Dear Parents/Carers and Families

Our recent Opening of School year Mass provided another opportunity for our community to come together in celebration. Following the Mass, staff and student leaders were commissioned in prayer and offered their commitment to the College community. The daily work of staff and student leaders provides a model of service and makes visible for all, the mission of our College.

Over several weeks I have continued to unpack Marymount College as a radical place of hope for girls, for education, the future and our world. Apart from the Catholic education we offer, the learning, the wellbeing and sustainability practices; the voice of your daughter as part of this College is precious. I congratulate the girls who are holding leadership positions this year and very much look forward to seeing and being part of the initiatives they think are important for our College. One theme that has emerged from their voice is - Respectful relationships build a sense of belonging at Marymount and this is foundational to our charisms of hospitality, stewardship, reconciliation and our 2014 focus on compassion.

While our student leader groups are a visible presence of leadership, each girl is a leader in her own right. With this comes responsibility. At our recent Assembly I spoke to the girls of Pope Francis. In his inaugural homily, he talked about each of us as ‘protectors’ “…let us be protectors of God’s creation, protectors of God’s plan inscribed in nature, in one another and in environment.” When something is inscribed – engraven or carved, it is part of something other than itself. An analogy may be a house, but people living in it make it a home. I challenged each of your daughters to see themselves as protectors, to ask themselves what law they hold true in their heart. What inner attitude influences the choices they make? I invite you to continue this discussion with your daughter - as a ‘protector’ of all
that is sacred - self, others, environment, what is inside your heart that you hold true? How are you showing yourself as a protector in this College as part of God’s creation and God’s plan? In this year of compassion, what is the challenge you are being called to listen to?

School activities continue to provide many opportunities for your daughter to learn and grow, not only in academic skills but experiences which will serve her well in the future as a confident and active young woman of the world. With Lenten preparations this week, time and space is provided for reflection and deepening of faith in preparation for Easter joy. The upcoming Activities Week provides each student with authentic life experiences of learning in community. Your support, enlivens and enriches these experiences.

God Bless

Sara Scungio
Principal

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR DEPUTY

Parenting information and resources

Please view our latest two articles A Sporting Chance and Managing Kids - who won’t take no for answer. I hope that you also found the last articles of interest.

Parking around our school

On the following page is a flyer that provides clear information regarding parking restrictions that need to be followed when dropping and picking up your daughters from Marymount. The area surrounding our school can become very busy with traffic and in order to promote the safety of everyone it is important that this is followed. We also believe it is important to respect and consider our neighbours and part of this involves not parking across their driveways. We request your support here and please be mindful that the council do patrol the area around our school and impose fines if this is warranted.

Host families for Japanese students

We have received information that at this point we will be hosting up to ten Japanese students again this year. The dates are from 1 - 22 August. This is something that we have been involved in for a number of years now. The students are all girls and are from Musashino School in Japan. They attend school at Marymount during their time, developing their skills in English and learning about our culture. We do require host families for the girls to stay with. In the past our families have reported very favourably on this unique experience. Further information will follow when we have received confirmation.

If you are interested in being a part of this, can you make arrangements to have a POLICE CHECK if you do not have a clearance or a current one. This can be organised through our school’s front office. The police check needs to be for everyone in your family who is over 15 years of age. We would like to begin this process early so that everything is ready before the students arrive as they cannot stay with families if there are no police checks or they are still pending. Thank you for your support here.

Diary Date - Presentation Assembly

Our presentation assembly for this term will be held on Tuesday 8 April at 10:10am. This assembly is a celebration of the many achievements of our girls.

Kind regards

Leone Coorey
Deputy Principal
cleone@mc.catholic.edu.au
BICYCLE LANES
Drivers are committing an offence if their vehicle becomes stationary even though the motor is running and the driver remains seated in the vehicle or waiting in a queue to use a legal parking zone.

QUEUING TO PARK
Drivers are committing an offence if their vehicle becomes stationary even though the motor is running and the driver remains seated in the vehicle or waiting in a queue to use a legal parking zone.

