Hello, everyone. It’s been a busy start to the new term. I hope that the holidays, which already seem a distant memory, were a time of great fun and relaxation for our children and that they have returned ready for a solid term’s work.

Our Year 12 students begin their trial HSC examinations this week and we wish them well. We hope that the results obtained will reflect the hard work that has gone into preparation and will encourage the students to work even harder in the coming months so that they can shine in their HSC examinations.

Over the holidays, families received their semester one reports. This can be a stressful time for students and their parents. From the College’s perspective, the most important thing to be looking at is the effort that your child has made. If a child is making their best possible effort we should be pleased, irrespective of the results achieved. We can always work at improving results if a child is cooperative and motivated. By contrast, there will be a number of students achieving high marks who have not worked to their potential and we should encourage these students to strive to achieve results more commensurate with their ability. We hope that all families take the opportunity to review their children’s performance with their teacher(s) at the parent teacher night.

The fences have now been installed around the playground area and the artificial grass is being laid on the upper level, with the project expected to be completed by the end of this week, weather permitting. We are hoping to have a wonderful open day to formally recognise the construction of the new buildings and the completion of the playground facilities.

Once the playground is operational the car park area will be returned to its intended use. It can become a car park again! Some remodelling of the car park will take place to create a designated drop-off and pick-up zone to improve safety and ease of movement. In the interim, we appeal to your continued patience and vigilance to ensure the safety of our children. We would ask that all learner drivers avoid the car park completely in the interest of safety.

The canteen is now open for limited trading, with a view to full services commencing when a few electrical supply issues are resolved. We are in need of volunteers to assist in the canteen. The canteen will be operating at recess and lunch times, for secondary and primary, Monday to Friday. Help is needed from approximately 10am to 3am. If you are able to volunteer some time on any days, your help will be greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank parents for their support of the College, in particular those who have taken the time to pass on suggestions for improvement. We try to act on the suggestions provided to continually improve our College. Another parent forum has been organised for Wednesday, 15th August, at 9:00am. It is only through a strong partnership between the Church, the home and the College that we are able to appropriately respond to our children’s needs. The College needs to continue to grow and we ask that you encourage your family and friends to support the College.

As always, your families are in my prayers. I pray that God continues to bless our College community.
Mr Stephenson
College Principal
KINDERGARTEN 2013 AND OTHER ENROLMENTS

The College has limited spots for new Kindergarten enrolments 2013 and other years. Please contact the school office for an application or visit the school website at [http://www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au) for the downloadable application form.

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

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT

Dear parents,

We will be using a new SMS system to enquiry as to why your child is absent (away). We will be messaging you and asking why your child is away rather than calling, you can simply SMS your reply with the reason your child is away or you can still call the Office on 9675 7433.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS DOES NOT REPLACE THE ABSENCE NOTE YOU MUST PROVIDE WHEN YOUR CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL.** (The note is a Board of Studies requirement).

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.

REMITTER

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 Co-ordinator: Mr Oen
7-10 Co-ordinator: Mrs Narouz
11-12 Co-ordinator: Miss Hanna
Deputy: Mrs Awadalla
Principal: Mr Stephenson
Director: Fr Botros

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

CAR PARK

As you are aware, parking is only permitted in the lower car park on the school premises. Please ensure you park in the appropriate areas and make sure you look out for children. Also, Learner drivers are not to enter the school car park under any circumstances due to the safety and well being of students, parents and guardians. Learner drivers are to park on the street.
Dear Parents,

We are happy to announce that the canteen will be opening on a limited basis from Monday 30th July. The canteen will be open Monday to Friday.

We will need volunteers to help in the canteen. Should you have time to help please leave your details with Reception and we will contact you.

The regular menu is as follows:

**Temporary Canteen Menu**

**Drinks**
- 600ml water $1.00
- Milk Shakes (Strawberry/Chocolate/Banana) $2.00
- Hot Chocolate $1.00
- Zero Coca Cola $1.50

**Sandwiches (on long rolls)**
- Ham/Cheese/Tomato $2.00
- Chicken/Cheese/Lettuce $2.00
- Ham/Tomato $2.00
- Chicken/Lettuce $2.00
- Cheese/Tomato $2.00
- Soy Cheese/Olives/Lettuce* $2.00

*Wednesdays and Fridays

Please support us by providing your child’s order in a paper bag with your child’s full name, class, sandwich and or drinks required written on the bag and the correct money.

### Term 2

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**AWARDS**

**Bronze KG** Rafael Fakri, August Anthony Latai, Sandra Jabo, Maximus Girgis, Antony Youssef **2R** Jeremiah Mikhail, Arsany Yassa, Jessica Jebbo, Jeremiah Roffael, Mark Makram **4S** Jayson Ibrahim, Sean Reddy, Stephanous Escandar **4P** Mehraty Michael, Philomena Daoud **3S** Joy Bulis, Ana-Maria Guirguis, Milania Abdelshahid, Ann-Rose Baby Joseph, Merry Dankha, Joseph Gobran

**Silver KG** Allayna Anna Sachin **1J** Aneesh R Chakravarthula, Christina Bolis, Joshua Farah, Rediet Deresegn, Andrew Ghaname, Kirmena Iestafanos, Youliana Hanna **2R** Jovan Popovic, Adriana Khalil, Sarah Youssef, Marie-Ann Girgis, Tatiana Salama, Marian Jabo, Gerges Fouad, Maheteme Solomon **4S** Mary Yassa, Elbrat Nissan **5O** Mariam Assaad, Jerome Yassa, Daniella Wasif, Samuel Boshra, George Odeh, Macerina Girgis, Abanoub Bolis, Yustina Awad, Marebelle Jabour, Sandy Estafanos, Mariam Bolis, Martina Philopos

