From the Principal

Pride in our Patties Boys
Two recent events have affirmed my belief that my staff and I are very fortunate to be members of the PBC community.
Firstly, the Annual Swimming Carnival was witness to wonderful school spirit and camaraderie. The level of participation, engagement and enthusiasm of our boys was inspiring. Congratulations to all involved in a great community event! As Wade Berry of Year 12 posted on our Facebook Page, “The BEST day ever!”
Secondly, the St Patrick’s Day Mass celebration was testament to the unique and envied spirit of Patrician Brothers’ College!
We should all be very proud of our ‘Patties Boys’!

Easter Message
The challenge of the Christian message - the wonder of Easter - is that Christ died so that we no longer live for ourselves, we live for something bigger. He gives us a new focus as we live for him and his teachings. As we take on that focus, it will help us to not be as selfish; not to live for ourselves and, in this way, we will all make the world a better place.
Perhaps the final word should be given to Pope Francis. “Once again the Easter message comes from Francis of Assisi,” he says. “Peace and goodness; especially to those who are suffering, to the sick, the depressed, the bereaved, those experiencing misfortune. Christ asks us to announce the peace of Easter to each and everyone. So happy Easter and Easter peace.”

Please continue to take care of each other,
Santo Passarello

Caritas Fundraising
Our students, led by Ms Jessica Fleming and Ms Charmaine Castellino ran a very successful hot cross bun extravaganza! Pictured is Wayne Boney enjoying his hot cross bun! Pictured also are Ms Melissa Luppino and Ms Jaimee Bocasan.
From the Assistant Principal

Term 1 has almost concluded and Easter is not far away. Last week our Year 7 students and staff braved the wilds of Mulgoa to participate in Camp Week. All reports from those involved have been very positive and we trust that this experience will not only contribute to the resilience and skills of individual students but will also serve as a community development activity for this cohort of students. Year 12 have completed the first week of their Half-Yearly Examinations and seem to be coping very well with the experience. Of course, this is the final internal examination block before these students face the Trial HSC Examinations early in Term 3 so it is crucial that they use this experience to hone their examination skills such as study preparation and time management. Finally, last week we held our Progress Interviews for 2014. The support of the parents involved was evident in all interviews and we hope that these discussions will contribute to better engagement with learning for their sons.

In terms of reminders for this fortnight — we again emphasise the need for students to avoid loitering in areas around Westpoint and Blacktown Station. There are very few students who have genuine reason to even enter Westpoint on school days and we have explained to them at length some of the potential problems that can arise when groups of young people gather in these areas for no good reason. Unfortunately, it only takes the misbehaviour of one or two students to significantly raise the levels of alertness and sensitivity of the security staff who patrol these areas. When these conflicts arise, our instruction to Westpoint or Blacktown Station management is to immediately contact Blacktown Police and the parents of the offenders.

Most parents would also recall that for several years now, we have banned our students from Level 4 at Westpoint - before, during and after school. This area has been identified for several years now by Blacktown Police as a hot-spot for misbehaviour and problems involving young people and there is no reason for our students to frequent this area. Our Year Coordinators specifically target this area during their morning and afternoon patrols of Westpoint and the Blacktown Railway interchange areas and students who breach this ban can expect serious consequences. We have been fortunate in recent years that our students have not experienced many problems in the Blacktown CBD and we are determined to continue this situation. In general terms, the behaviour of our students in Westpoint is very good but part of the reason for this is that we receive excellent information on a daily basis from Blacktown Police, a number of store owners and an extensive network of ex-students; enabling us to respond to most reports of misbehaviour very quickly.

We also ask your support in terms of ensuring that you are monitoring your son’s attendance and punctuality closely. As we enter Term 2, we ask that all parents keep a close check that their son is attending school every day as required by law. An important part of the daily schedules of our Year Coordinators and front office staff is to monitor and follow up on patterns of absence or lateness. The feedback we receive from parents when we contact them about suspicious absences is generally extremely positive and appreciative. We also enjoy strong support from Blacktown Police in terms of questioning any students found loitering around Blacktown or Mount Druitt without apparent reason.

Mr Brian Edmonds

Africa Day Mass and Celebration

To mark the 2014 Africa Day, The African Catholic Community in the Diocese of Parramatta invite you to celebrate the Eucharist with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP as the Principal Celebrant.

The Mass is a unifying and spiritual means for us to celebrate African unity and culture.

Date: Sunday 25 May, 2014

Venue: St Patrick’s Church, Blacktown (51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown)

Time: 2.00pm prompt

There will be a special collection to raise funds to support the ‘All Saints of Africa Centre’ at Blacktown as well as socialisation with African cultural/traditional dance and food after the Mass. Our Principal, Mr Santo Passarello, will be attending and he would love to see as many students, staff and parents as possible join him.

From the College Captain

We have reached the end of a successful and eventful Term. Throughout Term 1, the entire school community has worked together to make this Term an enjoyable and successful one. From the level of participation at the annual Swimming Carnival to the amazing generosity of all in almsgiving to Project Compassion; from the level of maturity displayed at the Senior Dance to the consistent effort and subsequent victories of our A and B Grade Basketball teams, and the opening of the School Amphitheatre. We have also seen many individuals display their talents in the academic and sporting fields, embodying the College theme of 2014 “Don’t Bury Your Talents”.

With this level of success, we look with optimism to Term 2, as we continue to work as a community to not only replicate, but surpass the level of success attained in Term 1. With this in mind, we keep in our prayers those members within our community who are undergoing personal turmoil. We remind them that they are not alone, and that the strong sense of community spirit experienced at Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown is extended to them and the general community. I wish all the students, staff and greater school community a safe and happy holiday; may it bring you much joy and a well deserved break. Stay safe, and God bless.

Omar Dewan
St Patrick's Day

We recently gathered as a school community to celebrate the feast of St Patrick, the patron saint of the Patrician Brothers. On February 2nd 1808, Bishop Daniel Delany formally declared that the first Patrician Brothers would dedicate their lives to continue the mission of St Patrick. Like Saint Patrick and as declared in his great prayer, The Breastplate, the Brothers strive to see Christ in his creation and in the people to whom they have committed their lives. The Mass was a great faith experience, enhanced by the reverent participation of all those gathered, an inspirational homily by Fr Chris, from St Patrick’s Blacktown and outstanding music. Fr Chris, during Mass, challenged us all to continue the work of the Patrician Brothers and ‘Do not Bury your Talents’.