DOUBLE PARKING
A driver commits an offence by stopping a vehicle on a road when another vehicle is parked between the driver’s vehicle and the kerb.

10 METRE RULE
A driver must not stop within 10 metres from the nearest point of an intersecting road at an intersection/T-intersection without traffic lights.

SPEED LIMITS
Speeding vehicles in a school zone are highly dangerous for children. There is a speed limit of 25kph, designated by the signs and a zig-zag line below, any time when children are present or when the lights are flashing (depending on the type of crossing).

CONTINUOUS YELLOW EDGE LINE.
A continuous yellow edge line has the same requirements as a No Stopping sign.

WARNING!
IT IS NOT A DEFENCE IF YOU STOP IN THESE ZONES TO ANSWER A MOBILE PHONE, QUEUING TO PARK LEGALLY OR DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP PASSENGERS.
Upcoming RE Dates this Term
Wednesday 9 April  Last Supper Holy Week focus at 10:10am

Sacraments
The parish has provided me with information for those who have made their reconciliation and may be ready to celebrate Eucharist and Confirmation in 2014. If you have not yet registered your interest or do not receive information in the next couple of weeks, please contact me. The reconciliation preparation will occur later in the year.

Ash Wednesday
Yesterday was Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the Church’s season of Lent. Lent is a time of spiritual makeover for Catholics, in preparation for Easter. It gives us the opportunity to reflect on our relationships with God and others. The Church encourages us to take stock of our attitudes, values and actions and commit to being the best we can to renew ourselves as Christian people. It is a time for knowing Compassion as we listen to the needs of others with the ear of our heart and respond to this call, especially through Project compassion.

Community Outreach at Marymount
Last year, Carmel Briggs (College Chaplain) and Belinda D’Agostino facilitated some community outreach initiatives in the Marymount community, which I would like to support again this year. The first activity is in relation to providing meals for families who might be experiencing a difficult period due to financial, health or other personal reasons. There will be a weekly roster set up where volunteers are asked to prepare one meal for a family in need. All meals need to be labelled with ingredients and dated. Labels and containers are available in the community pantry in the chill out area.

The second initiative, is the establishment of a ‘community pantry’ that will be located in the ‘Chill or Chat Room’ in the counsellors’ area. We ask for any donations of non-perishable food items to be donated via your daughter’s Base Group Teacher. Items will be stored in the pantry and distributed to those in need when required.

If you think that you would be able to assist by preparing one meal this term or you would like to speak to Carmel confidentially about a need that you have (or that you have identified in our community), please contact her by phone 8298 2388 or email cbriggs@mc.catholic.edu.au, belinda bdagostino@mc.catholic.edu.au or myself cjonas@mc.catholic.edu.au. Thank you in anticipation!

Brighton Parish
During Lent, Fr Peter will be leading a Lenten Program. The program this year is “Encounter”. First Lenten Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12 March at 11:00am in room 8 of Activity room next to the Church office, 22 Strathmore Tce Brighton.

Let us pray to our Loving God,
May our hearts be the doorways through which Your justice comes into our world.
Help us to overcome indifference and self-centredness. May we do work with Project compassion to overcome the dehumanising challenge of poverty that faces so many in our world.
Loving God hear our prayer

Have a great fortnight!

Christina Jonas
APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission)
8179 4409
cjonas@mc.catholic.edu.au

This week the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. This year’s Project Compassion stories are about our desire for a full and beautiful life within the surroundings of home. Not just a house to live in, but a life filled with certainty, free from the burden of poverty with access to food, water, education, healthcare and shelter. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work towards this creation of a more just and fair world for whole communities.

Each family will receive a Project Compassion box and/or can order a set of leaflets for their donations. You can also donate online via the website at www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

Please put your compassion into action this Lent by supporting Project Compassion.

1ST WEEK OF LENT
Project Compassion, Week One, brings you the story of Maristely.

