Hello, everyone. While nothing is certain in life, this may be the last time that I will communicate with you in this manner. The last five and a bit years have been most enjoyable and rewarding for me, because of the acceptance and support I have received from this community. The parents of this community have been warm and generous with their assistance; the students have been responsive (for the most part!) to my directions and guidance; and the teachers have been wonderful colleagues. I believe that I have learnt a lot during my time at St Bishoy and thank you all for sharing the journey with me. In some small way, I hope that I have been able to contribute to this fine learning community and please know that this community will remain forever in my heart.

As a community, it is vital that you retain your faith in St Bishoy College. During my time at the College, it has been my privilege to observe God’s hand at work, meeting our needs in unexpected, some might say even miraculous, ways. Having experienced this first hand, I know that God will continue to bless St Bishoy College. The College has appointed Mr Kevin Bell to oversee the College into its next phase. Mr Bell is an outstanding educator, with a wealth of experience, and has a warm Christian character. Having completed some work for the College earlier in the year, we have seen first-hand his ability to work effectively with the staff and students of the College. I pray for his success at the College and commend him to you, in the sure knowledge that you will offer him the same warmth, cooperation and acceptance that I have enjoyed.

The recent purchases from China should be arriving shortly, having been crated and shipped. This will enable the completion of the Commercial Kitchen, Workshops and the second Science Laboratory. These new facilities will significantly enhance the curriculum offerings of the College. This work should commence before the end of the year, with a view to the facilities being operational by the beginning of next year.

Enjoy the upcoming holidays and the presentations preceding them at the College. I look forward to hearing of the successes of our Year 12 students in the HSC and wish them every success in their futures. I will watch closely from afar to see the progress and growth of St Bishoy College into the future. Know that you and your families will remain in my prayers. I pray that God continues to bless the St Bishoy College community. Good-bye!

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](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.
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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Joke

What time is it when an elephant sits on your fence?

Time to get a new fence
### WEEK 6 AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KGY:</th>
<th>KG:</th>
<th>1J:</th>
<th>1K:</th>
<th>2R:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiana Read</td>
<td>Maximus Girgis</td>
<td>Angelina Bahdi</td>
<td>Mina Milad</td>
<td>Jeremiah Roffael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamiel Del Pilar</td>
<td>Alex Jamous</td>
<td>Marina Habashy</td>
<td>Marilyn Nazir</td>
<td>Mark Makram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karas Awad</td>
<td>Georgina Bahdi</td>
<td>Rediet Dereseign</td>
<td>Katerina Said</td>
<td>Abdelamsih Polus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mehrael Makram</td>
<td>Allayna Anna Sachin</td>
<td>Andrew Youseff</td>
<td>Parthenia Salama</td>
<td>Tatiana Salama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Silver:** 2R Keriakos Mikhail, Mark Makram,  
**Gold:** KG Alex Jamous, August A Latai, Sandra Jabo, Merone Bogale, Georgina Bahdi, Bishop Shaker, Antony Youssif  
**KGY** Jamiel Del Pilar, Mark Kamal, Christian Metias, Laith Asfour, Androw Gourgy, Martin Zaki  
**1J** Angelina Bahdi, Marina Habashy, Kyrollos Habashy  
**2R** Shantelle Yalda, Joyce Abdelmalek, Simon Wanis, Andrew Habashi, Simon Wanis  
**3S** Juliana Andrawis  
**4P** Nahreen Mikhail, Marina Rushdy, Antony Fouad,  
**4S** Farah Yowakem

### PICK UP

If someone else will be picking up your son/daughter after school, please notify the classroom teacher in writing through the diary. This is to minimise any confusion and ensure student safety. Unfortunately, if we have no written permission from you, the person you allocate to pick up your child will not be able to take your son/daughter.