Mr Gregory Beacroft, Liturgy Coordinator
We are extremely proud that our community still chooses to produce a chronicle of the achievements of its students, staff and parent community. Many schools no longer allocate the time, energy and resources to such a production.

In the year that we sought to celebrate our “gifts and graces”, it is particularly fitting that our 2013 Yearbook provides such a comprehensive window into the achievements of our community.

We certainly had much to celebrate!

First and foremost we are a Catholic school. Our faith formation is at the centre of all that we do. Whether it was our commitment to World Youth Day, the Australian Catholic Youth Festival, the Student Catechist Program, our school-based Sacramental Program or our weekly Masses - we are proud of the role our school plays in the faith formation of the young men in our care.

Our NAPLAN and HSC results once again placed Patrician Brothers’ College as one of the top Catholic systemic schools in NSW.

The level of engagement of the students and the commitment and dedication of the college staff is unparalleled. As a consequence our students have the privilege of participating in a remarkable range of co-curricular activities.

I feel particularly blessed to work in such a vibrant and dynamic community. My appreciation is extended to all our young men – you embody everything that is good and wholesome about Patrician Brothers’ College and our Church. I also extend my gratitude to the staff and parents – thank you for the many gifts and graces you share with one another and the wider community.

When I reflect on 2013, it is clear that the value and strength of relationships is at the heart of our success. Thank you to all of our significant stakeholders – students, staff, parents, parish and the wider community.

I hope that you get pleasure from the 2013 history of Patrician Brothers’ College. I wish to acknowledge Mr Jeremy Lane, Mrs Marie Lane, Mrs Pauline Field, Mr Steven Mulligan, Mr Brian Edmonds, Mr Andrew Green (Brilliant Images and Graphics) and Mr Jeff Hosnell (Printciple Source Pty Ltd), for their outstanding assistance in the production of this Yearbook.

Mr Santo Passarello,
Principal
From Director of Studies

Debating

First Round of Senior Debating began well with a convincing win for the Senior A team over Patrician Brothers’ College Fairfield. The topic was that “Scientists should hang their heads in shame” and our boys argued for the affirmative. Their knowledge of recent and historical scientific disasters was impressive and they spoke convincingly of the practical consequences and moral ambiguities of failed scientific experimentation. Both teams metaphorically exchanged swords in the debate with our team finally proving to be more consistent and persuasive. Special mention must be made of the newest team member, our own school captain, Omar Dewan, who at the senior level took part in his very first public debate. He did not let that phase him and he was able to establish a very clear and strong case for the team. This was elaborated upon by second speaker Adam Boidin who for a humanist showed overwhelming knowledge of atrocities committed under the guise of science, such as vivisection. The case was finally put to rest by Ryan Soury who logically and methodically dismantled the opposition’s case. Congratulations to the Year 12 team.

Year 12 Semester 1 Examinations

Just a reminder to parents of Year 12 students that in the HSC, misreading of an examination timetable will not be accepted as an excuse for missing an examination. Entering the examination room with an electronic device will also be considered as examination malpractice and the consequences are a N award for that subject which may impact on the student’s eligibility to qualify for the HSC.

Upon receipt of their results students need to consider their efforts in a positive light. Detailed feedback will be given by teachers either on the examination paper or as corporate written or verbal feedback. Sometimes feedback on the exam paper is not really understood, but teachers will work to clarify the areas that were consistently poorly done. Sometimes it all seems overwhelming but students need to first prioritise what is important. One area could simply be to improve attendance; another could be to actually do the work in class and at home so that the content is learned. Students sometimes believe that exposure to information is enough, but they need to learn to apply this information to new situations and have the skills to do this, not only the knowledge. This comes with application, practise and revision. Later in Term 2, the Executive members of the school will interview Year 12 students as they prepare for the Trial HSC, which is in itself significant as the bulk of the assessment weighting is towards the end of a course of study. The Trial HSC is often the last assessment in a subject the students will do and as it is weighted at 30% plus, it is important that students do their very best.

Success is always a result of good planning and the more consistently you work the more luck (or success) you will have.

You just need EFFORT. The recipe for success is below:

E  Enthusiasm, Energy, Elation
F  “wanting to” rather than “having to”
H  Faith, Focus, Fight
P  A genuine belief in your ability to succeed
P  Your support team in good and not so good times
O  Organisation, Ownership, Onus
R  Prioritising your time to get everything done
F  Responsibility, Reliability, Resourcefulness
C  Facing your challenges and not side-stepping a thing
T  Teamwork, Toughness, Tenacity
W  Working with people with single minded purpose

Term 1 Holiday Tutorials for Year 12

This is a great opportunity for boys to address issues that maybe during the busy school term cannot be clarified. Below is the holiday tutorial timetable.

Why do senior students struggle with Creative Writing?

One consistent problem that senior students recognise is the difficulty in writing a creative response. Essays seem to be in the process of being mastered but creativity is such a difficult thing to acquire. The answer lies in the early foundations of learning when reading had a central place in the development of language. Somewhere along the way students become disinterested in reading as the world of physical activities opened up to them. While parents should not force a child to read, it is important that somehow foster that love of reading from primary school and allow it to continue into high school. Reading fosters language development, widens vocabulary and broadens a student’s perspective about the world he lives in. Reading comprehension is also critical for long-term academic success. So, let’s start appreciating the power of books, whether in the printed form or electronic.

