With Semester One examinations and final assessments for the term now underway across the junior school and reports for the first semester being put together, the College is to provide opportunities for parents to book interviews with teachers online on the 27th and 28th June from Tuesday of next week.

The parent teacher interviews provide parents and teachers a great opportunity to reflect on a student’s progress. Whilst the Semester One report is an obvious initial point for discussion, the interview affords the scope for information to be discussed that is not on the report. It allows teachers and parents to collaborate on student-centred strategies to support learning both in the classroom and at home.

The parent teacher meetings have the capacity to add meaning and understanding for both parents and teachers on the context around the learning trajectory of a child. Research strongly suggests that partnerships between parents and teachers such as the opportunities that these meetings provide, lead to students doing better at school and generally feeling better supported in their learning.

This year the College has allocated a broader time period for parents to attend the interviews in the hope that most will book times online beforehand. The interview periods are Thursday 27th June from 3.00pm to 7.30pm and Friday 28th June from 8.30am to 3.00pm. It is expected that students will accompany their parents to the interviews.

**Upcoming Parent Forum**

Next Tuesday week, June 25th, there will be a Parent Forum meeting from 7.30pm in the College Hall. The guest speaker will be Judith Hurley, The Director of Identity. I hope to see many parents there. The meetings provide excellent opportunities for parents to learn more about what is happening in the College. At each meeting a Head of Department provides insights into the faculty programs, policies and innovations.

**Students taking leave**

This year has witnessed an increase in the number of parents seeking leave for their child out of school time. Whilst there are times when such leave is necessary and worthwhile, such as in examples of significant family events, sport representation and cultural programs, there are increasing numbers of students going on holidays out of school time. For the large part, occurrences where weeks and sometimes months of schooling are missed, are questionable in terms of dislocation to the learning routine of the student involved. Recent government legislation has focused on the topic of absenteeism from school to the extent that leave which takes a student out of school for more than 50 days in a school year, where that leave has taken the child over the accumulated 50 days, now requires approval from the governmental authorities outside the school.

**Congratulations to Mr Tony Kane who celebrates 25 continuous years coaching Edmund Rice College teams in the Illawarra Rugby League knockout.**

**Edmund Rice College Teacher Celebrates Milestone….**

The St George Illawarra Dragons would like to congratulate Edmund Rice College teacher Tony Kane on coaching his 25th consecutive All Schools Carnival recently. It is a fantastic achievement and we hope to see many more teachers bring up similar milestones in coming years. “This was a remarkable achievement by Tony as he is a great teacher and coach,” said Dragons Community Officer Adam Bezzina. “During my time working with Dragons Community, Tony has always been very appreciative of the work that we do on these days and he always goes out of his way to thank our staff. “Without teachers such as Tony, many children would not get the opportunity to come along to our events.”

**Congratulations to Adem Bektasovski (Year 11) who was named Sports Star of the Year at the i98FM & AHM Local Hero Awards held at the City Beach Function Centre today.**

PETER MCGOVERN
From a Catholic perspective, the Church is the body of Christ. We see with the eyes of Jesus, hear with the ears of Jesus and, hopefully speak with the words of Jesus. Our Catechism says that ‘In the unity of His Body, there is a diversity of members and functions. All members are linked to one another, especially to those who are suffering, to the poor and the persecuted’ (No 806). It is important to consider how we build up the Body of Christ in our community and how we contribute to the broken Body of Christ, the Church. Does our education free us from selfishness and encourage us to think in terms of how we contribute to the well-being of all?

‘Walk Together 2013’

‘Welcome to Australia’ is an organisation that “exists to engage everyday Australians in the task of cultivating a culture of welcome in our nation. The Australia we love is known for its diversity, generosity and commitment to giving all people a fair go.” There will be a national community event happening all across the country, including Wollongong. We would love to see you there and students can sign up at school to go along with others from the College. Details:-

Date: Meet at 12.30pm, walking at 1.00 pm, Saturday, June 22
Where: Walking from McCabe Park to Market Square Park
Info: Join us after the walk for a celebration of our cultural diversity.
Students can collect a permission note from the office. Parents, carers and friends are also welcome to join us.

