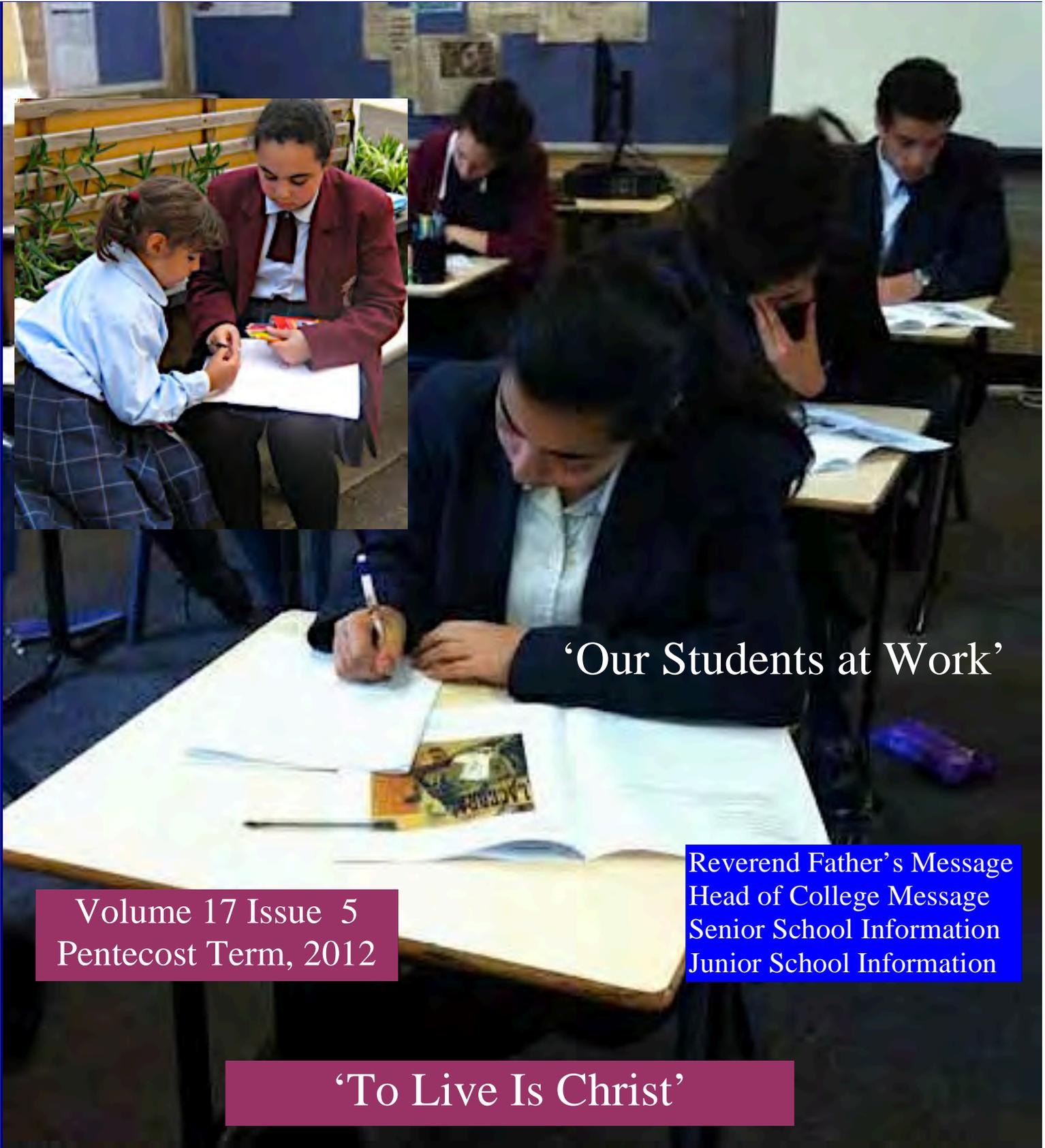




St. Mark's College Newsletter

Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions



‘Our Students at Work’

Reverend Father's Message
Head of College Message
Senior School Information
Junior School Information

Volume 17 Issue 5
Pentecost Term, 2012

‘To Live Is Christ’



St. Mark's College Newsletter

Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions

Friday 1st June, 2012



Volume 17 Edition 5

ABN: 67 796 481 099



Pentecost Term

Year 7 Liturgy
 Mother – Daughter Day **Postponed**
 Yrs 10 & 11 UWS Careers Day
 ICAS Science Competition Yrs 3-12
 IPSSO v Thomas Hassall
 AICES Cross Country
 Year 6 Liturgy
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
 Parent and Friends' Meeting, 2:00pm
 Interschool Chess Competition
 Year 7 Vaccines (No.2)
 Year 9 Liturgy
 Year 12 Ancient History Lecture Day
 ICAS Spelling Competition Yrs 3 – 12
 IPSSO bye
 Red Nose Day (Mufti) K to 12
 Year 12 Hamlet Excursion
 Careers Expo for Year 10 to 12
 Spalding Writing Road to Reading, 10.00am
 Inaugural Alumni Evening, Sport & Arts Centre
 Term concludes

Fri 1st June
 Sat 2nd June
 Tue 5th June
 Wed 6th June
 Wed 6th June
 Thurs 7th June
 Fri 8th June
Mon 11th June
 Tues 12th June
 Tues 12th June
 Tues 12th June
 Fri 15th June
 Fri 15th June
 Tues 19th June
 Wed 20th June
 Wed 20th June
 Thur 21st June
 Fri 22nd June
 Sat 23rd June
Postponed
 Friday 22nd June

Theotokos Term

Staff Professional Development Day
Lessons Commence for Yrs K-12, 8.30am
 K – 12 School Photos
 Australian National Chemistry Quiz Yr11
 Walk-a-thon K – 12
 ICAS English Competition Yrs 3 – 12
 Term concludes

Mon 16th July
Tues 17th July
 Thur 19th July
 Thurs 26th July
 Fri 27th July
 Tues 31st July
 Fri 21st Sept

Advent Term

Lessons Commence for Yrs P-12, 8.30am
 Term concludes
 Staff Professional Development
 Staff Professional Development
School Office Hours

Mon 8th Oct
 Wed 5th Dec
 Thur 6th Dec
 Fri 7th Dec
 8:00am – 4:00pm

Progressive House Points

ST ANTHONY	ST DEMIANA	ST GEORGE	ST MARINA
2891	2010	2306	2186

House points are updated weekly as students accumulate points for their House. This can include a variety of activities from sport, co-curricular, behaviour etc. Keep the contributions flowing.