Mrs Danuta Paton

Week 1

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Week 2

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<td>History Extension 1pm – 3:30pm in F11</td>
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Over the past Term, Year 12 Chemistry students have been studying ‘Our Acidic Environment’ module. Acidic and basic environments exist everywhere from inside the human body to its use for industrial and home purposes. Because many chemicals are used at home, an awareness of the properties of acids and bases is important for safe handling of materials. During the term, students have conducted pH tests on everyday products and commonly used laboratory chemicals. They have also performed first-hand investigations such as titration experiments to help solve problems; these include preparing standard solutions and using available evidence to quantitatively and qualitatively describe the reaction between selected acids and bases. These titration experiments have introduced Year 12 chemistry students to equipment they have not previously used in junior years and have allowed the students to develop more accurate lab techniques to ensure reliability, validity and accuracy of results. The students have found the experiments to be very challenging but interesting, especially seeing the indicator change colour enabling them to solve the problem. These scientific and accuracy skills will become invaluable for these students in the future.

Ms Angela Pham, Chemistry Teacher

School Sacramental Program

Sacramental Preparation

Our school based Sacramental Program will commence in Term 2 with registration for the program now being taken by Mr Beacroft. Nearly 20 students are registered already from Years 7 to 10 for this year’s course. If you would like to be involved in this program please contact Mr Greg Beacroft. The program outline is:

- Term 2  Reconciliation
- Term 3  First Eucharist
- Term 4  Confirmation
Visual Arts Excursion

On Monday 24th March, Ms Gretel Collison and I had the privilege of taking both Year 11 and Year 12 Visual Arts students to see Art Express at The Armory, Homebush and The Art Gallery of New South Wales. The exhibition hosted an array of extraordinary and outstanding works that represented the best in the state that was submitted for the 2013 HSC. Our students were both in awe and inspired by the standard of work and variety of exceptional skill that was displayed. As their own HSC looms, our current Year 12 came away with fresh vision and inspiration for their own Body of Works.

The Sydney Art Gallery was the best part of the day. Seeing some of the ink sketches, paintings and charcoal drawings has truly inspired me. I now know what I am planning to do for my major work. It was a truly worthwhile trip.

Patrick Ross, Year 11

Art Express has inspired me by the different ideas and concepts of last years Visual Arts high achievers. It gave me a goal for where my work should be by the end of this year.

Eron Alcantara, Year 12

I personally saw the excursion as a realization of the effort and dedication needed in order to obtain such honour and recognition. I highly valued and appreciated the experience, especially in my final schooling year. It’s a clear indication of the many creative minds, ideally in the same position as myself in the state.

Jarrett Spice, Year 12

Mrs Josephine Arcella, Visual Arts Teacher

Pasifika Workshop

Year 7 and Year 8 students of Pacific background enthusiastically participated in a workshop presented by Sam Pilisi of the University of Western Sydney. He is a PATHE (Pasifika Achievement To Higher Education) Project Officer from the Office of Widening Participation School of Social Sciences and Psychology. In his portfolio he looks after schools in the Western Sydney area.

The workshop was titled ‘Dreams and Aspirations’ and highlighted the importance of education. Sam addressed the topics of family, culture, education and dreams. He focused on the positives of school and encouraged the boys to be the best they can in whatever they chose to do.

It was a great motivational workshop and the boys were outstanding in their enthusiasm and good manners. It was a pleasure to be part of this group of boys who participated so wholeheartedly.

Ms Denise Grzelj, Organising Teacher

Counsellor’s Corner

Dr Tim Elmore a leading child and adolescent psychologist shared his thoughts about damaging behaviours he believes that keep children from becoming leaders in their own lives.

The top three problematic behaviours of parents are:

We don’t let our children experience risk

Psychologists in Europe have discovered that if a child doesn’t play outside and is never allowed to experience a skinned knee, they frequently have phobias as adults. Kids need to fall a few times to learn it is normal.

We rescue too quickly

When we rescue too quickly and overindulge our children with assistance, we remove the need to navigate hardships and solve problems on their own.

We rave too easily

The self-esteem movement with ‘everyone’s a winner mentality’ might make our kids feel special, but research is now indicating this might have unintended consequences. Kids eventually observe that Mum and Dad are the only ones who think they are awesome when no one else is saying it. When we rave too easily and disregard poor behaviour, reality will hit them hard.

The full article can be found at http://growingleaders.com

Ms Linda Cassell, College Counsellor

Congratulations

Noorpreet Singh Badwal of 7C15 was selected after 3 weeks of trials to participate for the second year in the U15 NSW Volleyball National competition in Albury NSW. He represented the U15 NSW Volleyball in 2013 when he was only 12 years old. This year he is going to Albury again to represent NSW during the Easter school holidays.

Noorpreet is currently training with the NSW squad at Olympic Park.
Patrician Brothers’ College has recently been the recipient of a very generous gift from The Wiggles. This telescope is a fantastic asset for the College and will be used to support the teaching of astronomy in Senior Physics as well as the Junior School. The telescope is travelling out to Year 7 Camps in Week 10 with one of our senior physics teachers Mr Chris Hersey, to allow students the opportunity to explore the night sky. We would again like to thank The Wiggles for their generosity. The Science Department looks forward to using our new telescope in the years ahead.

Mrs Heather Gilchrist, Science Coordinator

Congratulations

Timothy Hodge of Year 8 competed at the 2014 National Swimming Championships in Brisbane from 31 March until 8 April. This was an Elite level Carnival where they pick swimmers to compete at the Commonwealth Games and Pan Pacific Games.

Gordon Allan of Year 10 recently competed in the National Para-Cycling Series Round 2 that was being held in Bathurst. He won C3 20km Time Trial and currently holds the Leaders Jersey for his C3 classification. Earlier this year Gordon was also nominated and selected to become a member of The Western Sydney Academy of Sport’s Cycle Squad. Gordon is the academy’s first Para-Athlete. A big congratulations to Gordon.

Big Conversation with the Business Council of Australia

Thank you for your support in allowing your students to participate to the Big Conversation with the Business Council of Australia (BCA). This was facilitated by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA). The students were chosen from the students who participated in our Work Inspiration program with VISA in 2013. The staff in the school were amazing in making this happen for the students: Jayne Campbell, Brett Collimore, Rod Howard, Denise Grzelj, Irene Pereira and Peter Moore.

The BCA is an association of the Chief Executives of 100 of Australia’s leading companies which provides a forum for Australian business leaders to contribute directly to public policy debates. The Big Conversation will provide a valuable opportunity for CEOs and young people to explore issues facing employers in their efforts to recruit adequately skilled staff and youth in their transitions from education to employment.

