

To the Families and Friends of the St Paul's Community......

Welcome back to term 3.

This is possibly my favourite term. We begin the term in cold and darkness and finish in the warmth of Spring. For our Year 12 students, it is a bitter sweet term. It is their final term as formal students completing courses, assessments and major works. The next 8 weeks will be stressful and at the same time, exciting. The knowledge that the work has been done and the tasks completed can be quite liberating. Of course, the reality that final study for the HSC still sits firmly in their minds but it is exciting to look forward to the final ceremonies and celebrations that will be hosted by St Paul's on their behalf. For Year 11, they will complete their Year 11 HSC study and from there will look forward to leading St Paul's into the new era.



On the last day of the term, I sent a letter home to parents informing them that Bishop Bill has approved a change of name for our school. From 2018, we will be known as "St Paul's Catholic College – Booragul." This is exciting news and as I said to the school community at the St Paul's Day Liturgy, it is the beginning of a new era. For our current Year 12 students, they will have the honour of leading us into this new time when they pass on the baton to the Year 11 students at the end of the term. Over the next few months, we will be developing a new "image" for the school in terms of letterheads, report cover pages, website and a myriad of other changes. We will meet with our clothing suppliers to ensure that the new name will be ready for the new year (buying season in term 4 this year). As I said in the letter, it will be a gradual changeover to the new name and the old uniform will remain compliant for the foreseeable future.

Our St Paul's Day Celebrations were, once again, a wonderful occasion. This is the day that we celebrate who we are

as a catholic community. The event began the night before with 60 senior students and teachers having a sleep-out to raise awareness for the homeless in our local area. The students slept rough in the hall, with no heating and no real mattresses. They raised over \$3500 and this was supplemented with fundraising by the student body on the Friday with a further \$1000. The money will go to the St Vincent De Paul Society to help with homeless relief in our local area. Thank you to the students and staff who made this all possible.

On St Paul's Day, we held a beautiful liturgy that tied in with the NAIDOC celebrations that happened in the first week of the holidays. The students then held a concert "St Paul's Got Talent" that was hosted by Year 11. The final part of the day was the much anticipated carnival and picnic. Please see photo's following. I would like to congratulate the students for the way that they conducted themselves on the day and how they worked with one another and the staff to make the day a great success. I would also like to publically acknowledge the staff who coordinated the various events -

- ♦ To Astro Stewart and her team for the NAIDOC connection
- ♦ To Michael Doyle and his team for the beautiful liturgy
- ♦ To Anne-Maree Shipman and her team for the terrific concert
- ♦ To Libby Lucas and the Student Coordinators for the overall organisation of the day
- ♦ To Fran Heard and Brigit De Winter for the wonderful sleep out

Our community received some sad news over the break. Many of you would be aware that Mrs Pichler was on leave for term two. She took leave to be with her

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husband, Peter as he was battling cancer. Up to the end of the term, it was a good news story. The battle was going very well – in fact some suggested it was a miracle as the good news kept coming. Sadly, Peter succumbed to the illness and passed away on the first week of the break. The celebration of his life was a beautiful and sad event with the church at Merewether bursting at the seams with friends and relatives. It was clear that Peter had touched many lives. I ask that you keep Mrs Pichler and her boys in your prayers.

Congratulations to Layne Morgan (Year 12) who has won gold at the Rugby 7's with the female Australian youth team in the Bahamas, http://www.rugby.com.au/news/2017/07/21/22/49/comm-youth-games-aussie-gold

Congratulations to Joshua Ford (Year 10) who by capturing a gold medal at the 2016 World Field Archery Championships at Wagga Wagga this month. Joshua is a most accomplished bowman and only recently won a national title earlier in the year. http://www.lakesmail.com.au/story/4795478/teenage-archer-on-target/

Also, congratulations to Harrison Kettles (Year 9) who has been selected in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC) under-16s Rugby team. This team has gone on to beat the much fancied GPS, CHS and CAS teams, a feat that has not been done by the CCC squad for some considerable time.

Well done! I am sure that we will see more of these competitors as champions in the future.

The Athletics Carnival was held last Wednesday 19 July. This is a wonderful event where students of all athletic skills compete to ensure that they are part of the winning house. It was a successful day and congratulations to all involved.

Have a great term!

Go Gently

Mr Graeme Selmes **Principal**



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From the Assistant Principal - Welfare

Uniform Expectations:

St Paul's has a very clear uniform policy and I have attached the acceptable uniform requirements for 2017 at the end of this newsletter for families to consider.

I have mentioned to students at various assemblies this year, the School's expectations and now I would like to draw parents' attention to the following uniform expectations:

- Sports uniform for junior students may be worn on Fridays as part of our weekly sports programme and when students have practical PDHPE/PASS lessons. At all other times students are expected to be in their regular academic uniform.
- Students who are out of uniform require a signed note from home outlining the temporary deficiency and if prolonged an expected time of correction.
- Students who are out of uniform without a note or valid reason will be marked as a uniform deficiency on attendance rolls. If 3 deficiencies are received, students will receive a warning letter. On the 4th deficiency, an Afternoon Detention will be issued.
- Should there be any concerns with uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Student Coordinator for assistance.