“By their fruit you will recognise them.”

Matthew 7:20

After a few days, the Church will celebrate the feast of Pentecost in which the Holy Spirit was outpoured on the church every spiritual wisdom, gift and, most importantly, the fruit of the Spirit.



However, nowadays the outsiders do not clearly see the fruit of the Spirit espoused by Christians. As members in the body of Christ, we are not acting any differently from the rest of the world. Christ said, **“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”** John 13:35

In 2 Corinthians chapter 3, St Paul wrote about the time when Moses came down from Mount Sinai and *“the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory”*, then he compared that with what should be happening with us, *“we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His likeness and with ever increasing glory.”* So the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit inside us should be obvious and striking.

Bearing fruit is a partnership between us and God and the Holy Spirit is a Divine, real and gentle person who never forces Himself on us. So, we must firstly invite Him inside us. In Luke 8:15, Christ said, *“by persevering we produce good crop”*. We are then told to *“exercise ourselves unto godliness”* and to *“pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace.”* 1 Tim 4:7 & 2 Tim 2:22. Meanwhile, the Holy Spirit will quietly and gradually work inside us to nourish, cultivate, prune and protect our souls to be fit to bear good fruit.

In Pentecost, it is the time to humbly and prayerfully ask the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts so we may bear fruit. As parents, children, teachers, clergy and the rest of our community, let us pray during this coming Apostle’s fasting that we may acquire sincere, compassionate, pure and selfless love. Let us entreat to the Holy Spirit, in one accord, to grant us peace, faithfulness, patience, gentleness and self-control; that is *“to live by the Spirit.”* Galatians 5:16

Parents and Friends' Meeting

Tuesday 12th June, 2:00pm, D4

Fundraising Matters

Come along and fundraise for our children!

Message from the Head of College

The Semester One Examinations have concluded and the students have returned to the normal school routine quickly and smoothly. Teachers have been marking and returning examination papers to students with relevant and meaningful feedback. I urge parents to view their children's responses to each examination paper and implement a strategy for improvement in preparation for the Semester Two Examinations.

The results are coming across my desk and I'm pleased to inform parents that the English and Mathematics results are pleasing which indicates that students are working hard within these courses. As I mentioned in earlier Newsletters students who are accelerated in courses are having their performances reviewed and closely monitored across all courses that they have undertaken. There are some indicators that some students are not performing at their best both within the accelerated course and their other courses. The Head of Curriculum Mr Chahrozian and Heads' of Faculties will be conducting interviews with students who have underperformed.

The most pleasing result so far is the Year 12 Studies of Religion 2 Unit class who have performed exceptionally well. This is a course that most of our students should consider undertaking as they have a great deal of general knowledge that assists them in answering the questions and the content suits them well.

On the other-hand and in particular Year 11 students have selected courses that are beyond their skill level and their results are reflecting this quite clearly at this early stage of their HSC preparation. Courses like Economics are extremely difficult to attain a good result, as you require broad skills with high levels of mastery. It is one of the hardest five (5) courses in the HSC just behind Latin, Classical Greek, Extension Two Mathematics and Physics. Students must be able to articulate their point of view exceptionally well, understand the concepts of world economics to a tee, analyse economic data trends and have high levels of mathematical ability, at least Mathematics Extension One level.

Sometimes students are led by outside influences and don't make informed choices when it comes to selecting courses for the HSC. I suggest that students particularly in Year 11 make some serious decisions and possibly reconsider their choices or show greater commitment to their chosen courses. If any student would like assistance please seek advice from the Head of Faculty, House Patron, Head of Careers or Head of Curriculum.

NAPLAN Years 3, 5, 7 and 9

The students sat for the recent NAPLAN Examinations in Literacy and Numeracy and most found the questions challenging, but all were confident that they performed at their best. I wish the students well with their final result.

St Mark's uses the NAPLAN Results as they were originally intended, as a diagnostic tool for teachers to review their programming and to work on the skills our students need assistance in. Unfortunately, some schools use it as an advertising tool to entice enrolments by propping up results by abandoning the normal teaching programme for

unnecessary drill and practice and mainly focussing on the writing task and revising past test papers.

This resorts to camouflaging the real underlying issues that may exist within a school's curriculum and provides a false sense of achievement. St Mark's has a duty to continue to value add on a child's development year by year. The approach used by St Mark's College is vindicated, as well over 80% of our students matriculate to university. We will continue to do the best for our students in the long term rather than seek short-term publicity.

The staff and I are looking forward to the results and are keen to make any necessary adjustments to our curriculum to benefit the learning of our students.

Curriculum Changes

In the previous Newsletter it was raised that the College has introduced an innovative start to each day for K to 6, by introducing support staff that assist students in small groups during the timetabled literacy block. After a term and a half some wonderful outcomes are being achieved. Children's proficiency in phonograms has increase considerably and reading levels have risen significantly as well, with meaning and understanding.

