It’s my life …

How often have we heard the comment, *Leave me alone, it’s my life and I’ll do what I want to!*

Last week I sat with distraught parents who wanted me to speak to their 17 year old son about responsibility. They had been subjected to another night of desperation brought about because their son had gone out on the weekend and by 3.00am had not returned home. To make matters worse his phone was not answering.

Despite their anguish, lack of sleep and despair, ironically, it was the son who became upset. He was angry that they had been worrying about him. *What is your problem, he asked, It’s my life after all!* What the young man did not realise or accept was that all of our actions have repercussions on those around us – our family, friends and wider community. This is no different to the person who speeds through a red light or across a pedestrian crossing … their actions also impact upon the lives of others.

Our everyday actions, words and conduct affect a multitude of people.

*It’s your life, but it is also a life shared and cherished by many others.*

Please be kind to one another,
Santo Passarello

**GIO Schoolboy Cup**

Patrician Brothers’ College 38
Hills Sports High 4

*With this convincing win against Hills Sports High, we have now progressed to the semi-final of this nationally televised rugby league competition. With over 450 schools competing, we are once again proving to be one of the powerhouses in Australian Rugby League. Interestingly, Hills Sports High have never beaten us in this competition!* Pictured is *Joshua Aloiai* on his way to a spectacular try.
From the Assistant Principal
This week we welcomed back our Year 11 students from their Retreats at Mittagong and our WYD staff and students after their time in Brazil and Peru. Both groups report that their respective experiences were outstanding. Research and anecdotal feedback gathered across many years confirm that Senior Retreats are one of the most powerful and highly-valued experiences that students have during their time in secondary school and this has certainly been our experience at Patrician Brothers' Blacktown in recent years. Similarly, our World Youth Day pilgrims report that their trip to Brazil has been an amazing experience that will live with them for many years to come. The remainder of the staff look forward to their reflections and multimedia presentation on the final day of this term as part of our Staff Spirituality Day for 2013.

Meanwhile, Year 12 are nearing the end of their Trial HSC Examinations, our GIO Cup Rugby League team are preparing for the upcoming semi-finals, all students in the school are putting the final touches on their entries for the Principal’s Writing Challenge, students in Year 8 and 10 will sit for their Religious Literacy tests during the next fortnight, the liturgy team are preparing for our College Mass for the Feast of the Assumption next Wednesday 14/8, and finally, our dance group eagerly anticipates the final of Bring It On at the State Sports Centre next Saturday night 17/8.

In terms of reminders for parents and students this week – we have noticed a number of students who claim to have misplaced parts of their uniform in the recent school holidays but are yet to replace these missing items. The items in questions include ties, school shoes and sports shoes. While there are probably some genuine cases, it now appears that some of these students are feigning these losses and then dragging the chain in replacing them. Your support in these cases would be appreciated. For parents who work shifts and unusual hours, it may be as simple as actually sighting your son before or after school to check if he is wearing the full uniform.

The second reminder relates to senior students and driving. Students who elect to drive to school need to understand that they are subject to all normal road rules and the accompanying legal requirements. In fact, most students realise that wearing P plates on their car actually raises their level of accountability on the road and attracts special attention from local Police and Highway Patrols. Our greatest concerns arise when we see inexperienced drivers transporting groups of mates before and after school, usually during periods of peak congestion on narrow nearby roads with heavy pedestrian movement thrown in to the mix. These are the times that the smallest loss of concentration could be the most tragic.

Mr Brian Edmonds

Merit Awards

With Year 11 at Retreat, and Year 12 completing their Trial HSC exams, Years 7-10 have been working hard to achieve a plethora of awards this fortnight. Congratulations to the following award recipients for this fortnight. These awards will be distributed at upcoming Year and College Assemblies.

Bronze Awards

- Michael Alam 7C18 2 Awards
- Thomas Finn 7C13
- Angelo Gunatilaka 7C18
- Timothy Hodge 7C11
- Stephen Izquierdo 7C12
- Aasir Khan 7C15
- Simon Koutoulas 7C14
- Bouleem Lemiri 7C17
- Xavier Manu 7C14
- Shivypreet Singh 7C14
- Connor Tunks 7C13
- Jaden Victoria 7C18
- David Alam 8E10 2 Awards
- Ben Fisiilose 8D17 4 Awards
- Malvin Khan 8D20
- Scott Lawless-Burke 8D19
- Nathan Segavcie 8D22
- Harry Sharp 8D16
- Christopher Simic 8D20
- Arshdeep Thind 8D22
- Jamil Dewan 9A24
- Matthew Duncan 9A25 5 Awards
- Jason Fatialofa 9B6 2 Awards
- Jacob Forster 9B4
- Jayden Leishman 9B1 4 Awards
- Jacob Weir 9B6
- Piolo Von Bacani 10C8
- Renz Jericho Hernandez 10C3

Silver Awards

- Ali Chrara * 7C13
- Mitchell Gallagher * 7C11
- Dillion Warren 8E9
- Tyson Cham 9B3
- Calum Connaughton 10C3

Gold Awards

- Jamil Dewan 9A24

I look forward to checking the Merits Box in the next fortnight!

Mrs Marie Lane, Merit Awards Coordinator

Bronze Awards

- Michael Alam 7C18 2 Awards
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- Angelo Gunatilaka 7C18
- Timothy Hodge 7C11
- Stephen Izquierdo 7C12
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Gold Awards

- Jamil Dewan 9A24

* The FIRST Year 7 boys to be awarded Silver in 2013
Athletics Carnival 2013

On Wednesday, 24th July the College held its annual Athletics Carnival at the Sydney Athletic Centre, Homebush.

To all students and staff a very big thank you for your help and participation on the day.

A particular vote of thanks and acknowledgement must be extended to our ‘maestro’ Mr Van D’Morias.

His organisation was outstanding. Thank you Mr D’Morias!

TOP SECRET

Results are being kept under absolute security by Mr D’Morias until the official announcement at next week’s College Assembly. Exciting!
Pictured above are our outstanding **House Captains**: Jye Mamo, Delany Devils; Cain McGill, Massey Marlins; Wayne Mulligan, MacKillop Magpies; Martin Pender, Histon Hounds.
From the Director of Studies

Attention Year 12 Students

UNSW Open Day
Date: Saturday 7 September
Time: 9.00am to 4.00pm
Location: UNSW Kensington Campus
Open Day is a great chance for students to see UNSW up-close and personal, chat face-to-face with academics, current students and have all your questions answered. Find the right information to help you choose your ideal degree from Faculties and Schools; learn more about life as a student at UNSW - including study costs, admission, accommodation, student services and more.

To view the open day program visit http://openday.unsw.edu.au

Taste of Electrical Engineering
Date: Monday 23 - Wednesday 25 September
Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm
Location: UNSW Kensington Campus
Register your expression of interest at http://unsw.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?

