Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

**Progress Reports**

Progress Reports will be given out on the last day of Term 1 at the end of the day. If students are not present at school to collect them then they will need to come to my office in Term 2 with a note explaining their absence from school.

**Grandparents’ Day**

Thank you to all the Grandparents who attended our Grandparents’ Day today. A great deal of work has gone into preparing the day and I would like to thank Mrs Jeffercoat, Mr Hartnett, Ms Stepien, Mr O’Flynn, Mr Perna, Miss Khalou, Mr Clarke, Mr Malone, Mr Clinfield, Mrs Santos, Mr Bond, Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Casey, Ms Bryan, Mr Brennan, Mr Spencer, Mr Bale, Mrs Falas, Mr Graham, Mrs Keegan, Mrs Sligar, Mr Coupland, Mr McGuiggan, Mr Nieuwenhuis, Mrs McKimm, Mr Bonfield, Miss Pickard, Mr Anderson and Mr Newell who were involved in Grandparents’ Day today. The pride the boys demonstrate in the school is a pleasure to see. Please remember that you are always welcome to events at the College.

**CSDA Debating Round 1**

Round 1 starts tonight with the boys travelling to Edmund Rice College and John Therry. The College A Teams take on Edmund Rice College Wollongong and the College B Teams take on John Therry. I know Mrs Santos and the staff have big expectations for the Debating teams after the success of last year’s teams.

**College Cross Country**

The College Cross Country Carnival was a huge success this year. There were many boys who pushed themselves to the limit to make the team in 2013. We have a very solid track record in taking out the MCS Cross Country but there have been a number of schools who have been edging closer in recent years.

Thank you to Mr O’Flynn and Mr Cook who will be taking the team this year. Judging by the eighty boys who have taken training programmes, and provided all the boys challenging for positions on the team train hard, we are looking at another strong performance in 2013. Thank you to Mr Lantz for his organising of the Cross Country and Mr Cook for designing the courses. Next year we will look to extending the course for the younger age groups to make it more challenging for the elite runners.

**Sydney Royal Easter Show**

Congratulations to all the boys who participated in the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Judging by the performances, we had a very successful Show and the boys had a great time. Thank you to Mr Stefanski, Mr McGuiggan, Mr Harrison and Mr Nieuwenhuis for supervising the boys throughout the duration of the Show and for all the parent and community support.

**Vietnam Trip**

Thank you to Mrs Murdoch and Mr Anderson who are taking a group of Year 11 and 12 boys to Vietnam over the holiday period. The group leaves on Sunday morning and returns on Anzac Day. As a College we wish the group well and pray for their safe return.

Have a safe holiday. I hope you enjoy some family time together and return to school safe and rested for another great term of learning.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Stephen Kennaugh
Acting Headmaster
From the Acting Deputy Headmaster ….

School Zones

A reminder to all our parents that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

Official school zones operate as normal until Friday 12 April and resume on Monday 29 April.

Return in Term 2

Please ensure that when your son returns to begin Term 2 on Monday 29 April he is groomed appropriately. It is always a disappointing and unsettling start to a new term for a student when he is picked up for an issue on Day One! Nobody wants to begin this way and your support is gratefully appreciated to ensure it is a positive start for students and staff alike.

Similarly it is important to have the winter uniform sorted before next term begins. The College shop will be open 9 and 11 April from 10-4pm and also on Saturday 27 April from 10-2pm. Again please ensure that you make every effort to have your son/s dressed in the expected uniform.

Wishing you all a wonderful break with your fine young men!

Matthew Brennan, Deputy Headmaster (Acting)

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Student Writing Workshop 2

Wednesday 10 April 3:15pm-4:45pm

Students who LOVE to write may not often get the opportunity to write for real purpose and pleasure. This workshop is for them! It is not for the best writers, it is for the writers who love writing.

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME – just bring along (to room 021) anything you’re working on (or just bring your ideas).

Workshop participants will choose from a range of real writing competitions to enter, and will then work individually and in collaboration with others to produce writing that is meaningful. Participants must bring a willingness to share their work with others and be open to constructive criticism.

Students must register their interest via email: louise.millar@stgregs.nsw.edu.au no later than Tuesday 9 April. All participants must be collected from school immediately at the conclusion of the workshop. Please contact me via email or on the school phone if you require any further information.