Again, I need to reinforce that the practices undertaken at St Mark's are outstanding and can only be replicated in expensive fee paying independent schools. I would like to congratulate all the Junior School Staff, both teaching and support for these encouraging results.

Combined Coptic Orthodox College Liturgies

Over the past two weeks both the Senior and Junior Schools attended the annual Combined Coptic Colleges' liturgies held at St Bishoy and at the Diocese Cathedral, St Mary and St Mina's. Our children enjoyed the camaraderie with the students from our sister schools and were outstanding ambassadors. I congratulate the students on their behaviour and reverence during the liturgy.



Also, I extend my gratitude to Fr Antonios Kaldas, Fr George Nakhil, Fr Shenouda Mansour and fr Mikhail for making time to conduct the liturgies.

*God bless,
Mr Rekouniotis
Head of College*

Parking Penalties

There has been a great deal of local community concern about the drop off and pick-up of our children, as well as parking. Below are a list of penalties presented by Liverpool Council after making two recent inspections at the school and warned they will take severe action on anyone who doesn't abide by the mandated road rules. I ask parents to please abide by these rules as the safety of the children is paramount and we must work in harmony with the local community.

Offence	Minimum Fine	Minimum Loss of Demerit Points
Stop on or near: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pedestrian crossing • A children's crossing • Any marked foot crossing 	\$353	2
Double park	\$265	2
Park on a footpath or stop across a driveway	\$147	2
Make an illegal U-turn	\$265	3
Exceed 40km/h in a school zone in a light vehicle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 km/h and under • Over 10 km/h • Over 20 km/h • Over 30 km/h • Over 45 km/hr 	\$154 \$278 \$463 \$896 \$2,041	2* 4* 5* 6* 7*
Use a mobile phone while driving	\$353	4
Fail to give way to a pedestrian	\$353	4
Reverse unsafely	\$206	3
Park within 3 metres of double barrier lines	\$206	0



The minimum penalty for disobeying 'No Parking' is \$147 and 2 demerit points. You may only stop here for 2 minutes and stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.



The minimum penalty for parking in a 'Bus Zone' is \$265 and 2 demerit points. You can not stop here at all.



The minimum penalty for disobeying 'No Stopping' is \$265 and 2 demerit points. You can not stop here at all. Parking on nature strips is also illegal.

Uniform

The students were issued with a note outlining the College's Dress and Appearance Code a couple of weeks ago and I'm pleased that the students have made the appropriate adjustments.

The image of the College is important and parental support is the key to the school's overall success in portraying our students in the best possible light. Parents in the end are responsible in making sure that their child abides by the Dress Code and Appearance Policy and it's an obligation of their child's enrolment. Let us work together in this common goal to uphold our high standards.

Mr David
Deputy Head of College

Curriculum Matters

Senior School Semester One Report

Within the next few weeks, teachers will be finalising results and reports will be issued to parents. This is a crucial time of the year where the feedback provided in the report will provide the impetus for setting goals in preparation for the Semester 2 Examinations next term. I encourage parents to work with their child in a consultative way to bring out the best in them for the remainder of the year.

Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place later this term and I remind parents it's a compulsory activity. Looking forward to see you then.

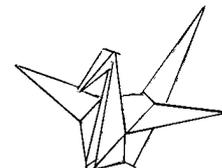
Computer Policy

The new Computer Policy has been introduced across the College and will be the feature article in the next edition of the College Newsletter.

God bless,
Mr Chahrozian
Curriculum Co-ordinator

A Day At The Theatre

On the 28th of May, Year 9 and 10 Drama students visited Parramatta Theatre to view a performance of *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*. The show was about the effects of the Atomic Bomb in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The performance was based on the story of Sadako Sasaki, a feisty twelve year old, who was struck with leukemia at the age of twelve because of the bomb. Many of the students were moved by her emotional story but at the same time were able to learn about an important event in history. The students were impressed by the artful staging and versatility of the actors who all played numerous different characters throughout the performance. Monica Khoury of Year 9 commented that, "The play was engaging and educational. I liked the way the story unfolded before us and we became engrossed in the drama".



A big thank you to Mrs Williams who accompanied Ms Robertson and helped with the seamless running of the day.

Combined Coptic College Public Speaking Competition

A group of 10 talented St Mark's students were involved in the *Combined Coptic College Public Speaking Competition* on the 23rd of May 2012. The students' speeches were of a very high standard and were well received by the adjudicator and audience. Congratulations to the following students:

George Guirgus	(11)
Veronica Gorgi	(11)
Daniel Awad	(10)
Joshua Henien	(10)
Cassandra Soliman	(9)
Justina Hanna	(8)
Joy Tanios	(8)
Akhila Shibu	(8)
Joshua Kaleeny	(8)
Vishal Venkatesh	(7)



In particular, well done to Daniel Awad, Joshua Henien and Joy Tanios who were winners in their year groups.



Senior School Sport

Bill Turner Cup Classic

Round 2 Match Report vs Patrician Brothers' Fairfield

On Friday, 25th May, on a sunny and breezy afternoon, the Intermediate Boys' Soccer



Team donned their shin pads and boots to represent their school in the Bill Turner Cup, a prestigious national soccer competition that has been running for over three decades. For our College, it was a significant moment: it was the first time ever we had played in Round Two. Rather than being overawed by the occasion, or by the opposition who were placed second in the competition last year, the unfazed maroon and blue boys went about their usual warm-up and preparation routine before a game. Composure was the chief quality our team demonstrated on this day.

Soon after the kick-off, it became clear that we were up against a technically superior team, whose players were a little taller, a little stronger, a little faster and a little better at controlling the ball. For the first half, Patrician Brothers kept pressing into our defensive third, thinking that they could get an easy goal. However, our boys kept cool heads and withstood the pressure without flinching.

