From the Principal

As the 2013 school year commences this week one cannot help but notice a real sense of excitement around the College.

This year the College is accommodating 892 students, with 203 students commencing in Year 7, a considerable number reflecting the trend of increasing student numbers in recent years attending the College.

Students arrived to find considerable improvements to the College grounds. Projects involving the erection of COLAs and new landscaping and revitalized gardens have been completed and core learning areas of the campus have been fenced.

Significantly all students came back to a new school day timetable developed around a common day, the first time for 22 years that Edmund Rice College has operated on a common day structure for all pupils.

The opportunities that these new structures provide to student leadership and community building, ensure great possibilities to the College, which traditionally has enjoyed rich community spirit.

Senior students will enjoy more class time as a result of timetable changes this year. Successful programs such as the Homework Club will continue to function each school day from 2.05 to 2.55pm. A bus will now be available to take students into town at 3.00pm following the completion of the homework program.

Students will now have greater access to the College as a result of improved transport links. Of great importance to the College was the announcement during the school holidays that a direct bus from Austinmer will bring students from the northern suburbs directly to school, a link not previously available. In the south students will also enjoy more direct bus travel home, an opportunity not previously afforded many senior students living in suburbs such as Mt Kembla and Cordeaux Heights.

The College is embarking on a new College Sports Hall Project to commence in March. The $5.5 million program will be completed in time for the commencement of the 2014 school year. Also in April this year we will be submitting an application for a Commonwealth Grant for a new Music Centre and refurbishment of the Technical and Applied Science Block.

Major work has also occurred through the holidays on improvements to our technology network. These developments are in preparation for students in Years 7 and 8 bringing iPads to school this year.

2013 is a year of considerable change for the College. It is indeed a time of great optimism and expectation.

Higher School Certificate Results

I would like to congratulate the 2012 Year 12 cohort for what were very good HSC results. The majority of students applying for university were successful in gaining their first preference, whilst those seeking work and TAFE entry were generally very successful. Among the highlights were:

- Our Dux was Nick Gerovasilis with an ATAR of 99.
- Other students with ATARS well over 90 included: Andrea Carvana, Nicholas Beale, Bobby Fitzgerald, Nick Gandy, Jake Green, Mark Germanos, Parish Malfitano, Callum Tyler and Ben James
- Nick Gerovasilis achieved a place in the All Rounder list (with Band 6 in 10 units of study)
- Blythe Fairweather achieved a Top Achiever award (in first 10 places in state) for Industrial Technology
- 35 Band 6’s across the year (up by 18 from 2011)
- 9 Band 6’s in Studies of Religion, 4 Band 6’s in Ancient History and Industrial Technology, 3 Band 6’s in Extension English 1 and Legal Studies
- Above state means in the majority of courses (16)
- Among the many excellent College course results, well above state means, were Legal Studies (+12.37), Ancient History (+ 8.3), Design and Technology (+7.77), Industrial Technology (+7.36), Modern History (+5.79), Metal and Engineering (+4.46), Senior Science (+3.59), English Extension 1 (+3.55) History Extension 1 (+3.21)
- Strong results across the Sciences (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Senior Science - all above state means)

Proudly Catholic and Comprehensive – Boys Succeed at Edmund Rice College
Retirement

After 46 years at the College Miss Kathleen McGuiness has retired. Commencing on the 30th January, 1967 Kathleen served numerous roles including Foundation College Librarian, Archivist and Sacristan during her many years at the College.

Put simply, Kathleen’s input into the College has been quite extraordinary over a broad sweep of the College’s history. Kathleen has been instrumental in developing and coordinating the development of the Old Boys Association over many years. Kathleen also has liaised with Parish and Congregational Clergy over many years.

In an article honouring Kathleen’s contribution to Edmund Rice College, written by staff member Russell Bates and submitted to the Edmund Rice Education Congress in Melbourne last year, Russell wrote, “Kathleen’s devotion to her faith and ensuring representation at funerals and organising past students with their weddings in the College Chapel are invaluable works of mercy and service on behalf of the College. Kathleen’s stoic and resilient character has warmed and challenged many generations of students and teachers to be responsible and respectable ambassadors for the College.”

