Death took 100, Worry took the Others

Death was walking toward a city one morning and a man asked, What are you going to do? I'm going to take 100 people, Death replied. That's horrible! the man said. That's the way it is, Death said. That's what I do. The man hurried to warn everyone he could about Death's plan. As evening fell, he met Death again. You told me you were going to take 100 people, the man said. Why did 1,000 die? I kept my word, Death responded. I only took 100 people. Worry took the others.

This interesting tale portrays so well what we all know. We have a crisis in our ability to respond to, and deal with, mental health issues. Mental distress can lead to migraine headaches, arthritis, heart trouble, cystitis, colitis, backaches, ulcers, depression, digestive disorders and yes, even death.

Worry is, and always will be, a fatal disease of the heart, for its beginning signals the end of faith. Release the regrets of yesterday, refuse the fears of tomorrow and receive instead, the peace of today.

This well-known story is certainly apt in our modern, hectic and challenging world. We have record numbers of people being diagnosed with mental health problems. It is particularly concerning when it involves young people.

All of us need to have a greater awareness of the needs of others. Empathy is in short supply at the moment.

Please look after each other,
Santo Passarello
From the Assistant Principal
We are almost a month into the new school year and the pace of life at Patrician Brothers’ Blacktown has returned to normal, with several major events having already been ticked off for 2015. Last Tuesday night, we played host to the parents of our newest group of students at the Year 7 Welcome Evening. The function was well-attended and gave Mr. Cullen and the Homeroom teachers an opportunity to run through the details and procedures of life at our school. As always, we provided a generous supper for our guests, with Mr Domars and the Year 11 Peer Support leaders excelling in their hospitality. Last week we also convened our first formal College Assembly for the year – where we launched the 2015 College theme of “Service and Sacrifice”, proudly welcomed back the HSC high performers from 2014, and joined with the entire school community to acknowledge the 60th Jubilee of Br. Bernard Bulfin, a former Principal of Patrician Brothers’ Blacktown. This assembly also gave us the opportunity to present a motivational video to the students encouraging House rivalries for the upcoming Swimming Carnival.

As most parents would be aware from previous years, the second section of this report is generally used to remind students and parents about procedures and expectations at our school. A good starting point at this early stage of the year is to remind parents about the importance of Thursday sport for their sons – both in terms of health and fitness and as part of a broad and balanced education. While the vast majority of our students regard Thursday sport as one of the highlights of their school week, we seem to have a small percentage of students who regularly find reasons for absence during this time. If students are injured and genuinely unable to participate in sport, the school provides other options and activities that are just as valuable. This is far preferable to students simply signing out and going home to unstructured or unsupervised activities.

Secondly – another reminder to students to avoid bringing large amounts of money or other valuables to school. Most of our students have the common sense not to leave their bags and belongings unattended in public areas such as Westpoint or Blacktown Station, but unfortunately, some students do not extend these levels of awareness and personal security to the school setting. Please advise your sons to be sensible and vigilant at all times and to report any theft or suspicious behaviour immediately.

And finally, a reminder to all students and parents about our Hands-Off rule. This rule reflects the importance we place on respect for other people and the protection of their individual safety. We constantly reinforce the Hands-Off rule with the entire school community and students who engage in behaviour that breaches this rule, whether it be fighting, harassment, teasing or intimidation, know to expect serious consequences. As we have seen in recent times, some people in our society are unable to control their anger and will choose to punch first and ask questions later. As teachers and parents, it is crucial that we teach the young men in our care that this path of action has the potential to lead to serious problems.

Mr Brian Edmonds

Merit Awards
It’s pleasing to see we already have some students receiving gold awards for this year. Well done to Luke Eckersley and

Izik Xiberras, both of Year 9, for reaching this milestone!

Bronze Awards
Rohit Bathla 7C17
Christian Aualiitia 8E9
Vishal Kumar 8D17
Matthew Mendens 8D22
Anton Minaric 8D24
Patrick Moriarty 8D16
Sebastian Navarro 8D17 2 Awards
Abin Thomas 8D17
Aidan Villadolid 8D16 4 Awards
Rameez Parkar 10C6

Silver Awards
Aidan Villadolid 8D16
Prabhjeet Singh 9B1
Izik Xiberras 9B6
Ruel de Guia 10C5
Rameez Parkar 10C6

Gold Awards
Luke Eckersley 9A24
Izik Xiberras 9B6

Good luck to all for the upcoming fortnight!
Opening of Year College Assembly and Liturgy

This very significant occasion was witness to a number of special events, including:

- the honouring of Patrician great and former College Principal, Br Bernard Bulfin. He recently celebrated 60 years as a Patrician Brother. 30 of those years were spent here at Blacktown!
- the celebration of our 2014 HSC high achievers. We welcomed back all our top performing HSC students, including College Dux, Adam Boidin, who achieved an ATAR of 99.55.

Reproduced below is the speech that was delivered by Mr Santo Passarello about Br Bernard Bulfin:

It all began in 1936 in the little village of Ballinure in county Tipperary, Ireland. There’s not much to be found in Ballinure - perhaps we can say that Ballinure’s claim to fame is not so much what’s there but what has come from there – Br Bernard Bulfin and his sibling Brother Gerry Bulfin.

One day in 1950 a Patrician Brother must have visited Br Bernard’s two-room school at Ballinure and described to the boys and the girls the wonders of life at Tullow because by September of that year Br Bernard, at the age of thirteen, arrived at Mt St Joseph’s College, Tullow. This is where the Patrician Brothers had their novitiate (a novitiate is like a school where you learn how to become a religious person).

On Sunday the 15th August, 1954, Br Bernard made his First Profession at Tullow. Br Bernard stayed at Tullow for another two years so he could complete his Leaving Certificate. Within weeks of that he was off to Sydney. He arrived at Circular Quay on the 1st May, 1956 and went straight to Blacktown where the school was two years old. Br Bernard was nineteen years old.

