of the Coptic Colleges. Perhaps one of the most tangible ways that we can honour the memory and legacy of His Holiness is to ensure the ongoing success of the Coptic Colleges.

It is particularly gratifying to hear positive comment about our students from external sources. A number of excursions have been undertaken in recent weeks, with our students being praised for the manner in which they have conducted themselves and represented the College. Thank you to the staff and parents who accompanied the students and supervised them so capably. Thank you to the students who cooperated so well.

Last Friday’s cross country carnival was a fantastic event, with a number of students (and some teachers) shining. A good time was had by all. There is always a great spirit at our carnivals, which encourages healthy participation. Thank you to Miss Macri, who organised the event, and the teachers who supervised. The P and F assisted on the day through the selling of water. 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. Mrs Ferrett (mother and teacher’s aide/lab assistant) is taking on an active role in shaping our new P and F. If you would like to become involved in this endeavour, please contact Mrs Awadalla and pass on your details or make contact with Mrs Ferrett. With Mother’s Day coming up, all help will be greatly appreciated.

Tomorrow, we will hold the second of what we hope to be regular Parent Forum Meetings. Issues critical to the College’s growth will be discussed. All parents are welcome to attend and express their views. All of the issues raised will be examined. Many can be dealt with quickly. Some will take long term planning. 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 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. We must work together to build up our College. Our children deserve no less. We hope that these regular meetings will allow our parent body to have greater involvement in forging the direction of our College.

While we understand that these are particularly difficult financial times for many of our community, this is equally true for our College. We ask that all parents contribute as much as they can to the College and endeavour to pay fees on time. This will assist us greatly. Every cent contributed goes towards your children.

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

Mr Stephenson
College Principal
CHANGE 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.

UNIFORM SHOP

The College Uniform Shop will be open on: Tuesday 8.30 am to 9am and 2.30pm to 3pm, Thursday 8.30am to 9am and 2.30pm to 3pm and Saturday 7pm to 8pm

ABSENT

If for any reason your son or daughter is absent from school, please call the school reception to let the College know.

PAYMENTS

Instructions to Parents for All Payments (Photos, Excursions etc..) EXCEPT School Tuition Fees

1. Please write your child’s full name on an envelope. (One envelope for each child).
2. Write your child’s Year and class (for example “4A” Year 4 Class A)
3. Please write the amount of money you will be placing in the envelope on the outside of the envelope.
4. Please include the permission note – without this, students are not permitted to attend excursions etc).
5. It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure the correct amount is placed in the envelope.
6. Please do not approach Reception to get change.

By doing this you are helping to contribute to the smooth running operations of the College.
We thank you in anticipation of your cooperation in this matter.

AWARDS

Week 6

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>KGY</th>
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<td>Isaac Malika</td>
<td>August Anthony</td>
<td>Joshua Farah</td>
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<td>Karmen Georgi</td>
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<td>Veronica Youssef</td>
<td>Veronika Ragheb</td>
<td>Kyrollos Habashi</td>
<td>Swayam Kumar</td>
<td>Maheteme Solomon</td>
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<td>Jennifer Tadros</td>
<td>Elbron Nissan</td>
<td>Aneesh</td>
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<td>Maria Michael</td>
<td>Marina Guirguis</td>
<td>Arsansious</td>
<td>George Odeh</td>
<td>Veronica Pelipos</td>
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<td>Emmanuel Cooper</td>
<td>John Kamal</td>
<td>Shenouda</td>
<td>Jerome Yassa</td>
<td>Amanda Polus</td>
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<td>Carolyn Galdas</td>
<td>Stephanous</td>
<td>Christopher Farah</td>
<td>Yustina Awad</td>
<td>Peter Ayad</td>
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<td>Josheph Gobran</td>
<td>Escander</td>
<td>Monica Wasif</td>
<td>Mariam Assaad</td>
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Week 8 Awards