The students were provided with the wonderful opportunity to speak directly to CEOs about what they can do to support young people in their transition from school to further education or work. BCA member CEOs will also share their own education to employment stories and discuss these challenges with young people. They had the opportunity to talk to CEOs from Westpac, Telstra, Commonwealth Bank, NAB, Microsoft and McDonald’s to name a few.

The students spent the morning in a workshop to develop their confidence and communication skills to enable them to speak to the CEOs. There was a lot of opportunity for the students to share with each other. Once they moved into the Big Conversation they were given the opportunity to ask the CEOs questions about the world of work and then to have the CEOs question them.

All of our students were amazing in the way in which they presented themselves and how they communicated. I was extremely proud of them all and they well and truly exceeded my expectations. I had members of FYA and BCA telling me how impressed they were with all our students. There were only 40 students who participated in the conversation and our 9 students were the only Catholic school students. All other students were from state schools.

“CEOs get nervous as well” Corey Scott

"Grab life by the horns and take advantage of whatever opportunities are offered to you" Rohan Hudson

Karen Ruppert, RTO Manager, Catholic Education Office

English Competition

The University Of New South Wales annual International Competitions and Assessment for schools is fast approaching. This year the College is encouraging our boys to enter both the spelling assessment on June 17 and the full English task in late July.

Entry is voluntary, but there are many benefits to entering the competition’s, including entry certificates (which look great in resumes as they indicate a commitment to extra curricular activity), and prizes for high achievers. For the seniors who enter, there is also the possibility of gaining ATAR points for UNSW entry.

Please see Mr James Singh, Mr Mark Strong or Mr Scott Gallen for further information.

Mr Scott Gallen, English Department
Merit Awards
Congratulations to the following award recipients for this fortnight. These awards will be distributed at upcoming Year and College Assemblies.

Bronze Awards
Dean Attard 7C14
Wezley Klein 7C14
Jermaine Ma’u 7C17
Aditya Mehta 7C12
Paul Miranda 7C12
Patrick Moriarty 7C11
Semeatu Saemo 7C15
Benjamin Taulalai 7C12
Miller Taulili-Pelesasa 7C12 2 Awards
Jason Wormleaton 7C12
Aaron Baker 8E10
Samuel Brennan 8D19
Finlay Cham 8D16
Luke Eckersley 8E10
Kaylem Falaniko 8E10
Jayden Gatt 8E10
Timothy Hodge 8D19
Andrew Kaskanotis 8E10
Tej Kehal 8D20
Jahanzaib Khan 8D22
Ravineet Lal 8E10
Adam Mrazek 8D17
George Ragheb 8D17
Haydrian Raki 8E9
Shivpreet Singh 8D22
Blake Smith 8E9
Jonathan Tabone 8E9
Daniel Brown 9A26 5 Awards
Prince Opoku 9B1
Aaron Prasad 9B3 2 Awards

Silver Awards
Shivpreet Singh 8D22
Jacob Forster 10C5

Bronze Awards
Wezley Klein 7C14
Jermaine Ma’u 7C17
Aditya Mehta 7C12
Paul Miranda 7C12
Patrick Moriarty 7C11
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Jonathan Tabone 8E9
Daniel Brown 9A26 5 Awards
Prince Opoku 9B1
Aaron Prasad 9B3 2 Awards

Silver Awards
Shivpreet Singh 8D22
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Good luck to all for the upcoming fortnight!

Mrs Natacha Warnant, Merits Convenor

Round 1 Debating at PBC Fairfield
On Friday night, 28 March, our debating teams travelled to our Patrician linked school at Patrician Brothers’ College Fairfield for the first round of the CSDA competition. Our topics for the evening revolved around current affairs. Our specific topics covered the influence of the media, crime in society and science.

Our teams were well prepared and performed admirably as we won the meet with four wins and two narrow losses. Our up and coming Year 7 team was victorious in their first debate, whilst our Year 9, 10 and Senior A teams carried on from their positive 2013 performances.

Year 7
Fisii Pilitati
Remy Nijjar
Luke Barber
Aditya Mehta

Coaches: Ms Jaimee Bocasan & Ms Melissa Luppino

Year 8
Gajan Sivanesan
Laren Henry
Jonathan Tabone

Coaches: Ms Jessica Fleming & Ms Jacqueline Merceica

Year 9
Sidney Alcantara
Mohak Issar
Rameez Parkar

Coaches: Mr Torquil D’Souza & Ms Melanie Gearing

Year 10
Steven Wehbe
Christos Floratos
Stephen Vassilopoulos
Dylan Byer

Coaches: Mr Jordan Williams & Mrs Courtney Spencer

Year 11
Luke Vella
Rohit Louis
Arjun Nair
Zorawar Singh

Coach: Mr Mark Strong

Year 12
Adam Boidin
Omar Dewan
Monish Sundarampillai
Ryan Souy

Coach: Mrs Danuta Paton

Our second and last debate of the term will be against Parramatta Marist at Patrician Brothers’ Blacktown. Round three will begin in Term 2.

Mr Mark Strong, Public Speaking & Debating Convenor

Year 8 English
This Term my peers and I have been learning about poetry. We talked and did exercises on the techniques used by various writers in their poems and how they engage a reader and keep them reading. My favourite of all the poems we studied is “The Highwayman” because it talks about a rebel thief who is killed along with his girlfriend by the King’s soldiers. The poet uses many techniques such as ‘The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed by stormy seas’ (metaphor) and ‘The road looked like a ribbon of silver on a purple moor’ (simile).

The topic we are currently learning about is “Newspapers/Media”. We study the different kinds of writing in newspapers and how they use very different techniques to poets. I’ve learned that newspaper stories are set out differently to poems and put the important news first rather than leaving it in the middle and end of the story.

For one lesson a week my class studies literacy where we do many exercises in our literacy booklet to improve our writing skills. At the beginning of every lesson we take time to discuss and write what is intended to be learned each lesson. We also discuss ways we know we will have learned by talking about the success criteria.