Chris Spirou stood tall as the sweeper and continually intercepted and repelled their penetrating runs. Danilo Miletich was the enforcer in central defence, challenging any of their forwards who dared to enter his territory, regardless of their size. Milan Bosnjak, also a central defender, read the play well and frequently closed off their attacking options. The wing defenders, James Tawdrous on the left and Anthony Moussad on the right, were constantly running to chase down and neutralise their wingers. It is to their credit, that very few effective crosses were made by the other team into our middle. But the really imposing figure was our goalkeeper, Anthony Sarofeem. Every shot on goal was met with his solid frame comfortably stopping the ball, or his long-reaching arms parrying it away, as if he was swatting an irritating fly. He so stamped his authority in front of goal, that even when a genuine chance presented itself for Patrician Brothers, their striker panicked and booted the ball well wide of the goal.

Towards the end of the first half, wild shots started coming from the other team, a sign of their frustration at not being able to score even though they seemed to be dominating the game. Our defence was a fortress. Our resolve was steadfast. Composure was the chief quality demonstrated by our team.

The second half saw the momentum start to swing our way. No compromise was made when Paul Hanna came into central defence to add height and a forceful presence. Then, Mark Gorgy, our captain and tireless central midfielder, started to claw back control in the middle of the park. Simon Fitsum, Sam Fitsum and Albert Abdelsayed took turns to play in the left and right midfield positions; they gradually brought width to our attack. Slowly, more passes started making their way up to our lone striker, Mathew Ramzy, who

always threatened and forced their defence to run back deep into their half. Opportunities in front of their goal started to come as Moses Rocha, our roving forward, found space to run in the middle and link up with Mathew. As the game wore on, it was starting to look like more of an even contest, with the ball being played in front of both goals. The team's composure was winning the respect of the opposition.

With one minute to go, the match looked like finishing in a draw. The St Mark's coach was considering how best to use his reserve bench as the game would move into extra time. With six substitutes, including an extra striker, the squad was poised to change to an attacking formation with fresh players that could run through the tired opposition.

But, alas, the plan was never to be executed. Fifteen seconds from full-time, the right wing of Patrician Brothers cut a ball back along the ground to his lone teammate standing at the edge of the penalty box. With a swift kick, he sent a low ball for the only time past our dauntless goalkeeper. St Mark's was down 0-1. The relief from the Patrician Brothers' coach was palpable; she said later that they were lucky to win.

Although our first foray past Round One of the Bill Turner Cup was short-lived, our boys can hold their heads high. They represented their school well and earned the respect of the opposition, who are the second seed in the competition. Our school had shown them the meaning of the word "composure".

Players: Mark Gorgy (captain), George & Albert Abdelsayed, Milan Bosnjak, John Farag, Mek (Simon) & Sam Fitsum, Abraam Fouad, Paul Hanna, Danilo Miletich, Anthony Moussad, Mathew Ramzy, Moses Rocha, Anthony Sarofeem, Chris Spirou, James Tawdrous, Louis Tawfik.

Coach: Dr A. Tham

SWISSA Competition Heating Up



As we head into the final rounds of the SWISSA competitions, several of our teams remain in the hunt for finals contention. The surprise team thus far has been our junior girls netball team, who are currently one win behind second place, with a game in hand. Below is a summary of our teams performances this term so far:

Netball

Junior girls

With 2 wins and 1 loss, our junior girls present a genuine chance of making the final series this year. With a tight win over St Euphemia College this week, our juniors are full of confidence going into the last couple of rounds.

<i>Team</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
<i>Redeemer</i>	4	0	0	98	15	83	12
<i>St Euphemia</i>	3	0	1	59	25	34	9
<i>St Marks</i>	2	0	1	35	37	-2	6
<i>All Saints</i>	2	0	2	30	40	-10	6
<i>Georges River</i>	2	0	2	23	36	-13	6
<i>St Marouns</i>	1	0	4	28	79	-51	3
<i>Sydney Adventist</i>	0	0	4	16	57	-41	0

Round 1

All Saints	v	St Marouns	12-5
St Euphemia	v	Georges River	10-0
All Saints	v	Redeemer	6-22

Round 2

St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	7-16
Georges River	v	Redeemer	2-17
Sydney Adven	v	All Saints	2-9

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Marks	22-5
Sydney Adven	v	St Euphemia	6-22
St Marouns	v	Georges River	6-10
St Marks	v	Sydney Advent.	18-4

Round 4

St Marouns	v	Sydney Adven.	8-4
Georges River	v	All Saints	11-3
Redeemer	v	St Marouns	37-2
St Euphemia	v	St Marks	11-12

Intermediate girls

An extremely tough competition, our intermediate girls have a challenge ahead of them to make the finals. Sitting one win outside the top 4, with a game in hand on the other schools, the girls have the chance of sneaking into the finals series.

<i>Team</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
<i>Georges River</i>	4	0	0	66	23	43	12
<i>St Euphemia</i>	3	0	1	79	14	65	9
<i>Redeemer</i>	3	0	1	73	39	34	9
<i>All Saints</i>	2	0	2	44	29	15	6
<i>St Marks</i>	1	0	2	23	45	-22	3
<i>St Marouns</i>	1	0	4	26	107	-81	3
<i>Sydney Adventist</i>	0	0	4	12	66	-54	0

Round 1

All Saints	v	Redeemer	9-15
St Euphemia	v	Georges River	7-11
All Saints	v	St Marouns	18-3

Round 2

St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	2-22
Georges River	v	Redeemer	16-8
Sydney Adven	v	All Saints	1-12

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Marks	23-9
Sydney Adven	v	St Euphemia	0-28
St Marouns	v	Georges River	3-29
St Marks	v	Sydney Advent.	13-0

Round 4

St Marouns	v	Sydney Adven.	13-11
Georges River	v	All Saints	10-5
Redeemer	v	St Marouns	27-5
St Euphemia	v	St Marks	22-1

Senior girls

With the youngest team in the competition, consisting of year 9 girls, our seniors have been very competitive in a highly intense and fierce competition. Likely to be out of finals contention this year, there is no doubt the girls would have learnt a lot from the competition, and will no doubt develop enormously heading into the future.

