On Tuesday of this week I attended a ceremony which formally recognized the closure of The Annexe. The Annexe, attached to Edmund Rice College, has seen some 250 students enrolled through its 19 years. It closes this month in preparation for the organization Youth Plus to take over the site and commence a new school. The Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre will open its doors in January 2013.

The Annexe began its life in a rented cottage at 73 Smith Street, Wollongong in 1994. Its purpose was to provide a suitable non-threatening and caring environment for students from 13 to 17 years. In 1998 The Annexe moved to its present site at 450 Princes Highway, Towradgi, a site purchased by the Christian Brothers, and opened officially on 14th August, 1998.

From its earliest days the goal of The Annexe was to create and maintain a learning environment for marginalized young people which incorporates best practice in education with a non-judgemental and compassionate approach, in the hope that students would gain values, skills, capabilities and opportunities leading to productive and rewarding roles in our society.

The Annexe was established initially to provide an alternative to mainstream schooling for the young people who were residents at Eddy’s Place, as well as for other students who were effectively excluded from mainstream school in the Illawarra. The Annexe worked closely with other refuges, the Department of Community Services and the Department of Juvenile Justice, in providing an education for young people in need.

The Annexe aimed to let young people continue their education, designed around individual learning programs, with special emphasis on providing remedial assistance in the area of numeracy and literacy, and enhancing self-knowledge and self-esteem. The underlying premise was that this support might possibly see some of the young people move successfully back into mainstream school, TAFE or the workforce. Indeed The Annexe had considerable success here over the years, particularly with TAFE and the workforce. In recent years The Annexe has moved to take students from 15 or older who do not have a recognized place in mainstream schools through exclusion, chronic truancy and other reasons, initially aligned to post compulsory school age.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the staff at The Annexe. Mrs Raylene Holz, Ms Lindy Pegler and Mr Michael Gallagher have formed the nucleus of the staffing at The Annexe for the past 14 years. Their work has been pivotal in achieving the goals listed above and in helping so many students to find pathways to TAFE and the work force.

Their work has paved the way for the new school – The Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre which will again take students from Year 7 to Year 12, as the Annexe once did in its early years. The need for such schools has never been greater in regions such as the Illawarra. Edmund Rice College will support the new venture as it has The Annexe in the past, a commitment which embraces the Edmund Rice Charter of support for those in need.

On Wednesday evening November 21st I attended the annual Canteen Helpers’ Dinner at the Villa D’Oro Function Centre in North Wollongong. Eighty parents attended the function which was an opportunity for the College to show its gratitude for the commitment of our parent helpers throughout 2012. I would like to acknowledge our Canteen Manager, Mrs Narelle Ockenden, who organized the evening which was a wonderful celebration of the Edmund Rice College Community.

This week has also seen a number of End of Year Presentation Assemblies for students and their parents in Years 7, 8 and 9. The Year assemblies each gave significant recognition to the boys for their efforts in all areas of College life throughout 2012. Awards were given for academic, sporting, cultural pursuits and Christian Service commitment.

Peter McGovern
Headmaster
End of Year Prize Giving Ceremonies

Congratulations!

Year 7
Year Co-ordinator’s Award

LACHLAN KIRK

Outstanding Academic Achievement (for excellence across the curriculum)

Academic Excellence
Joshua Blewitt (Music), Joshua Bowmer (PDHPE), Callum Brown (Technology), Callum Byrne (Mathematics), Julian Cable (English), Iain Carlisle (PDHPE, Mathematics), Lachlan Carmichael-Whyte (Visual Arts), Elisseo Chiodi (PDHPE), Harvir Dhami (Music), Marcus Faulkner (Visual Arts), Andre Fera (Technology), Jesse Flannery (Music), Rhys Gardiner (Visual Arts), Jackson Grange (Mathematics), Kye Harvey (Visual Arts), Thomas Hogan (Music, Religion Studies), Jayden Keys (PDHPE), Ronan Long (Technology), William Lourey (Religion Studies, Geography), Nathan Maljanovski (Visual Arts), Stasi Mindzass (Music), Ryan Neufeld (Visual Arts, History), Sammy Riad (Science, History), David Sirotich (Religion Studies, Technology), Javier Soto (English), Lachlan Sweeney (History), Cooper Thomas (Science), Kaden Towl (Visual Arts), Eren Turkmen (Music), Nicholas Tzortzis (Technology, Music), Wesley Van Kempen (PDHPE, Geography), Louis Whitehouse (Geography, Mathematics), Kyle Whitting (Science), Fletcher Winning (English, PDHPE), Mitchell Wright (Religion Studies, PDHPE),