Maxwell Ngarua, Year 8 English Student
Year 7 Orientation Day for Patrician Linked Schools
A group of Year 7 students represented the College at the Year 7 Orientation Day for Patrician Linked Schools at Liverpool. The Patrician schools that participated were Holy Cross College, Ryde established in 1891; Delany College, Granville established in 1942; Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown established in 1952; Patrician Brothers’ College Fairfield established in 1953 and the host school, All Saints Catholic Boys College, Liverpool established in 1954.
We commenced the day with a liturgy to remind us that we are part of a Patrician family. We then learned a little about the history of each of the schools and the work of the Patrician Brothers. The next part of our day was made up of group activities where we looked at questions such as, how can we see Jesus in everyone, how can we be welcoming to everyone and how can we help the poor. We then participated in a liturgy “See Christ in All”, which included the lighting of a candle to take back to school.
After a BBQ lunch and goodbyes, we returned to school eager to share what had happened on the day with the rest of our community.

Mr Jim Prendergast, Religious Education Coordinator
Swimming Carnival 2014

Our College held its Annual Swimming Carnival at the Blacktown Aquatic Centre. A tight battle emerged between the defending champions, the Marlins and the Hounds. With the lead swapping on a number of occasions, the Massey Marlins prevailed to become Swimming Carnival Champions for the seventh year running.

Thank you to all boys for your attendance, wonderful behaviour and participation on the day.

Mr Vanburn D'Morias, Sports Coordinator

House Results

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Age Champions

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<td>Opens</td>
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<td>Joel Borg</td>
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Records

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<tr>
<td>Daniel Kucheruk</td>
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Record Breaker

Daniel Kucheruk (right) who broke the 50m Breaststroke record. Congratulations Daniel!

Swimming Carnival - Age Champions for 2014

Pictured above are:
Jack Groeneveld, U/15; Connor Baggs, U/17; Timothy Hodge, U/13; Joel Borg, Opens; Joshua Lin, U/12 and Jesse Abbott, U/16 (Absent: Roland Podesta, U/14)
House Champions 2014
Massey Marlins

Pictured on the left are
Anish Lal, House Captain and
Mr Michael Said, House Patron.
Congratulations Massey Marlins!

Participation Trophy 2014
Delaney Devils

Pictured on the right are
Joseph Tramontana, House Captain and
Mrs Melanie D’Cruz, House Patron.
Year 7 Camps 2014

Year 7 had an exciting time on their recent camping experience. The spectacular views from Portal Lookout and the adrenalin filled activities of abseiling and swimming were favourites. The boys also enjoyed the canoeing and kayaking and relaxing at the campfire after cooking their meal. The experience was enjoyed by all and Year 7 would like to thank the Outdoor Education team of Mr Borg, Mrs Scalone, Mrs D’Cruz, Mr Scarpin, Mr Kitchner and Mr Ferry and all who made the program possible.

It's been good. I liked the kayaking and capsizing and spending time with the boys. I can't wait for the next camp. **Joseph Pualoa 7/C14**

It's been really amazing because you get to spend time with your mates. I enjoyed kayaking: I've never done it before and it was great to learn a new thing. **Pukhraj Sanghera 7/C18**

It's been an exciting experience getting to know new people and learning new skills. I've learnt to appreciate how much my parents do for me. **Pinak Sharma 7/C14**

It's been a great experience learning how to cook and canoeing in a team. I've learnt that doing new challenging things makes my life happier. **Lual Wol 7/C13**

The food was extra nice because it was made by me. I've discovered I'm a natural at cooking. **Jackson Rangitonga 7/C11**

My favourite experience on camp was abseiling because it was scary and took me out of my comfort zone! **Mitchell Gardner 7/C15**

My favourite activity at camp was canoeing. It was challenging and funny when we had to change direction. **Semeatu Saemo 7/C15**

The best experience at camp was meeting and gaining trust from new friends, in a fun and enjoyable environment. **Boehn Russell 7/C18**

My favourite part of the camp was free time with my friends. During this time, we played tackle bullrush, touch football, soccer and cricket. **Jake Forrest 7/C13**

**Mr Dominic Cullen, Year 7 Coordinator**

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Year 10 Camp Helpers

Each year a number of Year 10 students are invited to join our Outdoor Education Staff in running the Year 7 Camp program. The helpers for 2014 were Samuel Barnett, Aidan Johnston, Michael Spencer, James Digwood, Braeden Rodricks, Nicholas Kingsley, Austin Latu, Luke Dickson and Delahoya Manu. The boys assisted the teachers in their duties and worked with them as a team. They helped set up and clean up for meals, often working late into the night. They also took an active role in the activities being done by Year 7 students.

Here are some quotes from our Year 10 helpers:

**Camp is a really good experience especially working to help the teachers! It is also fun on the canoes. Braeden Rodricks**

**Camp is awesome seeing all the Year 7 students making new friends and having fun! Our role as leaders helps the boys see us as big brothers. Delahoya Manu**

I have been looking forward to being a Camp helper since last year! The wait has definitely been worth it! **Nicholas Kingsley**

A last minute selection and the selection was worth it! **Luke Dickson**

Camp teaches us teamwork skills so that we can prosper and strive ourselves in life. **Austin Latu**

The things I enjoyed about being a camp helper were being able to interact with the Year 7 students during activities. Getting to know the teachers and younger students better and working with the other Year 10 camp helpers and building stronger friendships. **Michael Spencer**

Year 7 camp 2014 was a very good experience, not only for the Year 7 students but for us Year 10 Camp helpers. It was full of fun and helpful activities that everyone can use in life. **Aidan Johnston**

Back when I went on my own Year 7 camp I had a blast and having the opportunity to help out at the current Year 7 camp was even better. The Year 7 students were great and the experiences I shared with them were fantastic. I would without a doubt do it all again. **James Digwood**

Camp was a very good experience. There was work to do and it was tiring but I had a lot of fun with the Year 7 boys. Everyone had a good time. **Samuel Barnett**

These Year 10 students gave up three days and nights to help out and did a fantastic job as well. A big thank you boys - you were a great help! **Mrs Melissa Scalone, Camp Organiser**
From the France & Italy Tour Group

Bonjour Paris et au revoir Blacktown! As you enjoy reading this final edition of the Focus for Term 1, our 2014 Patties Boys and Staff on the France & Italy Tour are savouring the delights of "The City Of Lights" and preparing to travel the wonderful French countryside into the northern regions of Italy.