Engineering and Science Photo Competition
For the first time, the UNSW Engineering & Science Photo Competition is open to high school students. Enter your photos and impress us with your talent to be in the draw to win one of two $500 Apple store gift cards.
The 2 categories for high school students to enter photographs into are:
  Everyday Science
  Everyday Engineering
Submissions open Friday, 2 August 2013.
Entries close at 5.00pm Friday, 27 September 2013 and the winners will be announced in October.
www.eng.unsw.edu.au/2013photocomp

Taste of Electrical Engineering Workshops
Date: Monday 23 September - Wednesday 25 September
Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm
Location: UNSW Kensington Campus
The School of Electrical & Telecommunications Engineering are offering a Year 10 and a Year 11 workshop (with 24 places in each), for talented high school students with an aptitude for mathematics, a passion for science and a love of problem solving, to participate in 3 day workshops over the September school holidays.
Applications close 31 August 2013. You can view the workshops at http://www.eet.unsw.edu.au/tasteoeee

UNSW Mining Minerals Summer School
Date: 13 to 16 January 2014
Location: UNSW Kensington Campus
Applications are now open for the 2014 UNSW Minerals Summer School (UMSS) to be held from 13-16 January 2014. Students who are currently in Years 10 or 11, and are interested in Science and Engineering, are encouraged to apply.
For more details, please visit www.mining.unsw.edu.au/UMSS_2014application

Applying for Study in 2014
Applications for tertiary study in 2014 will open on Wednesday 7 August and the UAC 2013 – 14 Guide will be distributed to all Year 12 students upon their return to school after their Trial HSC Examinations. The Guide lists more than 1,500 courses on offer from 25 institutions. Students are also encouraged to check the UAC’s website at www.uac.edu.au/course-search/ for course updates and additions.

The processing charge for on-time applications this year is $28 for Year 12 applicants. Apply by the on-time closing date of Friday 27 September 2013. After this date late fees apply.

Educational Access Schemes (EAS)
Educational Access Schemes applications open on Wednesday 7 August 2013. Pick up the booklet, including the application form from Mrs Paton. It will also be available to download from UAC’s website at www.uac.edu.au/eas/. On-time applications close on Friday 27 September 2013. To be considered for the Main Round, applications must be received by Friday 3 January 2014.

A Reminder to Year 12 students
UAC needs to have the correct contact details for applicants. If circumstances change all you need to do is go to Check & Change on UAC’s website at www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/check-change/ to update them.

Do you need to sit for the STAT (Special Tertiary Admissions Test) test?
The one specific course where Year 12 students must sit STAT is Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney. STAT candidates must register through UAC. Registrations open on Wednesday 7 August, with a number of test sittings held between September 2013 and January 2014.

Up2now 2013 Pilot Project
Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown is a pilot school for this project. The up2now website allows students to record, organise and share their academic Results, Awards and Achievements. Students can add an overview of themselves and build a portfolio with supporting evidence attached. Students are able to organise their portfolio into several profiles that can be shared with prospective employers or education providers. This applies to current Year 11 and Year 10 students. Students need to ensure that they have given Mrs Paton their email addresses. Their passwords for the website will be sent by the Board of Studies in the coming weeks. They can then get started with compiling all their portfolios.

Year 11 Final Examinations
A reminder to Year 11 students that examinations are fast approaching and that it is now time for study and revision. Exam timetables will be issued shortly. It is important to remember the following simple rules for effective study:
- Listen in class – use the power listening technique: the goal of power listening is to ensure the free and open flow of information and ideas. The four steps of power listening are - show respect to other speakers, keep quiet, challenge assumptions and maintain focus.
- Enter all assignments, homework and examination dates into your diary as soon as the teacher assigns your work
- Begin each study or homework session with a plan

100 Flushcombe Road Blacktown 2148
www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au
Ph: 9671 3000
Fax: 9831 6617

Educating Boys in the tradition of the Patrician Brothers since 1952
• When reading over notes make sure that you use SQRCRC (Summary of main ideas, Question, Read through the details, Cover the remaining material, Recite what you have just read, Check your progress) to make sure that you understand
• Spend 10 minutes each day in organising study notes for the day’s lessons. Break the information down into the main idea; supporting details; and sub-details. These notes should be short, in point form and in your own words.
• Make sure that each study note has 5 stars or ticks beside them. If you review your study notes five times before the exam you will remember them.

Mrs Danuta Paton

Library Update
Horrible Histories
Horrible Histories is a series of illustrated books written by numerous authors and published in the United Kingdom. They are designed to engage children by presenting various subject matters in unusual, gory, or unpleasant aspects in a hilarious manner, in contrast to the formality of lessons taught in school.
This series began as a collection of history books, hence the name, including titles such as The VICIOUS VIKING, The STORMIN’ NORMANS and The GROOVY GREEKS. The collection has since expanded to include Horrible Science and Horrible Geography titles. There is sure to be something for every interest in this entertaining and informative series of books. The series will be on display in the Library.

Principals Writing Challenge Books
Ravishek Lal, Jamie Bugeja and Simon Koutoulas (pictured above right) enjoy browsing the magazines and books on the Principals Writing Challenge winning entries of 2011. The boys are hoping to gain an insight into the talent and work needed to be in this year’s list of winners! The library has numerous copies of this publication available for loan.

Book Week 2013 17 –23 August
The Children’s Book Council of Australia has pleasure in announcing the 2013 shortlist:

Book of the Year: Older Readers
These books are for mature readers
Grant, Neil The Ink Bridge
Lanagan, Margo Sea Hearts
MacLeod, Doug The Shiny Guys
Touchell, Dianne Creepy & Maud
Wakefield, Vikki Friday Brown
Zail, Suzy The Wrong Boy

Book of the Year: Younger Readers
French, Jackie Pennies for Hitler
French, Simon Other Brother
Gleitzman, Morris After
Hartnett, Sonya Children of the King
Herrick, Steven Pookie Aleera is Not my Boyfriend
Millard, Glenda Stephen Michael King The Tender Moments of Saffron Silk

All these titles are available in the library. See the display and enter the competition to select the winner from the Older Readers category. The first correctly drawn entry will win a copy of the Book of the Year. Our competition runs in conjunction with Book week. This year’s theme is Read Across the Universe. Look out for the other activities running in the library during Book Week.
For more information go to http://cbca.org.au/Shortlist2013.htm

The Library is also running a Book Week Quiz and a number of other fun activities to tie in with Book Week. Make sure you come in and visit and get involved.