### UNIFORM

As you are aware, Presentation Day will be on Tuesday 4th December, 2012. Please ensure students are wearing the correct full school summer uniform. Unfortunately, students will not take part on the day if the uniform requirements are not met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black leather lace up shoes (no boots)</td>
<td>School tunic (below the knee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School navy socks</td>
<td>White plain socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School shorts (no cargo shorts)</td>
<td>Black leather lace up shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School short sleeve shirt</td>
<td>Navy blue/maroon hair elastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School tie</td>
<td>Short cut nails/No fake nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short cut nails</td>
<td>No hair extensions/beads/hair dye please</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop will be open on the listed dates between 9am and 10am and 1.30pm and 2.30pm. Please note, the yellow sport uniform will no longer be accepted as part of the uniform. Please ensure that you purchase the blue sport uniform.

**PLEASE NOTE THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL NOT BE OPEN ON SATURDAYS**

- 3rd and 5th December 2012
- 10th and 13th December 2012
- 17th and 21st December 2012
- 28th December 2012.

**In the New Year:**
- 4th January 2013
- 9th and 11th January 2013
- 15th and 18th January 2013
- 22nd and 25th January 2013
- 29th January 2013
FATHER BOTROS
On 14th November, K-12 students celebrated Father Botros’ 16th Ordination Anniversary. It was great to also have Father Gabriel with us on the day. What a great celebration for our College Director. May God bless him and grant him many successful years ahead.

STAGE 2 EXCURSION
On Thursday 22nd November, Stage 2 classes went on an excursion to Penrith Lakes. The students had an extremely informative and practical day. They also witnessed a lot of history from the local area. They saw how the area transformed into the lakes and every HSIE unit taught this year, linked to this excursion. A wonderful day had by all!
Mr Popovski

DRAMA FESTIVAL
On Tuesday 27th November, the Drama Festival took place in the school hall. The students who were in the performance were fantastic. The production was about The Ugly Duckling. It was great to also have parents attend. Thank you to all who helped out on the day and helped the students practise their performance to make it a success. Here are some photos!

YEAR 6 FORMAL
On Monday 19th November, Year 6 had their Graduation Ceremony in the School Hall. The students looked great and everyone had a great time. There was a presentation for the Year 6 students and it was great to see the parents and teachers enjoy the night. Thank you to everyone who helped out that evening.
YEAR 12 FORMAL
On Thursday 22nd November, the Year 12 students had their formal at Waterview Reception at Bicentennial Park. The night was a great success and the students looked great! The dinner was exquisite and there was even a magician to entertain students, parents and teachers. What a lovely night. We pray that the students go forth and conquer all future challenges with God by their side.

YEAR 9 & 10 CAMP
Australia Government assistance for National Capital excursion
Our Year 9 and 10 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 programs 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.

Thirty six Year 9 and 10 students went on a camp to Canberra with Mrs Narouz, Mr Zaki, Miss Makri and Mr Gerges. The students had a great time and learnt a lot about different aspects of Australia. They visited Parliament House, the Demoncracy Museum and the Australian War Memorial. Students also went to the National Science and Technology Centre as well as the Australian Institute of Sport. What a great experience for students! Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and made it all happen.

P & F
The Principal’s breakfast was held last Tuesday and was a huge success. I would like to thank all the Mums who helped on the day. As they say, many hands make light work and how true this was. Without all of you the day could not have gone ahead, your help was truly appreciated. I would like to thank Mrs Girgis for baking the 100 or so cupcakes we needed and Mrs Georgi for kindly donating the watermelon. You all helped make it a very special day for our students.

On Thursday of last week we also had Kindy Orientation for 2013. Morning Tea was run by the P&F I would like to thank Mrs Georgi for her help. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new parents.

I would like to announce that Mrs Georgi will be our new P&F Coordinator, I welcome her to this position and I hope she finds it as rewarding as I have over the past year. I will continue working with the P&F and I know you will support Mrs Georgi as you have supported me.

Once again thank you to all have have volunteered your time to help this year, we value your support. The P&F would like to wish everyone a safe and blessed Christmas.

God Bless,
Mrs Ferrett
**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.