Over the next ten years Br Bernard learnt the ropes of the Australian classroom in Blacktown. He also learnt a little about a game called rugby league, and noticed that a fledgling rugby league club called Parramatta sported the same colors as his hurling team in Tipperary: blue and gold. It was love at first sight.

Certainly Br Bernard was not long off the boat from Ireland when he was recognized as a man of great energy and a real people-person. In 1966 he was appointed as Principal of Patrician Brothers’ College Blacktown. Our school was then fourteen years old and Br Bernard was thirty.

Br Bernard was principal of our school for the next 23 years. As we all know, no grass ever grew under Br Bernard’s feet. No sooner was he out of school and retired than he was back in college to train as a chaplain, first as a hospital chaplain and then as a prison chaplain, specifically for Parklea Prison.

Over the years Br Bernard has been described as:

- Energetic
- Committed
- Tenacious
- A Community man
- Christ-centred
- A people-person
- Loyal
- A little eccentric
- Cheerful
- Bright-eyed
- One-eyed (Parramatta)
- Compassionate
- Empowering
- Visionary
- Patrician

Br Bernard, you can look back over sixty years of Patrician ministry and Church ministry with great personal pride. Everything you have ever done in your life has been for God. There are many testaments to your vision, courage, and faith around the western suburbs of Sydney; these, while significant and tangible, are not really the reason why we honour you. The greatest testaments to your vision, courage and faith are the people who are gathered here today. We have come to honour you and to give thanks for you on behalf of ourselves and the many thousands of others who have been influenced by you and your many gifts.

Thank you Br Bernard and congratulations!

Mr Santo Passarello, Principal
2014 HSC Academic Achievers

We took the opportunity last week to congratulate some of our many HSC high achievers from 2014.

Despite the pressure of enrolling at university, many of our students that scored an ATAR in the 90’s were able to return to their school community and witness the admiration and esteem that their efforts have earned them.

I know that the boys enjoyed their return to our school community. Adam Boidin, as the spokesperson for the group, addressed the whole school assembly and commented on the significant impact that the school had on his achievement.

We congratulate all of these fine young men and wish them the very best for the future.

Mr Santo Passarello, Principal

Pictured are:

**Back Row (L-R)** Karl Serna, Bill Egarchos, Praneet Gosai, Omar Dewan, Jarrett Spice, Isaiah Mercado, Raven Nijjar, Anish Lal, Adam Boidin, Joshua Capaldi, Diako Mavloudi, Nicholad De Michiel, Shaneil Narayan, Aditya Kishor, Jordan Cruice, Ravinesh Chand, Br Bernard Bulfin and Mr Santo Passarello

**Front Row (L-R)** Joel Fernandes, Daniel Marsden, Edward Manibo, Antonious Galdas, Ryan Soury, Monishpillai Sundarampillai, Aditya Sharam
Sacrifice is the focus of Pope Francis’ Lenten Message

In his message for Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday, Pope Francis draws insights inspired by the words of Saint Paul: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.” [2 Corinthians 8:9].

Pope Francis asks the question, “What do these words of Saint Paul mean for Christians today? Firstly he addressed Christ’s grace. Jesus made himself poor, not for his sake, but as St Paul says “so that by his poverty you might become rich.” Through his incarnation and the cross, Christ frees us and enriches us. He gives us true freedom, salvation, happiness, compassion and the solidarity of his love.

Secondly, Pope Francis challenges us to be witnesses of Christ. In imitating Christ, we are called to confront poverty, to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it. In the humanity of the poor and outcast we see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ. Our values and actions must convert to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing. During this Lenten season we must be witnesses of Christ, experiencing the joy of spreading the good news, sharing the treasures entrusted to us, offering hope to our brothers and sisters who are experiencing darkness. We must become merciful and act with mercy. During this Lenten season the College community will respond to Pope Francis’ Lenten message through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through prayer we grow closer to God so that we can be true witnesses of Christ. Fasting joins us in solidarity with the poor and Almsgiving is a sign of our commitment to justice and taking practical steps to help the poor.

How fitting considering our 2015 College Theme of ‘Service and Sacrifice’!

Shrove Tuesday and Caritas Launch

The tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday started as a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar before fasting commenced for the 40 days of Lent. To maintain this tradition, the School Leaders and other Year 12 helpers, alongside Mr Alan Dadisho and Mr Noel Bajada, cooked up hundreds of mouth-watering pancakes before school, during recess and lunch. They were served with ice cream and maple syrup - a bargain for $2!

All this was possible through the wonderful support of Mr Billy Borg, Mr Paul Out and Mr Steve Mulligan. Thank you to all the boys who supported us by buying pancakes. All money raised goes to Project Compassion. Shrove Tuesday was a living example of ‘Service and Sacrifice’, our 2015 College theme in action.

Lord, help us to enjoy and give thanks to you for all that we have. Remind us to live humbly and to remember those people who do not have what we so easily access every day. Help us to think and love like Jesus Christ. Amen.

Ms Denise Grzelj, Year 12 Coordinator
From the Director of Studies

St Andrew’s College University of Sydney

St Andrew’s College have up to $1 million available in scholarships, bursaries and prizes for students for 2016. The Scholarships information can be found at: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/scholarships-and-prizes/. Bursary Assistance information can be found at: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/bursary-assistance/. The means-tested Bursary Assistance includes packages up to full fee relief, depending on need. These merit-based scholarships are awarded to five new students each year. The successful applicants are young people with the capacity and commitment to realise their potential to become leaders in the university, the nation and the world. The College is looking for the ‘best and brightest’ students in the country, who wish to study at a university in the Sydney metropolitan area.

Applications are now open for the 2016 St Andrew’s Scholars intake. More information is available at: standrewscollege.edu.au/st-andrews-scholars/. Applications close 30 June, interested students should apply as soon as possible.