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<tr>
<td>Rafael Fakri</td>
<td>Laith Asfour</td>
<td>Marina Habashy</td>
<td>Mina Milad</td>
<td>Mena Youssef</td>
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<td>Antony Youssef</td>
<td>Issac Malika</td>
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<td>Sarah Youssef</td>
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<td>Georgina Bahdi</td>
<td>Jeniffer Tadros</td>
<td>Andrew Youssef</td>
<td>Melos Kebede</td>
<td>Abdelsah Polus</td>
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<td>Sandra Jabo</td>
<td>Jamiel Del Pilar</td>
<td>David Bolis</td>
<td>Parthenia Salama</td>
<td>Andrew Habashi</td>
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<td>Yustina Botrous</td>
<td>Youhanna</td>
<td>Alwin Joseph</td>
<td>Antonio Girges</td>
<td>Pierre Elsabie</td>
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<td>Sandy Estefanos</td>
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<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Mary Yassa</td>
<td>Kyrillos Matta</td>
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<td>Abdemaseih</td>
<td>Matthew Tadros</td>
<td>Mariam Kamal</td>
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<td>Maria Philopos</td>
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<td>Ann-Rose Joseph</td>
<td>Sean Reddy</td>
<td>Philomena Daoud</td>
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<td>Daniella Gobran</td>
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<td>Demiana Said</td>
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<td>Monica Ibrahim</td>
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Bronze!
Congratulations to the Bronze achievers this term!
1K Katerina Said, Timothy Michael, Swayam Kumar, Mina Milad, Melos Kebede, Theodora Ayoub, Marilyn Nazir, Maree Mankarious, Heaven Michael
2R Steven Youssef, Abdelmasih Polus, Gerges Fouad
3SO Barbara Said, Merry Dankla, Carolyn Galdas
5O Macrina Girgis, Bishoy Bakhoum, Antonio Girges, Mariam Bolis, Martina Philopos, Sandy Estafanos, Daniella Wasif
6J Fibronia Abdelshahid, Amanda Polus, Daniella Gobran, Martina Zaki, Sarah-Marie Assaf, Yousif Dankha, Andrew Kamel, Bishoy Kamal, Riley Ferrett, Angela Popovic, Veronica Pelipos, Abraam Boktor, Peter Ayad, Olivia Daoud, Demiana Said, Patrick Mankarious, Raafat Ibrahim, Matthew Tawdrous, Maria Philopos

PHOTOS
More photos are on the school website http://www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au.
Check it out! You may even see yourself there 😊

STAGE ONE
Year one and two are learning about Communication in Science and Technology. They had the opportunity to use the Promethian board to learn about signs and how they portray meanings. Take a look at the fun activities they took part in using the board.

KIDS CORNER

Sudoku

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Joke
When is it bad luck to see a black cat?

When you’re a mouse!

P & F
This week will be sending home some lollies for the students to sell. Please ask your friends, family and neighbours if they would like to make a purchase. The school however does not recommend that students sell door to door without adult supervision. The money raised will be used to purchase new books and resources for our students. The money must be returned to school by the Wednesday 4th April 2012 to Mrs Ferrett or Mrs Narouz. We hope with your support, we can make this fundraising drive a huge success!

Thank you for your continued support.
God Bless P & F
BE BRAVE AND SHAVE

http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com/

World’s Greatest Shave is the greatest fun for the greatest cause!

On Friday, the 16th of March 2012, K-12 raised money and coloured their hair to help people with blood cancer. We raised $200 to help the great cause.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this great cause and thank you to Mrs Narouz and the High School students who helped organise the day.

PARENT TIPS

How often do you find yourself needing another 10 minutes (at least) in the morning as you go flying out the door to get the kids to school on time and avoid the dreaded late note???? Parents are busy people and we have so much to do, so here are some tips that I hope will help you get out the door less stressed!

* Prepare lunches and drink bottles the night before.
* Ask the kids to pack their bag with the equipment they need for the next day when they have finished their homework.
* Have uniforms ready for a quick change from their Pj's.
* Leave enough time for the trip to school and allow extra time when the weather is not so great.

With little changes in routine and more preparation, we can get the kids to school on time and make it a stress free morning!

Five More Ways to Praise Your Child.................................