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**Changes to the NSW Road Rules**

From 1 November 2012, a number of changes are being introduced road rules. Many of these changes are simply to clarify existing road rules and make them easier to understand. The changes will affect all road users, so it is important that you read and familiarise yourself with these facts. More information can be found at  
www.rms.nsw.gov.au

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**Use of mobile phones**

While a vehicle is moving or stationary (but not parked), a driver may only use a mobile phone to make or receive a call or use the audio playing function:

- If the mobile phone is secured in a fixed mounting; or
- If not in a mounting, use of the mobile phone must not require a driver to touch or manipulate the phone in any way.

All other functions including texting, video messaging, online chatting, reading preview messages and emailing are prohibited.

The new laws make it clear that a driver in a moving or stationary vehicle (unless parked) MUST NOT HOLD a phone in his or her hand other than to pass the phone to a passenger.

Penalty: 3 demerit points (4 in a school zone) and $298 ($397 in a school zone)

**Police and emergency services vehicles**

Police and emergency service drivers may continue to use mobile data terminals in the course of their work to receive job allocations, licensing, registration and other important information.

**Visual display units in motor vehicles**

A visual display unit (including a mobile phone), which is being used as a driver’s aid function, such as a GPS, may only be used in a motor vehicle if it is secured in a fixed mounting. This mounting must be commercially designed and manufactured for this purpose. It must be positioned in the vehicle to not distract or obscure the driver’s view.

Penalty: 3 demerit points (4 in a school zone) and $298 ($397 in a school zone)
*Insights*

by Michael Grose - No. 1 parenting educator

Ask WHAT when kids act up

*“Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive. There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT’?**

‘WHY............?’
‘Why on earth did you do that?’
Most of us have said this to our kids at some stage.
They hurt a sibling and we say, ‘WHY?’
They argue and fight at the meal table and we say, ‘WHY?’
They deliberately come home from an outing later than agreed and we say, ‘WHY?’

This is a natural reaction. But often kids can’t articulate why they have done the wrong thing. Boys, in particular, will usually reply, ‘I duno.’ They know something isn’t right, but articulating it is another matter.

Besides, asking WHY is pointless.
Even if they give you a reason for their poor behaviour (‘cos she hit me first’, ‘I’m not hungry anyway’, ‘I was late because I lost track of time’) where do you go to from there?

Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive.

There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT’?

Okay, your first reaction to misbehaviour maybe ‘WHAT the.....’ but hold that thought in. Better to ask questions such as:

- WHAT were you thinking when you hurt your sister?
- WHAT were you doing when you decided to stay out late?
- WHAT was happening when you argued with your friend?
- WHAT should you have done when you didn’t want to eat and decided to annoy your sister?
- WHAT will you do next time when you feel like acting like that?
- WHAT do you think your brother meant when he said that you were......?
- WHAT will you do now to make it up to your brother?

These types of questions are reflective and restorative. They require children to reflect on their thinking, their behaviour and the situation at hand. This opens up conversations that lead to learning.

Effective discipline helps children learn better ways of behaving. Some of the questions lead children to the important aspect of repairing or restoring relationships they may have damaged through their behaviour and so take some responsibility for the way they acted. Taking responsibility and making amends is another vital aspect of discipline.

Importantly, asking WHAT when kids’ misbehaviour impacts on others leads them further down the road from self interest to social interest, where they consider the well-being of others. It’s also in line with the types of questions teachers are asking your children when their behaviour adversely affects others.
**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.
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Contact Mohsen at 0420 465 488
E-mail: jcdrivingschool@yahoo.com.au

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email: solidrivingschool@hotmail.com

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**
Good Afternoon,
Blacktown City Libraries is happy to announce two workshops, Mathematics and English targeting year 9 and 10 students. Please find attached promotional material for the information of staff and students. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions relating to library services for students or the workshops please contact Tracey Caldwell on ph.9839-6666 or alternatively Mary Ternes on ph.9839-6621,
Kind Regards from
Tracey Caldwell,
Library Technician
Blacktown City Libraries