Inaugural Roger O’Sullivan Award
Applications for the inaugural Roger O’Sullivan Family, School and Community Partnership Award closed Monday, the 18th August and we are happy to say that the response has been most pleasing. Applicants from primary and secondary schools across NSW submitted inspiring and creative stories, demonstrating the myriad ways that schools, families and communities work together to enhance student learning. Now, comes the hard part of judging the worthy applications with notification to take place in late September. Thank you to those schools who submitted an entry and congratulations to all schools and communities on the good work you do in striving for more meaningful partnerships in order to benefit our students.

Parent And Students
New App from Beyond Blue
Beyondblue has teamed up with Melbourne app developers, Two Bulls to create The Check-in mobile app for young people to check-in on friends and to start conversations.

Nothing replaces professional support, but for young people, checking-in on a friend they are concerned about is a really important first step – and this is where the check-in app will make the difference.

For more information check out youthbeyondblue.com/thecheckin

Private Vehicle Conveyance
Private Vehicle Conveyance under Transport for NSW provides subsidy to NSW residents where there is no public transport available and they have launched a new website where parents can submit their PVC applications online. Click here to go to site.

NAPLAN Results for 2014
In May this year, just as in every year since 2008, students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sat the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) tests. These tests in reading, writing and maths assess student levels and your child’s results are reported in comparison to students across Australia. As Rob Randall, the CEO of ACARA, the national body that administers the tests, reminds parents: “NAPLAN is only a snapshot of how your child was going in literacy and numeracy at that point in...
time”. So if you are surprised at your child’s results or if you don’t understand the report and would like more information, ask for an appointment with your child’s teacher and take the opportunity to open up a conversation about how you can work more closely with your school to engage in your child’s learning. Reports are due out in early September.

**HSC Online**

Students across NSW have already begun to sit HSC exams in some subjects and will be continuing over the next couple of months. For parents and students, this can be a very stressful time but understanding the pressures and help that exists for families will go some way to easing the strain families feel at this already busy and eventful time in a student’s life. Download this handy guide to “surviving the HSC” or go online and visit the Board of Studies website to find out more about the HSC.


**HSC Subject Exam e-books**


**FAREWELL DANIELLE CRONIN**

When Danielle joined the CCSP in 2004, I don’t think anyone imagined the significance her contribution would make over her 10 years to the development of this organisation. Year upon year, Danielle took the CCSP into new quarters, gaining credibility for the organisation and her own expertise along the way. Always generous with her knowledge, Danielle was called on to participate in state and federal initiatives furthering parent engagement on task forces, running seminars, conducting research and writing papers and policies. During her tenure, the CCSP produced a number of websites as centres of excellence, a first in this area. Danielle served on the National Catholic Education Commission, the NSW Catholic Education Commission, as well as many other education committees and was instrumental in the formation of the first national Catholic school parent body; Catholic School Parents Australia. But it is in her support of Aboriginal parents, that Danielle has perhaps had the greatest impact. Danielle convened the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee of the CCSP, a first of its kind which has grown to become an important contributor to the betterment of education for Aboriginal students across NSW/ACT. Danielle will be missed by members of the ATSI committee, the CCSP and NSW parents but in her new role as Deputy Director of the National Catholic Education Commission, she is not lost to Catholic education and no doubt will continue to make an impact. Farewell and good wishes in your new role Danielle.