Mrs Louise Millar

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The Sydney Royal Easter Show

The Sydney Royal Easter Show was another highly successful show for the St Gregory’s College Show team. In the General Sheep Judging we achieved 1 first, 4 seconds and 3 thirds, and received Reserve Grand Champion Corriedale Ewe. In the Schools Sheep Judging we achieved 4 firsts, 3 seconds, 3 thirds, as well as Reserve Champion Schools Ewe and the Most Successful School. Perhaps the highlight of the show however, was the performance of our boys in the highly competitive Junior Handling competition, where the boys are judged on their handling of the sheep. In the under 14’s age group, Sam Hackett achieved 1st place, Samuel Prince 2nd and William Cadden 5th. These were very impressive results considering that this was only the second sheep show that the boys competed at. In the over 14’s age group and out of 41 students, Jack Finch came 6th, Martin Parsons 8th, Harry Wighton 9th and Brandon Prince 10th.

I’d like to thank Michael McGuiggen, Rick Nieuwenhuis and Adrian Harrison for their assistance at the show. I’d also like to thank all the boys who attended for their huge efforts.

Mr Edward Stefanski

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School Fees / Direct Debit and Credit Card Changes

Dear Parents,

Please ensure any changes to Direct Debit or Credit Card payments are communicated directly to Deanna in the Finance Office on (02) 4629 4112 or ar@stgregs.nsw.edu.au by 3pm Wednesday, otherwise the payments will be processed as scheduled Thursday mornings.

Please contact me on (02) 4629 4226 if you have any questions re this.

Thank you for your assistance.

John Sammut
Finance Manager
On 18 March Year 7 headed off for their annual camp at the Sports Academy situated at Narrabeen. For the two nights and three days the boys had a variety of experiences in outdoor activities such as high ropes, abseiling, canoeing, mind initiatives and archery. We had extremely good weather, with only a light shower on the Wednesday morning, which enabled all groups to rotate through each activity.

I was extremely impressed with the boys and how they presented themselves to the centre staff during the activities, meal times and even the enthusiasm of some students to do the washing and clean up duties. At night the centre entertained the boys with a myriad of games and round robin activities which seemed to do the trick in making them quite exhausted and resulted a very quick lights out with many zzzz coming out of the cabins within twenty minutes of heads hitting pillows. Events of this nature do not run themselves and I must thank all the staff who put in an enormous effort with their time and understanding of all the different scenarios that occurred, especially Mr John Howell who was last minute call up.

One of the key aspects of the camp were the Big Brothers from Year 11 who must be applauded for their efforts. They were tireless in their support of staff and showed compassion and leadership when required throughout the three days.

Last of all the boys of Year 7 should be very proud of their behaviour and hopefully gained some new friendships in a different environment to our College.

Stephen Hartnett, Year 7 Coordinator

The weekend of 22-24 March saw the Art and Craft Community Fair occupy the Br Luke Hall with 300 paintings, the Donovan Centre full with over 20 Craft stalls and the College grounds with market tables, rides, the College Band and very popular bacon and egg and sausage sandwiches, under the Big Top.

The weekend began with over 90 people attending the Official Opening of the Show with a Cocktail Party on the Friday night. David Horton, the winner of the 2007 “Sculptures by the Sea” Award, was special guest speaker and Anne Horder, who was our invited featured artist, helped Mr Noel Laming the sponsor of the St Gregory’s Student Awards present the Awards to a variety of students. David spoke about really looking at and concentrating on a piece of work that appeals to you and trying to understand the inspiration and dedication of the Artist who created the work. Anne, as the featured artist with 16 of her lovely works on display, told the audience of the difficulty she and Mr Laming had in choosing winners for the students’ work because of the high standard and talent displayed. The student winners are named at the end of this article. Of special note was a first time Award, The Thomas Scott-Dobbie Award for the Most Promising Artist in honour of Thomas, a former St Gregory’s student from the class of 2010 who sadly lost his life in a traffic accident last year. Thomas’ mum, Cheyne, was an active and hard-working member of the Art Show Committee for a number of years and we were privileged to be able to introduce this award in Tom’s memory. Guests at the Opening all remarked on the delicious and beautifully presented food that was served and were amazed to find all this had been prepared by the Year 12 Hospitality students — Congratulations to Kate Graham and her team.

A lot of work goes into the organisation of a weekend of Art and Craft and I thank most sincerely the hard working parent committee who met and planned the various activities. Although we were a little disappointed with the numbers of people who attended throughout the weekend, most of those who did come remarked how wonderful it was to have the opportunity to view and experience the wonderful art works and unique craft items on display.

