This Wednesday, May 24th, is the Solemnity of the Our Lady Help of Christians and has even more significance for Australians as she is also Patroness of our country. Mary was chosen as our Patroness by the First Provincial Synod, convened by Archbishop Bede Polding, in Sydney in 1844. The colonies were in need of inspiration and Mary provided that at a time when life on the Australian continent was very primitive and spiritually taxing, whilst our living conditions are now far improved for most Australians, Mary’s example is still one that can inform our spirituality and faith. To celebrate this significant day in the life of the Church, our students will be wearing jerseys or team colours on Thursday [as a large number of teams are playing in the Sharks’ league knockouts on Wednesday] and donating a gold coin to the Charitable Works Fund [CWF] of the Archdiocese of Sydney. More significantly, Years 7, 10 and 12 students will join with parishioners at Holy Family Church for the 8:20am morning mass to celebrate this Marian Feast Day.

In preparation for senior exam blocks, managing time and giving them some accountability, our Year 10s are being given the opportunity to only attend school when they are sitting exams in Week 6. They also have the option to study in the Resource Centre if they would prefer. A note for Year 10 parents and students has outlined College expectations for this privilege and I will remind Year 10 about the unqualified need to travel directly to and from school and not gathering at shopping centres or transport hubs. I came across the following study tips and thought they might be useful to share or to use as conversation starters on the home front;
Lessons for students preparing for exams

Just going over and over your material is not enough. You must of course do the reading and revision but you also have to spend time setting yourself tests.

⇒ Focus on your exam notifications to understand what will be examined and what will not.
⇒ Write down questions and then write down your answers.
⇒ Then check your answers from your revision material & texts. Write down the correct answers and read them again.
⇒ When you are away from your books, ask yourself questions and think hard to retrieve the right answers.
⇒ Focus on retrieving your knowledge as much as storing it.


Congratulations to James Roumanos [Year 12] who has been selected in the NSWCCC Opens Rugby League side that will contest the Australian Championships that are being held at St Marys, NSW in July. Well done also to Mr McGee and Mr Burke who were the coach and trainer respectively of the Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges side that James was part of at the selection trials.

James Corcoran
Principal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Assessment Free Week (Theory Based Subjects)</td>
<td>Monday 22 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Science Competition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Assessment Free Week (Theory Based Subjects)</td>
<td>Tuesday 23 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Assessment Free Week (Theory Based Subjects)</td>
<td>Wednesday 24 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7, 10 and 12 Mary Help of Christians Mass - 8.20am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharks Knock Out - Rugby League (13, 14 and 15 Divisions)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Debating Competition (Venue: Aquinas)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Assessment Free Week (Theory Based Subjects)</td>
<td>Thursday 25 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSCCC Football Final (Senior) - 12:15pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Assessment Free Week (Theory Based Subjects)</td>
<td>Friday 26 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Sorry Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Family Parish Mass: Dedicated to Teaching and Support Staff of</td>
<td>Saturday 27 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney Catholic Schools of the Parish.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Celebrant : Bishop David Cremin</td>
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<td>Time: 5.30pm</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Monday 29 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Tuesday 30 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Wednesday 31 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquinas Year 11 Mass - 8.20am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharks Knock Out - Rugby League (16’s Division)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Sydney - Lunchtime Talk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Debating Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 9 - 10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Thursday 1 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 9 - 10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Friday 2 June</td>
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This Week's Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>This Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>This Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
<td>22.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ancient History</td>
<td>24.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>24.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ancient History</td>
<td>24.05.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>IPT</td>
<td>24.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>24.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Industrial Tech Timber</td>
<td>25.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Modern History</td>
<td>25.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>26.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Advanced English</td>
<td>26.05.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>26.05.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 7 - 10 Exam Block Week 6

All students in Years 7-10 must bring their library cards to every examination as these will be placed on desks and used to identify each student and to complete rolls.

Students in Year 10 will only attend school for their examinations while students in Years 7 - 9 will have a combination of private and teacher directed study during their non-examination lessons across the exam period.

Students in Year 10 are reminded that this is the last opportunity to show both your knowledge and skills prior to the commencement of the Subject Selection process for Stage 6.

Please remember that the Study Skills website includes valuable support and direction for those students/parents who are looking for study assistance. Students spent last Thursday's pastoral period using the Study Skills website to support their preparation.

The following screenshot depicts an example of some of the units that would be appropriate at this time of year.