An advocacy program in São Paulo, Brazil, enables favela (city slum) residents to gain legal deeds for their land, as well as securing access to basic services. A youth empowerment program is enabling young people from the favelas, like Maristely, to work for justice so that peace, rather than violence, rules the streets where they live.

Your donation to Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion provides young people like Maristely with the opportunity to become leaders for justice. www.caritas.org.au
PARENT CLASS REPS

We thank the following Year Level Parent Class Representative volunteers for offering to represent the base groups as our parent contacts for 2014:

6 Coral:
- Susan Blake
- Jacqueline Moroney
- Jamie Moroney
- Teresa Ragless
- Clive Riches
- Lynda Sisson

6 Emerald:
- Mary-Jo Amos
- Joanne Chapman
- Karen Roberts
- Sally Trethewey

6 Ochre:
- Julie Bennett
- Ann-Marie O'Connor
- Nicole Pickles
- Ian Pratt
- Felicity Lindemann
- Lucinda Partridge

6 Violet:
- Emily Dwyer
- Daniela Follese

7 Acacia:
- Amanda Jones
- Nicole Lowe
- Liz Thorne

7 Callistemon:
- Amanda Jones
- Silvia Zeuschner

7 Eucalypt:
- Sauj Thami

7 Sheoak:
- Anthea Rice
- Verity van Balen

8 Diamonds:
- Leanne Murphy

8 Opals:
- Wendy Angley

9 Firetails:
- Kate Williams

9 Jillaroos:
- Deborah Cox

9 Southern Stars:
- Saju Thami

Meeting dates: First Wednesday each Month
Next meeting: 2 April in the Resource Centre

YEAR LEVEL SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Thursday, 20 March at 7:00pm for parents/carers only
The Warradale Hotel (234 Diagonal Road, Warradale)
Year Eight parents/carers to meet by the outside bar
Year Nine parents/carers to meet by the inside lounge bar.

Sunday, 23 March at 11:30am for parents/carers, students and family
Angas Neil Reserve (The Esplanade, Seacliff)
Year Six families to meet near the playground
Year Seven families to meet under the pine tree.

2014 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

Each year our College enters students in competitions run by Educational Assessment Australia through the University of New South Wales. These competitions are purely voluntary and are an opportunity for those girls who like to be challenged, to compete against similarly aged students from schools across Australia, under exam like conditions.

PRINCIPAL TOURS

Marymount College on Wednesday, 19 March 9:15am and 6:00pm
To register, contact Jen Rollins on 8179 4420 or via secretary@mc.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart College Middle School on Wednesday, 28 May 9:15am
To register, call 8276 7877 or email principal@shcms.sa.edu.au

Sacred Heart College Senior on Monday, 17 March 9:00am
To register, contact Deborah Hearl on 8294 2988 or via deborah.hearl@shcs.sa.edu.au

Poem with a twisty end

by Latarvia, Year Seven

Cat Food

Owner home
Lots of food
Opening can
Wrong brand!
**MY FIRST FEW WEEKS AT MARYMOUNT IN YEAR EIGHT...**

My first few weeks at Marymount have been great. The first two weeks were hard because I didn’t know anyone, but now that I have made some friends I’m feeling more confident and having more fun. I have enjoyed the new subjects and meeting new people. I have found Italian especially challenging considering I have never learnt it before. Everyone is really nice and welcoming and made me feel like I had been here since Year Six.  

Abby

I have really enjoyed my first few weeks at Marymount, I have met a lot of people that I hope I will stay friends with for a very long time. We have also got a lot more opportunities that we didn’t really have at my old school, such as a different range of after school sports, different subjects and also different activities in PE. All of the teachers and students have been so welcoming and have helped me a lot over the past few weeks. I think that’s a really nice thing to have when coming to a new school. To summarise my past four weeks have been amazing and I’m looking forward for the ones to come in the next two years ahead of me.  

Maddie

The first four weeks at Marymount have been overwhelming but enjoyable. I have found everyone to be really friendly and welcoming which made the transition a lot easier. I found the classroom changes and different teachers fairly easy to cope with and I think I settled in to classes and learning pretty quickly. I thing I found challenging was trying to keep track of all of my different homework tasks and school books, but I think that most people feel like that at the start of the school year. Overall I think my first few weeks at Marymount have been enjoyable but challenging.  