Assessment Tasks in Term 3:

As Year 12's conclude their major works submissions, sit their final internal assessments and as Year 12 prepare for final Preliminary Exams, the following information from *StudySkills* might be of assistance.

Study Skills – Students and Sleep:

How much sleep do I need?

- Different people need a different amount of sleep in order to function optimally during the day. Whilst most adults need about 8 hours sleep a night, teenagers need more like 9 hours and 15 minutes sleep per night. Working out how much sleep you need will take a little time and perseverance. Record how you feel during the day based on how much sleep you had a night and a pattern will start to appear.
- ⇒ Getting a good sleep is important for your mind and body. Sleep lets your body rest and repair, it helps maintain a healthy immune system and sleep is needed so your body has the energy it needs during the day for activity and concentration. Sleeping well helps you to stay mentally healthy too.
- Signs that perhaps you aren't getting enough sleep or enough good quality sleep include irregular sleep patterns, feeling tired and drowsy during the day, falling asleep at school or in the afternoon, trouble falling asleep or staying asleep, loud snoring, sleepwalking or night terrors and difficulties with concentration and memory.

Top Tips for getting to sleep / sleep routine / falling asleep

- ⇒ Have a regular bed time and wake up time. A regular bed time helps to set your body clock so your body knows it's time to sleep. Waking up at (or near) the same time each day also helps your body to establish a sleep pattern. Get plenty of sunlight during the day too.
- ⇒ Establish a bed time ritual. Doing a series of actions before bed also helps your body to prepare for sleep. Ideas include, a warm bath or shower, reading a book, listening to quiet music or doing some gentle stretches.
- ⇒ Avoid technology in the hour before bed, including TV, computers and phones.
- ⇒ Exercise during the day so that your body is ready for rest at night.
- ⇒ Don't eat big meals at night. Eat as early as possible and try to avoid rich, heavy food close to bed time.
- ⇒ Limit your caffeine during the day and don't drink any caffeine in the afternoon or evening.
- ⇒ Don't have too much liquid in the evening...and if you are drinking, consider a herbal tea like chamomile.
- ⇒ Worrying about problems at school or with friends often stops you from getting to sleep. Talk to a trusted person about things that are worrying you to find ways to solve your problems. You could also try some relaxation exercises such as meditation or positive visualisation.
- ⇒ Have your room as dark as possible when trying to get to sleep. Use a sleep mask if you need to avoid light e.g. from electronic devices, street lights etc.

Staying Asleep

⇒ Make sure the temperature of your room is comfortable. Too cold and you may have difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep. Too warm and the heat will also wake you.

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- ⇒ Having a quiet environment will help you stay asleep. If loud noises often wake you, having some consistent "white noise" can be helpful. Earplugs may also work for some people.
- A comfortable bed which is large enough for you to spread out and is supportive will help you to sleep well, as will a comfortable pillow which provides the right amount of support for your neck.
- ⇒ Good ventilation in your room helps to get rid of toxins and keep the air you are breathing fresh. A potted plant in your room may help.
- ⇒ Make sure you go to the toilet just before you get into bed.

Good quality sleep

- ⇒ Smelling lavender while you sleep might improve the quality of your sleep. Try a few drops of lavender oil in your washing or on your pillow, or using lavender scented soap.
- ⇒ Have a good sleep environment. Clear your room of clutter. Dust regularly. Have calming colours in your room.
- ⇒ Try rearranging your room according to Feng Shui principles, whereby you can see the door from your bed, but your bed is not directly facing the door. This may mean putting your bed on an angle.

Feeling refreshed after sleep

- ⇒ First thing in the morning, drink a glass of water to help you wake up and rehydrate.
- ⇒ Do some gentle stretches or more vigorous exercise first thing in the morning as part of your morning ritual. This will also help to set your body clock.

Practice deep breathing while you are still in bed to make sure your body is able to take in lots of oxygen and expel carbon dioxide.

Where to go for help or more information

If you try out the tips here and are still having trouble with falling asleep or staying asleep, try talking to your doctor to see if there is a medical or other reason.

Study Skills weblink:

I would encourage all students as part of getting organised next Semester, to look at this website and see the study resources available to students regardless of which year level they are in. The details are as follows:

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au. Our school's access details are:

School's Username – **stpauls** School's password – **52success**

Mr James Furey
Assistant Principal (Welfare)
admin@booraqul.catholic.edu.au

Curriculum Administration

Attention Year 11 2018! The Catholic Schools Office has notified us that they are able to offer students the opportunity to study either Music 2 or Dance via a multi-modal platform. If any Year 10 student is interested in studying either of these subjects as part of the HSC Pattern of Study then please contact Mrs O'Gorman immediately. These courses will only run if there is enough interest from students within the diocese.

Mrs Cathy O'Gorman

Leader of Learning - Curriculum Administration/Staff Development

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Year 7 News

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope all Year 7 students and their families had an enjoyable holiday and are refreshed and ready to begin Semester 2 with enthusiasm and energy.