<i>Team</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
<i>All Saints</i>	3	0	0	42	20	22	9
<i>Sydney Adventist</i>	2	1	1	48	28	20	7
<i>Redeemer</i>	2	0	1	51	19	32	6
<i>St Euphemia</i>	1	2	0	24	19	5	5
<i>St Marks</i>	0	1	2	16	43	-27	1
<i>St Marouns</i>	0	0	4	12	64	-52	0

Round 1

All Saints	v	St Marouns	16-2
All Saints	v	Redeemer	12-11

Round 2

Sydney Adven	v	All Saints	7-14
St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	3-18

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Marks	16-5
Sydney Adven	v	St Euphemia	7-7
St Marks	v	Sydney Advent.	2-18

Round 4

St Marouns	v	Sydney Adven.	5-16
St Euphemia	v	St Marks	9-9
Redeemer	v	St Marouns	24-2

Football**Junior boys**

In what is a highly inexperienced team, our junior boys have managed to reach the qualifying finals, with a chance to be involved in the finals series. A great effort by the boys!

Group A

<i>Team</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
<i>St Euphemia</i>	3	0	0	16	0	16	9
<i>St Marouns</i>	2	0	1	5	6	-1	6
<i>Redeemer</i>	0	1	2	5	8	-3	1
<i>Georges River</i>	0	1	2	4	16	-12	1

Group B

<i>Team</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
<i>All Saints</i>	2	0	0	28	0	28	6
<i>St Marks</i>	1	0	1	4	18	-14	3
<i>Sydney Adventist</i>	0	0	2	0	14	-14	0

Round 1

St Marouns	v	Georges River	2-1
St Euphemia	v	Redeemer	2-0

Round 2

All Saints	v	St Mark's	18-0
Redeemer	v	Georges River	3-3
St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	0-3

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Maroun	2-3
St Mark's	v	Sydney Adven.	4-0

Round 4

Sydney Adven	v	All Saints'	0-10
St Euphemia	v	Georges River	11-0

Intermediate boys

This squad promises to be a successful team over a long period of time. Boasting an array of talent, our intermediates will be involved in the finals series this year and are likely to be a real threat for the competition.

Group A

Team	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Georges River	3	0	0	13	1	12	9
St Euphemia	1	1	1	5	5	0	4
St Marouns	1	1	1	4	5	-1	4
Redeemer	0	0	3	0	11	-11	0

Group B

Team	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
All Saints	2	0	0	13	1	12	6
St Marks	0	1	1	2	5	-3	1
Sydney Adventist	0	1	1	3	12	-9	1

Round 1

St Marouns	v	Georges River	0-4
St Euphemia	v	Redeemer	3-0

Round 2

All Saints	v	St Mark's	3-0
Redeemer	v	Georges River	0-5
St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	1-1

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Maroun	0-3
St Mark's	v	Sydney Adven.	2-2

Round 4

Sydney Adven	v	All Saints'	1-10
St Euphemia	v	Georges River	1-4

Senior boys

As is always the case, the senior boys is a hotly contested competition. Our senior boys have performed extremely well so far, winning 2 of their 3 games played. With a very tight loss this week against St Euphemia, our boys are 2 points from the lead, but are in a situation where the next 2 games will be critical in terms of reaching the finals.

Team	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Redeemer	2	2	0	15	8	7	8
All Saints	2	1	1	9	7	2	7
St Euphemia	2	1	1	9	9	0	7
St Marks	2	0	1	11	6	5	6
St Marouns	1	0	3	3	7	-4	3
Sydney Adventist	0	0	3	7	17	-10	0

Round 1

St Marouns	v	All Saints	0-1
St Euphemia	v	Redeemer	2-2

Round 2

All Saints	v	St Mark's	1-2
Redeemer	v	Sydney Adven.	7-4
St Marouns	v	St Euphemia	1-2

Round 3

Redeemer	v	St Maroun	4-0
St Mark's	v	Sydney Adven.	8-3
All Saints'	v	St Euphemia	5-3

Round 4

Redeemer	v	All Saints'	2-2
St Euphemia	v	St Mark's	2-1
Sydney Adven.	V	St Marouns	0-2

Special Mentions

Congratulations to Stephen Spirou who last week represented the SWISSA Zone and competed in the AICES Regional Football Championships at Valentine Park, Parklea. Stephen was very unlucky not to be selected into the AICES regional team, but will be a very strong chance for next year's championships.

*Yours in Sport,
Mr D. Helene
Head of PDHPE & Sport*

Junior School News

The Junior School would like to share with you our beloved parents the activities that have taken place this term.



Year 5 and 6 Excursion to the Museum and Zapped show.

Year 5 and 6 students are learning about 'Electricity' for Science and Technology this term. To further enhance their learning, an excursion was organised in order to allow the students the opportunity to participate in a science show. The students were involved in conducting different experiments about static electricity, electrons, how electricity is generated, answering and asking questions. Our students had a wonderful learning experience.



Kindergarten and Year 6 Buddy Program

How it works: The Year 6 buddies help their little buddies with numerous things around the school so that they know where everything is and they help them settle successfully into Big School.

Sometimes the Kindergarten students are shy and the Year 6 buddies help them to overcome their shyness. The older students help and encourage the younger children to make friends with the other Kindergarten children. There is a Year 6 student assigned and paired to each Kindergarten student.