Headmaster’s Award
Matthew Bujaroski, Jacob Body, Elisseo Chiodi, Michael Cunzolo, Zachary Damcevski, Lachlan Kirk, William Lourey, Nathan Maljanovski, Sammy Riad, Hayden Welsh

Certificate of Commendation

Leadership Award
Joshua Bowmer, Elisseo Chiodi, Joshua Constable, Zachary Damcevski, Matthew Mennilli, Lesley Van Kempen

CEO SPORTS AWARDS

Students who attended the sports awards night on 16 November – photos are now online at http://www.dow.catholic.edu.au

Careers, Mrs Crump

One Year Adventure: Experience what it is like to work in the Army over 12 months, no strings attached. A variety of jobs available. To find out more go to the information session on 4 December at 6.00pm, 25 Atchison St, Wollongong. Call 131 901 for more details.

Ocean Lifeguard Aquatics Trainee:

Win an iPad or iPod Shuffle (Year 9-12 students). If you haven’t answered this online Career Choices questionnaire, here is your last opportunity to be in a draw to win an iPod touch or one of three iPod shuffles. Just follow the link http://tinyurl.com/CareerChoiceEdmundRice, tell us about your school and life experiences related to your possible career choices. The survey takes 15 minutes and there are no right or wrong answers. Good luck… Macquarie University Research Team.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year: The Careers Staff at the College would like to wish all our students, parents and teacher readers a wonderful and Holy Christmas and a prosperous and fulfilling New Year. Mrs Jennifer Hodson and I have enjoyed keeping you up to date with news and opportunities in 2012. This will be my last hurrah as I will be leaving the College at the end of the term. It has been an exciting and eventful twelve months! Keep reading in the new year with Mrs Hodson! Wishing you all the best in the future, sincerely, Mrs Crump.

UOW Discovery Day – 6 February 2012: By now all the boys who are attending the Discovery Day in January next year will have registered for the event. UOW will allocate as many of the choices you have made with priority in mind as to who applied first! An individual timetable will be handed to you on the day at the Wollongong Campus. Permission notes will be handed out for this event as soon as you return in 2013. Bus/transport arrangements will be explained to you then.

Founded 1926 – Proudly Catholic and Comprehensive – Boys Succeed at Edmund Rice College
Year 8

Year Co-ordinator’s Award
DANNY DANG
Br C V Bell Award for Service
JACOB HOLLINGSHEAD

Outstanding Academic Achievement (for excellence across the curriculum)

Academic Excellence
Joshua Atkinson (Visual Arts, Technology), Patrick Corbett (Science, Technology), Jack Devlin (Music), Zain El-Roubaei (Italian), Joseph Fernandez (History, Music), Aidan Fitch (Science, Geography), Anthony Gabriele (Geography, Technology), Riley Hall (Mathematics), Charles Ho (Mathematics), Jacob Hollingshead (Music), Christian Isabella (Italian), Thomas Jones (Music), Christopher Kershole (Mathematics), Adrian Ladic (Visual Arts), Samuel Lilli (Geography, PDHPE)

Isitolo Mau (Music, Visual Arts), Michael McGhie (History), Jordan Nicholls (Science), Michael Porto (Italian, Technology), Tristan Sailor (PDHPE), Matthew Teixeira (Visual Arts, Technology), Sam Wadhwa (Religion Studies, PDHPE), Jackson Walsh (Music, PDHPE)

Headmaster’s Medal

Christian Service-Learning Medal
Joshua Atkinson, Jonathon Dale, Louis Daly, Mark Demertzis, Joseph Fernandez, Aidan Fitch, Anthony Gabriele, Riley Hall, Jacob Hollingshead, Ryan Johnson, Antonios Kinnas, James Jukic, Dylan Koprivec, Mackenzie Lee, Lachlan Lisney, Jared Mireylees, Giacomo Panetta, Matthew Pearson, James Pierro, Michael Porto, Aidan Roodenrys, Jack Shaw, Jack Spicer, Sam Wadhwa, Callum Wilson

Leadership Award
Andre Vrkic, Luke Scanu, Anthony Gabriele, Jack Cross, Daniel Sacco, Tristan Sailor