Term 3 Events

We have already completed the school Athletics Carnival and Year 7 students that attended are to be commended on participating in several events and joining in cheering for their House or helping at the carnival.

On Tuesday we also celebrated the recipients of <u>Semester One Awards</u>. These awards recognise the effort and achievement of many students in their first semester of high school. Congratulations to each recipient. Students can continue to work towards Class Awards and Merit Awards throughout this semester to be rewarded for their ongoing commitment to study and conduct.

Parent-Teacher Interviews were also conducted Tuesday night and continue all day today. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with teachers and receive further feedback and suggestions for improvement.

This term also sees many Year 7 students representing St Paul's in various sporting events, including Interschool Sport, Netball, Rugby 7s, Basketball and Athletics. We wish every student the best of luck and look forward to celebrating their successes.

Approximately half of Year 7 will attend the Bridges Excursion in Week 5 following the change in Technology classes. This is always an enjoyable and interesting day and more information will be distributed to students regarding this event.

Student Achievement

Jeremy Douglas is State Champion winning his division at the Australian Bowhunters 3D Branch Titles at Gloucester in June. He also competed in the Australian Bowhunters Association Branch titles in Kempsey and came 1st again in his grade. Jeremy achieved more success during the recent Boolaroo Bowmen 25th Anniversary competition, again placing 1st in his grade. Congratulations to Jeremy on outstanding results and good luck for the next ABA event in August.

Hands Off Policy

Students are reminded that St Paul's has a *Hands Off Policy*, which covers all forms of physical contact, as well as personal property such as bags and computers. There have been a few incidents recently of some pushing and shoving, as well as hitting each other. This is not acceptable behaviour, regardless of the intent of the activity, i.e. if students are doing it 'for fun' or 'as a joke', and will not be tolerated.

This term generally sees students more settled in school life and well-versed in daily routines. Each Year 7 student has many gifts and talents that they can share and contribute to class and to school life. We encourage students to be involved in the myriad of events and become involved in our school community and 'give back' wherever they can. We hope you have a great Term 3 and look forward to working with you to make it great.

Our piece of Disney wisdom comes from the timeless classic, Cinderella:

"The greatest risk any of us will take is to be seen as we are"

Mrs Trish Furey and Mrs Tracey Evans
Student Coordinators

On Tuesday 25 July, **Sophie Bartlett**, **Brad Post**, **Holly Marks-Gray**, **and Christina Swinsburg** participated in the Diocesan Debating Championships at St Catherine's Catholic College in Singleton. They were the successful negative team for the topic, "All students should be required to volunteer in the community". In doing so, they knocked a very competent St Catherine's team out of the competition. They drew the affirmative side for the second debate arguing that "Single sex schools are better for students". Unfortunately, their hard work and talent wasn't enough to defeat a very strong St Pius X team. All four members of the team performed well and showed plenty of dedication to the task. 2018 might just

be their year!



Miss Kerrie-Lee Guest English Teacher



Award-Winning In-School Theatre Performances -

On **Wednesday 16 August**, Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing program 'Verbal Combat' for **Year 8 students**.

Permission notes and a cost of \$8 are due by Monday 14 August.

Words are powerful. Words can hurt and cyber bullying is devastating. Verbal Combat is a live theatre program that follows three friends who learn that their



online words can last forever. The desire to fit in and be liked is strong and when one friend starts to post witty, but mean rumours to get more online likes, the play takes a cruel twist. All too soon, the posts are wreaking havoc in all their lives and the characters quickly discover that there is no easy way out. Verbal Combat is essential learning, that addresses the dire consequences of cyber bullying and will help students understand that their digital footprints are hard to erase and so are their mistakes.

Verbal Combat is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and nonjudgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools that they can use in their everyday lives. If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, visit their website at www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

Year 9 News

Welcome to Term 3. I hope it is a successful one for each child and family.

Below is an extract out of the 'Year 9 Assessment Booklet' that each student was issued at the beginning of the year. This gives the approximate week of **upcoming Assessment Tasks** for this term. I hope this reminder assists in absences and organisation towards success. Please see *upcoming event reminders* with details to come as the date gets nearer.

Week 2	Semester Awards (Yr 9 P.4 Tues); Parent Teacher Interviews			
Week 3	Music Excursion			
Week 4	Religion Task 3; Commerce Task 4			
Week 5	Dio Athletics Carnival; Brainstorm Production "Cyberia"			
Week 6	Food Technology Task 4; PASS Task 6; English Task 4			
Week 7	PASS Task 7			
Week 8	Visual Design Task 3; Music Task 3; German Task 3 Elective History Task 4; IST Task 3			
Week 9	Visual Arts Task 3; PDHPE Task 5; Science Task 3			
Week 10	Geography Task 1			

A few brief **reminders** from last Newsletter:

- I truly hope that the <u>uniform</u> situation improves from the start of this term. All uniform deficiencies go back to zero at the start of this Semester so everyone gets a clean slate.
- I encourage parents to continue to monitor their child's <u>food</u> intake please. Suggest and help your child prepare a couple of small healthy meals/snacks the night before school, so there is no excuse not to eat at school.
- A reminder that energy drinks (Mother etc) are <u>banned</u> at school due to the health risks associated with them.
- Students are expected to be at school <u>before</u> Tutor Group (8.40am) each day.
- A reminder that in accordance with the letter that Mr Selmes sent to all Year 9 families earlier this year, that students will not be permitted to change electives.