The highly acclaimed film of the book Life of Pi will screen at lunchtimes during Book Week.
Life of Pi is a 2012 American adventure drama film based on Yann Martel’s 2001 novel of the same name. Directed by Ang Lee, the film is based on an adapted screenplay by David Magee and stars Suraj Sharma, Irrfan Khan, Rafe Spall, Gérard Depardieu, Tabu and Adil Hussain.
The storyline revolves around a 16-year-old Indian boy named Piscine Molitor "Pi" Patel, who survives a shipwreck in which his family dies, and is stranded in the Pacific Ocean on a lifeboat with a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker.

Science Home Investigations
Just a reminder that our Science Teacher/Librarian, Mrs Forrest is available in the Library on Thursdays and Fridays to help out with any specific questions you may have in planning, conducting and writing your report for your Science Home Investigation Tasks. Mrs Forrest is more than happy to help in any way she can.

Mrs Sue Dracoulas, Teacher Librarian

LOTE
Greetings, salut e ciao a tutti and welcome back to our WYD Pilgrims especially Mrs Lavaselli. Although many students missed her, already she has been sharing her transformative experiences with both staff and students. We all appreciate your generosity and are grateful for your inexhaustible kindness.
Our Year 8 students are now fully engaged with their major languages project for Term 3. Over the next few weeks, they will be exploring the use of various interactive technologies to produce personal family albums utilising their respective French and Italian linguistic skills. Mrs Lavaselli and I, as well as the Library Staff will be assisting and guiding students in outstanding presentations of this important assessment task.
Finally, an important reminder to all students who have applied for the 2014 College France and Italy Tour to attend the information evening on Wednesday 21st August. Looking forward to seeing you there! Best wishes.

Mr John Scavo, LOTE Teacher
Performing Arts Update
Year 7 Music Incursion - Around the World Vocal Workshop

In our music incursion we learnt about The Lion King and Mission Impossible music scores. Everyone joined in the practical part where we learnt about singing popular songs in parts. It was a good incursion involving everyone from Year 7. **Travis Sta Ana 7MU9**

In the music incursion we learnt a series of new songs. What I enjoyed most was getting to sing these new songs we learnt. My favourite was “Don’t Worry Be Happy”. The incursion was a really fun experience for me and all the other Year 7’s. **Anthony Salman 7MU9**

In the music incursion we learned songs with our voice and hands. I enjoyed the songs we sang and learnt that you can make many noises with your mouth. Overall it was great and very interesting. **Andrew Costaganna 7MU9**

Year 8 Music Incursion - Sound Sessions Band Workshop

During the Music Incursion we had a band come and play music to teach us about the concepts of music in songs. I liked it when they played some of the latest songs. I learned about pitch and instruments and really enjoyed the incursion. **Bailey Broom 8MU6**

In the Music incursion the band played songs and talked to us about the concepts of music. I enjoyed the whole incursion especially the ways the band played the different instruments. I learnt about a variety of instruments and what their main role is in a piece of music. **Malvin Khan 8MU6**

The band Sound Sessions played for us and gave us tips about music performance. I enjoyed everything about the incursion but mostly the electric guitar. I learned a lot of things about instruments and I was really impressed by the band. **Benjamin Fisiilose 8MU6**

A band played different popular songs and taught us about instruments and sound. I enjoyed the variety of songs and learned many different features that instruments have and what their sound is. The band was inspiring and the music was catchy. **Jake Mooy 8MU6**

Mrs Karen Davidson, Performing Arts Coordinator

Science Update
Year 7 Science

The end of Term 2 saw the Year 7 students explore the planet earth, the rock that we call home. Jahanzaib Khan was intrigued with the layers of the earth and the different temperatures. Nicholas Zakhia enjoyed learning about the rock types. Students also conducted an experiment that simulated the water cycle by boiling water and watching it condense and drop like rain.

After studying the earth, the students started to explore Astronomy. After researching the history of space exploration on iPads, Jacob Bobbins commented on how amazing it is that the sun is a dot compared to other stars. Students created a scale model of the solar system on the main oval. The sun was represented by a large exercise ball, with the smaller planets, including the earth, represented by a small bead.

**Year 8 Science**

The end of Term 2 saw Year 8 students exploring geology. Many students were fascinated by how diamonds were mined and processed. The grain structure of rocks was also simulated by cooling a copper sulphate solution, one sample slowly and another quickly. Students observed the small crystal size of the quick cooled solution under a microscope.

**Mr Chris Hersey, Science Teacher**
Tournament of the Minds

We currently have 2 teams of dedicated boys planning and rehearsing for the annual competition, Tournament of Minds. This year, both teams have decided to enter in the category, Social Sciences. Their mentors, Mrs Wong and Ms Cassell, are working closely with their respective groups every Thursday during sport. The boys have also been working together during lunchtimes on Tuesday and staying after school Tuesday afternoons with Mrs O’Keefe, Mr De Alwis and Cameron Cavanagh (Year 12) in a bid to be ready for the competition day on Sunday August 25th.

If you can please come along to Kingswood Campus, UWS on Sunday August 25th, and cheer your school to success. Good luck to both teams and all the best from all at Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown.

Mrs Sharon O’Keefe, Tournament of Minds Facilitator

True Patrician Spirit at Vinnie’s Van

Despite the pressures of assessment tasks, homework and HSC Trials, Year 12 students have given generously of their time to do Vinnies Van. Though the nights have been bitterly cold, the boys brought warmth to the homeless with their friendly smiles and sincere conversations. You could feel their genuine intention of wanting to make a difference and bringing a little relief to their hard lives.

It is inspiring to see young men give of themselves so sincerely and selflessly. They’re living examples of the true Patrician spirit. Thank you to the following teams of teachers and students who went out:

1. Mr Alan Dadisho, Mrs Vikki Forrest, Wayne Mulligan, Alec Susino, Salim Kheirallah and Mitchell Sobotin.
2. Mr Alan Dadisho, Mr Paul Kenyon, Carl Zamora, Harvey Zabala, Jesse Oesan, Paul Lee and Jemil Casipit.
3. Mr Matthew Hartigan, Mr Adnan Saleh, Mr Adam Hartigan, Mr Nathan Campbell, Tyrone May, Robert Jennings, Dylan Fuad, Soni Luke and Tyrell Fui-maono.

Ms Denise Grzelj, Year 12 Coordinator

Counsellor’s Corner

While adulthood is filled with serious responsibilities, growing up isn’t exactly stress-free. Children and teenagers take exams, learn new information, change schools, change suburbs, get sick, get braces, encounter bullies, make new friends and occasionally get hurt by those friends.

What helps children and adolescents in navigating these kinds of challenges is resilience. Resilient kids are problem solvers. They face unfamiliar or tough situations and strive to find good solutions.

When they step into a situation, resilient kids have a sense they can figure out what they need to do and can handle what is thrown at them with a sense of confidence. This doesn’t mean that they have to do everything on their own. Rather, they know how to ask for help and are able to problem-solve.