Log into www.studyskillshandbook.com.au with these details -

Username: Aquinas
Password: 10success

Lisa Mirabello
Leader of Teaching and Learning
On Thursday the 25th May 2017 (Week 5), Aquinas will be holding their annual Jersey day.

Students are encouraged to wear a jersey of some sort. It maybe a team that you follow or a team that you play for. Alternatively, instead of wearing a jersey, you may just like to wear the team colours of whichever team you support. Students are also expected to meet College expectations by wearing suitable mufti-day clothing as well as covered shoes.

Jersey day is a fundraiser and students are asked to make a gold coin donation during morning pastoral on that Thursday. All the money raised will go towards the Charitable Works Fund. The Charitable Works Fund (or CWF) supports and funds programs run by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

These programs include supporting Catholic community services, chaplaincies in hospitals, universities and aged care facilities, ministries for the deaf, religious education for Catholic children in state schools, seminarians and Aboriginal catholic ministry services.

During lunch, there will be tug-o-war games between teams on the oval. However this year, there will be some other games on the oval at lunch to raise more funds. The social justice group will organise a pass the ball competition, basketball hoop shooting and a cross bar challenge. For a small entry fee (50c), you could win a delicious prize and may also be named the Jersey day champion!

Mrs Martin
Social Justice Coordinator
Last Tuesday seven Year 10 boys: Benjamin Capovilla, Ben Ferraro, Jack Harris, Jackson Hunter, Joshua Lane, Xavier Rozanc, James Selas attended a philosophy day at Ascham, Edgecliff with keynote speakers, Julie Arliss and Jeffrey Hodges.

The day focussed on-

- Matters of Life and Death
- Who should run a country?
- The Science of Time
- The Big Debate

The boys had the opportunity to challenge their thinking on a range of philosophical issues and thought provoking questions and share their thoughts with the other schools in attendance.

I would like to commend the boys on their impeccable behaviour and interest in the day.

Catherine Capovilla
Gifted Education
Regional Catholic Schools Debating Competition - Round 2

Last Wednesday 17th May students from Years 7-12 visited Bethany College, Hurstville for Round 2 of the Regional Catholic Schools Debating Competition.

The topic area for Round 2 ‘Sport/Health/Recreation’ opened up the afternoon for some heated Debates and thought-provoking discussion.

**Year 7 & 8:** That in sport, winning is everything.
**Year 9 & 10:** That Australian culture is too sport orientated.
**Senior:** That we spectate more and participate less.

Congratulations to the Years 7 and 9 teams who won their Debates (that’s two weeks in a row!). Well done also to the Years 8, 10 and Senior teams for the commendable manner in which they competed.

The team lists for Round 2 are below:

**Year 7:** Ariana Halar, Jennah Bradstock, Sarah Doyle, Emily Maguire and Tamara Talevski
**Year 8:** Jessica Sewell, Jasmin Hatter, Caitlin Monk and Zane Assen
**Year 9:** Emily Lane, Joel Johnson, Michael Kerle and Nicholas Katsiris
**Year 10:** Charlotte Knoke, Benjamin Capovilla, Benjamin Ferraro and James Selas
**Senior:** Kiara Heyward, Daniel Ferraro, Lachlan Bowmer and Samantha Kerle

Thank you to Mrs Buttling and Miss Wilson for adjudicating the Debates this week and to Mrs Capovilla, Mrs Buttling and Mrs Dickinson for their involvement with coaching the Debating teams.

**Round 3 - Wednesday 24th May:**

This Wednesday, Round 3 will be hosted here at Aquinas! Our Aquinas teams will be competing against the De La Salle/OLMC teams. All are welcome to come along to support our Aquinas Debating teams, with Debates commencing at approximately 4.45pm. The topic area for Round 3 is ‘Education.’ There will be a meeting this Wednesday at lunch in Room 28 for all students. Students will need to remain at school before prep time to help with the set-up. Afternoon tea will be provided.

**Call out for Timekeeper and Chairperson volunteers for Wednesday 24th May**

Can any student who would like to volunteer to help with timekeeping and chairperson roles on Wednesday 24th May please see Miss Cooper in room 23 during Pastoral or email danielle.cooper@syd.catholic.edu.au. Students will be required to stay at school until approximately 5.45pm. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Danielle Cooper
Debating/Public Speaking Teacher

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**MATHS DEPARTMENT RECALL CORNER**

Each week Maths Recall is included in the newsletter to encourage junior students to regularly focus on non-calculator skills. Please show your answers to your maths teacher during your next lesson, as it shows interest and excitement about mathematical skills.