Congratulations to *Lydia Philpott* who gained her Australian National B Badge for Netball Umpiring. I know that she has been working at training hard for this accolade for quite some time.

Mrs Cayte Pryor Student Coordinator

Year 9 News Cont...

Award-Winning In-School Theatre Performances—On **Thursday 17 August,** Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing program 'Cyberia' for **Year 9**.

Permission notes and a cost of \$8 are due by Monday 14 August



Powerful, compelling, Cyberia is an unflinching live theatre experience about cyber bullying and its devastating repercussions. Cyberia depicts two teen characters that are increasingly using texting, tweeting, online gaming, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, MSN and (embarrassing) selfies to express themselves. In time this takes a nasty twist leading to cyber bullying and the spreading of hurtful rumours online. The characters suddenly realise they can't just press the "undo" button to save their relationships, reputation or their dignity. Cyberia will encourage students to think carefully before they 'post', 'tweet' or 'snap' and to stop, think and reboot.

Cyberia is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and nonjudgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools that they can use in their everyday lives.

More than 350,000 Australian students have already benefited from Brainstorm Productions multi award-winning educational theatre programs over the past twelve months. Their programs cater to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a healthy and harmonious school environment. If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, visit their website at www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

Year 11 News

"Leadership is not a position or title, it is action and example"

Last week, a note went home outlining the process which is used to elect the four School Leaders for 2018. This process begins this early to ensure that the current school leaders have the opportunity to hand over the positions of responsibility at the end of Term 3. The current leaders, Hugh, Ethan, Sophie & Lara will speak to all of Year 11 at their form assembly this week about the many elements which contribute to this role. Students then have the opportunity to self-nominate and submit a nomination form which will be made available to all staff and students. I encourage all students who are interested to take up the challenge! Below is an outline of the key dates in this process:

- Week 1: Letter sent home outlining the process that will be used to elect the 2018 student leadership team.
- **Week 2:** Form assembly with current school leaders. Student Nominations Forms to be completed and emailed to Mrs Shipman by 5.00pm Tuesday 1st August. The completed Nomination Forms will be available to staff and emailed to students.
- **Week 3:** Staff objections to be given to Principal in writing by Friday 4th August and nominated students can withdraw from process by Friday 4th August. Short listing of nominations may need to occur if there are more than eight boys or girls nominated.
- Week 4: Year 11 Vote (if necessary on Wednesday 9th August) to shortlist nominations to eight boys and eight girls.
- **Week 5:** Nominated students will present speeches to Staff and all students at School assembly in the Hall on Tuesday 22nd August. Staff and Years 10, 11 and 12 Students will vote during tutor group on Wednesday 23rd August.
- **Week 6:** The four shortlisted males and females will be interviewed by a panel consisting of the Principal, Assistant Principals, Student Coordinator, Parent Representative and the current School Captains. An announcement of the 2018 School Captains will be made by the Principal to the School Community.

Year 11 Involvement in St Paul's Day

At the end of last term St Paul's Day was celebrated and I would like to thank the many Year 11 students who contributed to the organisation and running of the "St Paul's Got Talent concert". *Markus Favilla- Schirck* and *Byron Boyland* did a fabulous job as comperes for the show and were ably supported by the judges: *Isabella Herringe*, *Sam Hawthorne*, *Julienne Fox*, *Taj Abrahams*, *Joshua Snedden* and *Gabrielle Bracken*. Tutor Group Representatives, *Kiara Conaghan*, *Taj Abrahams*, *Abby Ruyter-Kehoe*, *Joseph Panattu*, *Markus Favilla-Schirk*, *Lochie Kneiss* and *Grace Kennedy* were also involved in the preparation for the day. Musicians, *Chris Workman* and *Grace Kennedy* closed out the "St Paul's Got Talent" concert with a wonderful duet.

Year 11's at Vinnies Sleepout

St Paul's day celebrations began with an early breakfast for those Year 11 students who braved the cold floor of St Paul's hall for the Vinnies sleep out. Students *Daniel Mason*, *Joseph Panattu*, *Claudia Becus*, *Kaylee Coombe*, *Charley Lawlor-O'Neill*, *Tully Maurer*, *Markus Favilla-Schirk*, *Isaac Milajew*, *Joshua Snedden* and *Arbi Watt*. These students significantly contributed to the funds raised for the social justice issue of Homelessness.

Congratulations to *Riley Smith* and *Tom Curran* who have been selected in the Emerging Jets Youth squad and who are currently playing in China. We look forward to hearing about their experience and the results of their games upon their return.

