From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 2. This Friday 3 May, the College celebrates the feast day of Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers order and Christian Brothers schools throughout the world.

The feast day provides an opportunity for the College to revisit the Edmund Rice charism that is the foundation for teaching and learning at Edmund Rice College.

The theme of the day is “Dignity of the Human Person”. A core vision of the Edmund Rice charism is a call for justice and peace for all. Faithful to the call of Jesus and inspired by Edmund Rice, we aspire to offer hope to a world where the dignity of humanity and the integrity of creation is often diminished. Blessed Edmund Rice epitomized the values of service and community and sought to honour the dignity of each person regardless of circumstance. The celebration of his life and works on this day every year is an inspiration to our community of the importance of developing the values that Edmund Rice espoused: justice, compassion, humility and respect.

The Edmund Rice Charter calls for an emphasis on holistic education where our community strives to form passionate and compassionate young people.

The vision that inspires our teaching and learning is that our students become engaged in service and solidarity with others, especially those on the margins, relate to others in a compassionate way, become conscientised to the reality of the world and the root cause of injustice, take ethical stances in all their endeavours and become hopeful that a better world is possible where they can actively contribute to its realization.

The celebration of a whole school Mass with the theme “Dignity of the Human Person” will be the highlight of the day. Following normal lessons in the morning, the outdoor Mass will commence at 10.30am in the school grounds. Parents are invited to attend this celebration of community.

Students will be provided with lunch before being engaged in a number of social justice activities in the afternoon. The Founder’s Day activities will include tasks that highlight to students the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, activities that have been initiated by Catholic Mission Australia. Other activities will include coin trails and a senior student concert and trivia afternoon where proceeds will go to Edmund Rice Camps for disadvantaged youth and the Brother Pat Keogh Scholarship for the Blind School in Goroka, Papua New Guinea.

I would like to thank parents who came to the College on Wednesday evening to attend parent and teacher interviews. The interviews provided parents with an excellent opportunity to engage in a conversation with teachers on the progress of their child in their studies so far this year.

On Wednesday, together with Mrs Hurley and senior student leaders, I attended the funeral of Bishop William Murray who died last week. The Requiem Mass was held at the Cathedral in Harbour Street, Wollongong. Bishop Murray was Bishop of Wollongong from 1975 to 1996. During this time he established many new Catholic primary and high schools in the Wollongong Diocese, particularly in the Macarthur area.

PETER McGOVERN
NAPLAN EXAMINATIONS, Mr Ireland, Director of Studies

Please read the following information relating to the 2013 NAPLAN examinations that will be held in Week 3 of this term. These examinations involve all Year 7 and Year 9 students. The examinations will run throughout Australia on Tuesday May 14, Wednesday May 15 and Thursday May 16. There will be a catch-up day on Friday May 17 for students who have missed examinations. It is important that Years 7 and 9 students attend school on all of these days.

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NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2013

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2013 the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 14-16 May 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 15 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 16 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Measurement, chance and data; and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 17 May** - A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day. Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions that severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments that reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students with vision impairment.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, you must sign a parent/carer consent form. Consent forms are available at your child's school.

Please make an appointment with the school principal if you would like further information about your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at: [http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html)
THE PARENT FORUM AGM MEETING
Tuesday, 14th May

On Tuesday, 14th May at 7:30pm in the Br Pelin Hall, we will be having the Parent Forum AGM followed by a normal meeting. Anyone interested in a representative group position please advise Chris Gray c/- the school office. The positions available are:

- Chair
- Deputy Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Please note we only meet twice a term, do not fundraise but provide a means for parents to be kept informed and for the College to receive feedback and suggestions.

Hope to see you there!

