7 September 2012

Dear Parents,

The CEC has just been informed that State Government funding to Catholic schools through recurrent grants will be cut by $24.5 million per year, effective January 2013.

This decision, if it goes ahead, will have a profound effect on costs for Catholic schooling. Fees will have to rise and other measures like school closures and staff reduction may be necessary. Attached, you will find a statement from the Bishops of NSW on this matter.

Areas that of concern are:

- There was no consultation or advice regarding this decision and the impact on Catholic schools
- Public comments by the Liberal government continually praise Catholic Education for its value for money and projects like BER
- We still do not know what the outcome of the Gonski Review is and this only adds to the confusion about our levels of funding
- Fees and charges in Catholic school will have to rise

This issue impacts everyone within Catholic Education and I urge you to contact your local state member (Stuart Ayres - penrith@parliament.nsw.gov.au ph: 4722 8600 fax: 4731 4782) in rejecting the NSW State Government’s proposal.

With local elections happening tomorrow, I invite you to locate your local members and advise them of this critical matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Michael Siciliano
Principal