Anne-Maree Shipman

Year 12 News

Welcome back to the last term of secondary schooling for Year 12. In many ways this is a critical term as it provides students with an opportunity to reflect on their Trial HSC results and to change or extend wherever there were shortfalls in their knowledge. Teaching continues until the week 6 assessments which complete the course of study, and the following weeks provide an opportunity for students to revise and consolidate skills and knowledge learnt over the previous twelve months. It is important that students continue to be committed and diligent in their completion of work and in their engagement in class. Ranks and results can change significantly when students fall into 'winter blues' and simply switch off, become lethargic, or allow socialising to create an imbalance in their approach to studies.

Last Wednesday was the St Paul's Athletics Carnival and I thank those students who attended and participated in this community day. Days like this provide an opportunity for the Year 12 students to build community and to leave a legacy of memories in the minds of the junior students. What a shame so many chose to be absent on the day.

NORMAL CLASSES were held today for YEAR 12. Parent – teacher interviews will took place for Years 7-10, but classes ran as usual for Year 12. This is in response to teacher requests to maximise time for Year 12 so that the syllabus content can be covered. This decision is reflective of the care and the commitment of the Year 12 teachers, so I expect a full attendance from Year 12 students. This is also an extension of the 'extra unpaid duty' that Year 12 teachers give to their students in the form of the mentoring program that operated throughout Terms 1 -3; the extra study and tuition classes that operated after school during weeks 6-8 of Term 3 prior to the Trial HSC exams; and the extra hours after school and during the holidays that were provided for students in the subjects that have **Major Works due in Weeks 3 -5 of Term 4** (Art, Music, Drama, Industrial Technology).

Information regarding End-of-Year Procedures in relation to the Academic Awards ceremony, the Graduation Mass, and the Graduation Ball will be forwarded to parents via email and hard copy later in the Term.

Stay focussed Year 12 and be consistent in your efforts.

Mr Ross Wilson Student Coordinator



Ministry News



Vinnies Sleepout

At the end of last term over 60 Year 11 and 12 students and eight staff members from St Paul's took to the floor in support of the 2.5 million people aged 15 years and over who have experienced homelessness at some time in their lives. To participate in the sleepout, students were required to gain sponsorship of a minimum of \$25; this is the amount it costs to provide someone in need with shelter for the night. Year 11 student, *Claudia Becus*, raised money for the Vinnies event by seeking sponsorship from family members, by door knocking and through Facebook.

"As winter settles in, all the time I am hearing from people how it is too cold to go to school. However, we need to think about the people who are really suffering, those sleeping in the cold, as this is what this event does," said Claudia.

St Paul's Youth Vinnies coordinator Ms Heard said that the biennial event has been created to ask students to rise to the challenge and gain a deeper understanding of homelessness by being uncomfortable and cold for the night. "We are in a safe environment but those on the street are not and are vulnerable to not only the elements but also to violence. It's about sacrifice", Ms Heard said. Story by Alyssa Faith from.....

http://mnnews.today/catholic-schools/2017/20682-schools-raise-awareness-for-poverty-and-homelessness/?source=cso

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people (Year 9-30 years) established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC). It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.

The Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting the event from 7–9 December 2017 on behalf of ACBC. The Festival will launch the Year of Youth, celebrating ten years on from hosting World Youth Day 2008.

Catholic School Students who register for the festival will be provided with return coach transport to Sydney, 3 nights accommodation, 3 lunches and breakfasts, a public transport pass, Diocesan T-shirt, Water bottle and Festival registration. Early Bird cost is \$500. Students who attend a Catholic School within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will be subsidised \$300 by the Catholic Schools Office. The cost for Students therefore is \$200, which will be supported by fundraising at school. Early Bird Registrations close on Friday 11th August.

You can access the registration page at http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/acyf.

Mr Michael Doyle Ministry Coordinator

Year 9 Poetry

As part of a recent Creative Writing Unit, and as a segue into Term 3's Poetry Unit, 9 English1 undertook some imaginative writing in poetic forms. Below are two visceral responses, by *Ava Elliott* and *Chloe Noonan*. Enjoy!

Mrs Nicole Burns English Teacher

Dusk Escapades

The nonchalant zephyr tenderly kisses my cheeks,

And brushes against my bare neck.

There are blossoming, violet tulips beside me,

Dancing a delightful number in the wind.

The sky is dyed a pomegranate pink,

It reflects so strikingly on the glistening lake below.

The water is as tepid as the glow of a topaz,

It holds an aquarium of sublime sea life.

In the distance, I can see precipitous mountains,

Standing tall like Sequoia trees and overlaid in profuse snow.

I hear the faint yet idyllic sound of bees benignly buzzing around the aromatic blossoms,

Giving me the calm sensation of a midnight sea.

Whispering waters sing a quiet hymn of beauty,

Whilst I lay my weary head against the roughness of my flannel quilt.

I stare silently into the picturesque, dusk sky,

And gently close my eyes to have a long awaited siesta.

Ava Elliott



Sunrise over Sea

Standing in the cold,

The ocean's breath upon my face,

Its cold embrace like the whispers of gossip.

