Dear Parent/Carer, Students & Friends of San Clemente

On occasion, it can be quite refreshing when an alternative is offered to something that makes us think that we have "heard it all before", such as:

◊ **On the other hand**—you have different fingers!
◊ **To make a long story short**—don’t tell it!
◊ **Latest survey shows that 3 out of 4 people**—make up 75% of the world’s population.

With the Season of Lent upon us and the old problem of "what to give up for Lent" circling around us, perhaps the following might offer some new alternatives:

◊ **Fast from anger and hatred**—be more patient and understanding
◊ **Fast for judging others**—think kindly thoughts
◊ **Fast from discouragement**—be full of hope
◊ **Fast from complaining**—focus on gratitude
◊ **Fast from resentment or bitterness**—turn to forgiveness.

In recent times, Lent has lost some of its importance to Christmas, but a Christianity that celebrates only the joyful times, like Christmas and Easter, leaves us with a fractured Spirituality. We need to have the balance of being challenged by the sometimes harsh truths of human life—our weaknesses and failings.

We need the Season of Lent if we are to live in imitation of Christ, to be Christians. We need to work out for ourselves what it is in our lives that needs to die, to be no longer part of our lives, that which makes us candidates to receive the forgiveness that Jesus gained for us when He died on Good Friday. If we are able to achieve this, to sweep out the negatives, then Easter will not be a shallow experience but one full of meaning, for we will be totally aware of the new birth as stated in the Resurrection of Jesus.

**Jesus,**
**May we be encouraged this Lent**
**As we reflect on the difficulties you had in your life.**
**Give us the courage to face the challenges that daily enter our lives.**
**Lead us to the joy of the Resurrection.**
**Amen.**

This week the San Clemente Parents and Friends Association held its Annual General Meeting. The following parents were elected to the Executive for 2014:

- **President**—Kevin Fuller
- **Vice-President**—Jenny Battbrick
- **Treasurer**—Kathy Clarkson
- **P&F Representative**—Rachel Baas

The positions of Secretary and Fund Raising Coordinator remain vacant. We will endeavour to fill these vacancies at the next meeting Tuesday 20 May, in the School Library at 7pm.

On behalf of the school community, I congratulate our newly elected officers and thank them for their willingness to serve San Clemente’s Parents and Friends Association.

**Peace and Best Wishes**

Tony Kelly, Principal

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**Monday 28 April—Staff Inservice Day—Pupil Free**

**Tuesday 29 April—Parent/Teacher Day—Pupil Free**

Students are encouraged to attend with parents. Interview booking forms being sent home with Interim Reports and emailed. Please complete and return by 7 April

**Wednesday 30 April**

Students resume school Term 2
What is leadership? Throughout history, we have witnessed different styles of leadership but just what are the key ingredients to successful leadership? Leadership is a topic of much discussion, study and debate and it is a theme that is increasingly becoming more of a focus in schools. At San Clemente, we feel a deep responsibility to provide opportunities for our students to encounter genuine leadership experiences. It is easy for schools to assign a badge and a title to a young person but what really counts is the follow up. The opportunities, experiences, responsibilities and challenges that are then created for these young people are what will allow them to grow and develop as leaders of substance. Those moments that take them outside their comfort zones are the ones that enable them to question their inner selves, and perhaps even change their perspectives on the things that matter in their lives. Recently, these moments became a reality for sixteen of our Year 10 leaders on a trip to Sydney.

Following the success of our journey to Sydney last year, the school is hoping to make this trip an annual event. With five staff, 16 leaders and a minibus driven by Head of PDHPE, Mr Michael Byrne, we departed from San Clemente early on a Wednesday morning for Wesley Mission’s Edward Eager Lodge in Surry Hills which provides emergency accommodation for the homeless. “Leadership” says San Clemente’s principal, Mr Tony Kelly, “is really about servant leadership”. He elaborates by stating, “It is about working as a team, walking with others and putting them first”.

The staff members at Edward Eager Lodge are a good example of servant leadership. The gentleman who oversees the lodge ensured he was available to speak with our leaders. He has been involved with Wesley Mission for over 15 years and his talk about the lodge, including stories about its residents, confronted both our leaders and staff. Our leaders realised that their world was such a far cry from that of the less fortunate, becoming acutely aware of not only their own fortunes, but the incredible misfortunes of others. Victims of circumstances and lacking close human connections with others were common factors amongst the residents at the lodge.