1. Find 10% of 350
2. Evaluate [-2 x 5 - 4)]
3. Write 0.125 as a percentage
4. Find ¼ of $64
5. Calculate 20% of 1 hour

Mrs Catherine Fensom
Assistant Mathematics Coordinator
Coding Club

This term in Coding Club students have been using Scratch to learn the language of programming. Students have been experimenting with costumes for their Sprites and using block code to move their Sprite around the stage. In the next few weeks students will begin to use the LEGO Mindstorms Ev3 kits and be able to watch their programming come to life.

Mindfulness Mondays

DIY is a U.S.-based website and app on which members younger than 18 can upload, share and view pictures and videos of projects they make.

DIY members complete projects to solve particular challenges designed by the company to teach skills. Members earn patches, which are sent to them in the mail, for successfully completing a specified number of challenges for each skill. There are 120 skills offered including Architect, Backyard Farmer, Hardware Hacker, Special Effects Wizard, and Zoologist.

As of October, 2016, over 400,000 kids have registered.
Digital Literature

One of the most effective ways of engaging students in creativity is through digital stories; using images, graphics, movement and music to engage students in an imaginary world. Digital stories are more than just text on a screen. Through digital literature students are immersed in a created world and are able to feel connected to the characters; a similar connection is felt by gamers who are engrossed in their virtual world.

Reading literature is no longer dependant on the availability of a physical book as we are now able to access digital stories that engage our senses and capture our imagination. If your son or daughter is a reluctant reader please encourage them to take a look at some of the digital stories below:

Interactive Narratives:

- [A Calendar of Tales](#) by Neil Gaiman
- [The Boat](#) Produced by SBS

Web Comics:

- [Girl Genius](#) by Phil and Kaja Foglio
- [Gunnerkrigg Court](#) by Tom Siddell

Mixed Media Narratives:

- [Beowulf in a Hundred Tweets](#) : #Beow100
- [Green Gables Fables](#) – video blog retelling Anne of Green Gables
Senior Boys Football/Soccer NSWCCC Round 3 match report

Last Thursday, on our College Oval, the Senior Boys Champions of the SSCCC East (Aquinas College) played the Champions of the SSCCC West (Freeman College Bonnyrigg). Both teams produced a quality game for all who were in attendance. Both teams played in a spirit of true fraternity.

The whole Aquinas Catholic College community was present from the kick off to witness the event. Before the game, the two teams lined up in the centre of the oval for the Angelus prayer. As one, players, staff and students, we were all upstanding and prayed the Angelus. A moment in Aquinas history which will remain with all of us for ever, united in prayer. Thank you Mr O'Connor for leading us all through this prayer.

The game ebbed and flowed, with the usual dramas and controversies associated with the beautiful game. Both teams had goals disallowed, both teams had their chances to win during normal time. The score at full-time was 0-0. Then, an extra 10 minutes each way was required to split the two teams. In the first half of extra time, Freeman scored from the penalty spot and soon after, went 2-0 up. We went into the extra time break, 2-0 down, one player down and only 10 minutes to salvage a victory from the clutches of defeat. The boys spoke up as one to push hard one more time, fight for everything one more time, not give them an inch one more time. With the mantra of "We are Aquinas" voiced strongly during this mini break, they went back into battle and peppered the Freeman goalmouth with relentless attacks. 10 minutes of sheer resilience and fortitude. Unfortunately, try as they may, they could not salvage the elusive goals and when the referee blew final whistle, Freeman were victorious 2-0, worthy opponents, winners and now 2107 SSCCC Senior Boys Football Champions.

Pope Francis encourages sports as a gift and has said, "Live your sport as a gift from God, an opportunity not only to improve your talents, but also a responsibility… I have confidence in all the good you can do, especially among young people." Both Mr Sacca and myself, as the coaches of this fine band of young men, are very proud of the full Aquinas squad. We, along with the entire Aquinas Catholic College community, witnessed all the good they can do, especially the responsibility of good sportsmanship exhibited throughout the previous two victories and in this final loss.

Pope Francis once tweeted "May sport always promote the culture of the encounter." Last Thursday, on our "field of dreams" - prepared beautifully by our very own Mr Knight - we all witnessed the culture...this is Aquinas!