Silent grey figures glide seamlessly through the water,

As buildings ashore stand proud and tall,

They all know their place.

Staring at the ocean, a paradise of deep blue and green,

Beneath the sun rising over the horizon,

It is ready and waiting for its next visitor,

perhaps the bearded surfer will return.

Waves crash against the rocks and break,

as if a glass vase has just shattered on the ground,

A million shards flying in every direction.

In the distance I can see ships, they look so small and calm,

Slowing moving on top of the water,

In a line, they follow each other, sailing the same path,

Not one left behind.

I drink my hot chocolate and walk back to the car,

Warmth takes over,

As I settle back into my sea.

The engine starts, and the ocean becomes a memory.

Finally the day begins.

Chloe Noonan



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English News Continued....

Young People's Theatre Production - "Cats"

Over the past three weeks Year 9 student, *Sam Jenkins*, has been involved with the Young People's Theatre production of 'Cats', an abridged version of the musical written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and based on the poetry of T.S Eliot.

On Sunday, Mrs Burns along with six Year 9 students, Tyra Boyd, Jess McNamara, Will Burgin, Grace Shrume, Abby Wilcox and Mishayla Turner, attended the musical at the theatre in Hamilton. We were captivated by the production, particularly Sam's performance in the lead role of Old Deuteronomy. The singing, dancing and acting were a credit to the young and talented cast.



Congratulations Sam! We look forward in supporting you in future productions.



Mrs Nicole Burns English Teacher



English Studies Excursion

The first week back saw the English Studies class go on an excursion to be a tourist in their own city. After catching the train into town, the students negotiated their way around some of the famous sights of Newcastle taking photos with the aim of creating a calendar to promote tourism in Newcastle.

Some of the highlights of the day were whale spotting from the Anzac Memorial Walk, an unexpected and precarious trek through King Edward Park and the sighting of a large sea lion on the break wall at Nobby's. The weather was very kind with a lovely sunny day and everyone clocked up much more than the recommended 10,000 steps.



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HSIE News

Commerce

The Year 10 Commerce class travelled to Sydney Downing Courts for an excursion based on the legal subjects they have studied in Semester 1. The students enjoyed meeting a Judge and sitting in for a number of interesting court cases. All students were well behaved and received glowing appraisal from the court personnel.



Mr Penny & Miss McCafferty

Commerce Teachers

Learning Support

NCCD 2017 - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students is an annual data collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustments that they are provided with.

Students that are included in the data collection are those who require any form of adjustment to their learning due to Physical, Cognitive, Sensory and or Social/Emotional needs. Students with a general and/or mental health condition and those attending Learning Support Intervention groups are also included in the data collection.

For further information, please see the **NCCD Information for Parents and Carers** information pages that are included in at the end of this Newsletter or visit:

https://www.education.gov.au/fact-sheets-and-resources-national-data-collection

Please note that if you do not wish to have your child included in the data collection, you must inform the school via a written a letter addressed to the Principal indicating your preference by 3PM FRIDAY 28/07/2017.

Mrs Natalie Baker Learning Support Teacher

TAS News

Year 7 Bridges Excursion

Year 7 are studying a "Bridges" unit as part of Technology. As an extension to this work on bridge design and construction an excursion has been organised to observe several bridges on the way to and in Sydney. Before leaving Sydney we will conclude our observations with a visit to Luna Park.

Date: Monday 14 August 2017
Technology Classes: TEM02, TEM04, TEM06,
Departure Time: 7:00am from St Paul's
Return Time: 5:30pm at St Paul's





Cost: \$62 includes transport and unlimited rides at Luna Park.

Payment: Full payment to be made at the finance office or via the new QKR App

Payment Due: Monday 31 July 2017.

Please return the permission slip with payment. If students do not have a permission note they

are available in student services or from their TAS Teacher.

Dress Requirements: Full Sports Uniform and a cap, as much of the day is outdoors. Please bring wet weather gear if

rain is forecast.

Assessment: A work booklet will be issued on the day which accounts for 10% of the unit assessment.

Students are to bring a pen, food and drink for the day.

Mr Mark Redman
TAS Coordinator

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Sport News

The Girls U16's Rugby League team played in the Knights KO, nine a side competition. The team was a mix of girls who started playing school rugby league last year and a few excited girls having their debut. After a nervous start vs Toronto, our girls finished strong to win the match, gaining a boost in confidence. We were not the biggest team but these girls were athletic and tough. I was so proud of the entire group of girls as they progressed through the day, only losing one game to the eventual winners. The girls still have two more tournaments remaining this year and are obviously very excited.







The Boys Opens Rugby League team played SFX on the last Thursday of Term 2 in the Regional final of the school Boy Trophy. This team had a successful tournament at the CCC Cup in term one, where the boys created history by beating SFX, finishing 2nd to St Mary's Maitland. The boys went in confident, and played a tough match in muddy conditions yet lost 20-4. This group of boys demonstrated great sportsmanship through all their games this year, well done!