Resilience isn’t birth right. It can be taught. Parents should be encouraged to equip their children with the skills to handle the unexpected.

The problem is, life doesn’t work that way. A parent’s job isn’t to be there all the time for their kids. It’s to teach them to handle uncertainty and to problem-solve.

For suggestions on raising resilient children and teenagers go to;

http://psychcentral.com/lib/10-tips-for-raising-resilient-kids/00017272

Ms Linda Cassell, Counsellor
HSC Major Works Exhibition

On the evening of the 23rd of July 2013, Year 12 Visual Arts displayed their Body of Works. The students created works that were intriguing, unique and delightful. We were very proud teachers to finally see the artworks up and under the lights! There were ceramics, paintings, drawings, sculptures and photographs.

The works reflected cultural backgrounds, self portraits, belief, belonging, home and a sense of self.

It has been an anxious time but our Pattie’s boys certainly stepped up to the mark and completed the task.

A special mention to the Yr 11 and Yr 12 musicians, who created a wonderful ambience showcasing their music creativity.

Paul Beed’s artwork related very much to the youth of today with his graffiti style self-portrait.

Jemil Casipit researched the artists Grace Cossington Smith and Brett Whiteley to create a large painting of his room in a style very much reminiscent of Grace Cossington Smith’s small neat brush strokes.

Cameron Cavanagh worked tirelessly on his clay houses which are metaphorical self portraits.

Jon Datuin also did a self portrait using biro and ink washes.

Maeva Feilo tells a story of his memory of happy times in his family’s homeland; he used clay to create his sculptural piece.

Cameron Haldane is very skilled in the art of drawing, creating large panoramic drawings of his family home in New Zealand.

Jye Mamo created a wonderful photographic sculpture using artist Isidro Blasco for inspiration.

Travis Oto expressed his admiration for Bob Marley and happy times in his own life through his paintings and stencils.

Amanpreet Singh investigated the tattooed form to create his installation.

Tarik Viswasam created a documented form based on his personal Christian beliefs.

Blake Waters did amazing wire sculptures based on some of the world's endangered animals.

The parents were so very proud of their young men.

Congratulations to all involved, it was another resounding success for the creative element in our College.

Mrs Gretel Collison, Art Teacher
HSC Exhibition
A magnificent evening showcasing incredible talent and achievement!
Pictured is Cameron Cavanagh of Year 12 with his inspirational artwork (and flanked by his mother and grandmother).
World Youth Day 2013
Part 1: 13 July to 20 July 2013

On Saturday 13 July 2013, the 20 student and 5 staff pilgrims from the College joined 200 excited pilgrims from the Diocese of Parramatta for the pilgrimage to World Youth Day Rio. We certainly appreciated Mr Passarello coming to the airport to farewell us.

Taking two different flights to Santiago in Chile the pilgrims after months of preparation, were now on their way to Lima in Peru. After varied stop overs in Santiago where the important community building of the pilgrim group began, pilgrims gathered at the Cardinal Cushing Retreat House about 1 ½ hours from the centre of Lima.

The spiritual pilgrimage began in earnest on Sunday 14 July with morning prayer, followed by a visit to Saint Dominic’s Church in Lima, home to the remains of St Rose of Lima and St Martin de Porres. Time was spent in prayer and learning more about these Dominican Saints. That afternoon the pilgrims gathered for the celebration of the Eucharist, the Votive Mass of Saint Rose of Lima, with our pilgrim leader Bishop Anthony Fisher at the Sanctuary of Saint Rose of Lima. The day ended with evening prayer in the chapel at the Cushing Centre.

Saint Rose of Lima – WYD 2013 Patron
Isabel Flores of Olive was born in Lima to a family that was deeply rooted in Christian values and education. Her family nicknamed her ‘Rose’ as she was such a beautiful baby.

Growing up, Rose participated in the spiritual life of the Dominican community through their spiritual centre in colonial Lima at St Dominic’s Cathedral. There she regularly received the Lord in the Eucharist and learnt to pray. At the age of 20 she felt called to contemplative religious life. Rose found a way to enter the Order of Preachers of St Dominic’s. She built a small chapel in the yard of her father’s house, where she spent countless hours in prayer.

From there, she served the poor and sick of Lima, who would come to her house looking for help.

Rose lived a profoundly spiritual life with a strong foundation in prayer and discipline. She explains in her writings that discipline is necessary to be filled by the Holy Spirit, to be guided by the Holy Spirit and to be able to go beyond oneself and truly change the world.

Rose becomes an advocate for and symbol of, the value of prayer. Other pillars of her spiritual life included the Eucharist and her deep devotion to the Virgin Mary. She was a great proponent of praying the Rosary, saying that every Christian should preach it to the world and have it engraved on their heart.

St Rose of Lima was not a nun; rather she spent most of her life at her family home where she worked hard to help support the family. St Rose was a mystic and visionary, who received many mental and physical sufferings, including invisible stigmata. She died a saintly death at the age of 31 in 1617. Her canonization took place in 1671, making her the first Saint to be born on the American continent. She is the Patron Saint of South America and the Philippines.

Monday 15 July began with the Divine Office, the official set of daily prayers prescribed by the Catholic Church to be recited by clergy, religious institutes and laity. After breakfast we set out for one of nine outreach projects. The next three days were spent learning about and working with Caritas in Lima, in schools and homes. The work was with the poorest and most under-privileged communities around the Peruvian capital in various projects from building and painting of houses to preparing meals and teaching many in the schools for the desperately poor.
The Patrician Brothers College Blacktown pilgrims were involved in the following missionary projects:

**El Agustino - Houses of Hope**
Mr Ray Camilleri, Natnaeil Koko, Mrs Manuela Lavaselli, Jacob McCarthy, Luke McKinnon, Ethan Zahra - finishing and painting the Houses of Hope. Additionally, this group spent time at San Pedro School teaching children.

**Manchay - Divino Nino School**
Jason Gomes, Johnathan Izquierdo, Liam Veldsman, Ms Angela Pham, Edward Manibo, Mandrid Fernandez, Karl Serna, Mr Jim Prendergast, Anas Abu Ganaba, Isaiah Mercardo, Will Reardon - Painting the external walls of the school, working with the children and preparing food.

**Manchay - Espiritu Santo Parish**
Adam Boidin, James Tikolevu, Jimmy Dib, Ms Jessica Fleming, Andrew Mallet - painting external walls and doors of the church.

**Manchay - Virgin del Carmen School**
Klayne Soans, Jarrett Spice - painting, working in kitchen and dining room.
The overwhelming comment from the pilgrims was of a deeper understanding of the poor and a new sense of awareness and appreciation of what we have in our own lives. Many questioned what they could do to help those in need around the world and the support of those who undertake missionary work around the world. The day ended with the Votive Mass for Saint Dominic, dinner and evening prayer.