My own memories as a student at the College in the 1970’s was of Miss McGuiness as the College Librarian, teacher of dance, coordinator of school dances and formals and conveyer of lessons of appropriate etiquette for young men. Such was the broad influence that Kathleen had on all the students. I remember seeing Kathleen approach on my first day as Headmaster here last year and nervously checking to see that my shirt was tucked in!

During my short time here as a Headmaster I have found Kath’s advice invaluable and pertinent, her knowledge of College history vivid and all encompassing. Like the Headmasters who went before me, I have valued her support and knowledge and relied on her wisdom and advice.

We wish Kath a healthy and happy retirement!

Many Christian Brothers, former Headmasters and staff will attend a dinner in her honour on March 1, 2013 at Villa D’Oro.

Welcome new staff

I would like to welcome the following who join our staff this year:

- Ms Sharyn Stafford, Head of English
- Mr Troy Champion, Technology
- Mrs Carol Hogarth, Office Receptionist
- Mrs Carmelina Cappetta, French, Italian and Religious Education
- Ms Alison Aungles, Mandarin, Japanese and Music
- Mr Joshua Timpano, PDHPE and Religious Education
- Ms Kathleen Dawes, History, Geography and Religious Education

I would also like to welcome back Mrs Carmen Russell (English) and Mrs Tenielle Anderson (English) who return to the College this year.

With Sympathy

Last week the College learnt of the passing of Dennis Brown, aged 65. Dennis, who attended Christian Brothers College in the 1960’s was actively involved in the College serving many years as P&F President, being involved in the organization of the first College Board and volunteering his time for the College and the Brothers on numerous occasions over the years.

We offer condolences to Dennis’ family.

PETER MCGOVERN
From the Deputy Principal

Thank you to all of the teachers, students and parents/carers for a smooth return to the 2013 academic year. I hope that all students are determined to be successful this year. I would like to draw your attention to:

(a) **College Diary**
All students have been issued with a Diary which they are required to take to class each period. Students must use the Diary to record Homework/Assignment work etc. Teachers can use the diary to advise about incomplete work, homework, unsatisfactory progress, inappropriate behaviour etc….as well as conveying praiseworthy comments about a student’s involvement in his studies. Likewise parents/carers are encouraged to use the Diary as a form of communication with teachers and/or your son’s Year Co-ordinator. Checking your son’s diary regularly is an effective way to become involved in your son’s overall schooling. Parents/Carers are required to sign this diary each week.

(b) **Student Uniform/Presentation**
This has been outlined on page (xii) of the diary. The details on this page are used to resolve cases where a student’s uniform/presentation may be outside the College’s expectations. Thank you to all parents/carers for your effort in ensuring that your son complies with the requirements.

(c) **Driving into School Grounds**
If you are driving your son to school please do not drive into, or park across, the Mount Keira Road entrance. When it is raining you are asked to drop your son at a safe distance from the gate or in the car park adjacent to Keira Park which is closest to shelter and all student classrooms. Following these procedures should ensure the safety of all. Thank you.

(d) **Mobile Phone Policy**
This is detailed in the Student Diary on page (xv). Mobile phones are not to be used at any time during the school day. Students who fail to follow this requirement will have their mobile phone confiscated for a minimum of five school days in the first instance.

(e) **MP3/IPOD Policy/Use of Personal Electronic Devices**
As for the mobile phone policy these items must not be used at school. Students who fail to follow this requirement will have their item confiscated for a minimum of five school days in the first instance.

Learning Matters…………….Ms Masters, Teaching and Learning Coordinator

This is a NSW Department of Education and Communities initiative and has a range of tools, tips and resources for parents and students alike. Some topics covered: Starting High School, Wellbeing, Homework, Technology, English and Maths tips, help sheets and glossaries and interesting information and hyperlinks on a range of subject areas. The site also translates information into a wide range of languages other than English and has a printing and audio facility.