Finally, Our 15's Rugby League team went to Raymond Terrace on the last Monday afternoon/evening of Term 2 to play in the Knights Ko final series. The boys completed the initial tournament undefeated, qualifying for the final series. In a tough match the boys went down in the quater final to St Clare's Taree, who progressed through to the final. Congratulations to all boys involved.

Mr Penny Organising Teacher

GOLD for Year 12 Student Layne Morgan

Layne Morgan of Year 12 has been juggling her HSC studies whilst playing Rugby 7's with the female Australian Youth team in the Bahamas. With the team undefeated heading into the final, Layne's team defeated Canada 31-5. With a strong history of representative Touch Football Layne had to make the difficult decision this year between the two sports in which she was excelling. The future looks bright for Layne as she cements her spot in this sport.





Cross Country

Chelsea Goodhew of Year 12 competed for the Combined Catholic Colleges at the All School Cross Country Championships on Friday 21st July at Eastern Creek after finishing 10th overall in the U'18 Girls division at the recent CCC championships. Chelsea finished first in this division for the Maitland/Newcastle Diocese and is to be congratulated on achieving a position on the CCC team. Chelsea has been a consistent and enthusiastic competitor in long distance racing throughout her time at St Paul's. To see her reach this level in her final year of school is certainly a marvellous achievement.

Other students who competed at the CCC Championships were Paige Wheeler and Mathew Boslem.

Rugby Union

Harrison Kettles was a member of the history making Combined Catholic Colleges U'16 Rugby Union team that won the State school title at the end of term 2. CCC have never made a final before and are often out played by their much more experienced opposition. This year however, with Harrison as one of their strong running forwards, CCC proved to be too strong by snatching a win from their more fancied opposition in the last minute. To top the day off Harrison was also celebrating his birthday. This achievement followed on from Harrison being named best forward at the NSW Junior Rugby Union Country Champs where his U/15 Wildfires side were champions. From this Harrison was also selected in the NSW Country Squad. Maybe the Wallabies need to keep an eye on Harry!



Inter-School Competitions

Throughout Term 2 many students played with enthusiasm and sportsmanship during the inter school competition on Friday afternoons between St Mary's Gateshead, St Pius X Adamstown and San Clemente Mayfield. Basketball, Netball, Oztag and Soccer were all played and many thanks is extended to those teachers who assisted with these sports. Mr Heagney, Mr Moroney, Ms Ellis, Mr Reville, Miss Cameron, Mrs Wills, Mrs Lund, Ms Heard, Mrs Pakalniskis and Mr Penny.

Rugby League

Mr Penny and Mrs Pakalniskis were also extremely busy throughout Term 2 with all of the Rugby League competitions that were being organised and played. See the detailed league report by Mr Penny for more results.

Football

Ms Ellis and Mr Cassel's work with the Soccer teams and competitions during Term 2 have also been much appreciated by the students.

Netball

Lydia Philpott has been excelling in the sport of Netball as a highly proficient umpire. At the recent Australian Invitational Youth Games Lydia from the Westlakes District Netball Association umpired for two and a half days throughout these games. See Year 9 News for more information on Lydia's achievements.

Archery

Joshua Ford has continued his strong archery form by capturing his second straight national title. He shot his way into B grade and won the junior boys' division at the Field Archery Championships in Ipswich. He had the overall best score for all junior boy grades and was named National IFA (International Field Archery) junior boys champion.

Term 3 will see more Friday Rep teams compete in 7/8 Girls and Boys Oztag, 9/10 Boys & Open Girls Soccer, 9/10 Boys Dodgeball and 9 & 10 Girls Netball.

Other competitions in which the students will have an opportunity to compete in are below:

Thursday 27th July – Diocesan Netball and U'14 & U'16 Boys Rugby 7's

Wednesday 2nd August – 7/8 Boys and Girls and 9/10 Boys and Girls All Schools Netball at National Park Newcastle Tuesday 15th August – CCC Netball(Penrith) Junior/Intermediate/Senior Girls

Thursday 17th August – Diocesan Athletics Carnival

Monday August 21st – Diocesan Basketball – 7/8 & 9/10 Boys and Girls

Mrs Anne-Maree Shipman Sports Coordinator



Creative Arts and Languages News





Save the Date!!

Splendour in the Arts

It's almost here !!! The Inaugural Splendour in the Arts will be held in Week 5, Wednesday the 16th of August in our School Hall commencing 6.30pm. The concert will involve Music and Drama Students from Years 7 – 12 including our Elective classes. Students are busily preparing items including works from Shakespeare, self-devised comedy, ensemble and solo work. I would like to thank our Music and Drama Teachers for all their energy and extra time that they are putting into preparing our students. A note will go home to students involved in the concert this week containing further details about this very special event.

Archipauls

The annual Archipauls and Artshow is scheduled to be held Week 7, Tuesday 29th of August. It will showcase the work of our Art and Design Students from 7-12. For those new to the St Paul's community, The Archipauls is a prestigious portrait competition that has been running at St Paul's for the past 20 years. It is a much anticipated and well-respected award. The night also features our Year 12 Visual Arts Students Body of Works. We will have music from our musicians, food and refreshments prepared and served by our hospitality students and the opportunity to view the Design and Technology/Timber Major Projects. It will be a fabulous event! The night kicks off at 7pm, tickets available at the door.