In following a similar schedule to that of last year’s trip, our leaders were given various challenges in the city and then taken to Cockatoo Island to camp the night. After dinner, Mrs McAllister (REC) and Mr Beckett (Year 10 Coordinator) led a beautiful liturgy on the waterfront with the theme of ‘light’. The leaders lit parachute lanterns and reflected on moments of light in their lives as they set them free to sail over the water. Some commented on their experiences at the lodge that day, giving thanks for their own lives and opportunities and acknowledging the importance of their close friends and families. Afterwards, we facilitated a leadership activity in which our students discussed their thoughts on leadership, its key qualities and different styles. Featured amongst this discussion were qualities of humility, approachability, presence and the willingness and courage to go against the grain and stand up for what is right. Each student was asked to comment on the strengths of the others, affirming their team members and recognizing their unique positive attributes. The vibe amongst the group was extraordinarily optimistic. No iPhones, iPads or iPods were required but instead, a rare moment of authentic connectedness between young people!

The following morning, we travelled by ferry to Woolwich and ventured to St Joseph’s College, Hunters Hill. A Catholic day and boarding school for boys steeped in the tradition of the Marist Brothers, ‘Joeys’ was founded in 1881. Our leaders attended a college assembly which began with a rousing National Anthem and a thought provoking prayer from one of their students, followed by a focus on the annual rowing Head of the River regatta which was to be held that weekend. After watching a very energetic and passionate cheering practice at the end of the assembly, led by students, we were given a tour of the College by some Year 10 boys. Representing our school with great pride, there is no doubt our leaders gained much from this visit, observing different perspectives on leadership and the diverse ways in which schools operate. In saying this, they noted some similarities between our schools; student engagement and spirit, sense of community and respect and care for one another to name a few.

So just what is leadership? Have our school leaders gained a more profound understanding of leadership as a result of their experiences in Sydney? We are certain they have returned with a more complete awareness of not only leadership but importantly, themselves. Furthermore, they have enhanced their understanding of what it truly means to belong to a Catholic school, observing firsthand at Edward Eager Lodge the inequities in society and the true value of ‘servant leadership’. They learnt that leadership is not about position or self; it is about what one can do for others. We are looking forward to continuing to work with these leaders throughout the year. Leadership is also very much about influence and with this in mind, we feel very confident that our Student Leadership Team has the skills, qualities and impetus to inspire those around them during 2014.

Scott Donohoe, Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care
Assistant Principal—Curriculum Report

We are moving into the last few weeks of term and many students are feeling the pressure of assessment. Worrying about things is not usually productive. The important thing is to take action. Often the hardest part of any task is getting a start, and the longer we delay the more difficult it becomes. Read over the task; start anywhere in the task, then work towards the whole task; ask a teacher for assistance if needed; do some research about the topic ...

There are many ways students can start, but get moving.

Interim reports will be issued in Week 10. These reports are not as extensive as semester reports but will give parents an idea as to how children have settled into Term 1, whether they are working, behaving and achieving.

A Parent-Teacher day will be held on Tuesday April 29 (after Easter Holidays). This is a change of date from the Wednesday originally proposed. It would help with arranging appointments if bookings were made beginning of Week 11 of this term. On Monday April 28, there will be a Pupil Free Day where staff will be working on Curriculum matters.

In Week 3 of Term 2, NAPLAN testing will take place for all students in Year 7 and 9. A letter with more information is found elsewhere in this newsletter. This is compulsory testing, which provides useful information for the school.

San Clemente has also been nominated for Field Trials for PISA testing. In Week 7 or 8 of Term 2, 52 x 15 year old students, chosen at random by the testing body, will sit either paper based or computer based tests in numeracy, literacy, science and financial literacy on one day. Again we don’t get a choice in this. It is part of our funding conditions. More information will be provided as it comes to hand.

Only a few weeks left in the term so let’s make sure we finish it well.

Year 10 News

Our Student Leadership Team travelled to Sydney last week to participate in a number of activities based around Leadership and Community (further details in Mr Donohoe’s article). All activities were extremely well received with students and staff gaining lifelong memories. On a personal level, the visit to The Wesley Mission Edward Eagar Lodge, a homeless shelter in Surrey Hills, remains an emotional and confronting experience. Seeing men and woman of all ages so disconnected from any community that they now live on the streets seems unimaginable. The importance of looking after those in our community was reinforced to us by one of the resident as we left the lodge. Her message to us as she said goodbye was very simple, “Don’t Cheat, Don’t Steal—BE KIND!”

With KINDNESS in mind this week students watched a Brainstorm presentation called CYBERIA based around Cyber Bullying and this Friday the 21st March is a National Day of Action Against Bullying. In my experience the only way to stamp out bullying is to face it head on. At SCM the Pastoral team make any instance of bullying a priority. Director of Catholic Schools, Mr Ray Collins, spoke at our school last year and made bullying the subject, stating simply “No student, at any Catholic school, should ever be bullied”.

Bullying flies directly in the face of the very Gospel Values and beliefs we all endeavour to display inside and outside our school. Tolerance, compassion and care for others should be at the forefront of all our interactions. Yet, bullying remains an unfortunate part of growing up. SCM is committed to stamping out bullying and as a means of empowering all students we will conduct a Bullying Survey during Pastoral times next week. This was highly valued last year and will provide students the opportunity to confidentially have their say.

