Hello, everyone. It’s good to be back after an extended break that helped me to consolidate recent improvements in my health. I hope that the holidays, which are perhaps a somewhat distant memory now, proved to be a happy time and a period of regeneration for all.

The final term is well underway. The HSC examinations are nearing their completion and we pray that our Year 12 students have performed well in their exams to this point and will perform well in the remaining exams. We wish them every success and good news in December when the results are published. The feedback I have received from the students has been positive. Year 11 have completed their exams and had a retreat in preparation for their final year of study. We pray that they will apply themselves diligently to their studies and reap the rewards of sustained effort. For our remaining students, exams loom large on the horizon. There is still time to prepare and it is my hope that all students will be actively engaged in their preparations for these upcoming exams and that the hard work that has preceded them will be appropriately rewarded. As always, let me stress that we can ask no more of our students than their best effort and that she would reward effort much more than actual results. In the long run, this will yield better results.

Our College has been fortunate to obtain funding through a national partnerships program to improve literacy and numeracy within the College. This is an exciting program with a proven record of success in trials conducted in many states. It is certainly one of the most impressive programs I have participated in during my teaching career, a program that has the potential to significantly impact the literacy and numeracy achievements of our students. The funding will help us to provide extra assistance for our students most in need, additional resources for use by all and informed teaching practices underscored by the latest and most proven educational research. I look forward to seeing the fruits of this program in the year ahead and many years into the future.

The recent purchases from China should be arriving in coming weeks, enabling the completion of the Commercial Kitchen, Workshops and the second Science Laboratory. These new facilities will significantly enhance the curriculum offerings of the College.

The canteen has proven to be a great success with students. We are still in urgent 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 8:30am to 3:30pm. If you are able to volunteer some time on any days, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please leave your details in the office.

Once again, 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. 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. Believe in and remain loyal to St Bishoy College and help it to grow into the outstanding educational institution that this community and its children deserve.

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

Mr Rob 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 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. Please note: The yellow sport uniform will no longer be worn by students next year, 2013. Students must wear the new blue sport uniform.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT

Dear parents,
We will be using a new SMS system to enquire 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.

GREAT NEWS!

The school now has an eftpos machine available to make school fee payments easier.

PROCEDURES

If you have a concern regarding your son/daughter, please make an appointment to see the classroom teacher first or write in your child’s diary. This is very important as the classroom teacher is the initial person who can assist you with your query. If then you feel that your issue has not been resolved, you must proceed to the appropriate coordinator. Following the coordinator you may make an appointment with the deputy, then the principal. If you still feel your matter has not been resolved, you may make an appointment with the college director. Please follow this procedure.

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. Also, when you are dropping off students in the morning, park in the parking bay so other drivers can drive out safely.

PLEASE NOTE: The upper car park is reserved for the child care and school staff ONLY. Please make sure you park in the lower car park to ensure child safety.
HOLIDAY

If you are planning to go on holiday throughout the school term, please ensure you put it in writing with the dates and purpose of your holiday to be approved by the College Principal. This is a legal requirement for the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

KIDS CORNER

Sudoku

What is a parrot's favourite game?

Hide and Speak!

WEEK 2 AWARDS

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<td>Michael Wasif</td>
<td>Kirmena Istephanos</td>
<td>Matthew Abdelmaseih</td>
<td>Jessica Jebbo</td>
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<td>Christian Metias</td>
<td>Veronika Ragheb</td>
<td>David Bolis</td>
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<td>Mahrael Milad</td>
<td>Stella Yousif</td>
<td>Antony Fouad</td>
<td>Abanoub Bolis</td>
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<td>Philomena Daoud</td>
<td>Nardine Mekhail</td>
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<td>Abdelmasih Fakri</td>
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<td>Mariam Assaad</td>
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<td>Barbara Said</td>
<td>Kirolos Georgi</td>
<td>Marina Rushdy</td>
<td>George Obeh</td>
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Silver: KGY Androw Georgy, Christian Metias, Karas Awad KG Sandra Jabo, Georgina Bahdi, Antony Youssef, Merone Bogale, August Latai, Rafael Fakri 2R Arsany Yassa

Gold: KGY Tiana Read 1J David Bolis, Maximous Bulis, Andrew Ghaname 4P Mariam Kamal, Joyce Todary

STAGE 3 CAMP

Australia Government assistance for National Capital excursion

Our stage 3 students recently attended a school camp where they participated in an education tour of the national capital, Canberra. While on this tour they were engaged in a variety of educational programmes that focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australia Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you (the parents) in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing finding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon the completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. This rebate has enabled us to keep the cost of the school camp within the reach of the families within our community. Activities undertaken as part of the tour are outlined in this newsletter.
Year 5 and 6 Camp: Canberra 2012
Year 5 and 6 students from St. Bishoy College went on their annual overnight camp during week 3. This year our destination was the national capital, Canberra. The students spent two fun-filled days exploring Canberra’s many attractions.