College Athletics Carnival – Friday 10 May at Beaton Park

- Normal Attendance times 8.00am – 2.05pm
- Compulsory attendance
- All school buses will transport to and from Beaton Park. All bus times are unchanged.
- Students who find their own way to school are required to find their own transport to and from Beaton Park. No buses will leave from school.
- Bring your own lunch – canteen facilities are limited
- All students are required to wear full PE/Sports uniform and bring a change of shirt/T shirt in their House colour
- Students are required to remain for the duration of the Carnival.
- Parents/carers – please do not request an early exit.
- In the event of inclement weather a cancellation announcement will be made on 96.5WAVE and I98FM at about 6.00am. If the carnival is cancelled normal classes will run.
- There will be no Homework Club next Friday due to the Athletics carnival.

All parents/carers/friends are invited to join us on the day.

Athletics Carnival – Crazy Hair Day

At the Athletics Carnival on Friday, 10th May, the opportunity will be available for students to give a gold coin donation to have their hair coloured with temporary colour spray.

All funds raised will go towards a variety of missions that each year group is currently supporting. For example, Year 7 are raising money for a well in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In order to participate, students are required to have a signed permission note from their parent/carer.

Permission notes can be printed out from the Newsletter and are also available from the Student Services counter at the College Office. These are to be returned to your son’s Home Room Organiser by Wednesday, 8th May. Permission notes after this date will not be accepted.

Please join in the fun for the day and at the same time provide practical care and support so that a difference can be made in people’s lives. (Mrs Lothian)

Please sign and return to Home Room Organiser by Wednesday, 8th May

I give permission for my son __________________________ of Home Room _______ to have his hair coloured with temporary colour spray, upon donation of a gold coin, at the Athletics Carnival on Friday, 10th May. Donation is to be paid on Friday.

Signed: ______________________________(Parent/Carer) Date: _______________

Founded 1926 – Proudly Catholic and Comprehensive – Boys Succeed at Edmund Rice College
The staff started this week with a professional development day that focused on the idea of community. In our liturgy, prepared by Mrs Knowles, we reflected on lessons about community that we can learn from geese! Each fall in North America people observe huge formations of geese heading south for the winter, flying along in a ‘V’ formation. Over the years Scientists have discovered the ‘wisdom’ of the geese in flying this way.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in ‘V’ formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they’re going quicker and easier because they are travelling in the same direction and on the thrust of one another. We need to continually reflect upon the direction of our community and how we support one another in our sense of mission. As we strive to create an inclusive community, based on the gospel values of love and compassion, we should remember that ‘being a goose’ can sometimes be a good thing!

Photo source: http://limitlesslivingtoday.com/attitudes-and-beliefs/lessons-we-can-learn-from-geese/

Follow up from Founder’s Day Social Justice Activities

We are inviting all students to sign the ERA For Change petition on Community Run: http://www.communityrun.org/petitions/get-kids-out-of-detention This petition asks our community leaders to end the detention of children who are asylum seekers. All students will have viewed the short film ‘Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea’ which adds a personal, human dimension to the plight of asylum seekers. If you want your voice to be heard, please sign the petition. Parents and friends are also welcome to sign the petition.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SPIRIT ALIVE YOUTH FESTIVAL featuring Sr Hilda Scott, 11 May, 5.00-9.00pm

All Years 10, 11 and 12 students will have received a flyer this week about the upcoming Spirit Alive Youth Festival. Following on from last year’s successful Spirit Alive PM, 2013 will feature four Spirit Alive Youth Festivals throughout the Diocese. Don’t miss the first Festival featuring Sr Hilda Scott. Whenever Sr Hilda speaks to young people they walk away affirmed, challenged and inspired. In addition to Sr Hilda Scott, the evening will include a Youth Mass, dinner (bring some money for dinner) and an evening of praise and worship. AGES: 16-35 years VENUE: Holy Spirit College Bellambi (entry via Kent Street, Bellambi). For more information contact Loretta at Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong on 4222 2460 or email youth@dow.org.au. Proudly presented by Catholic Youth Ministry.

www.facebook.com/cyimdow | youth@dow.org.au | @cyimdow

Taize Prayer

As part of the South Coast pilgrimage this month the TAIZE prayer will be held at St Paul’s Catholic Church, Albion Park on FRIDAY 3rd MAY at 7.00 pm. To celebrate Pentecost, Taize prayer will also be held at St Michael’s Catholic Church, Nowra on Friday, 17th May at 7.00pm.