Our Student Leadership Team will be addressing all students about the issue of bullying at SCM and have made a special request to hold a “Protest” against Bullying. This will occur on Friday, The National Day of Action Against Bullying. Leaders are hoping to push the message that Bullying at SCM will NOT be tolerated, that those who are or witness bullying MUST stand up and report. San Clemente says - NO TO BULLYING!!

Shout Out #1: It is refreshing to see Year 10 students showing leadership in many ways. The Breakfast Club which continues to run every Tuesday Morning was led this week by – Nicholas Ashton and Kelly Mordey. Thanks for your help guys.

Shout Out #2: The Bronze Awards have started passing my desk. Two that I noted this week, Levi Richards - First for Year 10 in 2014 and Jean Simpson – First student to receive 2 bronze awards this year.

Year 9 News

Term One has only three weeks remaining and as I sit here typing my newsletter report, I am asking myself, “Where did those eight weeks go?”. In the last eight weeks my goal has been to visit every Pastoral Care group regularly and stick my head into numerous Year 9 lessons. It has been pleasing to see Year 9 as a whole make a positive transition from Year 8 to Year 9. I am constantly present at lunch/recess breaks monitoring Year 9. During these breaks I enjoy talking, laughing and sharing a joke with many Year 9 students and I am impressed to see many of them smiling/laughing and enjoying the company of their friends. I would like to thank Year 9 as a whole for welcoming me as their Year Coordinator and responding positively to my expectations.

A number of parents have emailed me regarding homework and assessment tasks. Never accept the line, “Mum/Dad I have no homework”. At present Year 9 have a number of research tasks they should be working on and a History and Geography in class assessment task next week. At the very least students should be revising their notes daily and making brief summary notes. A reminder to parents and Year 9 students; the school library will be open every Thursday afternoon from 3-4pm for Year 9 and Year 10 students only. Students may use the time to complete homework or work on assessment tasks. It will be staffed by teachers including myself who can assist students with their academic work.

As all Year 9 students possess a laptop at school and now at home it is recommended that parents monitor their child’s use of their computer. With mobile phones/laptops/social media all available at the click of a button it is important that these devices are used appropriately. Whilst your child may state that they are in their room doing homework or an assessment task on their computer, this may not always be the case. It is easy to check the history of their usage which I encourage parents to do regularly. Making your child use their computer in an open environment so that you can casually glance at their computer usage can prevent inappropriate use of this device. I am often
told by parents (and students) that their child is up late playing computer games, socialising on Facebook or on their mobile phone. I always recommend to them that at a certain time at night laptops and phones become the property of the parents.

**Important Dates** – Please keep the following dates free and avoid planning family holidays and appointments during this period.

Year 9 Semester One Examinations: 26th May – 29th May

Year 9 Semester Two Examinations: 17th Nov – 20th Nov

A reminder to Year 9 and parents, if you have any concerns at all please contact me at school on 4014 7300 or on the following email address: patrick.doyle@mn.catholic.edu.au

A final thought Year 9,

"Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven’t planted."

Patrick Doyle Year 9 Coordinator

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**Year 8 News**

On Wednesday the school community celebrated Harmony Day, Mr Kelly spoke to the school community in his address about a significant factor that unites SCM and that also signifies SCM as very unique. That factor is the diversity of cultures within our community. It was wonderful to see so many students display the flag of their country of family origin.

On Thursday Year 8 students viewed the ‘Hurting Game’ a production by Brainstorm. The play explored the hurtful games some teenagers involve in at school and online and also strategies to assist teenagers who experience bullying. At the end of the production the actors spoke to the students and involved them in discussion about bullying.

I was fortunate to attend an information session by Craig Moore, a Newcastle psychologist, this week and I wanted to share something I learnt in this fortnight’s newsletter. Craig spoke about building positive relationships with our children and the key to achieving this is communication. In order for parents to develop a positive relationship with our children we need to invest time and interest into our kids. By doing this we send a powerful message about our child’s/children’s significance and worth to us. The way we speak to our children ends up turning into the way they internally speak to themselves. Craig spoke about the way we challenge or criticise our children, and the two ways it can be done.

- "You always get a ‘D’ in English, you will never end up at university"
- "Well done on achieving an A in science. How did you do that? Can you use that same strategy in English?"

The second parent example: focuses on turning the identified problem area into a positive, and in doing this the parent sends a powerful optimistic (NOT PESSIMISTIC) message to the child.

I learnt that we as parents and teachers are always sending messages to our children. It is important that those messages are sent in perspective and in an optimistic way. That important message from Mr Moore made me reflect upon the way I communicate with my own children and the students at SCM. How do you communicate with your children when they need to be challenged?