■

The sessions have been helpful and beneficial to Year 6 as well as to the Kindergarten students; Year 6 buddies have been reading books, using the new iPad technology and playing Mathematical games. These experiences help to develop leadership qualities in the Year 6 students and also assist the infants to master skills socially and academically.



Combined Coptic College Liturgy

On Friday the 25th May 2012 Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 prayed a Holy Mass at St Mary's and St Mina's Coptic College with our two sister Colleges. The students played a big role during the mass, such as serving both in the altar and outside the altar and actively participating in singing all the hymns.



“ On behalf of St Mark's College we would like to thank St Mary's and St Mina's College and the Reverend fathers for granting us the opportunity to pray the Holy mass with our sister Colleges.” St Mark's Coptic College Junior Captains. Daniel Boulos and Monica Wilson.



*Mrs Nada
Deputy Dean of the Junior school*

How Can We Teach our Children to Resolve Conflict on the Playground?

The school playground is one of the places children enjoy most, but it is not always perfect. Playgrounds are home to a lot of games and activities that can breed competition and, occasionally, conflict. It is also the place where children may air conflict that has developed under other circumstances. As a result, teachers at St. Mark's Coptic College are forever looking for practical and useful strategies for resolving conflicts that occur on the playground in a safe, healthy and Christian way. This is one of the important responsibilities of

someone assigned to playground supervision. So what can you do as parents when your children have conflicts at school? Let's see if we come with some simple instructions;

Instructions

1. Get everyone to calm down. You need to teach children that conflict happens, but that it is best resolved in a calm and controlled manner. You need to show your child that you are calm and get you're her/him to also calm down before you can find any kind of resolution. Use any methods that are recommended for calming tempers or tantrums that you have had success with in the past, such as time-outs or deep breathing, to calm children before you move on.
2. Ask your child to describe her side of the story. It is important that you ask her not to describe with emotion what went on, but to try and calmly recount the facts as accurately as possible.
3. Allow your child to express themselves and assure them that the teacher will deal with the conflict in the correct manner. Always refer to our Lord Jesus Christ and what he would do in a situation like this. Our children need to feel our Lord in times of trouble and get used to his presence in our life.
4. Teacher will act as a mediator between the sides. As a parent it is difficult to see our children hurt but remember that the other children who are involved in the conflict are also children of God. Ask the teacher involved for advice on how to handle conflict and work with everyone to come to a reasonable agreement. Don't feel like you need to rush the process. Take time to work through the issue in full, as this can help teach children how to handle conflict and settle disputes on their own.
5. Conflict at the school playground is an experience that builds our children's social skills and how to deal with lifelong experiences. To teach our students the skills to handle conflict through verses from the bible, patience, wisdom and the ability to express themselves in a Christian manner is one the most important gifts St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox College can grant its students.

Finally I will leave you with words of advice from our late and beloved Pope Shenouda on how to deal with conflict.

Sometimes silence is more effective than words and more beneficial and useful, or at the very least it may be less harmful than to speak... In silence there may be wisdom and strength, there may be nobility and dignity.

Sometimes we keep silent in order that God should speak, for the word of God is more powerful than anything we might want to say... How beautiful are the words of the Bible,

"The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." (Ex 14:14)

Our Lord Jesus Christ remained silent before Pilate. He did not open His mouth or defend Himself. During His silence Pilate said, "I find no reason to condemn this righteous man".

Silence can be profitable sometimes, but it is not a fixed rule.

The golden rule is this, that the person should speak when it is right to speak and keep silent when it is right to keep silent.

When he is silent then let his heart speak with God and ask Him to speak on his behalf...

*Mrs Shehata
Dean of the Junior School*

Junior School Sport

ASISSA Cross Country

Monica Wilson from 5/6N did us proud today by finishing in the top 15 competitors in her 3 Km race. She is through to the next round and will be representing ASISSA in the CIS carnival. She finished in 13th place with a time of 13 minutes and 45 sec. I would also like to thank Mrs. Lotfi for taking care of the ASISSA Cross Country team today.

Fun Run



It was a beautiful day, sun was out and K-6 students were excited to participate in their annual Fun Run carnival. The Fun Run took place at South Park, Chipping Norton on the 5th of April, 2012. It was great to see students encourage one another and especially congratulate each other at the end of their races. Students from K-6 thoroughly enjoyed the activities that was organised for them throughout the day. They participated in activities such as continuous cricket, soccer, egg and spoon relays and much more.



This is the first year that we award House points for participation and for the top 5 finishers of their race. Saint Anthony's House group are to be congratulated on their fine effort as they are this year's champions winning by a convincing 61 points from second placed St. Demiana. The high school helpers were very helpful and I would like to thank them for their help throughout the day. The teachers that helped run the carnival were magnificent as usual and I thank them for their effort and support throughout all of our carnivals. It was a great way to end the term and see that everyone had an enjoyable day. The



age champions are also to be congratulated on their superb effort in their respective races. Well done to all K-6 students who participated in this year's carnival and are encouraged to continue do so in future events. Who will be the Champions for 2013? Only time will tell!

Final Standings

1st	Anthony	177
2nd	Demiana	116
3rd	Marina	93
4th	George	73

AGE CHAMPIONS	
8 boys	Joshua Fanous
9 boys	Marcus Boctor
10 boys	Mina Grace
11 boys	David Eskander
12 boys	Joseph Safi
8 girls	Monica Hanna
9 girls	Claudia Mankarious
10 girls	Martina Grace
11 girls	Jasmine Gadalla
12 girls	Monica Wilson

Fundraising Winner



It has been pleasing to observe the enthusiasm that students have had towards fundraising money for our annual K-6 Fun Run. The K-6 Fun Run held at South Park Chipping Norton on the 5th of April, 2012 was a huge success with the majority of students participating on the day. Students have now received their well earned prizes that they deserve. The Junior School managed to fundraise a total amount of \$2200 which was a magnificent effort. The money raised will be spent on sporting equipment for the Junior School. The highest fundraising class was 4S managing to fundraise a total of \$801.55 and they are to be congratulated on their efforts. The highest individual fundraiser was **Jacob Ghobreal** from 4S, managing to raise \$262 on his own. It was a wonderful effort from all of our students, teachers and parents and I look forward to next year's Fun Run.



