Hello, everyone. Welcome back for Term 2. I hope that you had an enjoyable break and enjoyed wonderful family time. I also pray that you were blessed with renewal through your participation in the sacred Easter mysteries.

It was most uplifting to return to school and see that progress has been made with the playground, despite further substantial delays caused by our inclement weather. The retaining walls have largely been completed and the surface for the basketball court has been laid. We hope to be adding artificial grass to the top level shortly, although there will be delays caused by the backlog of work resulting from all of the rain Sydney has experienced. Still, with every step forward we take, it is becoming easier to envisage how the completed project will look.

These facilities will provide much needed recreational activities for our children and dramatically improve the appearance of the College. We are told, “Don’t judge a book by its cover.” Unfortunately, it is human nature to do so. When we fix our ‘cover’, I hope that many more people will read our book and consider the wonderful educational content of our College.

The College will benefit greatly from an increase in numbers, allowing economies of scale and improved ability to purchase additional educational resources for our students. Please encourage families and friends whose children do not currently attend our college to have a fresh look! Growth is critical for the College’s survival. 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. We will continue to provide opportunities for parents to provide feedback to the College.

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Forum Meetings last term. Issues critical to the College’s growth were discussed. The College has attempted to respond positively to the feedback and the suggestions that were received. We will continue to hold these meetings on a regular basis. 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 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.

The College attempts to assist our students in many ways. For our Year 11 and 12 students, regular tuition is provided in the Thursday afternoon sport period. Assistance is available across most subjects. Encourage your children to take advantage of this opportunity.

The Mother’s Day stall is coming up shortly, as well as a number of other fund raising opportunities. If you can assist the Parents and Friends with these activities, please contact Mrs Ferrett via the school office. Please support these initiatives.

The toilets near the school office are for primary (K-6) use only. If you need to use toilets, please use the parish facilities, located beneath the Bishop’s apartment.

Again, we ask for your assistance in keeping the car parking area as safe as is possible for our children. We are confident that the new arrangements that are planned for when the playground is completed will make pick-up and drop-off a less
stressful experience and improve safety. In the meantime, please continue to exercise extreme care and patience with our interim arrangements.

We have Parent/Teacher interviews next Monday evening in the new hall. Please make the effort to attend this evening. Your involvement and interest in occasions such as these sends an important message to your children.

The College athletics carnival is just around the corner, along with the secondary representative cross country carnival, combined college masses are to be held for the three Coptic schools and speech competitions are to be held. It’s going to be a busy term! Please keep us in your prayers.

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

Mr Stephenson
College Principal

NOW ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS

The College is accepting new enrolments for Kindergarten 2013 and other years. Please contact the school office for an application or visit the school website at http://www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au for the downloadable application form.

NO STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Term 3 will commence for ALL students on Monday the 16th of July. There will be no staff development day.

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 by calling this number 9675 7433.

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.

REMEMDER

Just a reminder, if you would like to discuss any matter with the classroom teacher, the diary must be used. Please do not approach teachers while on duty as they have a duty of care to the students. You must also ensure you have spoken to the classroom teacher before approaching the appropriate coordinators. You must speak to the appropriate people before making an appointment to see the college deputy, principal or director.

K-2 Coordinator: Miss Rezk
3-6 Coordinator: Mr Oen
7-10 Coordinator: Mrs Narouz
11-12 Coordinator: Miss Hanna
Deputy: Mrs Awadalla
Principal: Mr Stephenson
Director: Fr Botros

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.
HIGH SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Assembly in the church will be on Mondays and Wednesdays. Students, please line up as normal on these days to enter the church for morning assembly. Awards will be handed out every Wednesday. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, students are to go straight to their roll call class. Please ensure you have adequate reading material (Silent Reading) while the admin takes place in your roll call. You are permitted to do Crosswords and Puzzles. NO MAGAZINES are permitted.

Protocol for Tuesday Thursday and Fridays
8.25am Warning Bell – A teacher will direct students to go to classes.
8.30am Start of Day Bell rings – classroom doors must be open.
8.35am Classroom Doors will be shut and any students outside of the classroom are considered late and must go to Reception.

PRIMARY BRONZE ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the students who received Bronze in the last week of Term 1.
1J - Christina Bolis, Binitta Binoy, Aneesh R. Chakravarthula, Youliana Hanna, Kermina Lestafenos, Marina Daoud, Maximous Bulis
5O - Macarious Girgis, Yustina Awad, Abanoub Bolis

ANZAC DAY

For every 25th of April that I can remember I have attended the ANZAC dawn service. I attend with my parents and sometimes with other members of our family.

It is usually cold and dark when I wake up at 4am to get ready to go and this makes me think about what it would've been like for our ANZACS as they were about to leave the boat and run ashore at Gallipolli, in the cold and dark morning. The ANZACS thought they would surprise their enemy but instead the Turks were already waiting for the ANZACS. Many soldiers lost their life on that beach on that day. I think of what these soldiers did for our country, many more since and the many who are still serving that fight for our freedom, so we as Australians could have a free and good life.