**High fives:**

Ethan Morrison is out of leg plaster - good on you!

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**Jayden Stephens** competed at the recent regional Athletics Carnival at Mingara and placed third in High Jump with an outstanding result of 1.54m. Jayden narrowly missed out on reaching the state carnival. A great personal best and my apologies for making you a long jump super star in the last issue.

'Til next fortnight ...

Mrs Tolfree, Year 8 Coordinator

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**Year 7 News**

It has been a busy two weeks for Year 7! On the 5th - 7th March, students enjoyed a wonderful three days at Southern Cross Outdoor Education Centre. This was full of adventures and fun. All students enjoyed rock climbing, abseiling, high ropes, the famous flying fox and many other adrenaline-pumping activities. The theme of the camp was ‘Friends Old and New’ and it was wonderful to see so many new friendships develop while we were away. The highlight of the Camp was definitely our beautiful Ash Wednesday Liturgy! A big thank you to Mr Kelly, Mr Donohoe and all the teachers and support staff who attended Camp.

At our Year Meeting on Tuesday we enjoyed some wonderful guitar skills from Brock King and an inspiring talk from Liam Maguire on his mountaineering expedition. Well done to both boys on their fine efforts!

Bronze Certificates and Sport Awards were handed out this week and it very pleasing to see how many Year 7 students are being recognized for their efforts both inside and out of the classroom. A common theme among the awards was ‘effort’. It is great to know that Year 7 are always trying their best and working hard.

Uniform is continuing to be worn to a high standard and the ‘Uniform Challenge’ is being keenly contested among Pastoral Care Groups. A few things to remember: polishable leather shoes are required for the academic uniform and girls should not be wearing nail polish.

Term 1 Assessments are here and for many students this would be the first time they have several subjects all due in a relatively short time span. Time management is critical and essential to success at High School. Planning your time allows you to spread your tasks, avoid a ‘traffic jam’ of work, and cope with study stress. Work out how to use your time as efficiently as possible. Some strategies are listed below:

⇒ **Do a little a lot of the time.** Research shows that doing as little as 15 minutes of study each night is far better than 1-2 hours in one session.

⇒ **Complete small tasks straight away** rather than putting them off. This will encourage you to begin tackling larger tasks needing attention.

⇒ **Break difficult work into sections.** This allows you to approach a large task as a series of manageable parts.

⇒ **Don’t try to write a whole assignment in one sitting.** Write it section by section.
If you have ‘writer’s block’, try writing something-anything-down. Even if you change it completely later, at least you’ve started. The alternative is having nothing at all.

Work out your optimum study time and method. Finding out when, and under what circumstances, you work best will make you a more efficient and effective student.

Year 7 Quiz: What does Harmony Day celebrate?
The first person to find Miss Cram in the playground will receive a prize.

Any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact me on meredith.cram@mn.catholic.edu.au or 40147300.

Meredith Cram, Year 7 Coordinator

If you have any concerns or queries regarding the subject of English at San Clemente, please contact me on the email below.

Ms K Brennan, English Coordinator
karen.brennan@mn.catholic.edu.au

On Wednesday 12th March, 17 students from Elective Drama competed in a Diocesan Theatre-Sports day at St Pius X. With two teams from Year Nine and one from Year Ten, San Clemente students showcased their skills in improvisation. It was a wonderful opportunity for Drama students from across the Diocese to share their passion for the subject and learn from each other. Many new friendships were formed and we are all looking forward to joining in the fun next year!

Thanks and warmest congratulations to all students involved – you did us proud!

Alison Carson, Temarah Smith, Skye Thompson, Neve Finlayson, Lachlan Graham, Liam Figgett-Lee, Musa Kamara, Bonfils Rugaruza, Isaac Alchin, Callum Thomas, Adam Elliott, Michael Kelly, Ellen Leggett, Jean Simpson, Brenna Graham, Brock Manevski, Stephanie Tindall Gamble.

Mrs Emma South, CAPA Coordinator

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

On Thursday 6th March Year 9 and 10 Elective Art students attended a workshop presented by local photographer Shane Williams. Shane gave the students some great insights into his photographic practices and then set up a professional lighting studio and students had the opportunity to do some portrait shots. He shared excellent creative ideas on composition and lighting for students to use with their cameras, tablets, phones, ipads etc.

It was fantastic having someone with Shane’s experience and expertise to work with the students, but his main advice was to have fun with their photography. He runs his own design company called Five Spice and has a fantastic website of his photographs of lighting storms around Newcastle called Striking Newcastle. We thank Shane for the spectacular photo that he donated to the school.