St Therese, West Wollongong Youth Mass and Youth Group

There will be a Youth Mass on Sunday 19 May at 5.00pm at St Therese Parish, West Wollongong. We invite all young people to come along and join in celebration and look forward to seeing you there.

YEAR OF FAITH October 2012 – November 2013

Faith and the Prodigal Son: Homecoming, Affirmation and Reconciliation (David Patterson)

Tuesday, 14 May at the Illawarra Brewery
(Cnr Crown & Harbour Sts, Wollongong)

Dinner: Available from 5.30pm
When: 7.00pm – 9.00pm Ages: 18-35 years
(Does not apply to Clergy, Religious and Youth Ministers)

Join renowned national speaker Sandie Cornish as she helps us unpack Catholic Social Teaching through the Jesuit spirituality of Pope Francis.

When: Saturday, 1 June, 2013 at 9.30am (Registration & tea/coffee)
Where: Xavier Centre Conference Rooms, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong
Cost: $10 at the door (incudes morning tea/lunch)
RSVP: 4222 2463 or Darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au
Christian Service-Learning (Mrs H Lothian)

When describing the culture and identity of our College we often refer to the ‘Touchstones’ that are part of the EREA Charter. Christian Service-Learning is a concrete way of putting into action the values espoused by the Charter.

This week I would like to highlight how as a College our student-centred program demonstrates the Touchstone of ‘Inclusive Community’. Firstly, let us begin by looking at some of the characteristics of an inclusive community.

- One that nurtures the dignity of each person as a child formed in the image of God.
- Demonstrates preferential option for the poor by standing in solidarity with those who are powerless and marginalised.
- Promotes social inclusion and values diversity.
- Works in collaboration with the local church.

Currently some of our Years 11 and 12 students are donating their time and energy, two vital ingredients for social inclusion, to live out the characteristics of an inclusive community. Vinnie’s Van provides daily meals and a warm drink to many people within our community who at times have been blamed for their own marginalisation. Single mothers, unemployed, those suffering from mental health issues and the homeless are some of Christ’s poor that Vinnie’s Van works in solidarity with.

“Vinnie’s Van was an eye opening experience as we saw how important the van was for individuals and families. On Monday evening we parked the van at Warrawong Community Centre and saw the hard and helpless life experienced by many living there, and the great need of food and a warm drink. We also saw the importance of a listening ear. We made sandwiches beforehand and these were taken for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The people rely on us as their main source of a nutritious meal. The experience was rewarding as we were able to give back to the community and help those in need. Later in the evening we drove to Wollongong train station where we set up the van and continued to reach out to the most vulnerable in our community.”

Gabriel Covarrubias, Matthew Liberante, Robert Sajdovski, Daniel Ryan – pictured below (Year 12)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
The Duke of Edinburgh Award

Expressions of interest are invited from students aged 14 and over.

The College is interested in introducing the Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are 3 levels to the award, Bronze, Silver and Gold, and each level requires students to undertake activities such as community service / physical recreation / adventurous journey. Students who participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award will have the community service component awarded as CSL hours.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award runs in over 120 countries and encourages self-development, individual challenge, adventure and fun. Participation is entirely voluntary and participants have an extensive range of activities to choose from.

To learn more about this award visit the Duke of Edinburgh Award website at www.dukeofed.com.au

As we are aiming to commence this program by the beginning of Term 3, please see Mrs Lothian as soon as possible if you wish to register your interest.
**Caveats, Mrs Hodson**

Automotive Industry Employment (Years 10, 11, 12) - www.agtnsw.com.au/
Automotive Group Training (NSW) is the largest employer of Automotive apprentices in NSW and is always looking for new applicants. Contact their office on (02) 9796 3655 or you can also look them up on their website.