* I Respect You
* That's Correct
* You're Wonderful
* A+ Job
* You Made My Day

HIGH SCHOOL SRC

I would like to congratulate the following students who have been welcomed into the St Bishoy High School SRC program for 2012. If you have any school related concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact your Year leader in the SRC. These students will be working closely with the Captains and Vice-Captains in the High school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice-Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Bekit</td>
<td>Mark Saidden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Saadalla</td>
<td>Annasimone Ghali</td>
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<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Riad</td>
<td>Timothy Bolous</td>
<td>Anthony Assaad</td>
<td>George Raid</td>
<td>Andrew Eskander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anastasia Ghali</td>
<td>Marina Mickhail</td>
<td>Marina Ibrahim</td>
<td>Merna Abdelmalak</td>
<td>Christina Shenouda</td>
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Miss Macri

POPE KYRILLOS CELEBRATION

On Friday the 9th of March 2012, K-12 had an assembly to remember Pope Kyrillos VI of Alexandria (2 August 1902 – 9 March 1971). The assembly was lovely and informed the students of Pope Kyrillos’ life.

ANGELOS CHILD CARE

Open 7am till 6pm
REBATE AVAILABLE
Fees start as low as $11.00 per day
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

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
2012 NSW School-Based Vaccination Program (missing information)

The NSW Ministry of Health has been informed that a small number of Parent Information Kits which contain forms for parents to read and sign for school vaccination may be missing important information.

Please check that all information is included in the Parent Information Kits:

- parents of **Year 7 female students** should receive a pink **Year 7 Girls** shrink-wrapped pack that includes 4 envelopes, each containing a **Consent Form** and **Information for you and your child sheet**:
  1) a pink **Human Papillomavirus (HPV)** envelope
  2) a blue **Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa)** envelope
  3) a green **Hepatitis B** envelope
  4) a yellow **Varicella (chicken pox)** envelope

- parents of **Year 7 male students** should receive a blue **Year 7 Boys** shrink-wrapped pack that includes 3 envelopes, each containing a **Consent Form** and **Information for you and your child sheet**:
  1) a blue **Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa)** envelope
  2) a green **Hepatitis B** envelope
  3) a yellow **Varicella (chicken pox)** envelope

- parents of **Year 10 male and female students** should receive a blue **Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa)** envelope that contains a **Consent Form** and **Information for you and your child sheet**.

If all the information is included and you would like your child to be vaccinated, please read the **Information for you and your child sheet**, sign the **Consent Form** and return the signed **Consent Form** to your child’s school. If you do NOT wish your child to be vaccinated, do NOT complete or return the **Consent Form**.

If any information is missing from your Parent Information Kit, please contact your child’s school immediately and a replacement Kit will be provided.
Dear Parents,

Greetings and blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In light of some recent circumstances in the Vacation Care and due to the April break being during our Orthodox Easter services, we have decided to not run the Vacation Care during this coming April school holidays.

We will utilise this opportunity and time to refresh and replan the way forward with Archangel Michael & St Bishoy Vacation Care.

We apologise for the inconvenience that we may have caused you, and we look forward to seeing you in the July 2012 break.

We do look forward to seeing you in the Parents Meeting on the 11th March 12:00pm in the main church.

With best regards,

Fr Gabriel Yassa
1st March 2012
School Newsletter
Message from Ed Husic MP

As the local federal member for Chifley, I would like to update you on the independent review of school funding conducted by eminent businessman David Gonski, recently released by the Australian Government.

I believe that all Australian parents should be confident their child will get a world-class education. This should be the case no matter where they live or the school they attend.

But this isn’t always happening at the moment. While we have a great education system, we can do better for students and schools. We need to do more to lift performance.

Since 2007, the Federal Government has driven a strong national school reform agenda to do this and has invested in teacher quality, giving more powers to local principals, and building new classrooms and science labs in schools across the country.

The next important step is to make sure schools have the funding they need to teach our children. That is why we have done the first full review of school funding in almost 40 years.

We said when we started the review that no school would lose a dollar of funding per student as a result of any changes. That is a rock solid promise. Indexation will also be a feature of any new system.

The Government wants to be sure that any change will deliver the best result for our schools. We want to hear from parents, schools and the community about what you think works.

I will be in contact with your school over the coming months to get feedback on how we can improve our schools. We want all of our students to get the best start in life.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at ed.husic.mp@aph.gov.au or 9625 4344 or visit www.schoolfunding.gov.au.