Following months of exciting and meticulous preparations organised by Mr Passarello, we are now literally, "on the road"! Please remember us in your prayers so that we may benefit from this enjoyable holiday learning experience, touring two of the most visited countries on our planet. As we are inspired by all the beauty we are discovering, we pray that you too have a restful and healthy time Down Under. In the very near future, we shall be sharing our unique experiences with all of you, meanwhile, buon vacanze e arrivederci!

Mr John Scavo, LOTE Teacher

Vinnies Van

On the evening of Wednesday 26th March, a group of Year 12 students, accompanied by Miss Castellino, Miss Gearing and Mr. J Williams, participated in the St Vincent De Paul’s Vinnies Van. Jacob McCarthy, Anas Abu Ganaba, Julius Flores, James Tikolevu and Miguel Anonuevo did a tremendous job in offering both their hearts and hands to the community. These boys undertook a number of roles on the evening including, the preparation and distribution of meals and getting to know the locals at Penrith and Parramatta. Throughout the evening the boys displayed outstanding Patrician charm and a willingness to offer their talents to serve the less fortunate and offer a friendly ear. As staff members of this community, we were immensely proud of the maturity and leadership shown by this group of dedicated young men.

'It was an enjoyable and very educational experience’ Julius Flores

‘My Vinnies Van experience – What an eye opener! It was great to interact and socialise with the less fortunate people in our community’ Jacob McCarthy

Miss Charmaine Castellino, Miss Melanie Gearing and Mr Jordan Williams

Examination Writers

Over the past 2 weeks some of our students sitting for the Year 12 exams and Year 8 Science Test, have required a writer for various reasons. Writers from Years 9 and 10 were required for these exams and these students showed a great ability to work capably with boys who require assistance, enabling them to adequately demonstrate their knowledge in their exams. Thank you boys.

Learning Support Team

AFL Giants Cup U/14 Division

Over the past few weeks Mr Scott Gallen and Mr Chris Hersey have been bunkered down planning the defense of the College’s AFL State Championship and Giants Cup trophy. From development training at the beginning of Term 1 for our new Year 7s, through to beginning the try-outs in the past week, the squad is starting to take shape and is ready to have a real crack at going back-to-back. However, the team is not finalized yet. If any boy who turns 14 or under who has an AFL background, or even just thinks they’ve got what it takes to replicate the actions of Kieran Jack, Nick Riewoldt or even our own past student and Giants midfielder, Jacob Townsend, please see Mr Hersey this week to discuss what you can bring to the squad.

Mr Scott Gallen, Coach

LOTE

Buongiorno a tutti! (hello everyone)

Our language students have handed in their first assessment of the year. Year 10 had a creative writing and speaking task where they had to create a monster first and then describe it to another student who had to draw it…monstrous things came out J All the students enjoyed the task and did very well so well done boys!

Year 9 presented fashion parades in either Italian or French and I was impressed with the creativity of some of the students who involved some of their friends to create an actual fashion parade: Bravo to all of you!!

Year 8 students were a little bit stressed over their very first language assessment. This was a listening task and they had to listen to three vokis, animated characters, telling them information about themselves. They did well and I was proud of them!

It’s now time to enjoy our holidays: buone vacanze to all our students and especially Mr Passarello and the students going to France and Italy.

Alla prossima

Mrs Manuela Lavaselli, LOTE Coordinator
Social Justice Corner: HOT CROSS BUNS!

What better way to start the day than with a buttered hot cross bun straight from the oven? Many of the staff and students supported Project Compassion during Week 10 by buying, selling and eating Hot Cross Buns on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning.

The Hot Cross Bun fundraiser was undoubtedly a success! The experiences; learning how to warm and serve buns with my friends and peers was fantastic. To know the proceeds went to Caritas made these days worthwhile. I definitely enjoyed the experience and hope to be part of many more in the future. **Rohit Louis, Year 11**

The Hot Cross Buns were so popular that we had run out by the second day and had to bring in more! Students across all year groups came together as a team to help raise money for this excellent cause during Lent. Students who did not have enough money for a bun either gave a donation or came back the following day. The jobs the students took on ranged from spruiking, selling, preparing, buttering, serving and delivering warm buns around the school. The student volunteers were enthusiastic, smiling and helpful throughout the 3-day fundraiser despite rain on Thursday and Friday. I felt a sense of community and generosity as it was going towards people who need help the most. **Stephen Vassilopoulos, Year 10**

The Hot Cross Buns fundraiser made $733.85 over the 3 days. The school as a whole has made $4557.65 so far for Project Compassion - what an amazing effort! Thank you to the school community for not only supporting this fundraiser, but for all your generous donations to Project Compassion during Lent 2014.

**Miss Jessica Fleming, Organising Teacher**
**NRL GIO Schoolboy 9’s Rugby League**

The NRL GIO Schoolboy 9’s Rugby League trophy has been returned to the trophy cabinet with a convincing win over Hunter Sports High in the final, 28 points to 8. The competition, which was last played in 2010, was yet another fine display from this talented group of young men. The day began with two convincing wins over Hills Sports High (26-10) and Matraville Sports High (44-0). The team strung together some outstanding attacking raids, with each player scoring in each of these two fixtures. The Semi Final saw us play our 2011 rivals, Endeavour Sports High and on this occasion it would be our defence that would see us take victory, 16 points to nil. The Grand Final victory over Hunter Sports High was a game that saw us put together an almost perfect 18 minutes of Rugby League. The team played with great skill and controlled the ball even with some very expansive movement of the football. Each player did the school proud with the commitment and professionalism that they showed throughout the day.