Brooke

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**PEER MENTORS**

On Monday 17 February, 32 selected Year Eight students walked to the Brighton Lighthouse Church where they spent the day with Mrs Grimm and Ms Heuzenroeder, training to be Peer Mentors. The program enables small groups of Year Eight students to go into either a Year Six or Year Seven classroom and teach some basic life skills. Some topics covered include how to get attention with appropriate behaviour, how to deal with bullying, identifying feelings and identifying warning signs. The peer mentor training was very successful and was a great experience. We did lots of practical activities, which everyone enjoyed. The Year Eight students can’t wait to begin visiting their peer mentor classes this term.

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**CRICKET CLINICS**

For three weeks this term, the Year Eights have participated in a series of exciting cricket clinics hosted by The South Australian Cricket Association. They have involved learning basic cricket skills and lots of fun activities such as ‘cricket golden child’, and practising hitting the stumps while bowling and fielding. We’ve played proper cricket matches as well which were really enjoyable for both the students and the clinic coaches. All of the Year 8s have enjoyed learning cricket and wish they could stay for longer!!

8 Moonstones
FIRST AID

During Week 5 the Year Eight students participated in a First Aid Course ran by St. Johns. This experience was a great way to make sure that we know what to do when there is an emergency. We participated in many exercises such as, learning DRSABCD and CPR which stands for Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation. We tried this on dummies just in case we needed to do it in real life. Then we learnt how to deal with choking and how to resuscitate somebody. We also learnt how to deal with and bandage external bleeding. We learnt many things during this time and it’s good to know what to do during an emergency. Elise and Lucy 8 Opals

GEMS WELLBEING EXPERIENCE

Year Eight Reflection Camp

On the 12th, 13th and 14th of February, the year 8 classes went to Aldinga Beach Holiday Park on a reflection camp to learn more about reconciliation and spirituality. One focus was dadirri, which was about taking time for yourself and listening to the environment. We focused one day on wellbeing and on the other day we did lots of fun activities including team work skills and geocaching, although the weather was a bit of a letdown! There was a swimming pool, playground and a jumping pillow at the park, and we had a lot of fun using those facilities in our spare time. Active Education supplied us with delicious meals and fun learning challenges that we all enjoyed. Overall, the Gems Wellbeing Experience was a great way to improve our teamwork skills and we all got to know each other a lot better.
CONGRATULATIONS!
To Emily Anderson who attended a JKA (Japanese Karate Association) Seminar here in Adelaide. During the Seminar, Emily went for her black belt grading and passed - quite a high achievement for anyone and she has done this in under three years. The photo is of Nishimura Sensei who is the Japanese examiner (the only Japanese examiner for black belt in Australia). Nishimura Sensei now lives in Melbourne but prior to this, an examiner had to fly out from Japan!

FIRST PEER MENTOR LESSONS

Year Six students
Choosing appropriate behaviours to seek attention. Points to consider are as follows:

- Simple day-to-day things we consistently say and do makes the greatest difference for our children.
- Promote the idea that we cannot control the behaviour of others, but can manage our actions and responses.
- Seek attention using a friendly manner and others will be influenced to like you.
- Direct modelling provides a basis for very productive discussion.

Children who seek attention in negative ways develop it as a habit Be gentle and consistent with your children when attempting to change old habits You may wish to discuss with your daughter some of the outcomes from this first lesson.

Year Seven students
Feelings are a natural emotional response to events. The first Peer Mentor lesson for Year Seven students aims to help students identify their own feelings and those of others. A few ideas for parents to consider are:

- Allow your child to learn from your mistakes as well as the finer moments you offer.
- Always ask your child how they are feeling, this helps to identify and name the feeling.

To effectively help in solving a problem ask what happened to make your child feel a particular way and to explain how the other party would be feeling.