Emma McCarthy, Art Department

Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) - Theatre Sports 2014

On Friday 27th March, 6 Year 7 students will attend a Gifted & Talented Day at St Mary’s High School at Gateshead. Jasmine Sullivan, Patrick Nolan, Ricky Park, Isabella Hawke, Lauren Proctor, Kaleb Cox will be accompanied by Mr Nicholas Marsh and Mrs Helen Wilks. This should be an experience for these gifted mathematics students so we will be keen to hear about their day.

Years 7, 9 and 10 have been using their tablets in Maths, including accessing textbooks.
If any student is interested in competing in the Maths Competition, they can see their Maths teacher. Don’t forget that calculators may be purchased from the school for $25. These will be engraved by the student’s Maths teacher.

Mrs. Patricia Murray (Maths Co-ordinator)
RELIGIOUS STUDIES NEWS

As we travel through Lent, Religious Studies classes have been introduced to a number of groups and individuals who Caritas Australia support through Project Compassion.

This week’s Project Compassion story is about a family in South Sudan. Deng and his wife, Aketch, fled into the bush when civil war broke out in 1983. Frequently on the move, they survived precariously on berries and bush meat, not knowing if they could ever return home. To add to their problems, Deng went blind. Able to return to their village in 2005, Deng and Aketch have received practical assistance from Caritas Australia and its partner in Sudan, the Hope Agency for Relief and Development. Each week in religion students will be exploring as a catholic community how we can best serve those in need.

This week we celebrated Harmony Day. San Clemente is a community not only with many of its students with cultural differences but also a range of religious diversities. San Clemente is home to Catholics, Christians, Non-Christians, Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists. It is encouraging to see that all students can work together to achieve peace and harmony.

Harmony Day Australia

Sharing is caring, Fun is joy, holding hands with God’s gift, Cuddling cultures, with helping hearts comes laughing love, and loving life.

Respecting religions, combining cultures, smiling faces, on faithful friends.

Share fair, Showing respect, to peaceful people, Lending love, giving goods, sharing songs.

Knowing that friendliness equals happiness, Be helpful to each other, Joy in justice.

Getting along, with wandering wonders, Loving and learning, helping in happiness.

This is my kind of harmony.

(By Joseph, St Josephine’s Primary School, Taree (Mini Vinnie’s Little Book of Prayers) Caritas Website: http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/lent-calendar)

Students in Years 8 to 10 have had assessments due this week, Year 7 due, Week 10-11.

If there is a reason that their task cannot be handed in on the due date, please contact your child’s Religious Studies teacher.

Class Mass: Tuesday 25th March: 10.3, Tuesday 1st April: 10.4

Rosemary McAllister, Religious Studies Coordinator

SRC NEWS!

This week during our Harmony Day celebrations our Year 7s for 2014 received their badges. Congratulations to: Hanna Edwards-smith, Abby Irwin, Verdelh Antonio, Neve Maher, Daniel De Ridder, Max Noble, Patrick Gallagher, Tom McCarthy, Brendan Pidcock, Isabella Robinson, Jordan Smylie, Isabella Mulligan, Tallas Lynch, Ben Lang, Clifffy Nelson, Ebony James, Alex McEwen, Sam Callen and Noah Richards.

This week SRC students have been busy selling pizza and drinks at our Harmony Day lunch. Thank you to all of the students involved. It has been fantastic to see so many keen representatives for 2014, through attending meetings, collecting for Project Compassion during morning pastoral, raising issues and talking to their peers to get their opinion, getting involved in the fund-raising and helping out whenever there is an opportunity.

Don’t forget our SRC members are still selling Easter egg raffle tickets for $1- each, all money going towards Project Compassion. Prizes are drawn on the last day of term: Friday 11th April.

A stage 4 school dance is being planned for April the 8th at St Columban’s Hall, Church St Mayfield.

This a great social opportunity for year 7 and 8 students to get together have fun, raise money for a good cause (Caritas Australia) and dance their socks off. Students will receive more information about this over the next couple of weeks. Time: 6pm – 9pm, Cost: $10. Theme: Fun Formal, Please note this is not an actual formal and students are not required to spend any money or make any extreme effort for this dance. Students are encouraged to dress up in a ‘fun’ or ‘silly’ formal way. You could get a dress or jacket from Vinnies, where your parents old fancy outfits, where wigs or funny accessories or come in normal out of uniform clothing.

On Wednesday the 2nd of April, students will be encouraged to accessorise in Purple for ‘Purple Day’ with a gold coin donation. SRC will be running a cake stall and selling some Purple Day wristbands. Purple Day is a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy worldwide.

Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in an effort to get people talking about the disorder and inform those with seizures that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognised color for epilepsy, lavender. Epilepsy Australia is the official Australian partner of Purple Day and has joined up with other epilepsy organisations from across the world including Canada, USA, UK and South Africa to make Purple Day a global event.