Our first stop was at the Mount Ainslie Lookout where we could see Parliament House and the design layout of Canberra.

Next we visited the Australian War Memorial. While at the war memorial we watched a light show that re-enacted a battle involving a helicopter. We also visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One of the guides at the War Memorial explained the significance of the stain glass windows and the paintings around the wall.

After lunch we visited the Australian Institute of Sport where we were able to try out our skills. We also went on a tour of some of the facilities.

Following this, we went to Questacon, the National Science and Technology Centre. Here we were able to participate in lots of science experiments and simulations, including the Earthquake House and a large slide. In keeping with the Science theme of the afternoon, a visit to the CSIRO was next. Here we were able to conduct some experiments and we were introduced to some very large stick insects.

On Day two we started with a visit to Parliament House. Here we participated in a role-play where we learned about how a bill is passed. We also went on a tour of Parliament house and went into the Senate and the House of Representatives.

On the way to Old Parliament House (now the Museum of Australian Democracy), we went on a tour of the Embassies. Of course, we went past the Egyptian Embassy.

At Old Parliament House we were able to sit in the seats of the former House of Representatives. Two of our students were chosen to dress in the robes and take part in a mini role-play.

We learned a lot during this excursion and also got to demonstrate some of our extensive knowledge about Australian Democracy. It was a rewarding experience for all and we can’t wait to do it all again one day.

Year 5, Year 6, Miss Stephenson, Mrs Jorgensen and Mr Popovski
AN URGENT WARNING ABOUT FACEBOOK

At St Bishoy College, the use of Facebook and other social media are not permitted. Some recent issues involving student usage of Facebook in their homes has raised concerns about parental understanding and involvement in their children’s usage of social networking sites. Outlined below are some tips and ideas for parents to help keep their children safe.

1. **You will not use Facebook if you are under 13.** This is a rule of Facebook itself. No child in Primary School should have their own Facebook page. If you wish to use Facebook as a way of keeping in touch with relatives, you should create your own page and allow your children to use it under your supervision.

2. **You will not share your password, let anyone else access your account, or do anything else that might jeopardize the security of your account.**

3. **You will not bully, intimidate, or harass any user.** Anyone who violates this condition may be liable to prosecution by the Police.

4. **You will not post content that: is hate speech, threatening, or incites or encourages violence.** If you do, the Police may be required to investigate your actions.

5. **Tip: Keep your computer in a public place.** Place your computer in an area where you can monitor your child’s usage and the messages being received. People are less likely to send an inappropriate message if they know the content is being monitored.

Parents and students must be aware that adding strangers as the “Friends” can be an extremely dangerous activity. Social networking sites are used as a way for immoral people to find out information about children. This places your children in danger.

In addition, your children should be advised to report any interaction that upsets or worries them to an appropriate adult.

The college urges parents to talk to their children to reinforce the information contained in this message. Your child’s safety is our greatest concern.

Mrs. D. Jorgensen
Acting 3-6 Coordinator

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2012 MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

These are the students who gained a Proficiency award in the Mathematics Competition this year.

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<td>Eyleia Saleeb yr 11</td>
<td>Anthony Assaad yr 9</td>
<td>Meina Awad yr 7</td>
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<td>Christina Shenouda yr11</td>
<td>Marleen Gibryal yr 8</td>
<td>Veronica Bakhour yr 7</td>
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<td>Roula Sargious yr 11</td>
<td>Mina Matta yr 8</td>
<td>Aditya Biji yr 7</td>
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<td>Peter Tawdrous yr 10</td>
<td>Jason Saad yr 8</td>
<td>Tsion Churu yr 7</td>
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<td>Jerome Tadros yr 10</td>
<td>Annasimone Wanas yr 8</td>
<td>Yasmin Girges yr 7</td>
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<td>Joseph Eskander yr 10</td>
<td>Youssef Yowakem yr 8</td>
<td>Mardeen Mikhail yr 7</td>
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<td>Mariam Mesihya yr 9</td>
<td>Monica Basta yr 7</td>
<td>Augustinous Shenouda yr 7</td>
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K-11 MASS