**Gold 4S** Marina Guirguis, Matthew Tadros, Nardine Mekhail
TERM 3 LIBRARY MONITORS

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<td>Yustina Ragheb</td>
<td>Marina Guirguis</td>
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<td>Naomi Salib</td>
<td>Demadious Bulis</td>
<td>Andrew Bols</td>
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<td>Karmen Georgi</td>
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<td>Martina Pilopos</td>
<td>Bishoy Kamal</td>
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<td>Jacob Jebbo</td>
<td>Sandy Estafanos</td>
<td>Olivia Daoud</td>
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<td>Nathnael Desta</td>
<td>George Odeh</td>
<td>Peter Ayad</td>
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KIDS CORNER

Sudoku

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1 2
3
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Joke

Why did the dingo cross the road twice?

Because he was a double crosser!

SCIENCE LAB

In Term 2, students from stage one went to the High School Lab to conduct a gooey experiment. Students were also given the opportunity to see creepy crawlies and a turtle! Students had a great time and learned a lot. Thank you to Mrs Ferrett who showed the students many cool things 😊

MASS

We welcome back everyone to Term 3 and what a great way to start the Term than to start with the Holy Liturgy. On the 24th of July, 2012, K-6 attended the Holy Liturgy. It was a wonderful service led by Father Botros. It was lovely to be united and pray together to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

REPORTS

 Semester One reports have been sent out in the mail. If you have not yet received your child’s report, please contact the school office as soon as possible. After this week, reports will cost $10 to be reprinted. Just a reminder, all reports should be kept in a display folder at home for future reference.
WINTER DRAMA FESTIVAL

Festival Fundraiser
The P & F along with the dedicated staff organising the WDF are holding a "Show bag" Fundraiser. Show bags must be pre ordered and cost $5 per show bag. Orders will be taken up until Friday 3rd August (before recess) and will delivered around Friday the 10th August. We look forward to your continued support. If you have any questions please see Mrs Ferrett.

P & F FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEWS

On Monday 6th August the Fundraising committee will be holding a BBQ to raise funds for the High School Art Department and the Winter Drama Festival. The school will be selling Hot Chicken Rolls for $3 and drinks for $1. A note will go home this week to take your order. Once again we look forward to your continued support.

We will need parent volunteers to help us run the BBQ on the day if you can be of assistance could you please contact Mrs Narouz or Mrs Ferrett your help will be greatly appreciated.

JOIN OUR NEW PARENTS AND FRIENDS GROUP

Dear Parents,
Our school is in the process of forming a new group of Parents and Friends (P&F). Your cooperation and on going support are essential in helping the school to run a variety of activities to motivate our students and help with providing them with more resources. We encourage you all to join in our new P&F group and as a start we would like you to provide the following details on a piece of paper
1- Full Name
2- Best contact number
3- e-mail address
and leave it with our lovely reception ladies to pass it on to Mrs Awadalla. You will be contacted by the school for the first official meeting in August. May the Lord reward you all.

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
JC Driving School
When you learn with JC Driving School you’ll enjoy:
Friendly, patient and a fully qualified driving instructor, modern automatic car with dual controls, test success in as few lessons as possible, convenient pick-ups from home, work or school, flexible times, discount for school students.
Blacktown, Mount Druitt Area
Contact Mohsen at 0420 465 488
E-mail: jcdrivingschool@yahoo.com.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox College
V. Rev. Fr Botros Morkos, Director
Mr Rob Stephenson, Principal
Mr Saad Rezk, Financial Manager
Tel: 96757411, Fax: 96757533
Email: office@stbishoy.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.stbishoy.nsw.edu.au

Father Shenouda's Food Donation - High School 2012
The SRC in the High School have come up with a wonderful initiative to help assist Father Shenouda’s charity at Coco’s in the city.

We have made a timetable for a class, each week, to donate food and help Father Shenouda. There will be a box inside the High School Staffroom for students to place their donation. All we ask is for a small contribution during your classes designated week. All donations will be boxed up on a Friday afternoon and given to Mrs Helou, who helps Father Shenouda each week at Coco’s.

For those of you who are not familiar with Father Shenouda’s work at Coco’s – It is a non-profit organisation which has been running for over 20 years. There are 2 locations at Parramatta and in the City, all run on a Tuesday evening. He gets over 100 homeless people at each Tuesday night, serving them home cooked meals and providing them with clothing and blankets. He also supports them with medical assistance and job seeking opportunities.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<td>ALL YEAR GROUPS</td>
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We encourage parents and students to help assist Father Shenouda with his charity. If you have any enquiries please don’t hesitate to contact Miss Macri.

Sincerely,
Rob Stephenson          Karina Macri
Stepping out of the shadows
For Arabic Speaking Community
at Mt Druitt Community Health Centre

Address: Buran close Mt Druitt
Time: Tuesdays, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Topics are:
31.7.2012: Where does stigma come from?
7.8.2012: What we know about mental Health and how we feel about it?
14.8.2012: Why reduce stigma, What can we do if we are affected by stigma?
21.8.2012: What can we do to reduce stigma around us?

Refreshment will be provided.
For more information please call Hanaa Nosir 98811259
It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true.

The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country, but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That’s not a reason to be away!

It’s now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling’s birthday, being absent because they stayed up too late watching television, going shopping for clothes, an extended long weekend, and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal, but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00 am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

It takes strong parenting...

As a parent myself, I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as “It’s not fair that I have to go to school today because Aunty is coming to visit!”

Nice try. But the answer should be “No!”.

As parents, we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It’s reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unyielding of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.