Year 9

Year Co-ordinator’s Award
OLIVER DUNN

Outstanding Academic Achievement (for excellence across the curriculum)

Academic Excellence
Justin Biceski (Geography, Visual Arts, Religion Studies), Callum Carson (Visual Arts), Owen Christie (Commerce, Science, English), Jacob Cordina (History), Joshua Crapis (PASS, Graphics Technology, Religion Studies), Connor Daly (History, English, Music), Zachery Di Genni (Italian), Stefan Dimoski (Timber), Elliott Duggen (Science, Food Technology), Daniel Galea (Geography), Lachlan Hampson (Engineering), Isaac Hayne (History), Rhys Hegyi (Music), Moeez Khan (Mathematics, Science), James Lovric (Mathematics, Electronics), Rodney Mampusti (Music), Andrew Mastroianni (History, Italian, Religion Studies), Erdem Memik (Electronics, Timber), Mitchell Munecas (French, Information and Software Technology), Jake O’Brien (PDHPE), Kieren Richards (PDHPE, PASS, English), Benjamin Ryan (Timber), Rayan Safaei (French), Eren Sevim (Timber), Alexander Smith (Timber, Engineering), Kento Stricker (Japanese), Nicholas Thompson (Geography, Mathematics), Callum Tolhurst (PASS), Taylor Townsend (Science), Peter Tran (Geography, Mathematics, Information and Software Technology), Stallon Zayya (Food Technology)

Leadership Awards
Elliott Duggen, Jonah Hannington, Byron Malby, Jacob Martin, Andrew Mastroianni,
Excursion to Dharawal National Park

On Wednesday, 21st November, the Indigenous students of Edmund Rice College and St Mary’s Star of the Sea College, accompanied by Mr Callan and Mrs Scheers, ventured to Dharawal National Park. The purpose of the excursion was to view ancient rock carvings from many years ago. Due to legal purposes and some politics, many of the rock carvings couldn’t be viewed. We were taken on a guided tour of the walking tracks with Brendan and Deirdre, two Indigenous National Park Rangers from the Shoalhaven area. The walk was a unique and somewhat adventurous experience that involved learning about the remedies, tools and hunting techniques of the traditional people of the area. The students also obtained hands-on weaving and tool crafting experience. After taking in all the information presented, and eating some very questionable plants, the students headed back from what was a very exciting day. Special thanks to Brendon and Deirdre for the guided tour.  

Bryon Malby

YEAR 10 – PURCHASE OF COLLEGE BLAZER

All students returning to Year 11 are required to purchase a College Blazer. Another date has been set for students to be fitted for their blazer and purchase of any other uniform items:

Tuesday, 11 December - 9.30 - 4.00pm

Students who do not order on that day will have to pay a $40 late fee for blazers ordered in January

Listed below is the Senior Uniform

- College grey trousers (worn with grey/striped socks). Shorts not allowed.
- Plain black belt (to be worn at all times)
- Ice blue shirt with College logo
- Plain, black, polishable leather school shoes
- College black blazer with tie (compulsory in Terms 2 and 3/optional in Terms 1 and 4)
- ERC red jumper/vest (worn under the blazer in cold weather)

Canteen Roster for Week commencing Monday 3 December – Group 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>L Darby, M Hollingshead, K Darby, C Meikle, J Suarez, J Nason, T Fairweather</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>S Robinson, A&amp;R Barnhill, C Spicer, L Harrison, N Payne, M Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>F Gauci, L Attewell, K Shield, M Mennilli, A Johnson, O Cunzolo, S White-McFadden, B Ezzi, T Burleigh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>E Scott, A O’Shannessy, J Beddow, K Gauci, A Hampson, L Trivellion Rowles, M Lovic, T Dark</td>
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Thank you to the following mums who generously gave their time to help at the recent Year 7, 2013 uniform try on afternoons.

Tina Leussink, Sue Atkinson, Kylie Rosewarn, Maree Vitnell, Jenny Dunstan, Anne De Leuw, Dawn Atkinson and Lisa Wellington.

OLD COMPUTERS / LAPTOPS

The Rotary Club of West Wollongong has been sending school books and stationery to Samoa. They now also need computers and laptops in working order. If you have one you are no longer using, we can organize to pick it up or it can be left at the College. All private data will be wiped from the computer. Thank you, Mrs Rose Pope.