On Tuesday 23rd October, K-11 students attended a College Mass. The mass was led by Father Botros and it was lovely for all the students to unite and praise God. We look forward to praying again together next year.
CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We urgently need the help of 10 mums to help out with the College Canteen.
3 ½ hours weekly
From: 8.30am to 12noon
From: 12noon to 3.30pm
Please leave your name with Reception.
Thank you for supporting our College.

P & F

There will be a P&F meeting on Thursday 1st November 2012. The meeting will be held in the church hall at 2.15pm.
It would be wonderful to see you there!

God Bless,
Mrs Ferrett
St Bishoy College P&F Coordinator

PRIMARY SRC

The Primary SRC would like to thank everyone who supported our Show Bag fundraiser. We raised over $130.
Once again thank you for support.

God Bless
Primary SRC

LITERACY

Do you have an hour a week to spare?
Become a volunteer and help a local child to improve their literacy skills

* No experience necessary
* Full training provided by St John
* Training held locally at the St John Branch at 86 Henry Street, Penrith, starting Wednesday September 5

For more information on becoming a volunteer, please call 02 9746 5728 or email communityservices@stjohnnew.com.au

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
Give your parenting a spring clean

With spring in the air there is no better time for a little parenting spring clean to make sure you are on track to raise happy, confident and resilient kids.

Every parent I know wants to be the best parent they can be. Yet despite the best intentions it’s easy develop poor parenting habits that don’t do our kids any favours.

With spring in the air there is no better time for a little parenting spring clean to make sure you are on track to raise happy, confident and resilient kids.

Here is a checklist of 10 parenting ideas designed to help you put some psychological muscle on your kids:

1. Encourage effort and improvement more than results: Descriptive praise is better than generalities. Better still, as kids get older focus your comments more on effort, improvement and contribution than on results. And don’t make your kids reliant on what you think about them as their source of self-esteem.

2. Get kids to help without being paid: A little payment for jobs is okay, but don’t go overboard. Teach kids what’s in it for ‘we’ not ‘me’. By the way, the use of rosters is a great way to get kids to help.

3. Balance free time with organised time: For learning reasons (kids learn a lot when play and activities are self-directed) and mental health reasons make sure kids have plenty of MOOCH time.

4. NO deals with kids: If you bribe kids to behave well you teach them that they get what they negotiate. That’s hard work in family life. Better to give them a treat after they have behaved well as a show of appreciation rather than make their good behaviour contingent on a reward, also known as bribery.

5. Train your kids to speak for themselves: Give your kids the words they need to speak for themselves in all situations including when they are not with you.

6. When kids can, they do (make lunches, get themselves up, etc): Sometimes we do things for kids that make us feel like a mum or a dad. Your job is to make yourself redundant as a parent so teach your kids to do/make/speak for themselves and work your way out of a job. NB: You will never become redundant as a mum or a dad.

7. Don’t give them things just because they ask: Character is built through impulse control. Resist giving them what they want even if you have the capacity to do so. Waiting, saving and goal-setting are admirable skills that are developed through scarcity.

8. Give kids a chance to sort out their fights and squabbles: The default mechanism for most sibling conflict is compromise. We’ve just got to give kids a chance to work things out themselves. There are legitimate times to get involved but we need to know what we are doing and why.

9. Use consequences to develop responsibility: Don’t rescue kids when they leave that school lunch at home when they are late for school or they are less pleasant to another child. Allow consequences to teach your kids the important lessons of life. You mess up sometimes but you can make up and/or move on – and you can learn from the experience.

10. Put the camera down – be in the moment: Make sure your mind is where your body is and be fully present when you are with your kids. Take more mental pictures than photos and build their family memories.

This checklist is designed to stimulate some thinking and conversation about your current child-rearing practice. It’s not intended as a template for good parenting. It may even stimulate you to do less of some things and more of others. Incremental change is how we become better at most endeavours, including raising children.
**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

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**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

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**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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<th>Term 4</th>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<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 enquires please don’t hesitate to contact Miss Macri.
Sincerely,
Rob Stephenson & Karina Macri