**GIO Schoolboy 9’s Champions:** Tyrell Fuimaono (c), Soni Luke (c), Soni Hala, Cowen Epere, Dylan Fuad, Jamie Hill, MJ Fialelei Ausage, Joe Vaegaau, Joseph Tramontana, Marlyn Brown, Christian Crichton, Casey Lafaele, Cameron Collins, Spike Teio, Jarome Broadbridge  
**Player of the Tournament:** Marlyn Brown  
**Mr Matthew Hartigan, Coach**
Central Coast Rugby League Tour

The U/13 and U/15 Rugby League teams recently travelled to the Central Coast for the 2014 Rugby League tour. This year the tour saw us travel directly to our annual clash with St Edward’s College at Gosford. The U/13s took the field first against a very physical opposing U/14 team. The lead changed hands several times, with both teams creating some outstanding attacking opportunities. St Edward’s would eventually run out winners, 24 points to 16. Braiden Magele was named Most Valuable Player (MVP). The U/15 side was the next fixture, facing a committed U/16 opposition. The Patties boys dominated from the opening exchanges, eventually running out winners, 16 points to 6. Zach Nuttall was a standout performer, combining strong running with some blockbusting defence. In a great team performance, he was named MVP. The boys viewed the experience as a great way to develop individual skills and build as a team. Many boys from the U/13s commented that it was the hardest game of rugby league they had played. With training now in full swing, both squads can’t wait to take this experience into the MCS season.

Mr Dominic Cullen and Mr Matthew Hartigan, Tour Directors
Excellence and Innovation in the Patrician Tradition
University of Western Sydney - School Graduate Stories

Name: Abanoub Samaan
Degree: Bachelor of Business & Commerce (Human Resource Management) / Bachelor of Laws
Year of degree: 3rd (2013)
Campus: Parramatta
High School: Patrician Brothers’ College, Blacktown
Completed Year 12 in: 2009

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?
I had done Business Studies and Legal Studies in Years 11 and 12 and it felt like I was just continuing my studies as opposed to starting all over. There are always some surprises along the way but that’s generally what learning is all about and what makes studying so interesting for me.

How is university different from school?
There is a greater onus on you as a student to find your own answers and to learn independently as opposed to having a consistent daily interaction with educators. I found this to be one of my favourite features as it really allows you to grow and mature. On a social level uni is more interactive and you’re constantly given the opportunity to meet new people. During my three years at university I’ve met hundreds of people.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?
My school gave me an excellent foundation for what I wanted to study at university by allowing me to choose subjects that were directly related to my course. I had outstanding teachers who motivated me and I was always excited about learning. I had the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities like debating and public speaking which reinforced my interest in studying commerce and law at university. As part of the leadership team I was constantly involved in school affairs. I’d like to take this opportunity to personally thank the school for giving me a great foundation for my tertiary studies.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university so far?
I’ve had the opportunity to be a student ambassador where I represent UWS at different schools, institutions and businesses. This has allowed me to meet a lot of people from everywhere and anywhere. Helping students and getting to know them is one of my favourite things about being involved in UWS activities.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?
My aspirations changed slightly when I was given the option to choose a key area of study for my business and commerce course. I’ve always enjoyed dealing directly with people so having the option to pick human resource management and industrial relations not only gave me a specific area of study that I will enjoy but at the same time solidified the path I want to take in my career.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?
Try to choose HSC subjects that are relevant to the course you hope to study at uni, as this will help to prepare you for the subjects at tertiary level. Take the time to do research about the course you are interested in. Ask as many questions as you can and be as aware and informed as possible. Don’t hesitate to ask questions because it’s important to enjoy what you are studying.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?
UWS allowed me to enrol in the double degree whilst studying a key program that I was passionate about. Not only was it one of the only institutions that allowed this but it also sold itself on convenience. I’m able to take advantage of short commute times which allowed me to spend the remainder of my time doing either productive work or enjoying my day.

Holy Week and Easter Celebrations

|Reconciliation| Tuesday 8th April 7:30pm |
|St Bernadette’s Lalor Park| Wednesday 9th April 7.30pm |
|St Michael’s Lalor Park| Friday 11th April 7.30pm |
|Our Lady of Lourdes Seven Hills| Monday 14th April 7.30pm |
|St Patrick’s Blacktown|

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Logos Program at University of Notre Dame
The University of Notre Dame Australia is offering a version of its core curriculum, the Logos program, to secondary education students. The program will enable interested Year 11 students to undertake introductory study of philosophy and ethics. Students who successfully complete the two units of the Logos program will be eligible to apply for advanced standing for two core curriculum units in any undergraduate degree offered by the University of Notre Dame Australia.

Following on from the proposal sent in January, applications for this program are now open and will close on 25 April 2014.

The first unit in philosophy will introduce student to basic philosophical questions and arguments regarding the nature of thinking, reality, truth and the human person, spanning the entire history of the tradition of philosophy. This unit will be delivered in an intensive week during the winter school holiday from 30 June – 4 July. Students who continue into the second unit will be introduced to the discipline of ethics, key ethical theories (especially natural law theory, virtue ethics, and deontology), practical decision making, and moral evaluation. This unit will be delivered in an intensive week during the summer school holidays from 15-19 December. Please note there are limited places available in these units.

The Logos program represents the heart of the tradition of Catholic University liberal education: the integration of faith and reason and is designed to foster and support the pursuit of truth. As a result these units will be taught within the framework of a tradition that emphasises the importance of metaphysical investigation and which is open to religious faith.

We extend a warm invitation to all Year 11 students to participate in this program.

Why take the Logos program?
Skills – Students develop higher order thinking and communication skills including the ability to analyse, think critically, engage in reasoned argument, synthesise, and evaluate.
Choice – Students choose their elective modules based on interest and subject area.
Mingle – Students complete Logos and I and II with Year 11 and 12 peers from school across Sydney.
HSC – The skills fostered and promoted may assist students in their HSC studies.
Credit – Upon successful completion of the two Logos units, student will be eligible to apply to advance standing for two core curriculum units in any undergraduate degree offered by the University of Notre Dame.
Fees – The fees for the Logos program for secondary students are less than the equivalent fees at university level.