In the Tuesday extended Home Room period when there are no assemblies, Years 7, 8 and 9 students will be completing **Literacy and Numeracy Skills exercises**. The period will begin with sustained silent reading so all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 must bring a NOVEL to read. Bring books from home or borrow from the school library. The following website makes for interesting reading. It re-inforces the value that sustained silent reading has in improving students' learning and providing enjoyment, regardless of age or gender. [http://www.childwisechat.com/2012/08/09/sustained-silent-reading/](http://www.childwisechat.com/2012/08/09/sustained-silent-reading/)

Sustained Silent Reading Helps Develop Independent Readers (and Writers)
Research has shown that reading ability is positively correlated with the extent to which students read recreationally, according to the “Reading and Writing Habits of Students” section of *The Condition of Education*, published by the U.S. National Centre for Education Statistics. “Educators are increasingly encouraging their students to read and write on their own”.

Technology Corner…………….Mr Frank Sirianni, IT Coordinator
Parents and students in Years 7 and 8 need to regularly visit the relevant iPad page which can be accessed via the guest link on Moodle. We will be adding throughout the year further applications and files that students will be required to download onto their device. We will require all students to download the free application "School a to z" for next week."
HSC (Year 12) Special Provisions 2013
The NSW Board of Studies is required to comply with the Disability Standards for Education. In order to do this the Board allows Special Examination Provisions to help students with special needs to access examinations on the same basis as other students. Your son may have been granted Special Provisions in the past, or you may feel that he could be eligible for Special Provisions for the HSC in 2013. If this is the case or if you are unsure about whether your son may be eligible, please contact Mr Greg Carey, Learning Support Coordinator, at the College. **Note: Even if your son has been granted Special Provisions in the past, a new application must be made as soon as possible.** The Board does NOT automatically grant Special Provisions for previously successful applicants.

**Kathleen McGuinness**
**Farewell Retirement Dinner**
**Villa D’Oro – Friday, 1 March**
**6.30pm**

Current and past members of the Edmund Rice College Community, over the time of Kath’s association with the College, are invited to be part of this significant event.

To organize a table or get more details contact Mrs Trish O’Neill, Personal Assistant to the Principal, at the College on 4228 4344.

**Careers, Mrs Hodson**
- 62 Year 12 students will be attending the University of Wollongong Discovery Day on Wednesday, 6th February. This will provide students with an opportunity to experience first-hand what university life is like for a day and aims to get students thinking about their future.
- Year 10 students will commence Careers lessons this term in preparation for Work Experience in Week 4 Term 2. Relevant paperwork for Work Experience will be given to students early next week.
- Defence Force Technical Scholarships are not being offered this year.
- I encourage students and parents to receive direct careers information and subscribe to [http://erc.careersalert.com/](http://erc.careersalert.com/) go to email list, fourth tab at top of page. Enter details and you are done!

**CRICKET**
Students interested in applying for 2013 Cricket NSW Academy Nominations contact:-
Michael MacLennan, Youth Program Manager, Cricket NSW, Driver Avenue, Moore Park, PO Box 333 Paddington, NSW, 2021. T +61 2 8302 6019, F +61 2 8302 6080 M 0425 264 320

**AFL NSW/ACT REGISTRATIONS**
**Wollongong Lions** Junior AFL is only $50 if you register before the end of February 2013. For more information contact [www.wlionsjuniors.com.au](http://www.wlionsjuniors.com.au)

**Figtree**: Registration: Sunday, 3rd and 10th February, 11.00 – 1.00pm @ Figtree Oval. Sunday, 10th Juniors and Seniors are invited to a family BBQ fun day.

**Shellharbour Swans**: Registration on Sunday, 3rd February at Amart 10.00am – 2.00pm and Sunday, 10 February at Myimbarr Oval 10am – 2.00pm. For more information [www.shellharbourswans.com](http://www.shellharbourswans.com)
**Student Medical Forms**

All students in Years 8-12 are required to update their medical details at the start of a new school year. To this end, your son/s will receive a copy of the form that we currently have on file. This form needs to be updated to reflect any recent changes and returned to your son’s Home Room teacher as a matter of urgency. Students who require an Emergency Management Plan (e.g. severe asthma, epilepsy, anaphylaxis) will be contacted in order to arrange an interview as per the requirements of the NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011. If you have any questions, please contact the Administration Coordinator, Mr Mathew Rattenbury.