Do You Want To Help Your Child?

Do you want to help your child read, write and spell and don't know where to start from? Is your child starting school soon and you would like to learn how to help your son or daughter. Is your child at school but you do not know how to support them?

St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox College is offering an introductory session to Spalding on the 23rd of June 2012. The session will commence at 10:00am until midday.

Spalding's Writing Road to Reading, a total language arts program, integrates essential research-based components, an educational philosophy, and a methodology consisting of time-tested principles of learning and instruction.

The Spalding Method is:



Explicit

Sequential

Multisensory

Diagnostic

Enrol in Introduction to Spalding, it is an introductory course for parents and child minding service will be available on the day. To reserve your place and receive a free starter kit you must call St Mark's Coptic Orthodox College Office on 98256768 prior to 17th of June 2012 .

NSW CIS Soccer Carnival

It was a beautiful day, the sun was out, and nine different

Independent School Associations from across the state were gathered at the King's School on

Friday the 27th April, 2012. It was the annual New South Wales Combined Independent Schools' (NSWCIS) Soccer Carnival. The quality of soccer that was played throughout the day was just a joy to watch.

The first match of the day for our association 'All Suburbs Independent School Sporting Association' (ASISSA) was against (RAS). The players were keen and ready for action as they were led out onto the field by our captain Reece Berelowitz from 'Emmanuel School'. It was a tough first half as this was the first group game of the competition. At the half time break the scores were deadlocked at 0-0. During the half time team talk the importance of a win for the first game of the competition was outlined as the players were having a drink. The referee blew the whistle for the second half and our players kept possession of the ball for the majority of the half. Our attacking players were peppering the opponent's goals with shots throughout the half. However, their goalkeeper Sebastian Turner was in fine form saving every shot we had and intercepting balls from free kicks and corners. It seemed as though it would be one of those games



that the ball would not find its way to the back of the net and indeed it was. The result of our first game was 0-0.

Without having a break we went into our next game against NASSA requiring a win. Shortly

after kick off we were a goal down as the players were exhausted from their previous encounter against RAS. The disappointment of being a goal down so early in the game was evident on our players. They dug deep and fought hard in the first half to get a well-deserved goal just before the break by a brilliant goal from Aaron Nissiros who managed to scoop the ball over the goalkeepers head. At the halftime it was outlined to the players that if we wanted to get to the finals we would have to win our remaining games. We also had to keep possession and pressurise the opponents. The expectations were high as we came second in last year's carnival. The players went out there to prove a point and shortly after the second half break we were ahead by a magnificent shot by Samuel Shanefield from just outside the eighteen yard box that hit the post and found its way to the back of the net. Our players played some wonderful soccer as they managed to score another goal and win the game 3-1.

Our next encounter was against CSSA after an hour break. Our players were sluggish at the start of the game due to the break and were a goal down as they weren't focused on the game. The goal so early in the game gave our players inspiration to start playing their free flowing passing game that was the talking point of the tournament. We managed to score a wonderful goal by our striker Aaron as he dribbled past two players and placed the ball beautifully in the bottom right hand corner. Shortly after that goal Arian Michel scored a wonderful goal from just outside the box into the top right hand corner of the goal leaving their goalkeeper with no chance of saving it. This was the first halftime break that we were ahead in the game. The players continued to keep possession of the ball in the second half making it extremely difficult for the opponents to get the ball of them which resulted in a 3-1 win.

Our final group game was against NCSA and we needed a win if we wanted to get to the finals. The players were anxious and nervous as this was a crucial game. As the referee blew the whistle to begin the first half our players were determined to win the game. Jacob Lees fought hard in the midfield to win every ball and to distribute it to our strikers. Fox Bengtsson was a menace to the opposition with his weaving runs. Connor Giavis provided good support to our strikers and the realisation that we needed to win was evident. Within ten minutes of the first half we were a goal up. Shortly after kick off we managed to score another goal through a cross that was dangerously whipped in by Reece to the far post finding



Jacob to score a fine goal. Shortly after the break there was a lapse in concentration and NCSA managed to get a goal back. Nerves started to get the better of our players as mistakes were creeping into our game. However, just before the final whistle we managed to score a goal and win the game 3-1. The players were excited as we didn't lose a game in the tournament and we would be playing in the finals for first or second place. However, results from the other games did not go our way as there were two other associations that had not lost a game. As a result of this we were playing off for third and fourth place.

The selectors for the CIS team were watching our match as they were impressed with the quality of soccer that our players produced. Coincidentally our match would be against RAS the team that we drew with, in our first match encounter of the day. The pre match talk was stern with the players and the importance of a win is needed we should have defeated RAS convincingly in our first match encounter. The players took the message on-board and were dominant throughout the half. Alexander Nissoros on the wing was proving a menace as he was dribbling past the opponents with ease. Saul Fine was also taking on the defenders and having shots whenever possible. Our defenders Nathan Adam, Yuval Pinto, Jake Besser and Reece were in fine form as they did not allow the opponents into our half. A wonderful through ball was played by Izaak Haupt to Saul Fine who only had the goalkeeper to beat. He did that brilliantly as he placed his shot through the goalkeeper's leg. Joel Epshteyn was also enjoying taking on players from the opposing team and causing havoc. Shortly after the break we continued to dominate and Reece scored a wonderful goal in the top left hand corner due to a mix up in the goal mouth. Shortly after that goal our goalkeeper Jordan Joffe cleared the ball from our goal mouth to the opposing half of the field to set up an attacking opportunity for our team. Aaron managed to find a way through and score our third and final goal of the day and of the competition. We won our final game 3-0 and were ranked 3rd from nine associations.