Congratulations to the following students:

**Adam Smith**  Junior Artwork Winner (Years 7 and 8)

**Ace Abalos**  Intermediate Artwork Winner (Years 9 and 10)

**Jacob Moon**  Senior Artwork Winner

**Joshua Morrissey** Photography and Digital Imaging 1st Place

**Jacob Moon**  Wal Dunphy Award

**Joshua Morrissey**  Thomas Scott-Dobbie Award (for Most Promising Artist)

Mrs Sue Dein, Coordinator
Parents and students please note that St Gregory’s College (www.stregs.nsw.edu.au), the Metropolitan Catholic Schools Sports Association (MSC) (www.mcscolleges.com) and the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Sport Association (CCC) (www.csss.nsw.edu.au) have established websites through which the vast majority of sporting information can now be found, e.g. Tables, Draws, Results, Calendar Dates, Nomination Processes and Due Dates for Nominations, By-Laws, etc. for the many sporting activities the College and our students can participate in. Please do not hesitate to use these sites to stay updated and informed.

The main pathway for our students’ sporting representation is through MCS. However, there are many sports that your son can trial for individually, e.g. golf, tennis, hockey, etc., through CCC that are not part of MCS which is why it is good to familiarise yourself with their website. Families are requested to register with specific information about you and your son. This will only be needed to be done once and will not be required during future nominations. The website immediately and electronically passes your request for your son to either participate or trial in their chosen sport(s) to Mr Millar and myself for final approval.

In most cases there is Levy charge to any student participating in CCC trials either with a MCS representative team or individually through CCC. Traditionally, St Gregory’s College will cover this initial Levy. If the student progresses to the next level of representation the families will be required to meet the further costs.

ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
A great Cross Country Carnival was enjoyed and shared by both staff and students. The distances for each of the Age groups were the following – 12-13 years 3km, 14-15 years 4km and 16 years-Opens 5-6km. The top 25 finishers in each individual age division receive extra points for the House competition and any student who completed their course in under an hour received points as well. In an outstanding effort all students completed the course in under an hour and gained points for the House Championship.

The individual Cross Country winners are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE GROUP</th>
<th>CHAMPION</th>
<th>RUNNER UP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>Andrew Colosimo (M)</td>
<td>David Ryan (K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>Nicholas de Franck (K)</td>
<td>Sean Mabin (K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Brent Rushworth (D)</td>
<td>Lachlan O’Neill (K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>Flynn Fielding (D)</td>
<td>Joshua Cavanagh (K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Daniel White (K)</td>
<td>Caleb Van Dartel (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 years</td>
<td>Jack Davey (D)</td>
<td>Stefan Schaening (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opens</td>
<td>Cody Benes (D)</td>
<td>Anthony Acitelli (D)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate Points and House Championship:

1st place Kilian 1045 points
2nd place Donovan 859 points
3rd place Molloy 736 points
4th place Laurentian 724 points

The top 10 runners in each Age Division have been given a training program and the final team will be selected from the final trial run on Wednesday afternoon of Week 1, Term 2 for the MCS Championship on Tuesday of Week 2. We look forward to defending the MCS Cross Country Championship.

Special thanks to Mr Graeme Cook and Mr Greg Serone for their preparation of the course and their wise consultation.

MCS FOOTBALL AND RUGBY LEAGUE
During Week 7, in the Second Round of the MCS Soccer and the MCS Rugby League 13 years and 14 years Weight for Age Competitions, the two Rugby League teams played 3 games for 3 wins and in a very strong performance against Blacktown our eight Soccer teams had 5 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses.

In Week 8, the Weight for Age Rugby League MCS competition for the 13 years and 14 years players saw both teams have a win and a loss. This week concludes the competition with cross over games against the other Pool of competition. Good luck to the 14 years team who have finished second in their Pool and will play for the Championship. In the MCS Football (Soccer) competition another good round of results saw wins to the Year 7“A”, Year 7“B”, Year 8“B” and Year 9 teams and a draw to the Year 10 teams against Liverpool. The First and Second Grade teams had BYEs.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>MCS Football/WFA Rugby League 13 and 14 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>CCC Swimming at Homebush</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>MCS KO Football vs Blacktown at St Greg’s (winner of the MCS KO qualifies for the CCC Championship)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>MCS Football / MCS Rugby League</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>CCC RL Gala Day at Patrician Bros, College</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>MCS Cross Country at Penrith Regatta Centre hosted by St Gregory’s College</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>MCS Football / MCS Rugby League</td>
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</tbody>
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Thanks from the Kids of Cambodia to families who kindly donated football boots