**Engineering and Technology Cadetships (Year 12) - www.etcad.com.au - Act by: 21st June 2013**
Applications are now open for the 2013 Engineering & Technology Cadetships (ETCAD) Program run by Professional Cadetships Australia (PCA). Students apply online.

**Chartered Accountants Information Evening (Years 10, 11, 12) - www.charteredaccountants.com.au**
The Institute of Chartered Accountants – Cadetship Evening on 15 May, 2013 at the Sydney Convention Centre. A cadetship offers students the chance to work while they study a Business or Commerce degree at university. The Cadetship Evening offers Year 12 students the chance to meet and network with a wide range of employers. From 4.30pm Sydney Convention Centre, Bayside Foyer, Level 1. For Year 12 students (Years 10 and 11 welcome too – cadet programme applications only available to Year 12). Free. Register online

**The SMH HSC and Careers Expo (Years 10,11,12) - hscandcareers.com.au**
Thursday 30th May, Friday 31st May, Saturday 1st June and Sunday 2nd June 10.00am – 3.00pm. Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park. This is the biggest education and careers event in NSW.

**Health Industry Careers Information (Years 10, 11, 12)**
Want careers information from the health industry via drip feed? You can now SUBSCRIBE for FREE to receive updates about what’s happening in 10 health professions in Australia. From the latest labour market information to blog posts from real health practitioners. Go to www.myhealthcareer.com.au and enter your name and email address to subscribe and receive your free special report: The three health industry trends you must know about.

**UNSW Law School (Years 10, 11, 12) - law.unsw.edu.au/ps**
Parent and Student Information evening. Thursday, 16th May 6.00-8.00pm, The Law Building UNSW Kensington Campus. To book your seat visit the website.

**Careers in Mining – (Years 10, 11, 12) - www.min.com.au**
NSW Mining will be hosting a Careers in Mining evening on Monday 13 th May 2013 5.15pm-8.00pm at the Novotel. Students in Years 10,11,12 and parents can find out more about the different career pathways into the NSW Mining industry. This is a very popular event so only 10 seats have been allocated to ERC students. Register early to attend by ringing Christina or Eliza on 9274 1423.

**Year 10 Work Experience (Year 10)**
Year 10 students are receiving important information regarding their Work Experience during special Careers lessons this week and next. Students are also reminded to go to the safe@work website to look at industry specific safety procedures before Work Experience. Students need to contact their employers in the two weeks leading up to Work Experience.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING IMMUNISATION**
The HPV vaccine is now funded for 2013 only for Year 10 boys, aged 14-15 at the time of the first dose. This is only available to them at their GP, not through the school programme. Parents should contact their GP to arrange to have the 6 month course (3 x doses) of HPV with their GP within the next 2 months in order to complete the 6 month course this calendar year. The vaccine will be free however the GP may charge for each consultation. Should parents delay and later choose to have the course of HPV next year the cost may exceed $100 per dose.

**Canteen**
Food Safety Standards Australia advise that food poisoning bacteria can start to multiply when food is reheated, therefore, student lunches will no longer be reheated at the Canteen.

**Canteen Roster for week commencing Monday, 6 May – Group 3**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>A Wilkins, V Meli, M DiFrancesco, L Hofman, N Bird, H Cheetham, D Birch</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>C Shalala, L Bates, K Hedger, J Nash, A Markham, M Vasconcelos, M Keys, V Sweeney, N Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>F Gauci, L Rozmus, J Lawton, E Cavdarovski, G Hardman, S Whitehouse, M Whittington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>G Lord, S Andraos, J Hennessy, K Lisney, C Gray, S McCreanor, L Liberante</td>
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</tbody>
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**Uniform Shop Opening Hours**

| Thursday 9 May – 7.45am to 10.45am | Tuesday 14 May – 1.00pm – 4.00pm |

**Community Notice**
St Mary’s Year 10, 1982 and Year 12, 1984 are planning a 30 year reunion in 2014. To register please email reunion@stmarysclassof84.com or telephone Ann on (02) 4271 7680.

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