SRC TEAM

DIO Basketball Carnival

On the 25th February our Years 7/8 and 9/10 Diocesan basketball teams represented the school at the Maitland/Newcastle Diocesan Basketball Carnival at Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium.

Unfortunately, our Year 7/8 team lost their first two games against two very good teams in St Mary’s Gateshead and St Peter’s Maitland. In our 3rd play-off game, our boys were very unlucky to go down by 2 points on the last play of the game against St Pauls Booragul.

Our Year 9/10 team suffered losses in their first two games against St Mary’s Gateshead and St Peter’s Maitland, who also fielded very strong senior teams. To the boys’ credit, they hit back in their third playoff game with a great win over St Paul’s Booragul.

Both teams represented our school with pride, showing terrific enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the day. A special mention must also go to the parents, family and friends who turned up to cheer the boys on and show their support, in particularly Daniel Howard (older brother of Liam and Lachlan Howard in the Year 7/8 and 9/10 teams) who not only came to watch but to coach BOTH the junior and senior teams throughout the day. Thankyou very much Daniel. All the boys were very appreciative!

Mr Steven Burns & Mr Mitch Allan
Skoolbag – Stay in touch with important messages and news at San Clemente.

San Clemente has commenced the use of Skoolbag, a smartphone app that enables ready communication of important messages, news and events, and access to school documents (and this newsletter!). It is hoped that, when take-up increases, this will become a key tool communicating to families. Parents are encouraged to download the app. It’s free and available for iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Enclosed with the newsletter are directions for downloading the app.

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**
1. Click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click “Free” then “install”.
4. If iPad, change the drop list to “iPhone Apps”, your school will then be visible, click “Free” then “install”.
5. When installed click “Open”.
6. Select “OK” to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “Install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do note modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “Open” when installed.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au
From the Finance Office...

All school fees for Term 1 should now be paid (unless an arrange-
ment has been made with the school). If you are having difficulty 
paying these fees please contact myself 
or Tony Kelly.

If you pay your fees by direct debit, please ensure your week-
ly, fortnightly or monthly amounts are enough to finalise fees by 
mid December. If not, an alteration to cancel your direct debit 
form should be completed.

Julie Doherty, Finance Officer

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Late Arrivals at School

Students arriving late to school must sign in at the Front Desk. 
This will avoid a worrying text message being sent to their 
parent/carer. Students late to school receive a 'Late Slip' 
which when presented to the class teacher explains the late-
ness. In situations such as late buses and the like, a student will not 
be penalised for being late.

Please remind your child of the procedures and consequences.

Julie Doherty, Finance Officer
Calendar Dates to note

School Year 2014
24 Mar Enlighten Educ—Girls Yr 9&10
26 Mar Workplace H&S (some Yr 10s)
26 Mar Yr 9 & 10 Music Assessments
27 Mar Immunisation Yr 7 HPV, dTpa, Varicella & 9 Boys HPV
31 Mar Workplace H&S Training (Yr 10s)
3 Apr Dio Boys Football Trials
4 Apr Dio Girls Football Trials
11 Apr Last Day Term 1
28 Apr Staff Inservice—Pupil Free
29 Apr Parent Teacher Day/Pupil Free
30 Apr—First Day back Term 2
1 May Dio Touch
12-15 May NAPLAN Yr 7 & 9
22 May Careers Expo Yr 10
26-29 May Year 9 Exams

Second Hand Uniforms
Size 10, 12 and 14. Some nearly new and the rest in great condition. Ph: 0421630008

Second Hand Uniforms
St Francis Xavier's College
Do you require second hand uniforms for your student?
We offer a parent to parent contact through our website
This is not a school managed initiative

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS
Gillian & Toni (Canteen S’vsors)

San Clemente P&F

I would like to thank the parents who attended our AGM on Tuesday evening.
The following parents were elected to the Executive for 2014:

President—Kevin Fuller
Vice-President—Jenny Battrick
Treasurer—Kathy Clarkson
P&F Representative—Rachel Baas

The positions of Secretary and Fund Raising Coordinator remain vacant. We will endeavour to fill these vacancies at the next meeting Tuesday 20 May, in the School Library at 7pm.

If you have any questions about P&F matters please call me on 4968 2068 or email kntl@bigpond.com.au

Kevin Fuller, President SCM P&F

Enrolments open for 2015

- Enrolment Forms are available from our School Admin Office or you can download a copy from our website http://www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment.htm
- Students from our feeder schools will receive forms at their school
- Please return forms as soon as possible

School Email Contact / School Website
With immediate effect we have been directed to change the user address for emails to the school email address. This is changing from 'admin@sanclemente.mn.catholic.edu.au' to admin@mayfieldfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au

The website address has also had a change to:
http://www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au

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Sexting

Using the internet or your mobile to take, send or even receive a 'sexy text' or a 'sexy pic' of yourself is known as 'sexting'. In this fact sheet, we're talking about how sexting can get young people into trouble with the law.