Tuesday 16 July began with morning prayer, breakfast and a return to the missionary projects. However in the afternoon the Manchay projects finished early for a special project. Pilgrims travelled to the Johannes Paulus Institute at the request of the local Bishop to help in an environmental project to plant trees. What a great afternoon it was as 180 pilgrims climbed the hill behind the institute to plant trees. The day ended with Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, dinner and evening prayer.

The morning of Wednesday 17 July began with planning meetings to ensure that all projects could be finished by the end of the day, a challenge with the limited equipment available. But in the true pilgrim spirit and a desire to finish what had been started, all projects were finished before we had to head to a celebration in Manchay, put on by the local community in thanks for our efforts over the past three days. Mass followed with the Archbishop of Lima making time to celebrate the Votive Mass of Saint Martin de Porres. The local Parish put on a great dinner and we made the return trip to the Cushing Centre to pack and prepare to fly to Iguazu Falls on Thursday. But by the time we had returned to the centre the word had come through that our flight had been delayed.

Thursday 17 July was a day of waiting, so we started with morning prayer, breakfast and then an opportunity to unpack the mission experience of the past three days. It would in fact be the highlight for most pilgrims of the journey to Rio. We celebrated Mass and watched the movie The Mission in preparation for a shortened visit to Iguazu. However, Friday afternoon saw the pilgrims move to hotels in Loma, for a few hours sleep before an early departure to Rio. After another short delay we arrived in Rio on Saturday evening and went directly to Aussie Central, our accommodation for WYD, in readiness for the focus of our pilgrimage - WYD with Pope Francis.

Part 2 of our WYD Report will be in the next issue of The Focus.
2013 Australian Mathematics Competition
The Australian Mathematics Competition was held on 1st of August 2013 in the Patrician Learning Centre. Forty four interested students across Years 7 to 10 took part in the competition this year. Mrs Arnold and Mr Jayakody supervised the competition and they are of the view that the competition took place with an excellent spirit and very high motivation levels. We expect to get more student numbers in next year’s competition and interested students have to register for the competition in early May 2014. The cost of the competition is approximately $5.50. The results are expected to be released in 4 to 5 weeks.

Mr Priyantha Jayakody and Mr Aaron Kim, Mathematics Competition Organisers

Upcoming University Open Days

ACU Strathfield Campus – Saturday 7th September 2013
Macquarie University – Saturday 14th September 2013
Deakin University (Vic) Aug 4-25 www.deakin.edu.au

Careers Update

$2000 Housing NSW Youth Scholarship
Will you be in Year 11 or 12 in 2014 and think a $2000 scholarship would help your studies? If you live in social housing or are on the NSW Housing Register, you may be eligible for a $2000 Housing NSW Youth Scholarship. There are 200 scholarships on offer. Application close the 16th August 2013
Download the information sheet and application form today from www.housing.nsw.gov.au

Health Heroes
Health Heroes is a campaign aimed to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students to consider a career in health. The library has sent a DVD containing interviews with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people currently working or studying in the health sector, exploring how they are making a difference in their chosen profession. This DVD is available for borrowing. Please see the library staff if you are interested.

You can also find out more at www.Australia.gov.au/healthheroes

MacDonalds Careers Evening
Thursday 15 August 6pm - 7.30pm
Charlie Bell School of Management, 14-18 Central Ave, Thornleigh
Contact http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VX5SHKW

Scholarships at UNE
University of New England Scholarship booklets and application forms are now available for Undergraduate Courses for School Leavers. Applications close 30th September 2013

God is with us – Family Prayer Book
Dear Families,
When Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI announced the Year of Faith, which the Church is currently celebrating, he said that the ‘door of faith’ always remains open to us. You will be receiving a copy of God is with us, a prayer book for families. It is my hope that this prayer book may be a door of faith for your family in this Year of Faith.

God is with us is a book of prayers for use in the family home. Along with traditional and daily prayers, there are prayers for special occasions, which provide an opportunity to recognise God’s presence at important moments of family life/ Special reference is made to the devotion of the Angelus, which is prayed daily in every Catholic school in the diocese. You will also note that the back cover provides links to Bishop Anthony Fisher’s OP Facebook page and the YouCat, which is short for youth catechism. Each of these resources may be used to deepen our understanding of the Gospel. Your son’s teachers will also lead prayer at school. Let us keep each other in our prayers and mark the Year of Faith by putting God at the heart of our homes.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to Catholic Education.

Gregory Whitby, Executive Director of Schools

Announcing the iPad edition of the directory undergraduate 2014
The directory undergraduate 2014 has now been launched as an iPad app as well as the existing iPhone and print editions. It includes every undergraduate course and associated entry score at Australian universities by detailed field of study.

The key feature of the directory is the listing of courses and associated entry scores by relevant subject areas. It renders the complex mass of detail of university course offerings into a manageable proposition - and it all becomes easy.

It enables students to link entry scores to HSC subject bonus points for their particular subject mix - and in doing so, cuts through the massive complexity and mystery of it all.

iPhone/iPad app directory undergraduate 2014 (you can copy this link to the App Store) $5.49

Forrest.

Contact
Charlie Bell School of Management, 14-18 Central Ave, Thornleigh
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Forrest.

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Six in a Row!
The 2013 MCS Tennis squad needs to be commended on their achievements, winning two of the three divisions on offer and finishing a close runner-up in the third. Patrician Brothers are overall champions yet again, taking out the title 6 years in row. Each player fought hard on the day to contribute to the success of the team. Well done to our Semi-Finalists and Finalists and particularly to the following boys who took out their division as champions: Alex Vlismas & Wally Wehbe (U17 Doubles); Tyran Liddiard & Rahul Parihar (U16 Doubles); Nicholas Femia & Alex Fenech (U14 Doubles) and Aaron Baker & Aasir Khan (U12 Doubles).