St Andrew’s College is committed to creating a vibrant and diverse residential community and welcomes applications from students across all demographics. Whilst the majority of students attend the University of Sydney, there are several who attend other Sydney universities. If you would like to learn more, detailed information is available on the website: standrewscollege.edu.au/prospective-students/

You are also welcome to contact the College directly with any questions on (02) 9565 7300

The University of Sydney also offers some great scholarships to undergraduate students: sydney.edu.au/scholarships/

HSC 2014 High Achievers

The HSC 2014 high achievers were acknowledged at the first formal assembly for the school year. The school is very proud of their achievements and the HSC and ATAR Dux, Adam Boidin, spoke about the richness of the individual talents of these students. Below is a brief profile of the achievements of some of our high flyers and their achievements in diverse areas of study:

**Adam Boidin**: an All Rounder achieving Band 6 in Ancient History, English Advanced, English Extension 1, English Extension 2, Legal Studies, Modern History and Studies of Religion 1. In addition, Adam came 2nd in the state in his major work for English Extension 2 where he challenged the Postmodern paradigm and looked closely at the re-emergence of the Christian grand narrative, drawing on his experiences of World Youth Day in 2013. In addition he received an ATAR of 99.55 and will undertake study in a combined Arts/Law degree at Sydney University. He was a school leader, debater and public speaker. He also received the Bishop of Parramatta Award for Excellence. His contribution to the life of the school has been impressive and it will continue with further involvement with the school as an adjudicator for public speaking and debating and running some workshops for the 2015 Aim High students.

**Jordan Cruice**: an All Rounder and a Distinguished achiever achieving Band 6 in Ancient History, Business Studies, English Advanced, English Extension 1, English Extension 2 and Society and Culture. Jordan’s major work for English Extension 2 has been short listed for publication in the Young Writers Showcase 2014. He presented a new theory of adaptation and argued “literature is the seedbed for literature”. Jordan is highly motivated and will pursue a double degree in Law and Business at UTS. He achieved an ATAR of 97.25.

**Joel Fernandez**: a Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2. He received an ATAR of 96.75 and will study for a Bachelor of Physiotherapy at UWS.

**Daniel Marsden**: a Distinguished Achiever in Ancient History, English Extension 1 and Mathematics General 2. His ATAR was 94.4 and he is set to study Law at Macquarie University.

**Krimil Patel**: a Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 1. He will study Engineering and Commerce at the University of NSW.

**William Reardon**: A Distinguished Achiever in Ancient History and English Extension I, William was also a school leader and a talented sportsman. He received an ATAR of 92.1 and will study Business at UTS.

**Omar Dewan**: our School Captain achieved wonderful results in the HSC achieving an ATAR of 91.45. He will study Economics at the University of NSW.

**Aditya Sharma**: with an ATAR of 94.55 will study Electrical Engineering at the University of NSW.

**Nicholas De Michiel**: Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics General 2

**Tyler Cash**: Distinguished Achiever in Senior Science

**Bill Egarchos**: Distinguished Achiever in Studies of Religion 1

**Antonious Galdas**: Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics

**Praneet Gosai**: Distinguished Achiever in Industrial Technology and Mathematics General 2

**Aditya Kishor**: Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics

**Isaiah Mercado**: Distinguished Achiever in English Extension 1 and Visual Arts, Isaiah’s major work for Art was short-listed for Art Express.

**Shaneil Narayan**: Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics and with an ATAR of 90.3 he will study a Bachelor of Finance and Bachelor of Commerce at Macquarie University.

**Karl Serna**: Distinguished Achiever Music I

**Kyle Singh**: Distinguished Achiever Legal Studies, receiving an ATAR of 94.45 and set to study a Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Law at UTS.

**Ryan Soury**: Distinguished Achiever Mathematics

**Jarrett Spice**: Distinguished Achiever Visual Arts. In addition Jarrett achieved a Distinction for his Personal Interest Project for Society and Culture. Only 10 Distinctions were awarded from 4,410 candidates. This was a remarkable achievement and Jarrett will study at the University of NSW in Fine Arts and Education.

The above is just a snapshot of the remarkable talent that defined the graduates of HSC 2014.
Year 11 Assessment Information Evening

Parents and boys who attended this evening are now fully aware of the significance of the internal assessment program of the Preliminary Year. Ultimately it is about promoting ethical scholarship and the ability to work independently and confidently within their chosen program of study. Time management will be crucial and Elevate Education has already run some workshops with the boys about preparing for senior work. The Preliminary Year is important as it lays the foundation for success for the HSC in 2016. If the Preliminary Year is not completed satisfactorily then boys cannot progress to the HSC and will have to repeat a subject or subjects. At the same time, having a sound foundation for the HSC work ahead, the boys will find that success is much easier to attain and they will avoid all nightmares or emotional “meltdowns” when they realise that time had been wasted in Year 11. The Assessment booklets help boys organise their study timetables as they know well in advance what awaits them. Planning for success is always much more satisfying then facing failure due to poor time management skills or procrastination. Some boys will find habits hard to break from the junior years, but essentially they need to develop the skills being industrious before they go out into the real world. Consistency is the key and working smarter and more efficiently actually provides you with more time to do the things you enjoy. Students must prioritise and be firm with their decisions. This is a year when many boys come to understand the meaning of maturity and responsibility.

The important thing is to start the journey and stay on track. If difficulties arise boys are asked to seek help as there is always a solution. Good luck to a successful Year 11 2015.

Mrs Danuta Paton

What is Homework?