**HPV Vaccination for boys to commence in NSW**

Boys in NSW high schools will be offered human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination from 2013 to provide protection against developing infections that can lead to cancer.

*In 2013, the 3-dose course of vaccine will be offered to:*

- Year 7 boys as part of the routine school-based vaccination program
- Year 9 boys as part of the national ‘catch up’ program in 2013 and 2014 only.

HPV is the name given to a group of viruses that affect both females and males. HPV infection usually causes no symptoms and goes away by itself. However, in rare cases infection can cause life-threatening cancers. The vaccine is highly effective in preventing the main types of HPV infection and is most effective when it is given to people before they are exposed to the virus. The vaccine is registered for use from 10 years of age and is **only provided free for male students who commence the course in Year 7 or Year 9**. *Parent Information Kits* will be sent home to parents in early 2013. To consent to vaccination, parents are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to their child’s school. Students in Year 7 will also be offered vaccination against other diseases, including diphtheria-tetanusWhooping Cough (dTpa), hepatitis B and varicella (chicken pox). For more information please visit [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation).

**Can you help? DONORS Needed**

*You could save a life with a simple bloodtest!*

A member of the College community has been diagnosed with ALL Leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant to have hope to survive. None of his siblings match but there’s a one in a million chance that you might be. Healthy people between the ages of 18-45 can have a blood sample taken and join the Bone Marrow Registry. For more information visit the website [www.abmdr.org.au](http://www.abmdr.org.au).

**Canteen Roster for week commencing Monday 4 February – Group 2**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>C Tyson, S Munday, A Muir, K Van Weerdenburg, A Riley, M Hiscox, D Birch, N Cranny, M Roman</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>S Cayley, M Fanning, H Mills, M Sierra Onofri, B Males, I Quintal, S Vicrosiki</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>H Mindzas, T Leussink, D Ramsay, H Vento, F Carlisle, V Murada, K Delle Vergin</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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**UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform shop will be opening on Tuesdays and Thursdays on alternate weeks as follows:-

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5 February 2013  1.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14 February 2013  7.45am – 10.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>19 February 2013  1.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28 February 2013  7.45am – 10.45am</td>
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Edmund Rice College

invites you to a talk by Social Commentator

JONATHAN DOYLE

Jonathan Doyle is the founder of Australia’s largest values based digital media provider Choicez Media. He has delivered live seminar content to a quarter of a million people, has a background in Catholic teaching, holds a Master’s degree in Education and is currently completing a second Master’s Degree in Theology (Marriage and Family Studies). He is a passionate and sought-after speaker around the world bringing a powerful and dynamic message of real change.

Jonathan has a particular Insight Into what it means to be a good man!

MONDAY, 25 FEBRUARY
AT 7.30PM
BR PELIN HALL
EDMUND RICE COLLEGE

To register your attendance please phone the College on ☎ 4228 4344 or email toneill@edmundricecollege.nsw.edu.au

All Welcome!

PARISHES PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BY WORKING TOGETHER

Commencing in February 2013, all Catholic parishes in the Diocese of Wollongong will be taking part in a process to plan for the future Church in the Diocese. We are one of the fastest growing Dioceses in NSW! This growth in the next 20 years provides us with the opportunity to build new parish communities while at the same time there is a need to re-configure some of our present parishes. School communities will be working closely with parishes to work for successful outcomes in this planning process for growth and renewal.

The process for planning for the future will be launched by Bishop Peter Ingham on Sunday 3 February. Every family in the Diocese will receive a Workbook which gives information about our role as baptised people in the Church as well as particular information about our Diocese. Parishes will have information sessions for all interested people to discuss the Workbook content and give parishioners a chance for feedback at various dates and times. Please check the diocesan website www.pastoralplanning.dow.org.au for dates and times for your parish. We want all families to be involved in this important process of planning for our future. We need your wisdom to guide our planning!