Notable results:
U12 Aaron Baker and Aasir Khan (Doubles Champions)
U13 Ayden Dever (Runner up)
Gergis Abdalla and Yuvraj Singh (Doubles Semi Finalists)
U14 Nicholas Femia and Alex Fenech (Doubles Champions)
U15 Levi Murray and Joel Wheatley (Doubles Runners up)
U16 Mark Haskins (Singles Semi Finalist)
Tyran Liddiard and Rahul Parihar (Doubles Champions)
U/17 Kaine Coomerawel (Singles Semi Finalist)
Alex Vlismas and Wally Wehbe (Doubles Champions)
Opens Thomaso Lofaro (Singles Semi Finalist)
Sean Pereira and Patrick Walker (Doubles Semi Finalists)

The complete squad:
U12 Nicholas Uraludag, Aaron Baker, Aasir Khan and Noah Chen
U13 Ayden Dever, Gergis Abdalla, Yuvraj Singh and Terry–James Kairouz
U14 Camil Abouchaaya, Nicholas Femia, Alex Fenech and Jayden Leishman
U15 Lucian Fitzgerald Rogers, Levi Murray, Joel Wheatley and Ford Zapanta
U16 Mark Haskins, Tyran Liddiard, Rahul Parihar and Lachlan Hand
U17 Kaine Coomerawel, Alex Vlismas, Wally Wehbe and Lucas Goncalves Pereira Dowson
Opens Thomaso Lofaro, Sean Pereira, Patrick Walker and Manjot Khuman

Mr Manny Scalone, Tennis Coach
Giants Cup Zone Final

On 24 July, a dedicated group of students arrived at school at 6am to travel down to Canberra to compete in the AFL Giants Cup Zone Finals. The boys were playing against the best schools from Western Sydney and the ACT/South Coast. The first game was against St John the Evangelist High School Nowra. In a dominating performance, the boys won convincingly 15 13 (103) to 1 0 (6). The team we played in the final was Daramalan College, Canberra who had beaten St John’s by 6 points. The boys settled in the second half to keep Daramalan goalless in the second half to win 7 4 (46) to 2 3 (15). As winners of the Western Sydney/ACT/South Coast zone, Patrician Brothers progress to the State Finals on 21 August at the Blacktown International Sports Park. The winners of the State Finals go on to play the winners of the NT and QLD competitions for the Northern Australian title.

Round 1 MCS AFL
Both the U14’s and Seniors MCS AFL teams got off to a great start in the competition with resounding victories over Trinity Catholic College, Auburn. A fantastic effort by Michael Zakhia whose strong play bagged him 4 goals. Our new full forward, Patrick Gilmour also scored 4 goals. The Umpire commented after the game on the strong performance by the boys. A great start to the competition.

U14 Coach: Chris Hersey
Seniors Coach: Scott Gallen

U14 Rugby League State Knockout
The U14 Rugby League season came to an end on Wednesday the 31st with an outstanding performance in the NSW All Schools Carnival. The season began with the team dominating and remaining undefeated during the MCS competition and winning the grand final 32 to 12 against St Dominic’s Penrith. The NSW All Schools Carnival is the toughest test for any schoolboy rugby league team and the team confirmed their status as one of the top 3 teams in the state losing a hard fought, close game in the semifinal.

It has been a pleasure to be associated with these young men who have shown the characteristics of enthusiasm, dedication and sportsmanship for which the school is famous. The team is: Josh Curran, Lachlan Pickering Roser, Jerome Rouss, Raymond Johnston, Jakson Cleverly, Robert Afu, Shannon Gardiner, Simone Teekafa, Ryan Pritchard, Terrell May, Jarrod Spicer, Leeroy Brown, Zach Nuttall, Jake Hunter, Michael Zakhia, Aifesili Leaia, Bailey Fisher, Kyle Bent, Teeson Lemusu, Luke Jones and Brock Pelligra.

Mr Dominic Cullen, Coach

U15 Rugby League State Knockout
The U15 team was crowned State Champions when they defeated Westfields Sports High in a very physical final, 18 points to nil. This is now the third state title for this team, having previously taken out the U12 and U13 titles. The game began very evenly but with half time fast approaching, a backline movement sent Zane Blake 80 metres to score a sensational try. After the resumption of play, the Patties boys came out enthusiastically in both attack and defence. This led to a determined run from Jesse Abbott to crash over off another quick set of hands. It wasn’t long after that Spike Teio would continue the points scoring with a strong charge off a great tip-on from Stefano Soni. Giovanni Leota and John Tosy typified the defensive attitude of the team with some blockbusting hits on much larger opponents. Across the day the boys scored a total of 90 points and only conceded 4 points. The one try that was scored was off a very fortunate kick! The dedication and application towards training, and an undefeated MCS season, were the catalyst for the end result on the day. Special mention must be given to our captain, Raymond Maroun, who led from the front all day. Jonah Metuangaro received the player of the final award and Sean O’Sullivan guided the team around the paddock from the first whistle. The front row rotation was all class, with Stefano Soni, Samuel Radovu, Ben Cartwright and Spike Teio all paving the way for our backs to attack. Each member of the squad played a significant role in the state title victory!

Grand Final- defeated Westfields 18-0
Semi Final- defeated Hills Sports High 26-0
Quarter Final- defeated St Greg’s Campbelltown 18-4
1. Jonah Metuangaro
2. Tyrell Maui
3. John Tosy
4. Jesse Abbott
5. Zane Blake
6. Joel Bradford
7. Sean O’Sullivan
8. Stefano Soni
9. Raymond Maroun
10. Ben Cartwright
11. Michael Tupou
12. Mose Feilo
13. Mitchell Butfield
14. Samuel Radovu
15. Spike Teio
16. Giovanni Leota
17. Terrell Smith
18. Meni Luke
19. Johann Schaaf
20. Isaiah Vaelia Torrisi
21. Jake Gillett-Gow
22. Beni Valu
23. D’Angelo Tolu

Photographer: Mrs Melanie D’Cruz
Trainers: Nathan Campbell, Matthew Moylan & Vanburn D’Morías
Manager: Mrs Kim Antonelli
Coach: Mr Matthew Hartigan
The final game of the GIO Cup round had no significance on the semi-final as we had already qualified but it was important that the team put in a good performance to build momentum for the big games ahead.

The team required little motivation for this fixture as we were playing our arch rivals Hills Sports High who are always a difficult opponent to play against.

In the first half our team put in a near perfect performance, with strong defence not allowing our opponents to get into the game. This enabled our forwards to dominate the game and go in at half time leading 24-0.

The coaching staff at half time impressed upon the team that the job was only half done and they must stick to the game plan and not allow our opponents to get back into the game.

In the first 20 minutes of the second half the team stuck to the game plan and the points followed. However, in the last 10 minutes our concentration levels fell away and we committed a number of errors and our opponents were able to get on the scoreboard.

The efforts of our small band of supporters played a big part in the result with their enthusiastic support and at times it sounded as if we had over 200 supporters in attendance.

The team will not play the semi-final of the GIO Cup until September so it is important that team members make a big effort at training over the next few weeks.