Homework can be:

- Consolidating of class learning
- Completing unfinished classwork
- Catching up on missed work
- Summarizing
- Routine day-to-day work on assessment tasks
- Research for assignments
- Preparing for exams
- Independent work, thought and reflections
- Reading a text or reading a novel
- Consolidating and extending skills practiced in class
- Applying learning to other real life situations

The following times are an indication of how long your son should be spending engaged in homework each day. They are recommended minimum requirements in order for a student to make learning gains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>1 Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>1 Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>1½ Hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>2 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>2-3 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>3-4 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your son is having difficulty completing homework independently or working above and beyond these recommended time guidelines, please feel free to contact Learning Support for support and advice regarding your concerns.

Sharon O’Keefe, Learning Support

Year 12 Photography

The Year 12 Photography class produced their major work this week based on their excursion to Cockatoo Island last year. They used their photographs as well as the sombre and subdued theme by photographer, David Moore. Students pushed the standard of their Year 11 works by exploring new and challenging framing ideas. Geo Corriente created a montage work, layering 9 prints of one image while Nirat Sridakham used a different texture of wood fence palings to frame his work, drawing out the textures within his photographic work.

Mrs Melanie D’Cruz, Photography Teacher

Year 7 English

In Year 7 English, we are being taught the various techniques that famous poets have used. Our current unit is revolving around poetry. We are being taught a wide range of intriguing techniques that may plant an image in the reader’s head. In the first few weeks of this term we looked at the five senses and how using them can help to effectively describe anything we want to write about. The different language techniques that we have been learning about also help us in writing our own descriptive poems.

Lewis Charter and Isaiah Te-Pua, Year 7 Students

Buongiorno a Tutti! Hello Everybody!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome to our community our new Lote teacher, Ms Jessica Cacciotti. She is an enthusiastic and passionate teacher and she is enjoying teaching both Italian and French at our College. She is a positive and exciting addition to our department. Since the beginning of this year we have been team teaching by opening the sliding door between our classes and the students enjoy having the interaction with two teachers and two classes at the same time.

Alla prossima!

Ms Manuela Lavaselli, LOTE Convenor

Year 11 Biology Excursion

Year 11 Biology students travelled to Penrith Lakes Education Centre for the day. The friendly staff at the site did an excellent job training us young biologists in how to use various equipment to measure biotic and abiotic factors of the local ecosystem. Various equipment was used around the pond to measure turbidity water, pH, phosphate levels and water temperature among other factors that affect the distribution and diversity of plant and animal species. A method called dip-netting was used to catch different organisms living in the pond. These were later released. We identified all the organisms that were caught using the dip-netting method and witnessed two of our classmates dressed in what appeared to be hazmat suits. They conducted a quadrat sampling study in the pond that gave us an indication of the pond’s depth and the abundance of different plant species. Although it was quite amusing to watch our classmates conduct this study in the water, it provided a great chance to collect more necessary data that will be required for our Assessment Task.

Jacob Forster, Year 11 Student

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Jacob Forster, Year 11 Student
Library Update
Welcome Year 7 and all new students to the College. We encourage all new students to meet the friendly library staff and library ambassadors who are willing to help in any way we can. Explore our library’s quiet Fiction Lounge, access our desktops, Macs and iPads and research using the range of electronic and hard copy resources available. The Games area is very popular at lunchtime where students can borrow cards, chess sets, scrabble and other passive games to play. The Library is open until 4pm each afternoon.

Homework Centre
The Homework Centre is open every Wednesday afternoon until 4.30pm and is a place where students can gain assistance with classwork, assessments and examination preparation from a number of teachers from a range of different Key Learning Areas. Make an appointment with your subject teacher or simply turn up!

IT Help Desk
This is a service provided by the IT staff and allows students to access the College Mac books for assignment work at lunchtime or for assistance with personal devices such as iPads, tablets or laptops used for educational purposes.

Service and Sacrifice
The library has a collection of fiction and non-fiction books that reflect the College theme of Service and Sacrifice for 2015. These books follow the journey of exceptional individuals who have committed themselves to service and sacrifice for the salvation of humanity. The display is located on the red shelf near the Fiction Lounge. All of these books are available for borrowing. Happy reading!

Mrs Vikki Forrest and Ms Selina Wong, Teacher Librarians

Book Reviews

An Anzac’s Story by Roy Kyle

(Part of our Service and Sacrifice Collection)

At the age of 89, Roy Kyle began to write his memoirs and these are the basis of this wonderful book. Bryce Courtenay complements and contextualises his experiences and the resulting amalgam is an engrossing insight into our history. As expected from the title Roy’s experiences of WWI dominate the text but the 17 years leading up to enrolment in the army capture rural life near Albury and his post-war experiences as a banker round out his very full life of 99 years. His experiences at Gallipoli (which he revisited at 92) and the trenches of France really come to life for the reader. The initial youthful naïve enthusiasm, the stupidity of military strategists, the expendable colonial casualties, the comradeship, the despair, the hours and days away from the front, the lingering physical and mental scars….. Courtenay introduces the wider historical background to each theatre of war and then Kyle’s personal experience is smoothly integrated into the text. I learnt a lot about WW1 and how individuals cope with such tragedy. A very highly recommended and easy read as we remember the service and sacrifice of a million Australians like Roy Kyle. Thanks to Ms Hogan for donating this novel.

Mr Kim Crawford

Time Riders by Alex Scarrow

This amazing science fiction book was written by Alex Scarrow. The exquisite detail within this book allows the reader to experience the events and feel as if they are actually there. The book is about 3 teenagers that have a second chance to live after being in a close call to dying in different scenarios. After being saved they are tasked with being protectors of history. Surviving in a nuclear waste was clearly the best part as it allows you to imagine what it was like in Hiroshima. I would recommend this book to those who enjoy time travel and wish to look at another side of it.

Ben Moussa Year 11 Student

Mathematics Challenge and Enrichment Program

Your son may have been advised to participate in the Mathematics Challenge and/or Mathematics Enrichment Stages for Young Australians. These are problem-solving activities and students receive a problem booklet containing 6 problems (Years 7 to 10 Junior and Intermediate levels). Students are required to present written solutions to as many of these problems as they can. The problems are challenging and require time and persistence, but are based on mathematics which should be known at that level. Students in the Junior and Intermediate levels may work with a partner on two of the problems.