Canteen Roster for week commencing Monday 17 June – Group 1

| Monday      | L Darby, A Kiely, M Hollingshead, K Darby, C Meikle, J Suarez, J Nason, T Fairweather |
| Tuesday     | M Buffolin, A Barnhill, M Ballard, L Harrison, A Hay, N Payne, M Lee, J Gordon       |
| Wednesday   | F Gauci, L Attewell, A Teixeira, S White-McFadden, M Roman                           |
| Thursday    | P Bailey, A O’Shannessy, V Belsito, K Gauci, A Hampson, M Lovic, J Beddow            |
| Friday      | M Vitheli, K Mortimer, B Rutty, N Everson, J Wallace, A Gregoratto, S Atkinson, B Angelkovska |

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS: Parent/Teacher afternoon – Thursday, 27 June 3.00pm – 7.30pm
School Holidays – Wednesday, 10 July, 9.00am – 3.00pm
Careers, Mrs Hodson

Australian Catholic University (Years 11, 12)

New University Experience Offerings is a free program that gives students the opportunity to sample the degree of their choice - meet academic staff, students and try a course. North Sydney Campus, Thursday, 11th July and Strathfield Campus Friday, 12th July

[Exercise Science and Physiology].

University of Notre Dame (Years 10, 11, 12) - www.nd.edu.au

This university is holding a Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 18th June. RSVP essential. The Early Offer Program includes information about students’ contributions to church, school and community life.

UTS Coop Scholarships (Year 12) - www.uts.ac/BITcoop - Act by: 21st June 2013

Round 1 applications for Bachelor of Information Technology [BIT] Cooperative Scholarship Program closes 21st June 2103. Get advice on this scholarship and interview process from website.

Fundraiser for Logan Jackson’s family

Thank you to all students and staff who bought cakes and donated. The total amount raised was $532.50.

Next term in Week 1 a cake stall to celebrate Bastille Day will be held. This time French cakes will be on sale. All money raised will be donated to the Jackson family. Ms Cappetta.

Homestays

Our sister school in Japan is hoping to send a group of students to Wollongong to homestay with ERC students on a ten day visit from Sunday 21st July to Wednesday 31st July 2013. We have had 20 years of exchanges with Okazaki Johsei (a co-ed senior high school), with families enjoying the experience and forging new friendships. Homestays will travel to and from school each day with your son, and weekend days are free to spend with you. You do not need to take them long distances sightseeing. They want to see how Australians live and practise English. This is also an excellent opportunity for boys to make friends with students from overseas. An allowance is paid to help with costs.

If you are able to homestay a student, please contact Ms Aungles for more information.
PARENT TEACHER DAYS, TERM 2
Thursday 27 and Friday 28 June
Semester 1 reports will be given out on these days by your son’s Home Room Organiser

Book Your Interview with your son’s Home Room Organiser Online
Bookings OPEN - Tuesday 18 June at 9.00am
Bookings CLOSE - Wednesday 26 June at 4.30pm

Interviews will be held between
3.00pm – 7.30pm on Thursday 27 June and
8.30am – 3.00pm on Friday 28 June.

Go to
www.edmundricecollege.nsw.edu.au or www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter THE school event code.
Then follow the simple steps.

1. Enter your details.
2. Choose your son’s Home Room Organiser (your interview will be with your son’s Home Room Organiser who wrote his HRO comment. Ask your son for that teacher’s name.)
3. Choose times.
4. If you wish to discuss progress with one of your son’s subject teachers, use the same steps to organise an appointment.

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.
Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 4228 4344

- For Parents/Carers that don’t have access to the internet contact the College office on 4228 4344 or alternatively parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require.
- REPORTS WILL NOT BE MAILED OUT. Parents/Carers will be required to collect their son’s report, early Term 3, from his Home Room Organiser or his Year Co-ordinator if the Year Co-ordinator has indicated that.
- Parents/Carers of Year 12 are encouraged to discuss their son’s progress with teachers before the Trial HSC examinations. A letter has already been sent to parents/carers of Year 12 students.
- Students must come to the interview with their Parents/Carers.