Work at expanding your child’s feeling vocabulary and also discuss facial expressions, voice tone and body language. When your child’s feelings are out of control and they are not thinking rationally, don’t participate, talk later Hope these pointers are useful.

Lyn Heuzenroeder and Chris Grimm
Peer Mentor Coordinators

COMMUNITY NEWS
The services and events contained in this bulletin are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Families need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children.

Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)
The RYPEN is an introductory leadership development program for young people, sponsored by Rotary. If you are aged 15-17 years you have the opportunity to attend this weekend live-in seminar in the Adelaide Hills from 25-27 April 2014. This seminar is a highly effective leadership and personal development experience. Applications close on Monday, 24 March. For further details and the application form visit www.ryla9520.org.au/rypen/details or email the district RYLA/RYPEN committee via ryla9520@gmail.com.
Parent Voice in Education – State Election 2014

Dear Families,

In the lead up to the March state election, the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities has presented to the major parties its four key policy priorities on behalf of parents who have chosen a Catholic education for their children.

These priority issues – funding for year 7 students, investment in the early years, capital funding for Catholic schools and family engagement in schooling - go to our core goals of choice, equity, quality and parent voice in education.

We recently wrote to the Minister for Education and the Shadow Minister for Education seeking their party’s responses to the following questions in relation to these issues.

1. Status of Year 7 in SA: What will your party do to address the current inequity in funding for students in Year 7 in this state if it forms government?

2. Early Learning: How will your party support the development of Early Years’ Services in the Catholic sector if it forms government?

3. Capital Funding: What support for capital works will your party offer to Catholic schools if it forms government?

4. Family Engagement in Schooling: Parents and families are central stakeholders and partners in education. How will your party support a state wide initiative to strengthen family engagement in schooling if it forms government?

We also wrote to every state Member of Parliament calling on them to advocate on behalf of families in their electorate with children in SA Catholic schools as the parties determine their responses.

You may wish to contact your state Member of Parliament directly asking them to do the same.

Party response to these questions will be of most importance to families in Catholic schools and we will ensure that these are forwarded to families in a timely manner prior to the election.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

Ann Bliss
Executive Director

Authorised by Ann Bliss, Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities, 121 George Street Thebarton SA 5031
Your child’s education is affected by the policies enacted by our State government and we hope that this flyer provides you with information that is useful to you as you decide how to vote.

We are writing to you at this important time as we consider the policies of the political parties who are contesting the State Election on Saturday 15 March 2014. There are many issues that South Australians will consider as they cast their vote. The purpose of this flyer is to provide you with information about the position the two major parties have taken on issues of significance for us as a Catholic education sector.

The recurrent funding of Catholic schools was recently finalised in an agreement between the State Government of South Australia and the Australian Government. This agreement was made after the Gonski Review which received such strong media attention as it unfolded. The agreement has secured the funding for Catholic schools for the next four years. There are however a number of other vital issues for us as a sector and the positions of the two South Australian major parties in relation to them are presented for your consideration.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the children and young people in our Catholic schools.