I was proud and honoured to see the diggers march by with their medals and realise what they have sacrificed for us and Australia. I have had many past Grandparents who have fought for Australia, some who came back to live a wonderful and peaceful life in Australia and sadly some who did not return.

This ANZAC day I laid flowers at the Dawn Service at Blacktown RSL on behalf of all the students and staff at our school. The service can be sad, but it makes me proud to be an Australian and live in this great country.
Riley Ferrett

KIDS CORNER

Sudoku

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Joke

Who is a bee’s favourite painter?

Pablo Beecasso!
PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Just a reminder, Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday the 7th of May. If you are unable to attend on that day, please notify your classroom teacher before the day.

P & F

I would like to thank all the Mum’s who volunteered their time to sell water at our annual cross country. Your help was greatly appreciated. It was a fun and successful day!

Mother's Day is fast approaching and as in previous years the P & F will be holding a Mother's Day Stall.

The Mother's Day Stall will be held on Thursday the 10th of May and possibly Friday the 11th May. We will need volunteers to help the students make their purchases. If you are available on these days and would like could you please let Mrs Ferrett know as soon as possible either directly or through reception. Your assistance will be warmly welcome.

God Bless P & F

TERM 2 PRIMARY SPORT

This term Primary students will be participating in an 8 week Gymnastics program run during the student’s normal Wednesday sport. The cost of this program is $35.00, please enclose the correct amount in an envelope with your child’s name and return it to their classroom teacher before Friday 11th May 2012. Our College has also been given an opportunity to receive a FREE Gymnastics program which will be conducted on Monday 28th May 2012 (Week 6). Student’s classroom teachers will remind students of this closer to the date.

YEAR 11 PDHPE

Our Year 11 PDHPE class will obtain their Senior First Aid Certificate on Tuesday 1st May and Wednesday 2nd May (Week 2) of this Term. We are very lucky to have Surf Lifesaving Australia come to our school and conduct this course for our students. This course is designed to give students knowledge, skills and attitudes deemed necessary for giving competent care to the ill or injured until medical aid arrives. I hope the students enjoy the 2 day course and remember to bring in your money for the course.

3-12 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

It’s that time of the year again! Our schools annual Athletics Carnival will be held at Blacktown Olympic Park Eastern Road, Rooty Hill, 2766 on Wednesday 9th May 2012 (Week 3). A permission note will go out this week. Please ensure your child brings their permission note and money to their classroom teacher before Wednesday 9th May 2012.

Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the day to sport their team. Canteen facilities are available on the day but I do encourage students to bring their own food and plenty of water as well as a hat and sunscreen. I would like to encourage all the parents to come along and support our schools carnival.

I look forward to a great day. See you all there!

Miss Macri

NAPLAN

NAPLAN Testing for all Year 7 and 9 students will be conducted in week 4 of this term on Tuesday 15th to 18th May. NAPLAN is a nationally developed program commissioned by the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs. Tests are administered simultaneously in all schools across Australia. Aspects of literacy assessed are reading, writing and language conventions (comprising spelling punctuation and grammar) while numeracy testing includes number, algebra, function and pattern, measurement, chance and data and space. NAPLAN tests are another way of finding out what students can and cannot do. Individual student
reports show the achievement of an individual in a series of bands, against national minimum standards and the range of achievement of students across Australia. The school receives year level information while parents receive their child’s report in September.

The test schedule is as follows;

**Tuesday 15th May**
Language Conventions

**Wednesday 16th May**
Reading

**Thursday 17th May**
Numeracy

Teachers will prepare students for the testing format with practice samples over the coming weeks.

God bless
S.Narouz
Stage 4 & 5 Coordinator

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**PARENT TIPS**

Like us all, our kids respond to the way we talk to them here is a little poem to remind us all how to speak to each other.

The Tone Of Voice

It's not so much what you say
As the manner in which you say it.
It's not so much the language you use
As the tone in which you convey it;

"Come here!" I sharply said,
And the child cowered and wept
"Come here," I said....
He looked and smiled
And straight to my lap he crept.

Words may be mild or fair
And the tone may pierce like a dart;
Words may be soft as summer air
But the tone will break my heart;

For words come from the mind
Grow by study and art.....
But tone leaps from the inner self
Revealing the state of the heart.

Whether you know it or not,
Whether you mean it or care,
Gentleness, kindness, love and hate,
Envy, anger are there.

Then would you quarrels avoid
And peace and joy rejoice?
Keep anger not only out of your words
Keep it out of your voice.

Early Childhood Learning & Parenting Magazine
Aug-Sept 2008

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**ANGELOS CHILD CARE**

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REBATE AVAILABLE
Fees start as low as $11.00 per day
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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
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