Result:
Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown 38
defeated
Hills Sports High School 4
Tries – Joshua Aloiai, Sione Utia-Katoa, Sione Tonga, Cowan Epere, Brent Naden, Tyrone May, Ethan Fagaloa
Goals – Christian Crichton x 5
Man on the Hill
PBB School Sport
Award Recipients:
Tyson Charter, Hans Zabala, Zorawar Singh, Andrew Norman, Jerome Rouss, Max Tomasic, Benjamin Jaedon Salvador, Andrew Costaganna, Roman Koong, Kadrick Cheema, Gilbertus Toenroe, Anthony Patiole, Lorenzo Pritchard, Austin James, Mark Fang, Patrick May, Terrell May, Christopher Simic, Nico Sandaga, Hayden Blankley, Robert Afu, Duwanye Fuimaono, Brodie Vassallo
Find your pic on Instagram @PBBSCHOOLSPORT
Pictured above are the wonderful young men who are fortunate enough to be in our Cooking Club!

On the right are some of our very talented Table Tennis players led by the very popular Mr Robert Bangel.

Pictured on the left are the prize recipients from Basketball.
Parent Forum
Tuesday 27 August 2013

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start

ALL WELCOME

All parents are encouraged to attend our Parent Forum. This will take place in the Patrician Learning Centre and will be run by the Diocesan PRC. Please come along and meet other parents who share the same interests as you … wanting the best possible educational and spiritual outcomes for their children!

Topics to be covered:

Are you planning a party for teenagers at home?
Is your teenager hitting the party scene?
Come and hear a “Safe Partying” presentation conducted by your Local Area Police Liaison Officer. An initiative to help your teenager have a great time and remain safe.

Does your teenager’s pocket money cover their spending?
Is your teenager able to save/invest money?
Share in a Financial Literacy presentation designed to help your teenage make successful financial decisions & avoid “the credit trap” – now & for the future!

To assist us with catering, please RSVP your ability to attend by Monday 19 August 2013 Samantha.Borg@parra.catholic.edu.au or 9671 3000
Diocesan and CEO Announcements

New website for St Finbar’s Parish, Glenbrook
St Finbar's Parish has launched a new site to help share the Good News with the community of Glenbrook. Whether you are new to the Glenbrook area, a long-time parishioner or enjoying a short stay in the Blue Mountains, the new site provides easy-to-find information, including parish news & events and parish bulletins, as well as details for weekly Mass times, Reconciliation, marriage ceremonies and Baptism. The website has been created by the Diocese of Parramatta through the support of the Diocesan Development Fund.

Hunter Valley Winery Day Tour: 14 September
Enjoy a coach-driven tour of Hunter Valley wineries while raising funds for Project Ten: 2003-2013, a program of major works in St Patrick’s Cathedral precinct. The full day itinerary includes visits to some of the family-owned wineries operating in the region. Departures will be from Penrith and Seven Hills at 7am, returning at 7pm. It is great value at $65 for adults and $55 concession. Book your seat with Helen Howard tel (02) 8838 3403, howard@parra.catholic.org.au

Faith in Marriage: 15 September
A conference on marriage, for couples, hosted by Catholic Care Social Services Parramatta in conjunction with Australian Catholic University. Incorporating the annual Celebrating the Journey Mass in St Patrick’s Cathedral with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP. The gifts and graces of marriage give us great hope and strength for ourselves and our society. Participants share their insights, observations and experiences for building and enriching marriages. Time: 8.45am-5pm. Venue: Our Lady of Mercy College, Ross St, Parramatta. Cost: $50 per couple or $25 for individuals (includes hot finger food lunch, morning and afternoon tea). Register by 15 August: tel (02) 9933 0222, marriage@ccss.org.au

Walk to honour The Assumption of Our Blessed Mother Mary: 15 August
Starts 2pm at Holy Innocents Chapel, Garden of the Immaculate, Kellyville Franciscan Friary, 8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville. We will walk along Windsor Road to St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta (approx. 14km). There will be refreshment stops along the way. Everyone is welcome to bring Marian banners and join us at any point of the pilgrim walk. Please contact Angela at the Kellyville parish office (02) 9629 2595 at least one week in advance in courtesy. Everyone very welcome to join.

Wisdom at the Gate: 16-17 August
A colloquium facilitated by the Council for Australian Catholic Women and supported by the National Office for the Participation of Women. It aims to gather, connect and re-energise those who are responding to the issues of women’s participation in our Church within their local context. It is open to all women of faith who are interested in dreaming together and sharing wisdom, and is particularly aimed at those working in a Church context, whether in voluntary or paid capacities. Watch the video at: www.wisdomatthegate.org.au Venue: Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney. Prices start at $109 (GST incl).

Christian Meditation: 18 August
You are invited to a Christian Meditation Renewal & Introduction Day at St Benedict's Monastery. Arrive 10am for 10.30am. Program includes presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. Concludes about 3pm. BYO picnic lunch. Tea & coffee provided. Books & CDs for sale. Monastery is at 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, tel (02) 9653 1159. For accommodation at ‘The Cottage’ guest house contact Br Terry 0438 282 318. Inquiries: Ann Bergman (02) 9498 2625, anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas (02) 9456 4775, atlomas@bigpond.com

Australian Catholic Historical Society Colloquium: 18 August
Spying for the Holy Office: a Sydney story. Speaker: Emeritus Prof Fr Edmund Campion, latterly Catholic Institute of Sydney. Time: 2.30pm – all welcome. Crypt Hall of St Patrick’s at Church Hill, Grosvenor St, The Rocks. Inquiries: Dr John Carmody, President ACHS, (02) 9417 2082, john.carmody@sydney.edu.au

Grace & Silence Retreat Day: 31 August
Young women aged 17-30 who are discerning their vocation to marriage, single or consecrated life are invited to the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa for a Grace & Silence Retreat Day on Saturday 31 August. Grace & Silence commences with Eucharistic Adoration; silent prayer and reflection and concludes with a group rosary and afternoon tea. Cost: $20 includes lunch. Time: 9.30am-4.30pm. Venue: 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Further information and registration contact Sr M Julie tel 0408 738 334 or juliebrcar@gmail.com

Mass in Igbo language: 11 August
Mass celebrated in Nigerian by Rev Fr Henry Ibe. Time: 11.30am at St Oliver Plunkett’s Church, 35 Wigram St, Harris Park. Details: Austin Okerefor: 0421 928 116, Evaton Onton: 0469 627 218 or Stella Nwosu tel 0405 478 472, 8678 2118, stellanwosu@msn.com

St Philomena Association Holy Mass: 10 August
Mass at noon with confessions from 11.30am. St John Vianney's Catholic Church, 17 Cameron St, Doonside. Nearest railway station is Doonside, next one after Blacktown (please bring a snack to share) to Elizabeth tel 0423 15 44 63 or epeoples9@gmail.com

$100, $50, $25 Gift Vouchers
Will YOU be the lucky recipient of the fabulous CASH Gift Vouchers?