What is 'sexting'?

- Taking naked or partly naked photos or videos of yourself (posing in a sexual way) and sharing the photos or videos with others online or through your mobile phones; and
- Receiving, forwarding or posting these photos or videos online or through mobile phones.

Is sexting a crime?

Sexting can be a crime, depending on the age of the people sexting and whether the pictures would be considered 'obscene' or 'indecent' by a court. It is a crime if you make, send, store, or have an 'offensive' picture of someone under the age of 18 (including yourself) who is:
- showing their private parts, which includes a person’s genital area, anal area or female breasts;
- posing or acting in a sexual way;
- in the presence of another person involved in a sexual activity or pose or
- involved in a sexual activity.

For example:
- A 15-year-old girl who takes a video of herself doing a sexy dance in her bra and underwear and posts it online may be committing a crime. It does not matter whether you can see her private parts.
- A 14-year-old boy who takes and posts a video of himself at a party watching a girl do a striptease may be committing a crime. It does not matter how old the girl is.
- A 17-year-old boy and girl who take photos of themselves having oral sex and email the photos to themselves are committing a crime. It does not matter that they are old enough to have sex.

The law calls these images child abuse material, or more commonly, child pornography. Child abuse material can include films, photos, digital images and videos sent by SMS, email, in chat rooms or published on blogs. It can even include pictures that have been photo-shopped to make a young person look naked, or cartoons of young people having sex. The maximum penalty for making, sending or having child abuse material is 15 years in gaol.

New South Wales child pornography laws only apply to images of young people under the age of 16, but the Commonwealth laws are broader. These laws even apply to images of young people who look like they are under the age of 18.

Anyone who sends, receives or even asks for a naked or sexual image of a person who is or appears to be under the age of 18 is at risk of committing a crime and of being charged.
What if the young person gives their permission to take the photo?

The law says that while you are under 18, you aren’t allowed to consent (say yes) to sexting—even though you are able to legally start having sex at 16 years of age. The reason the laws on sexting are so confusing is that they were made to protect children from adult offenders, and didn’t consider that teenagers might record their own sexual activity. As a result, even if the young person in the image says it’s okay to be filmed or photographed, it’s still a crime.

If there is no permission, it’s never okay—no matter how old they are!

It is a crime to take a sexual, nude or partly nude picture or video of anyone—regardless of their age—without their permission. However, it is a more serious crime if the person is under the age of 16. The maximum penalty for this is prison for up to 5 years. In the case of ‘sexting’, this 5 years is on top of the ten years maximum discussed above.

If you ask someone else to send you a sexual photo/video...

Asking a person of any age to send you a sexual image in a harassing or offensive way is a crime. It does not matter how old you and the other person are.

Asking a person under the age of 16 to send you a sexual photo or video is a crime. You could be charged with:

1. soliciting child pornography (penalty includes up to 15 years gaol);
2. causing a child to be used for child pornography (penalty includes up to 14 years gaol); or

3. inciting a child to an act of indecency (penalty includes up to 2 years gaol).

It is a crime to use the Internet or a mobile phone to ask anyone who is or appears to be under the age of 18 to send you a sexual image. This is called soliciting child pornography material and carries a maximum penalty of up to 15 years in gaol.

You could also be charged with committing an act of indecency towards a child or transmitting an indecent communication to a child.

Example

Ted is 15 and his 15 year old girlfriend sent him a text with a photo of herself in her bra and underwear. Her dad found the picture on her phone as well as other photos she sent Ted of herself posing in a sexual way. Her dad is now saying he will report Ted to the police. Ted is worried about what might happen, even though the photos were only for him and no one else saw them.

Ted has committed a crime because it is against the law to have a photo of someone under the age of 16 posing in a sexual way. The law says these photos are child pornography. Having these photos on his phone is a crime. Ted’s girlfriend also committed a crime by taking photos of herself, keeping them and sending them to other people.

Can I be forced to register as a sex offender for a sexting crime?

The Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR) is an online registration system designed to help the police manage and share information about people charged with sex crimes in relation to children. If you are found guilty of a sexting crime, you may be placed on the register. Some of the restrictions for people on the register include telling the police every time you move houses or change jobs. If registered, you will not be able to work or volunteer in a job where you are likely to have contact with children.

What should I do if I have a picture or text I am unsure about?

It is important to protect yourself by deleting any pictures you are unsure or uncomfortable about straightaway. It is really difficult to keep images private and once they are shared, you will never be able to delete those pictures forever. Never share it online or through SMS, and only show it to a trusted adult.