The Mathematics Enrichment Stage is a sixteen-week enrichment program which commences in April. It comprises two parallel series of comprehensive student support notes. These programs are designed for students in lower to middle secondary (Years 7 to 10).

Students are allowed to seek help from any resources other than human ones – textbooks, encyclopedias and use calculators and computers (note that web-sites offering help with problems are really human resources and not allowed, but the use of a computer-based encyclopedic or a web-site providing information of a general nature is quite alright). Teachers will be checking on progress from time to time and may be able to answer questions of clarification. Some class-time will be set aside for consultation with partners.

We hope the Challenge and Enrichment are enjoyable and valuable learning experience for your son.

Mr Priyantha Jayakody and Mr Aaron Kim, Mathematics Teachers
Performing Arts

Year 7 Recorders

All students in Year 7 require a recorder. These can be purchased via the Front Office for $10. Please make sure that your son has a recorder by the end of Week 4 so that they are able to commence their practical work in Music. Any concerns please contact your son’s music teacher or Mrs Davidson.

Year 12 Core Performance

The Year 12 HSC Music students had their Core Performance Assessment on Monday 16th February. The boys were invited to bring family members and friends along to listen to their performance. A variety of different musical styles were covered across the 25 performances. Congratulations to the boys who have made a positive start to the year by working hard for this assessment task.

Instrumental Tuition

Lessons have begun for keyboard/piano and guitar in Week 3. Mr Gary Vickery is teaching guitar on a Tuesday and Mr Glenn Lumanta is teaching piano/keyboards on a Friday. Students are reminded to paste their timetable into their diary and check the lesson time each week. Payment is to be given TO THE TUTOR at each lesson.

Senior Drama

We are very excited to announce that Senior Drama (Year 11) has returned! After a couple of years of building numbers, Miss Jacqueline Merceica has established a strong cohort for Drama in Year 11. We look forward to seeing some excellent performances across the year as the students develop their skills.

Mrs Karen Davidson Performing Arts Coordinator

Jarrett Spice - His Journey

Many Year 12 students are faced with the daunting prospect of a HSC Major Work. Each year Society and Culture students step up to the plate to take on a Personal Interest Project (better known in the SOC community as a PIP). The PIP is a 5000 word research task that takes roughly 9 months to complete. Students select an issue to investigate within a special area of interest to them. Students then undertake immense secondary research before stepping out of their comfort zone and conducting their own practical primary research methods. Once they compile all of their research findings, students are then faced with the arduous task of writing chapters, a personal log and a university style annotated bibliography.

Last year Jarrett Spice experienced a remarkable PIP journey that resulted in extensive personal growth and outstanding results. Jarrett’s PIP entitled “I’ve always been Famous, it’s just no one knew it yet” explored the role of social media as a platform to fame. This idea was to become an award-winning Personal Interest Project and was awarded a Distinction by the Society and Culture Association, in conjunction with the Board of Studies. These awards are given to students who have excelled in their research across all areas. Last year there were only 10 Distinctions and 8 High Distinctions awarded from 4,410 candidates. Many of the PIP’s selected are then showcased on the State Library website. This is a first for Patrician Brothers Blacktown and a wonderful individual achievement for Jarrett. As Jarrett’s Society and Culture teacher, I am extremely proud of his result. It was a pleasure to watch him improve as a researcher and grow as a young student. He conducted himself with absolute professionalism and I wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Here is what Jarrett had to say about his project:

My overall PIP experience was a collection of both emotional distress and individual achievement. Through the progression of my PIP journey, many hardships were faced, hindering the progression of my work. The greatest difficulty faced was the loss of my laptop, a mere 2 weeks before the finalisation date. However, despite leaving me with an empty foundation, I still had the resources to continue my work. During the final weeks before due date, I developed a determined mentality to finish my personal project, with greater understanding and knowledge on the topic. It was during this time that I developed a consistent rhythm and working balance to finish my major work, to the best of my ability. It came as a surprise when I received the letter from the Society and Culture Association stating I had received a 'Distinction', when I truly didn’t expect it. I’m grateful to Ms Gearing who willingly gave up time to help me and consistently checked and edited my work. What seemed daunting from the beginning was actually an intense time of personal development and self-fulfilment.

Ms Melanie Gearing, Society and Culture Teacher

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www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au
Ph: 9671 3000
Fax: 9831 6617
Year 7 2015
Our new Year 7 students have continued their exceptional transition to become fully fledged ‘Patties Boys’! Thank you to parents and families for your support in ensuring that our newest students have fully embraced the Patrician invitation to allow Christ to reign in their lives and to pledge their lives to ‘Service and Sacrifice’. Our Year 7 Parent Welcome Evening was a recent highlight of the transition of our students to Patrician Brothers’ College.
From Mr Dominic Cullen:
The parents of the new Year 7 cohort were officially welcomed into our Patrician family on Tuesday, 10 February 2015. It provided an excellent opportunity for Homeroom Teachers to meet parents and further explain how the school works. It was also another excellent example of how parents and teachers work together to ensure Patrician Brothers Blacktown is a caring and learning community.
Thank you to all the staff whose presence ensured a successful evening for our students:

Mr Heath Borg, Ms Angela Pham, Mr Nathan Campbell, Mrs Mel D’Cruz, Mr Jim Prendergast, Mr Scott Durham, Ms Jaimee Bocasan, Ms Jacqueline Mercieca, Mr Peter Ross, Ms Erenie Sawiers, Mrs Selina Wong, Mrs Manuela Lavaselli, Mrs Melissa Scalone, Ms Melissa Luppino, Ms Jessica Caccioti, Mrs Karen Davidson, Mr Anthony Silvestrini, Ms Melanie Gearing, Mr Manny Scalone, Mr Paul Kenyon, Ms Charmaine Castellino, Ms Natalie Collins, Mr Mark Domars, Mr Adnan Saleh, Mr Michael Said, Mr Alan Dadisho, Mr Brett Sullivan, Mr Noel Bajada, Mr Danny De Alwis, Ms Denise Grzelj, Mr Thomas Barton, Mr Santo Passarello and Mr Brian Edmonds.
Penrith Lakes was the scene for a first hand learning experience that cannot be rivalled in a classroom setting. The HSC Earth and Environmental Science course mandates that students examine their local region to record the effects of introduced species on the local ecosystems. Penrith Lakes is a series of man-made lakes and natural lagoons that nestle neatly in the nooks of the Nepean River. Unfortunately the lagoons are quite often affected by aquatic weeds and pest fish species, and Year 12 set out to examine these effects. Water quality was assessed using high tech probes and equipment, under the guidance of academics with a local knowledge. Students were able to see first hand the choking nature of the Salvinia weed and the reduction in biodiversity and water quality created by the European Carp and the Mosquito Fish. There is no greater learning opportunity in science than to go out and see real processes, examine local systems and utilise equipment not accessible in the classroom.

The students excelled in the opportunity presented by the first hand investigations and took a lot away from the day. This excursion will have an extremely beneficial effect on their learning.

Mr Chris Ferry, Science Teacher

Leadership Report

The school has had a wonderful start to the year, celebrating on a number of occasions. Starting with the first official College Assembly for 2015, launching the School’s theme ‘Service and Sacrifice’. Acknowledging Brother Bernard Bulfin’s 60 years of service and commitment to the school, as well as the significant achievements from last year’s HSC students. Following this, we had Shrove Tuesday, selling pancakes to raise funds for Project Compassion and finally, Ash Wednesday, marking the start of our journey for the season of Lent.

With this in mind, may staff and students continue to remember our college theme of ‘Service and Sacrifice’ throughout the year, particularly during Lent, living out this motto and making a difference for the benefit of our community. A few ways in which the school community can practice, not only the theme but our faith as well, include donating generously throughout the term to Project Compassion during Homeroom, attending Mass on Thursday mornings at 8:15am and volunteering to assist teachers and students who may be struggling around us.

Looking towards the next few weeks be sure to attend the swimming carnival, making an effort to support your team and bring victory to your House. Also, with the start of SRC in the next week or so, those who have been elected by their peers and Homeroom Teachers, be prepared to carry out the responsibilities of a Class Captain. This includes attending all SRC meetings, every Tuesday at lunch, to bring up issues that other students want to have fixed, assisting the home-room teacher every day, reading announcements, taking the office bag to the office and of course, being a role model, through wearing the school uniform with pride and demonstrating correct behaviour. May you all have a great and safe fortnight.

Daniel Mangabat, SRC Captain

Year 7 Reflections on Bishop Daniel Delany(1747-1814)

- I learnt that Bishop Daniel Delany set up schools for the poor Catholic children in Ireland
- Bishop Delany set up two orders, our Patrician Brothers (1808) to teach boys and the Brigidine Sisters (1807) to teach girls
- Daniel Delany was born in a town called Paddock and spent his youth and early priesthood in Mountrath
- Daniel Delany studied for the priesthood in France because the British didn’t allow the Irish people religious freedom and education until 1829
- Education is our way forward in life. We must grab every opportunity to do well at school and people like Bishop Delany remind us not to take our opportunities for granted
BREAKING NEWS
Patrician Brothers’ College has been selected by the Federal Government, the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta and the Catholic Education Commission of NSW to be the recipient of a substantial grant to completely refurbish and extend its technology facilities and create provision for additional 21st Century learning spaces. These building works:
- are valued at $6,500,000
- will commence shortly and be concluded by the end of 2015
- provide for the complete refurbishment and extension of D Block
- will create brand new Wood, Metal, Visual Arts, Music and Drama classrooms
- will result in the provision of a commercial, full-scale Hospitality kitchen
- create a state-of-the-art Food Technology kitchen
- will provide for additional innovative and technology rich learning spaces (similar to the Patrician Learning Centre)

YOU HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE EXCITED. These building works will ensure that Patrician Brothers’ College will be one of the best equipped, most innovative and have the newest facilities of any school in the Greater Blacktown area!

Mr Santo Passarello, Principal

Illustrated here is the D Block (which is alongside the library, amphitheatre and C Block).

You can see that it will double the building in size and thus create another wonderful undercroft area.
View of the extension into the Junior Quadrangle
View of the new TAS rooms on Level 1 of D Block
View of the new Visual Arts, Music and Drama rooms on Level 2 of D Block
Depicted above is the refurbishment of A Block (the area above the College Administration). You can see that it will provide for:

- A Hospitality Kitchen
- A Food Technology Kitchen
- Innovative and technology rich learning spaces
MCS Cricket
**Round 11 v Patrician Brothers’ College Dundas**
Highlights from this round include:
- Year 10 Opens – Convincing, composed effort from the team.
  - C Grade – Shannon Gardiner 53, Mitchell Hyde 31, Sean O’Sullivan 29 were great with the bat. Fantastic in the field (dropping only the one catch) the boys bowled them out for 109, claiming a classic PBB win.
  - (Mitchell Hyde 4 wickets, Jayden Royds 3 and Jy Clapham 2)
- A Grade – Terrific pace bowling display from Daniel McKinley (3/6 off 4) and some cunning orthodox from Alex Johnston (3/4 off 3) set up a small chase that Arjun Nair (33 off 12 balls) knocked off in short time with an array of boundaries!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blacktown</th>
<th>Dundas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Opens</td>
<td>0/41</td>
<td>10/38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Opens</td>
<td>5/143</td>
<td>Campbelltown 10/109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Grade</td>
<td>6/80</td>
<td>Campbelltown 2/83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Grade</td>
<td>0/44</td>
<td>8/43</td>
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Round 11 v Patrician Brothers’ College Fairfield
Highlights from this round include:
- Year 8 Opens – The boys finished their season off well with a very good all round performance.
- Year 10 Opens – backed up a fine performance from last week again this week. The first three overs of the match were maidens, putting Fairfield on the back foot.
- Bailey Davis-Knoll finishing with 0/6 off four and Jaydon Sperinck masterminding two run outs. Aaron Baker made light work of the total, scoring 41 n.o, blasting 20 off the last over, including two sixes.
- C Grade – Mitchell Hyde 37, Liam Dickinson 26, Jayden Royds 24 were our stars with the bat. (Jayden Royds took 4/2 – Mitchell Hyde 3/6 in a couple of very good bowling spells.
- B Grade – Made our top score of 90 off the 20 overs with an unusual reversing of the order. Damanpreet Chadha 19 not out and Jonathan Soans 15 not out. Jonathan Soans taking the only wicket with 1-2 off 2 overs.
- A Grade – A solid batting effort got us a competitive total.
  - Arjun Nair (42) was destructive until a good ball snuck through and Yuvraj Manav finished well.
  - An early run out from Yanick Shaikh set the tone.
- Alex Johnston was economical bowling 4 overs for 4 runs.
- Zorawar Singh (2/11) in his First XI return took two crucial wickets to keep the brakes on any Fairfield assault.

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Fairfield</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Opens</td>
<td>5/120</td>
<td>10/49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Opens</td>
<td>2/61</td>
<td>9/55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Grade</td>
<td>7/152</td>
<td>Greystanes 10/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>B Grade</td>
<td>8/90</td>
<td>1/91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Grade</td>
<td>8/108</td>
<td>10/21</td>
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MCS Basketball
**Round 10 v St Patrick’s Marist College Dundas**
Highlights from matches included:
- A Grade – Akok Akok’s efforts on the rebounds and leadership from Jerome Luai.
- B Grade – Solid defence and clinical execution of offensive play by the team, scoring 27 points before allowing the opposition to get on the board. Everyone, I mean EVERYONE contributed today. The B-grade juggernaut is marching towards the post-season, still undefeated. Watch this space.
- 10 Opens – Nice way to start the year - all boys played well. First time we had 3 players in double figures for points: Hayden Blankley, Joel Relunia and Prince Opoku.
- Tuakore Singapu got 8 points.
- 9 Opens – Josh Ross was a scoring machine today. He was assisted with good performances from Tyler Tuigamala and Sagato Katopau.

Round 11 v Patrician Brothers’ College Fairfield
Highlights from the matches included:
- A Grade – Hans Zabala’s tenacious defence and Baba Elkander’s offensive prowess. Well done boys. Looking to the SF’s.
- B Grade - Hard to pick one who was best on court. Everyone played a role - no superstars; just disciplined selfless play.
- Rock solid defence held the opposition to single digits. Spirited offense allowed boys to showcase some of the best team play we’ve seen this season. Finished the regular season undefeated. We’re looking forward to semis next week.
- 10 Opens - We stuck to our game plan and stayed in front the whole game. The leaders on the court were Tuakore Singapu and Hayden Blankley. The 10 Opens complete the season undefeated and are looking good heading into next week.
- 9 Opens – A tough game with our boys hampered by injuries and personnel changes which meant we only had 7 players. The boys put in a brave effort to keep the game within reach. Best and Fairest: 3 points - Joshua Ross, 2 - Kaylem Falaniko, 1 - Tyler Tuigamala

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<th>Blacktown</th>
<th>Fairfield</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Grade</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Grade</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
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<th></th>
<th>Blacktown</th>
<th>Fairfield</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Grade</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Grade</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
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Congratulations to Samuel Brennan

Samuel started Taekwondo in June 2013. He has progressed through double grading to his current brown belt.

In his first year of competitive Taekwondo in 2014, at ISKA tournaments, he has placed in each tournament entered.

March 2014: ISKA NSW Open – 3rd Place Traditional Forms.

May 2014: ISKA Sydney City Open – 3rd Place Traditional Forms.

July 2014: ISKA Winter Nationals – 1st Place Extreme Weapons, 1st Place Sword Combat, 1st Place Traditional Forms, 3rd Place Point Sparring.

August 2014: ISKA Valley Open – 1st Place Traditional Forms, 2nd Place Point Sparring, 2nd Place Extreme Weapons.

September 2014: ISKA Country Championships - 1st Place Point Sparring, 1st Place Sword Combat, 2nd Place Traditional Forms.

October 2014: ISKA World Cup - 2nd Place Extreme Weapons, 2nd Place Traditional Forms, 2nd Place Point Sparring.

November 2014: Australian Titles – 1st Place Traditional Forms, 2nd Place Point Sparring, 2nd Place Sword Combat, 3rd Place Extreme Weapons.

Sam also received a trophy from his Taekwondo Academy at the end of year presentation - for the best male at sparring.

NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWWCCC)

The NSW CCC administration has changed the way in which students nominate for individual sports. As always, the college will advertise the relevant details through our assemblies and morning announcements to students, however the responsibility now lies with the parents/students to register online. This can be done by visiting the NSW CCC website www.csss.nsw.edu.au

NSWCCC Softball

Congratulations to Jon Cook, Samuel Barnett and Coen Wynne who represented the MCS at the NSWCCC Opens selection trials. Further congratulations are given to Coen Wynne who was subsequently selected in the NSWCCC State side. Well done boys!

NSWCCC Cricket

Congratulations to Arjun Nair who recently competed at the NSWCCC U19 Cricket selection trials. At these trials he performed admirably with both bat and ball and has now been selected to represent NSWCCC at the NSW ALL schools event. Congratulations Arjun!