Then you need to enter the 2013 Principal’s Writing Challenge
**Principal’s Writing Challenge**  
An exciting opportunity to sharpen your writing skills.  
ALL students will be involved in this competition.  
EVERY English class will have the opportunity to win $100, $50 and $25 CASH gift vouchers!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entrants</th>
<th>Every student in Years 7-12 is required to enter the Principal’s Writing Challenge.</th>
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</table>
| Stimulus | “Your path to…”  
The phrase “Your path to …” is the stimulus for your writing submission.  
You may choose how this term will be interpreted and incorporated into the writing piece. |
| Word Limit | Year 7 - 10: **500 words**  
Year 11 - 12: **750 words** |
| Closing Date | Monday 12th August 2013 (Week 5, Term 3) |
| Submission Details | All entries are to be submitted to your homeroom teacher on the due date.  
Cover sheet to be attached to the front of your submission. |
| Format | Entries should be typed, double-spaced. Presented in Times 12 Point. A4 sized paper to be used. Submissions to be stapled in the top right hand corner.  
No plastic sleeves or folders to be submitted.  
Do not use illustrations, photos, borders, colours or fancy fonts, more than one column or landscape layout. |
| Prizes | There will be THREE winners from EACH English class in Years 7 -12.  
1st in each class receives a **$100** Westpoint Voucher, 2nd in each class receives a **$50** Westpoint Voucher, 3rd in each class receives a **$25** Westpoint Voucher.  
Prizes presented at a special assembly on Monday 16 September. |
| Judging | A panel of teachers will decide on the winning entry from each class.  

*The judges will look for the following features in your writing:*

**Creativity and Originality**  
The submission is engaging, original and incorporates the stimulus in an interesting way.

**Structure**  
Submission follows correct narrative structure including, orientation, complication, climax, resolution

**Language**  
Correct word usage, tense, grammar, punctuation.  
Use of imagery, symbolism and other devices such as irony, humour.  
Appropriate and creative use of language to develop the character/s, atmosphere and plot.

**Audience and Purpose**  
Submission must be suitable for publication in *The Focus*.  
The submission should demonstrate language appropriate to audience and purpose.
Is this four-pointer by West Tigers' David Nofoaluma rugby league's try of the decade?

THEY'RE calling it the try of the decade.

Barrelling through at speed, Nofoaluma then leapt, caught the Steeden and, still in the air, got spun through almost 180 degrees as Sea Eagles opposite Jorge Tafua tried to send him out.

The former Patrician Brothers' College student was simply outstanding on a night that Wests Tigers would rather forget.

Trio follow in greats' footsteps

Electric' Origin curtain-raiser not forgotten
Classy clash of fullbacks

The student came face-to-face with the teacher on Sunday — and the teacher won a narrow points victory. Panthers fullback Matt Moylan took on his former mates in the Sharks No. 1 Western Grounds Grade side, before moving on to play fullback in the Sharks’ 18-10 win. Moylan was the Panthers’ best, creating several attacking opportunities and scoring the match-winning try from the 77th minute.

Signed up: Tim Simona, congratulated by Chris Lawrence, signed a contract extension last week, and is one of many players the Tigers are able to keep with their salary cap problems easing.

$1m for marquee men

By Gees Jackson and Adrian Prosenzke

WESTS Tigers will have a $1 million war chest to spend on marquee signings for the 2015 season following Benji Marshall’s decision to part ways with the club.

Marshall will see out the season with the Tigers but is poised to defect to rugby next year after rejecting a $2.1 million, three-year offer to remain with the club.

The club is likely to join one of three Super Rugby clubs to have expressed interest in taking on Marshall, and if the offer is accepted, the Tigers will have to find a replacement for the marquee man.

While there are no real superstars left on the open market for next year, Tigers officials who are contacting managers to obtain future fee-agreements believe they are well positioned to chase marquee men for 2015.

“The club now has a massive opportunity to invest in our future,” Tigers chief operating officer Grant Mayer said.

“We are already talking to a number of marquee players who already have offers on the table.”

They have also locked in Jillian Vokera, dressed in a maroon and black shirt, and will be joined by Benji Marshall who has been in talks with the club over a three-year deal.

The Tigers have been in talks with NRL officials over the possibility of Marshall joining the club, and if the deal is accepted, the Tigers will have to find a replacement for the marquee man.

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The Panthers were at ground zero when leaving the club as Nick Nalashaw discovers

THE FUTURE IS HERE

Ph: 9671 3000
Fax: 9831 6617

100 Flushcombe Road Blacktown 2148
www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au

NRL debut at the Warriors in 2011 — by then coach Ivan Cleary — exploded into arguably the form halfback of the premiership overnight.

But then, in round 24, the Warriors travelled to Penrith. And John did his ACL. Suddenly, forced to watch on from the sidelines as another rookie, a kid by the name of Shaun Johnson, not only played the Warriors into a grand final, but himself into a New Zealand Test side and then The Next Benji Marshall headlines.

Asked about the sliding doors John says: “I have no point having any malice because nothing was going to stop Shano.

“England just didn’t work and, after realising I was wanted, I stopped doing extras and slipped into a party lifestyle.”

**It just wasn’t worth it anymore.”**

Enter Penrith.

Those battling vesties who despite starting the season as wooden spoon favourites, are now just one win outside the eight with John looking every inch the playmaker he was always hailed up to be.

A footballer who, dare we say it, appears to be happy?

“Ah honestly, I haven’t even thought beyond this week,” the playmaker says with a nervous laugh that confirms it’s no joke.

“Every week when Ivan names the team, I’m still nervous, sitting there waiting for my name to be called.

“I guess, I’ve got England to thank for that. I’m not sure I could ever be complacent... not when I know how easily it can all be taken away.”
Junior Baseball League

Coen Wynne of Year 9 has been selected in a New South Wales Junior Baseball League Touring Team. Coen will be taking part in a tournament in St Louis, USA in August. We wish Coen all the best for this experience.

Paul Myliotis
Director

Ph: (02) 8705 3250 | Fax: (02) 9909 1580 | Mob: 0404 046 467
Postal: PO Box 325 Cremorne NSW 2090
Address: Suite 12, Level 1, 287 Military Rd Cremorne NSW 2090
Web: www.omoney.com.au

Please visit our NEW website and follow the link to our OFFICIAL Facebook Page:

www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au

Simply scroll your phone, iPad or other device over our QR code for immediate connection to our new website.
Post WYD Gathering - Sunday 18th August 2013
All WYD 2013 pilgrims and the Youth and Young Adults from the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to attend the Post WYD Gathering & Catechesis with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP.
Date: Sunday, 18th August 2013
Place: St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta
Time: Mass: 6pm, followed by a BBQ afterwards
Ages: 16-35 years
For catering purposes, please RSVP by Monday 12th August to CYP on youthevent@parra.catholic.org.au Madonna 0407 938 196 or Annabelle 0408 420 331