If you are questioned or arrested by the police in relation to sexting, you should give your correct name, age and address, but you have the right to remain silent for any other questions. Try to remain calm, and politely ask to get legal advice by calling the Youth Hotline on 1800 10 18 10 before you give them any other information.

Useful links and contacts

Lawmail is a FREE legal advice and information service. If you have a question or need legal advice, you can send a Lawmail at http://www.lawstuff.org.au.

Call the Youth Hotline on 1800 10 18 10. The Youth Hotline gives legal advice and information to young people under 18. You can call the Hotline from 5am to midnight on weekdays, with a 24-hour service from Friday 9am to Sunday midnight and also on public holidays.

If you want to talk to someone, you can call the Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or visit their website at http://www.kidshelp.com.au.

This information was last reviewed on 10 April 2012. This fact sheet provides information about the law in NSW. It does not provide legal advice. If you need advice, or if you would like information about the law in a state or territory other than NSW, please send us a Lawmail at http://www.lawstuff.org.au.
IMMUNISATION DAY AT SAN CLEMENTE—27 MARCH

Paperwork issued to Year 7 & Yr 9 (boys for HPV) students

Return completed paperwork to office before 27 March

YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS

FREE VACCINES FOR ALL YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Dear Parent/Guardian

Teams of specially trained registered nurses will be visiting your child’s school during Year 7 to offer free vaccinations against serious preventable diseases

VACCINES INCLUDE:
1. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (3 doses)
2. Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) (dTpa) vaccine (1 dose)
3. Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine 1 dose

THESE VACCINES ARE ONLY PROVIDED FREE WHilst YOUR CHILD IS IN YEAR 7

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

✓ Year 7 Parent Information Kit will be distributed by your school at the beginning of 1st term
✓ Read the information included in the Kit (translated copies are available on the website below)
✓ ENSURE FORM IS COMPLETED CORRECTLY, AND SIGNED
✓ make sure you tick which vaccines your child requires, see below

Tick the coloured boxes on the front of the consent form for each vaccine/s you would like your child to receive. eg. if you want your child to receive all three vaccines, tick as below.

✓ ensure your child has eaten breakfast the morning of the clinic
✓ ensure your child is wearing clothing that enables the upper arm to be exposed
✓ COMPLETE CONSENT FORMS IN BLUE OR BLACK PEN ONLY

Ask your child for the record of vaccination when they arrive home on the day of the clinic – keep this record in a safe place (eg. babys’ blue book), ideally notify your GP for their records.

WHAT IF YOUR CHILD MISSES A VACCINE?
You won’t need to do anything, every effort will be made to catch-up missed vaccines at other clinics at your child’s school during the year.

MORE QUESTIONS?
Please contact Hunter New England Local Health District, Immunisation Unit on 49246477 or visit http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx
SAN CLEMENTE SCHOOL DANCE – STAGE 4
Theme: “Fun Formal” – Cost: $10– Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm
Tuesday, 8th April – St. Columban’s Church Hall, Church St. Mayfield
THIS PERMISSION NOTE REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE OF TICKET

PARENTS

I give _______________________________________________________ (student’s name),
PCG ______________________________________ permission to attend this school dance.

I agree to escort my student to and from the dance, 6:00pm drop off and 9:00pm pick up.

Parent’s signature ______________________________________

I am available on this number during the dance ______________________________

PLEASE NOTE: NO STUDENT WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE HALL WITHOUT A PARENT ACCOMPANYING HIM / HER TO THE DOOR. Please indicate below if your child will be dropped off / picked up by someone other than a parent.

Name ________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

PARENT HELPERS

We encourage parents to help during the evening as: general supervisors / bag check / canteen helpers. Please indicate your availability by circling the session/s and signing below.

6:00pm to 7:30pm                         7:30pm to 9:00pm

___________________________________  _____________________________________

Parent’s Name (please print)  Parent’s Signature

STUDENT

I agree to the rules and responsibilities of attending a school dance and understand that if they are broken a parent will be contacted immediately. These include but are not limited to:

Dressing appropriately  Abiding by staff instructions at all times
Dressing modestly  Being free from influence of drugs or alcohol

Student signature ___________________________________________________________

SCHOOL

Stage 4 San Clemente School Dance
St. Columban’s Church Hall, Church Street, Mayfield
Theme: “Fun Formal” – Tuesday, 8th April, 2014 – 6:00pm-9:00pm
Students must be accompanied by an adult.
Be responsible before and during the school dance.
San Clemente High School
Canteen

Term 2 will see the addition of several new items to the Canteen Menu

Weekly Salad Boxes
Greek Salads/ Caesar/ Crunchy Noodle
Winter Soups
Yogurt & Fresh Fruit
Toasted Sandwiches for breakfast
Sandwiches/Wraps/Rolls

The more parent help we can get the more we can add to the selection

Revised Menu/Pricelist issued beginning Term 2