Professor Denis Ralph
Chair
SA Commission for Catholic Schools

Dr Paul Sharkey
Director
Catholic Education SA
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<th>COMMITMENTS SOUGHT</th>
<th>LIBERAL PARTY</th>
<th>LABOR PARTY</th>
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<td><strong>1 Capital Funding:</strong> South Australia is one of the few states and territories which does not provide funding to support non-government schools to undertake major building projects or smaller projects such as classroom modification and other refurbishment. These projects are largely funded by parents and school communities. What support for capital works will your party offer to non-government schools in new or disadvantaged areas if you are elected to government?</td>
<td>We are aware that this issue is of major concern to non-government schools in South Australia. If elected a Marshall Liberal Government will consider sympathetically providing assistance once budget circumstances improve.</td>
<td>A re-elected Labor Government will work with the non-government sector to ensure that the funding deed includes the flexibility to allow schools to fund capital from recurrent State Government funding. The total value of the interest rate subsidy has been rolled into the Better Schools’ arrangements. Thus, the overall value of the State Government’s previous investment is maintained and will be indexed and guaranteed across the life of the agreement.</td>
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<td><strong>2 Early Learning:</strong> The importance of early learning is being increasingly appreciated within our community. Will your party support the development of early learning centres in the non-government sectors if you are elected to government?</td>
<td>A Marshall Liberal Government would be happy to discuss with the non-government sector with regard to their plans for early learning centre development.</td>
<td>Representatives from DECD and CESAA have met in 2013 in relation to CESAA’s interest in early childhood services. I support the prospect of agreement being reached on a flexible use of the existing funding provided to CESAA ($11.45 million). The funding would no longer be tied to the existing locations and could be used, together with funding provided via the Universal Access to Early Childhood Education initiative, to expand service provision in new locations.</td>
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<td><strong>3 Year 7 Funding:</strong> South Australian Yr 7 students are funded at a lower rate to students in many other Australian states and territories because they are classified as Primary students. This is unfair because South Australian Yr 7 students are required to study the same curriculum and sit the same tests as their interstate counterparts. What will your party do to address this inequity if you are elected to government?</td>
<td>The State Liberals have committed to begin the transition of all state Yr 7 students from Primary into High School (over 8 yrs from 2016) consistent with the national curriculum requirements. This will provide an appropriate specialist teaching to improve educational outcomes and to bring our Yr 7s into line with their peers interstate. Negotiations will begin with the Commonwealth to ensure this funding inequity is addressed and that all students, including those at non-government schools, receive funding at the appropriate secondary level.</td>
<td>The Labor Government agrees that Yr 7 students should be funded at the secondary rate—regardless of where they go to school. We will continue to lobby the Federal Government to change the funding classification of South Australian Yr 7 students from primary to secondary.</td>
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<td><strong>4 Year 7 Infrastructure Grants:</strong> If South Australian Yr 7 students are deemed to be Secondary students, how will your party support the non-government sectors to meet the capital demands of more specialised learning spaces?</td>
<td>Refer to answer above.</td>
<td>The State Labor Government has no plans to transfer Yr 7 to High School as there is insufficient evidence to show that this results in better educational outcomes. A decision for the Catholic sector to do so is a matter for their sector.</td>
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<td><strong>5 Allied Health Support:</strong> Currently the state government provides funds to support students with special needs to access allied health services. If elected to government will your party continue this funding at least at current levels?</td>
<td>A State Liberal government would continue this funding.</td>
<td>The Labor Government introduced this support in 2013 and has recently pledged an additional $1.50 per student to continue to assist students in private schools to access allied health services until the end of 2015.</td>
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<td><strong>6 Access to buses:</strong> Students in non-government schools have had difficulty accessing government provided buses in some regions. How will your party work with non-government schools to provide better access for their students on these buses?</td>
<td>The Liberal party has committed to a full review of the DECD school bus system if elected with particular reference to access by non-government students to bus transport. This is consistent with our support for choice in education and our desire to create reasonable equity in the provision of education resources for regional South Australians. We would be consulting with Catholic Education and affected local school communities as an important part of this review.</td>
<td>Labor is committed to the principles within the School Transport Policy. The policy has been in place since 1985 and enjoys the support of successive governments. It treats all students equally, by providing transport assistance to their nearest government school, when they live 5km or more away from it. The State Government will consider changes to the policy, if a proposal is put forward that does not significantly alter the cost structure or equity arrangements enshrined within it.</td>
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<td><strong>7 Recurrent Funding:</strong> A recurrent funding agreement from 2014 to 2019 has been negotiated and signed by the South Australian government and the Commonwealth. How will your party honour this agreement?</td>
<td>The State Liberals will honour the funding agreement matched by the current Federal Government.</td>
<td>Labor guarantees that we will deliver our share of the full six-year State commitment to the Better Schools funding regardless of what the Commonwealth does. The State Labor Government forged an historic six-year Better Schools funding agreement with the previous Federal Labor Government. We expect that agreement to be honoured.</td>
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