Blues Awards

The NSW CCC holds an annual Blues Awards night. This evening acknowledges the top 2 athletes / sportspeople from any particular sport across all Catholic High Schools in NSW. From our college Arjun Nair was awarded a Blue Award for his outstanding efforts in the sport of Cricket. Congratulations Arjun!

MCS Sport at PBB

A Reminder to all students and parents that if boys are selected in a college team / squad that represents us at MCS events, you must return your permission note and levy to the school office before you can compete. Thank you in advance for your prompt return of your note and levy.

Patrician Brothers students star in the Auckland Rugby League Nines Competition

The following former students played for their respective clubs in the NRL Nines tournament held in Auckland last weekend:

John Folau, Pauli Pauli, Halaauafu Lavaka, Joseph Paulo and Tepai Moeroa for Parramatta, George Jennings, Chris Smith and Christian Crichton for Penrith, Matthew Wright and John Asiata for the Cowboys, Jesse Sene-Lefao for Manly and Tim Simona for West Tigers

We look forward to watching them play in the NRL competition this year along with many of our other former students.

Soccer Registrations Now Open

St Patrick’s Soccer club is now open for registrations for boys, girls, men and women of ALL ages. St Patrick’s offers a great environment for everyone to play this great sport.

To play for St Pats you can register online at www.myfootballclub.com.au or you can attend one of our information or training days:

When:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in February 2015 from 5.30 pm till 7.30 pm

Where:

Bert Saunders Reserve, Kiata Crescent, Doonside, next to Featherdale Wildlife Park

For more information about registration please go to our website www.stpatssoccer.com or call Silvana Martignago on 0422 747 235.

The 2015 season is starting soon so register NOW to secure your spot at St Pats.

2015 State Election

DID YOU KNOW? On average, it costs around $13,000 per year to educate a child in a NSW school. In most Catholic schools, school fees cover less than a quarter of this cost. The rest comes from taxpayers like you! This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

Make your vote count – How does your party support?
Daniel aims for nationals

TALENTED YOUNG SWIMMER HAS WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN

Nick Houghton

BLACKTOWN is quickly becoming a breeding ground for champion swimmers.

Blacktown City Swimming Club breaststroker Daniel Kucheruk is the latest to represent the region in the pool with distinction.

Daniel, 13, recently secured silver and bronze medals at the state titles at Sydney Aquatic Centre.

Second place in the 200m breaststroke and third place in the 100m were Kucheruk's personal best results at a state titles.

His times of 2min 35.61 sec in the 200m and 1min 30.05 sec in the 100m smashed the national titles qualification times, and ensured his place on the blocks for his age group's biggest swim meet of the year.

The podium finishes also set the platform for Daniel's assault on the national titles later this year.

"When I looked up at the board and saw my name, I was so excited," he said.

"Both the 200 and 100 were quick races so to finish so strongly was a great feeling. Yet it was the young swimmer's times which really stood out. "The 100 is such a fast race. Sometimes there is only hundredths of a second in it," he said.

"My time of 1.10.05 in the 100 was really promising and goes to show I'm quick enough to compete against the fastest in my age group.

"My goal is to swim a 1.09 and I'm working hard with my coach to achieve that."

His coach Pedro Barbosa said the swimmer had the potential and work ethic to achieve in the pool.

"Daniel is a really talented swimmer, and in only four months I have seen him come a long way," he said.

"Training and hard work is the recipe for success and Daniel is always willing to give it his all.

"The nationals will be a major test but I am confident Daniel can find what it takes to come home with a win."

The Patrician Brothers Blacktown year nine student said he was confident of medalling at the nationals.

"I'm working really hard in training and posting great times," he said.

"If I perform to my best I will be in with a great shot."
Only a few weeks to go before our students and staff fly to London to begin their Ireland and England adventure!
Need Transport? Ring Tony!

Contact them TODAY for a special offer to all Patties families. Ask for Tony!

We are pleased to announce the recent launch of a new shuttle service. This will provide first-class service for anyone requiring assistance with transport. The details are:

**Five Star Shuttles – Transfers Made Easy**

Airport and Cruise Transfers
Contact: Tony Saba, Director
Mobile: 0404 390 620
Website: www.fivestarsshuttles.com
Email: fivestarsshuttles@outlook.com

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

http://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au

Also trading as Shire Coaches

**Phone: 0245 736 181**
**Mobile 0408 973 267**

www.goodazgoldtours.com.au

AVS Security

AVS Security specialises in large crowd control security around Sydney. AVS Security is the security provider for over 150 venues within the hospitality industry along with multiple stadiums, including WIN Jubilee. AVS is heavily involved within the sporting community from grass roots through to elite level and honoured to have Brad Fittler, Nathan Hindmarsh and Socceroo goalkeeper, Matty Ryan as Ambassadors.

Follow us on
Facebook - AVS Security
Twitter - @AVSSecurity
Instagram - avs_security

Website

This newsletter is available NOW in FULL COLOUR. Visit

www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au
St Pats Rugby League Club

Want to play Rugby League with a GREAT Club?

- We are a family club catering for all ages
- Players required for U6 to A Grade
- Coaching and Training positions available

Contact Darrin TODAY 0407 972 155

UNIFORM SHOP
Located next to school office

Tuesday
8.30am - 3.45pm

Thursday
8.30am - 3.45pm

Bob Egan Electrical
Domestic, commercial and industrial
Contact Bob Egan 'an old boy of PBCB'
Phone: 9626 5951
Mobile: 0418251094

President Body Repairs
Specialising in all major insurance work
Contact Glenn Jones
50 Forge Street Blacktown
Phone: 9621 1281
Fax: 9622 5164

ActiveWest PHYSIOTHERAPY Centre
Sports, Spinal and Work Injuries
Contact Igor Kralj PROUD TO BE AN OLD BOY
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