Four of our players were asked to remain behind for the trials so that the selectors can have another look at them prior to them selecting their final team. Two of the players were selected and they were our

captain Reece Berelowitz and our prolific striker Aaron Nissoros. The ASISSA players are to be congratulated on such a marvellous effort as they did our association proud. Mr. Roberts from Mt Sinai and Mr. Cohen from Moriah College are to be thanked for their assistance in the trials and at the carnival and their help is much appreciated.

*Thank You and God Bless
Mr. S. Nicola
K-6 Sports Coordinator
ASSISA Soccer Coach*

Careers News

UTS Bachelor of Accounting & Bachelor of Information Technology Co-operative Scholarship Programs

8 June – Bachelor of Accounting Co-Op Scholarship Round 1 Application Deadline

<http://datasearch2.uts.edu.au/undergraduate/school/leavers/scholarships/detail.cfm?code=0000016761>

29 June – Bachelor of Information Technology Co-Op Scholarship Round 1 Application Deadline

<http://datasearch2.uts.edu.au/undergraduate/school/leavers/scholarships/detail.cfm?code=0000017807>

ACU University Experience Sydney

Be a Student Nurse For a Day

Tuesday 10th July, 2012 (North Sydney Campus)

Be a Psychologist For a Day

Friday 13th July, 2012 (Strathfield Campus)

Be an Exercise Scientist For a Day

Friday 13th July, 2012 (Strathfield Campus)

Be an Environmental Scientist For a Day

This day has been postponed.

If you have queries about the Environmental Science course or would like a campus tour, please contact: Cliff.Seery@acu.edu.au

Register: <http://www.acu.edu.au/155711>

University of Wollongong Selective Entry

In February 2012, the University of Wollongong (UOW) launched a refreshed program, which gives your Year 12 students the chance to secure entry to UOW, BEFORE they sit the HSC. This program replaces the Early Entry program that has been operating for over 10 years. What does this change mean for students? The biggest change is the introduction of academic eligibility criteria. This means that not everyone will be able to apply to the program and students must meet the published eligibility criteria to be considered for Selective Entry. The other difference is that they are now including some of our elite degrees that were not offered as part of Early Entry. A list of all degrees and the eligibility criteria is now available at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/content/groups/public/@web/@unia/documents/doc/uow121943.pdf>

Applications will be online, opening 1 July and closing on 15 August 2012. Students may also be required to attend an on-campus interview or other selection event in late September to be eligible for Selective Entry. Students will learn the outcome of their application between 10 - 12 October 2012, this is before HSC exams commence. More information can be found at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/future/selectiveentry/index.html> or

School Holiday Programs

Improve Your HSC Mark

HSC preparation workshops at UTS

A series of lectures and interactive workshops run by senior HSC markers will be held at UTS for Year 12 students.

Students will have the opportunity to sit with a Senior HSC marker for a full day to revise all key course content, learn about all the tips and tricks for each exam and receive individual assistance in answering probable HSC questions.

Lectures: Monday 9 July 2012 to Friday 13 July 2012.

Workshops from Monday 24 September 2012 to Friday 28 September 2012.

Thirteen of the most popular subjects will be offered at both campuses. To learn more, visit:

www.hscintheholidays.com.au or call 1300 677 336.

ACU HSC Enrichment Day

Economics: Wednesday 11th July, 9.30am-12noon
(Strathfield Campus)

Literature: Wednesday 11th July, 1-3pm (Strathfield Campus)

Ancient History: Thursday 12th July (Strathfield Campus)
<http://www.acu.edu.au/155711>

Miscellaneous

Breaking Through - the stories of twenty women who challenge convention about appropriate careers for women.

http://www.eeo.nsw.gov.au/women/breaking_through

Parents & Friends' Association

Our third meeting was held on Tuesday 8th May and it was disappointing that only a handful of parents attended. The Parents' Association has a role to play in fundraising and in supporting the educational needs of our children. Without your support we will be unable to succeed in delivering additional options for our children and the school. I would like to thank those parents who attended and gave up their time so generously to be with us.

I would like to invite you to our next meeting in June to assist the P&F Committee to raise \$15,000 to lay additional astro-turf in the playground.

We Need Your Assistance!

***Next Meeting
Tuesday 12th June, 2:00pm
Room D1***

Looking forward to your support and assistance in 2012.

*Mr M Rouchdi
P&F President*

Mother and Daughter Day (Postponed)

A very special day has been organised to celebrate the unity and love that exists between our beloved Mothers and Daughters of the College. Just as our Mother Mary the Theotokos, played one of the most important roles in the life of Christ Jesus our Lord... So do you, in the lives of all around you.

We would like to welcome all Mothers and Daughters to join us from 10am to 2pm for a day full of fun, reflection and respect for each other. Some of the events that will take place on the day include;

1. **Cooking Competition**
Favourite dish that Mother and Daughter made together.
2. **Cook Book** (Please send in recipes that you might like to share in this week so we can make a memoir recipe book to hand out on the day).
3. **Know Your Mother/Daughter Competition**
4. **Competition**
Mother/Daughter best dressed award
5. **Mother/Daughter portrait photographs.**

Please reserve your place by contacting Mrs Sidhom at the College office by Friday 8th June 2012. ***Currently this day has been postponed but we dearly would like it to take place. Once participant numbers are confirmed a mutually agreeable date will be set.***

Hope to see you all there.

God bless,

*Mr F David
Deputy Head of College*