Every family at our school will be given a copy of the Workbook when they arrive at the College. There is also an accompanying DVD which can be downloaded from the website www.pastoralplanning.dow.org.au. You are encouraged to listen to the DVD and read and reflect on the contents of the Workbook. Responses to questions and comments can also be sent to netty.broekman@dow.org.au. Should any other members of your family or friends wish to receive a copy of the Workbook please contact the school office where additional copies will be available.

Community News

Social Justice Forum – Wednesday, 20 February, 5.00pm – 6.00pm.
The Diocesan Council for Justice, Ecology and Peace invites you to participate in a forum on “Social Justice in the Illawarra”. The Council is seeking your thoughts on the development of Social Justice Group(s) in the Illawarra Region of the Diocese. COME ALONG TO HAVE A VOICE ... TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Join in the conversation at the new Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. To help with catering and printing please acknowledge your attendance by Friday, 15 February to Darren McDowell on 4222 2463 or Darren.mcDowell@dow.org.au
**Hot Foods**
- Cheese Burger $4.00
- Chicken Burger $4.00
- Chicken Kebabs – Order Only $5.00
- Chicken Patty $3.00
- Chicken Patty – Bread Roll $3.50
- Chicken Pieces $0.80
- Chicken Patty Salad Roll $5.00
- Hamburger $4.00
- Hot Dog with Cheese $3.00
- Lasagna $4.00
- Pizza $4.50
- Nachos (Order Only) Large $5.00 Small $4.00
- Pie $3.80
- Pie Cheese and Bacon $4.00
- Pie Beef Curry $4.00
- Pie Mushroom $4.00
- Potato Pie $4.00
- Pizza Rounda $3.00
- Sausage Roll $3.00

**Salad Bowl**
Chicken; Salmon; Cheese, Ham; Turkey Breast; Corned Beef with avocado or egg $6.00

**Jaffles (Winter only)**
Baked Beans; Cheese & Ham; Spaghetti Cheese/Ham/Tomato; Chicken & Cheese $3.00

**Foccacia (Order only)**
Turkey or Ham, Avocado, Pesto, Sundried Tomato & Cheese $5.00

**Lavash Bread (Order only)**
Chicken Salad; Egg & Salad/Ham Salad $5.00

**Milk/Yoghurt/Juice**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOGHURT</th>
<th>Lite: Strawberry, Passionfruit Mango, Vanilla</th>
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<tr>
<td>DARE</td>
<td>Chocolate; Caramel; Coffee Malt, Lite Malt, Lite Cappuccino</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<td>MILKSHAKES (special days only)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOOVE</td>
<td>Chocolate, Strawberry, Coffee Small</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIPPY MILK</td>
<td>Chocolate, Vanilla, Strawberry, Iced Coffee, Honey Small</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<td>Large</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUICE 100%</td>
<td>Orange, Apple, Tropical, Pineapple, Boysenberry Medium</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>600ml</td>
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**Fruit/Chips**
Fruit $1.50
Chips $2.00

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**CANTENE PRICE LIST – TERM 1**

**Cakes**
All Cakes $3.00

**Breakfast**
Toasted Sandwich & Milkshake $4.00
Hot chocolate (winter only)

**Wrap**
Chicken Strips with lettuce & mayo $3.00

**Sandwiches**
- Buttered Bread $0.40
- Cheese $1.50
- Chicken/Lettuce/Mayo $3.50
- Egg & Lettuce $3.00
- Egg/Salad $3.50
- Ham/Salad $4.00
- Salmon and Lettuce $3.50
- Salmon Salad $4.00
- Salad Sandwich – “The lot” $4.00
- Vegemite $1.20
- Chicken Salad $4.00
ERC Calendar 2013

JANUARY
29............. Staff Day
30............. First day of Classes for Years 7, 12 and 11 (Peer Support only)
31............. Remainder of all year groups return

