The recent Diocesan Spotlight on Technology Showcase and Expo was a wonderful celebration of technology for learning across the Diocese. The conference provided a unique opportunity for many rich conversations relating to students and learning – in particular about devices, infrastructure, applications and tools and the benefits these have on student learning opportunities and outcomes.

The showcase and expo was well attended with more than 170 delegates including Principals, AP’s, Learning Technology Coordinators and teachers across the Diocese.

In officially opening the Spotlight Showcase and Expo, Director of Schools, Peter Turner said, “The main reason for planning and running an event such as this is because it’s all about our students and their learning.” It was fitting then that the program commenced with a panel of students who presented the student voice across the Diocese (pictured top right).

The opening Keynote address by Andrew and Gaia Grant was highly engaging, relevant and thought-provoking. As authors of the book *Who Killed Creativity?* they spoke about the importance of innovative solutions to problems and challenges in all endeavours, including schools and student learning.

Another highlight was the Teacher Spotlight sessions where more than 25 teachers shared their ideas and expertise across a wide range of tools and technologies that support learning in their classrooms.

The conference dinner provided delegates with further opportunities to network and share – with the dinner being kindly sponsored by MATRIX CNI.

Special thanks to the members of the Student Panel - Isabella Bozevski – Year 6 at St Columbkille's Parish Primary, Abbey Stapley - Yr 12 at John Therry Catholic High School, Abanob Kaloush – Year 8 at Mount Carmel Catholic High School, Bailey Bond – Year 10 at Corpus Christi Catholic High School.

The Spotlight on Technology Showcase and Expo was an outstanding success and the result of a great partnership between the Catholic Education Office’s ICLT team and the Curriculum and Pedagogy team in RELS. These teams worked tirelessly to bring this initiative to life with special mention to Sherryn Moore, Don Perna, Alan Ibbett and Chris Richards for their outstanding contribution to this initiative.
Circular to Schools CS 13

CS 132012.1 (Privacy) Standard Collection Notice
Principals are advised that the Standard Collection Notice has been updated. A copy is attached for reference. Current versions of the Notice are available on the CEO website in Word format to allow schools to include their details.

CS 132012.2 Graduate Certificate / Master of Theology - Religious Education
Delivered by the Broken Bay Institute for the Catholic Education Office Wollongong, these courses are designed to meet Accreditation requirements for teachers of Religious Education in Catholic Schools and for those seeking Accreditation for Senior Leadership. Applications for the 2013 cohort close on 2 November. Information flyers and application forms were sent directly to principals in Week 1 of Term 4 for distribution to staff. For further information and flyers please contact Jen Charadia 4253 0838 or 0438 642414. Scholarships are available for eligible staff.

CS 132012.3 FINAL REMINDER MySchool Portal Closes today - 31 October 2012
A final reminder for Principals that you have until Wednesday 31st October to update School Comments in preparation for the release of the updated MySchool website in early 2013. Principals should access the ACARA Principals’ Portal website at https://schools.myschool.edu.au. Instructions for using the portal are provided on the site. For more information, please contact Rosalie Nott (rosalie.nott@cecnsw.catholic.edu.au or phone 9287 1560)

CS 132012.4 AITSL Self Assessment Tool Trial Offer
All Ministers of Education have agreed to implement the National Standards for Teachers and the Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework from 2013. Schools are asked to familiarise themselves with the Framework found at: http://www.newsroom.aitsl.edu.au/blog/performance-and-development-1

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) is trialling a new online teacher Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) which takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. The SAT will:
- support teachers at all career stages to reflect upon their strengths and identify areas for future development
- assist all teachers with reflection on their own practice, planning for professional learning activities and as a basis for constructive discussions with colleagues to improve teaching.
- provide the scaffolding required to foster effective professional conversations with coaches and mentors.
- support aspirants for certification at Highly Accomplished or Lead career stages to assess their readiness to apply.

AITSL is seeking educators across Australia to trial the SAT and seeks whole schools and regions to accept this invitation to trial SAT and ensure its reliability in supporting the teaching profession.

All participants can enter the draw to win an iPad. For more information and to trial the SAT please go to www.ttpartners.com.au/aitsl.

CS 132012.5 Resource Centre – End of year relocation
The Diocesan Religious Education Resource Centre at Bellambi will have its last day of operation on Thursday the 6th December, 2012 due to the relocation of the new library to the St Francis Xavier site in 2013. Anne Russell will accept urgent requests only after this date. Contact details: anne.russell@dow.catholic.edu.au Phone: 02 4285 0911; http://oliver.dow.catholic.edu.au/rc

CS 132012.5 Prayers 4 Gatherings
Earlier this year a new prayer online website was launched by Archbishop Philip Wilson. The website is called: ‘Prayers 4 Gatherings’ and has been positively received by many Catholic schools in Australia and New Zealand. The prayers are a new resource to help staff and students access prayers that are reflective, meaningful and contemporary. A flyer is attached.

CS 132012.5 Integrating Technology, Pedagogy and Change Knowledge – School Leadership Seminar by Michael Fullan
Attached is a flyer for this seminar to be held in Sydney on 6 November 2012 at MLA Burwood. Registrations online at www.pearson.com.au/professional_learning/leadership.
University of Wollongong – 12th Annual Conference on Educational Leadership – 22 February 2013

Keynote speakers are Hugh Mackay and Dr Suzy Green. Information flyer attached.

Fantastic Free Opportunities for Parents/Carers and Educators in the Illawarra during November!

Transition information sessions, Linking School and Early Years Project and The Lord Mayor's Picnic in the Park for 2013 school starters and their families. Principals are asked to please print the enclosed flyers and distribute to your staff and 2013 Kindergarten families asap.

1. Transition to School Health Workshops - presentations and practical demonstrations of school readiness activities and games to incorporate into play at home. Presentation input from an Occupational Therapist, Speech Pathologist and Physiotherapist from Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health. Four workshops available at Corrimal and Warilla. Bookings essential for 2 Nov and 16 Nov - limited seats available.

2. Linking Schools and Early Years Project Information Session - this presentation is a wonderful opportunity for all early learning stakeholders to learn from the findings and outcomes of this successful project. Bookings essential for 9 Nov - limited seats available.

3. The Lord Mayor’s Picnic in the Park for 2013 School Starters and their Families - Sunday 4 November at McCabe Park Wollongong

TOPICS magazine
The current edition of TOPICS is included with this Circular mailout.

SPOTLIGHT ON TECHNOLOGY

Competition Winners

WINNERS OF PRIZES AND COMPETITIONS

Steve Young from Corpus Christi - won an iPad
Mitchell Elks - won a laptop

Winners of the Print me in 3D competition
Primary – Ss Peter & Paul’s, Kiama
Secondary - John Therry, Rosemeadow

Winners of the Going Google competition

Christian Zempel, Christopher Estrada, Raeshaan Goh
Year 10 at John Therry, Rosemeadow.

St Paul’s Primary, Camden won a one day PD session from Mac 1 Wollongong
Rosary for Australia

You might have heard about Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea but did you also know that Australia’s Biggest Rosary took place all over Australia at the same time?

Rosary For Australia took place leading up to the Feast of Fatima on Saturday 13 October and a few days earlier about 100,000 Catholic school students in schools from Dioceses all over Australia prayed the rosary for the protection of Australia and the future of its youth.

That’s about one million Hail Mary’s being prayed.

Many parishes, prayer groups and individuals also joined in to pray at the same time and many have committed to saying rosaries in their churches before mass while others are praying in their homes. Some schools launched helium rosary beads to mark the occasion.