Program Delivery
Both units in the Logos program are delivered in intensive mode over one week (5 days) in Year 11. The first unit in Philosophy (Logos I) will run for one week during the July holidays. The second unit in Ethics (Logos II) will run for one week during the December holidays. Students must successfully complete the unit in Philosophy before commencing the unit in Ethics.

Program Recognition
The Logos for Schools program is currently being reviewed by the NSW Board of Studies. If successful, this program will become a Board Endorsed Course designed to supplement and extend the HSC curriculum. Students who successfully complete this course will have these units appear on their HSC record, although results in this course will not contribute to the calculations of the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).

Assessment
Upon the completion of the one week intensive program for each unit, students will be asked to complete an assessment. Logos I will require a philosophical essay. Logos II will require an ethical case study.

Fees
The cost for this course per unit is $600. This amount must be paid in full prior to the commencement of the unit. Students who successfully complete the Logos program will be eligible to apply for advanced standing for two of the core curriculum units in any undergraduate degree offered by the University of Notre Dame Australia.

Eligibility and Application Process
Any student commencing Year 11 in 2014, who demonstrates a genuine interest in philosophical and ethical questions, is eligible to apply. The first unit in Philosophy will run for one intensive week during the June/July winter school holidays. In order to apply for the Logos for Schools program, students must submit:
• A complete application form, signed by a parent/guardian
• A personal statement of 500 words exploring the reasons for their interest in philosophical and ethical questions
• A letter from a teacher/principal detailing their eligibility for this course.

Applications can be downloaded from www.nd.edu.au/logosforschools – Please note places for this program are limited.

Diocesan Works Fund:
One fund working for the good of all
The Diocesan Works Fund Appeal is the way schools and parishes can give financial support to the ministries and care services in Parramatta Diocese. Each year more than 20,000 enquiries for assistance are made to CatholicCare by youth, families, single mothers, the disadvantaged, the indigenous, the elderly and persons with a disability. This Appeal also provides funds to educate seminarians, deacons and catechists so the Catholic faith can grow and be shared with others.

By sharing a financial gift, you can touch the lives of thousands of people in Western Sydney who are supported through programs that teach, heal, support, nurture and feed. You will make a difference.

Please give generously so these services can be expanded to reach more people.

Early next term the college will participate in raising funds for the Diocesan Works Fund through a number of activities. Families will be asked to support the appeal through donation envelopes which will be sent home to parents in Term 2. Supporting the DWF enables us to put our ‘Faith into Action’, by responding to those in need in our local community.
TIME TO NOMINATE TOP ACHIEVERS FOR 2014

IT’S time to celebrate the very best of our young sporting talent with nominations now open for NewsLocal’s Junior Sports Star Awards 2014.

The awards are in their tenth year and have a proud history of unearthing the nation’s future sporting heroes.

Past winners include a veritable roll-call of champions, including Australian representative cricketer and footballer Ellyse Perry, Olympic kayak silver medalist Jessica Fox and world champion discus thrower Dani Samuels.

This year, the Blacktown Advocate’s winner was Anas Abu Ganaba. The overall 2013 winner for NSW was boxer Satali Tevi-Fuimaono from the Central Coast.

The nomination period runs from March to October 2014 and is open to outstanding athletes aged from 10 to 16 across four categories (nominated athletes must be aged between 10 and 16 during the nomination period—March 25 to October 25, 2014).

The stories and achievements of these nominees will be featured each week in our newspapers and on our website www.juniorsportstar.com.au.

Winners will be announced at the gala Junior Sports Star Awards Presentation Evening in February 2015.

We also thank our major sponsor Rebel for their ongoing support in making the Junior Sports Star program possible.

To enter the 2014 awards see the coupon on this page or visit www.juniorsportstar.com.au.

The honour roll of previous overall winners is: Satali Tevi-Fuimaono (2013, boxing); Jai Opetaia (2012, boxing); Ami Matsuo (2011, swimming); Jessica Fox (2010, canoe/kayak); Teigen Allen (2009, soccer); Kenneth To (2008, swimming); Ellyse Perry (2007, cricket); Kimberly Mason (2006, gymnastics); Dani Samuels (2005, discus).

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Touched by selectors

Touch footballers Doonside’s Ben Moylan and Seven Hills’ Ashleigh Quinlan, have been selected in the respective Australian men’s and women’s open teams for the Trans Tasman series against New Zealand, in Mudgee on April 25-27.
Have you visited our WEBSITE recently? Did you know that the Patrician Brothers College Blacktown website is amongst the most innovative and interesting in the entire Diocese of Parramatta? **This newsletter is available NOW in PDF and in FULL COLOUR.**
Visit [www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au](http://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au)
If you have any ideas or would like to assist with the website please see Mr Jeremy Lane.

**PRC Diocese of Parramatta**

**Reflection Day** with Fr. Richard Leonard, Director, Australian Catholic Film & Broadcasting
Date: Sunday 18 May 2014
Time: 9am to 3pm
Venue: “Winbourne”
Edmund Rice Retreat & Conference Centre 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa
RSVPs essential by Sat 3 May 2014 to prepar-raevents@hotmail.com

**Most Reverend Bishop Anthony Fisher OP** at the PRC General Meeting
Date: Monday 2 June 2014
Time: 7pm (Doors open 6.30pm)
Venue: Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion Street, Blacktown
RSVPs preferred by Friday 23 May 2014 to prepar-raevents@hotmail.com

**Senior Subjects and UAC Selection Guidance** for Years 10 to 12 - A must for senior students and their parents
Guest Speaker: Remy Lowe, Academic Counsellor, Western Sydney
Date: Tuesday 17 June 2014
Time: 7pm (Doors open 6.30pm)
Venue: Loyola Senior High School & Trade Training Centre
91 North Parade, Mt Druitt
RSVPs preferred to prepar-raevents@hotmail.com

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

http://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au
Please remember that our first day back next Term is:

**Monday 28 April 2014**
ALL students return in FULL winter school uniform which includes tie and blazer.

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**UNIFORM SHOP**
Located next to school office

**Tuesday**
8.30am - 3.45pm

**Thursday**
8.30am - 3.45pm

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Web: www.matriumfs.com.au

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