FEBRUARY
11............. Year 7 Orientation Camps
(2 Home Rooms)
12............. Year 11 & 12 Parent Evening (7.30pm)
14............. Swimming Carnival
15............. Year 7 Orientation Camps
(3 Home Rooms)
20-22........ Year 12 Retreat (3 groups)
25............. Guest Speaker – (Jonathan Doyle)
26............. College Board Meeting

MARCH
4-8............. Year 8 Camp
6............. Years 7 and 9 Immunisation (No. 1)
13............. Year 7 Parent Evening
16............. Year 7 Welcome BBQ (4-6.00pm)
18-22........ Year 7 Camp
26............. College Board Meeting
27............. College Cross Country
28............. Principal’s Easter Show Reward Trip
29............. Good Friday

APRIL
2............. P&F Forum meeting
4............. Athletics Carnival at Beaton Park
12............. Final day for Term 1
29............. First day of Classes Term 2

MAY
1............. Parent Teacher Interviews
(2.15 – 700pm)
3............. Edmund Rice Feast Day - Outdoor Mass
5............. Blessed Edmund Rice Feast Day
10............. ERC Fashion Parade (College Hall)
14............. P&F Forum
15-16........ NAPLAN Testing (Years 7 & 9)
17............. Pupil Free Day
20-24........ Year 10 Work Experience
28............. College Board Meeting
30............. College Photo Day
31............. Years 7 and 9 Immunisation (No. 2)

JUNE
3-6............. Year 8 Mid-Year Exams
10............. Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
11-21........ Years 9 and 10 Mid-Year Exams
18............. College Board Meeting
21............. Final day of classes, Term 2
24-28........ Staff Week
25............. P&F Forum
27............. Parent Teacher Afternoon/Evening
(3.00pm - 7.30pm)
28............. Parent Teacher Day (9.00am - 3.00pm)

JULY
6-7............. Canteen Trip to Wineries
15............. First day of classes, Term 3
15-26........ Trial HSC Exams
23............. P&F Forum
26............. Tom Anderton Shield
31............. Year 11/2014 Parent Information Day/Evening

AUGUST
2............. Year 12 Report Afternoon/Evening
(2.15pm - 6.00pm)
2-3............. Café Concert
4............. Year 9 Ski Trip departs
5-9............. Year 9 Ski Trip/Camp
7............. Year 10 Social Justice Day
14............. Year 9, 2014 Subjects/Electives Information
16............. Staff Development Day (PUPIL FREE)
20............. College Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER
3............. Year 12 Parent Dinner
4............. Year 11/2014 Interviews 3.30pm
9-20........ Year 11 Preliminary HSC Exams
10............. P&F Forum
14............. Year 7/2014 Test Morning
17............. Final day of classes Year 12
College Board Meeting
18............. Year 12 Breakfast, Graduation Assembly and Formal
20............. Final day of classes, Term 3

OCTOBER
8............. First day of classes, Term 4
10............. Year 11 Parent/Teacher Report
10............. Distribution & Re-enrolment
11............. Year 12 Graduation Mass & Dinner
14............. HSC Exams commence
15............. P&F Forum
16-18........ Year 11 Retreat
18............. Year 7 Zoo Excursion
22............. College Board Meeting
28............. Years 7 and 9 Immunisation (No. 3)

NOVEMBER
7............. Year 8 Activities Day
7-8............. Try Year 7 for a Day
4-8............. Year 10 Camp
12............. Year 10 Parent Dinner
15............. Year 7 Aquatics/Year 9 Activities Day
19............. Year 9 Parent Dinner
College Board Meeting
20............. Canteen Dinner
20-2 Dec........ Year 10 Exams
25-6 Dec........ Years 7-9 Semester 2 Exams
25............. Year 7 Awards Assembly 7.30pm
26............. Yrs 8/9 Awards Assemblies (Day)
P&F Forum

DECEMBER
6............. Final day of classes, Term 4
12............. Yrs 7-11 Report Distribution Afternoon
18............. HSC Results released

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