Mr Peter Tsambalas
Proud Aquinas Football Coach
Calling all writers!

The Good Oil 2017 Young Writers' Award, an initiative of the Good Samaritan Sisters in their 160th anniversary year, was launched recently.

The award seeks to encourage and support the development of younger writers interested in exploring ideas, contemporary issues and stories about people and happenings from a contemporary Christian perspective.

The award is open to ALL secondary school students and post-school young adults in Australia, Japan, the Philippines and Kiribati – countries where the Sisters of the Good Samaritan live and minister. Entrants must be eligible to enter one of three age groups:

Secondary Student (Years 7 to 9);
Secondary Student (Years 10 to 12);
Post-School (18 to 35 years of age).

Entrants are invited to submit a piece of writing, between 750 and 1,000 words, adopting one of the following writing styles:

* journalistic feature writing (e.g. profiles of people or issues-based articles based on interviews);
* opinion writing;
* creative writing or first person reflective writing.

In their chosen writing style, entrants are asked to explore the theme "Who is my neighbour?". Entries for the award close on Tuesday July 11, 2017.

For further details or information please see Mrs Kizi or Ms Morales
Year 12 Ancient History Study Day

On Monday 15th May, Year 12 Ancient History students and Mrs Kizi had the privilege of attending the annual Pompeii and Herculaneum Study Day, held in Darling Harbour. Students found this day to be most useful and productive, with a lot of notes being taken down and questions asked.

Participants were also graced with the presence of some very well-known historians and researchers of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and were given insight into what their work involves. Students were also given some very useful advice on how to interpret and tackle HSC questions.

Mrs Kizi
PARENT VOLUNTEERS / EX - STUDENTS NEEDED FOR SEMESTER 1 EXAMS

If you can spare some time to read and write for Year 7 to 10 exams, please contact the school office and leave your contact details.

When: Monday 29th May to Friday 3rd June

Times: Morning session - 8:50am to 12:45pm
Afternoon session: 1:15pm to 3:05pm
All Day: 8:50am to 3:05pm (Morning Tea and Lunch provided)

No specific skills or knowledge needed
YEAR 10 STUDENTS -
If you are interested in attending this event, please send an email to Mrs Higgins ASAP

BBQ Lunch & Drink provided for students and Staff

9:45 arrival - finish at 1:30pm

TRY A TRADE DAY
Tuesday 20th June Week 9

Senior Vocational Study Options that contribute towards your HSC:
Study Electrotechnology, Construction, Automotive and Engineering/Metals
Gain qualifications to help you land your dream job!

The Rosary
‘The Rosary & Prayer Intentions’ will be held every Tuesday @ lunch...
As a trial, until further notice, the Uniform shop will be open on Tuesday and Thursday from 8-9am

UNIFORM SHOP
TUESDAY 23 May
THURSDAY 25 May
8:00am—9:00am

Please note the Uniform Shop only sells Sports Uniforms and School bags

The Uniform Shop now has Eftpos facilities

AQUINAS DAY TALENT QUEST 2017

Aquinas day is approaching fast!! Which means the inaugural Aquinas Day Talent Quest is almost here. I call out to ALL you talented and creative students of Aquinas to get your dancing shoes polished, your guitar strings tuned and your vocal cords ready. Audition forms will be available to be filled out in the student foyer from today, 8th May (Week 3). Audition dates to be announced soon.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask myself or Mrs Bosi.

Mrs McNamara

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 2

TIME: MONDAY-THURSDAY 10:00-1:35, FRIDAY 9:30-12:45

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>22/5</td>
<td>ROSEMARY MORRISEY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>23/5</td>
<td>NICOLE KRAUSE, MICHELLE WHEATLEY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>24/5</td>
<td>PETA BOURKE</td>
</tr>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>25/5</td>
<td>ANN-MARIE WALKER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>26/5</td>
<td>SARINA PANTAZIS, KATHY STEPHENS, ANNE MARREE SIPEK, CATHY FULTON</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>29/5</td>
<td>NICOLE MCKENNA</td>
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<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>30/5</td>
<td>ROWENA LONCAR, MELISSA TOWNSEND-CRYER</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
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<td>JENNY KNOKE, VERONIQUE THIBAULT, LOUISE BRYANT, REBECCA HARRIS</td>
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</table>

MATHS CHALLENGE

Answers:
1. $35.00
2. -14
3. 12.5% or 12½%
4. $16
5. 12 minutes

Maths Department