Festival of the Lights

This year we will have a large contingency of our Art and Design Students submitting works for exhibition in the inaugural Festival of the Lights. The exhibition will include a 5km stretch of lights winding through the Toronto CBD, local businesses will also be creating window displays. It will be spectacular! Please see end of Newsletter for flyer

Year 8 Visual Arts 'Free Hugs' Exhibition



Banksy, Free Hugs, 2009

At the end of last term, as part of the St Pauls Day festivities, Year 8 Visual Arts staged a 'Pop up' Street Art Exhibition called 'Free Hugs'. Influenced by the work 'Free Hugs' by Banksy, our exhibition was created to raise awareness about the impact of war on children. The UN reports that 5.5 million children have been affected directly by violence or indirectly by starvation, mutilation, displacement or lack of access to health services, because of war. In particular, more than 11,000 children have died because of the war currently occurring in Syria's. This war has turned millions of people into refugees without proper clothing, food, water or shelter. Many of these starving refugees are children, and newborns in hospitals who are freezing to death. Other young children have been targeted by snipers when their families have tried to flee the conflict. The exhibition called attention to the impact of war through powerful and heart-wrenching pieces of artwork. The students works were a symbol of our hope for peace for those innocent children caught up in wars. The exhibition was very well received by

the St Paul's Community and as such, Mr Selmes has organised for a selection of the works to be mounted and they will be installed as a more permanent feature of the school in the coming weeks.

Congratulations Year 8 on your wonderful exhibition!





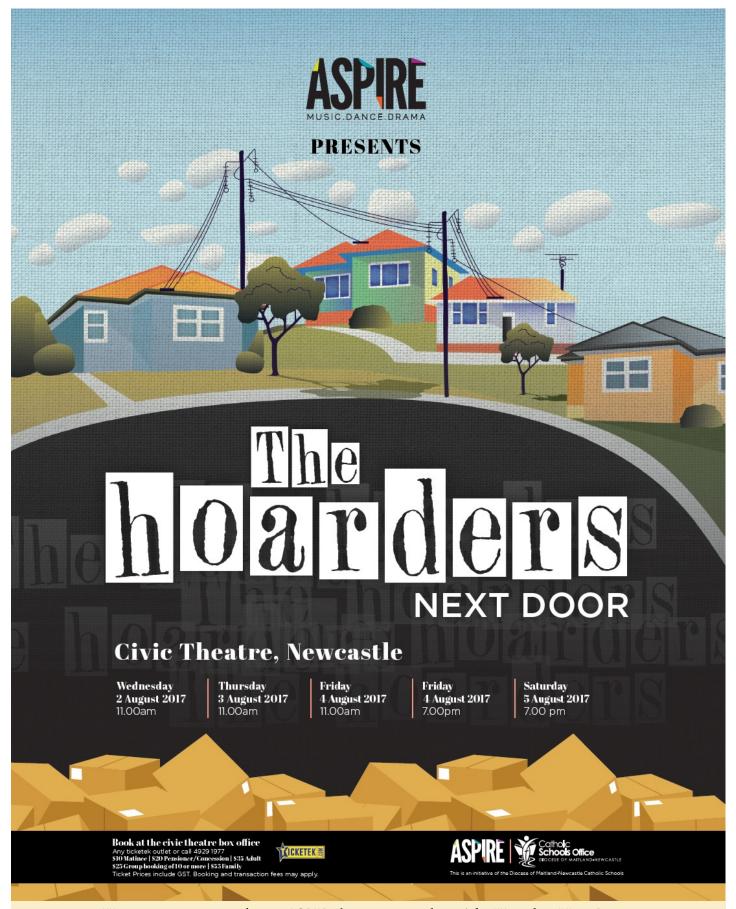






Miss Sarah Adams
Leader of Pedagogy— Creative Arts and Languages (acting)

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Have you got your ticket to ASPIRE's upcoming show, The Hoarders Next Door?

The evening shows are selling fast so don't miss out!

Friday, August 4 & 5 – 7pm

Get your tickets through Ticketek today

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From the Careers Desk

Career Thought of the Week:

"The guestion isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me"



What are employability or 'soft' skills?

Employability or 'soft' skills (sometimes also called 'people skills' or 'life skills') are the skills, personal qualities and values that enable you to quickly adjust to a new workplace.

Employability skills include skills and qualities such as:

- **Good communication**: being able to articulate your thoughts and ideas (verbally or in writing) as well as being able to actively listen to those around you.
- **Motivation and initiative**: showing enthusiasm for every task you undertake and being proactive in the way you approach new tasks and environments.
- Leadership: being able to inspire and support others.
- Reliability/dependability: arriving at work on time and being committed to your job.
- **Following instructions**: being able to listen and understand your employer's requirements and complete tasks to their specifications.
- **Team work**: getting along with people around you and/or putting aside differences in order to achieve a common goal.
- Patience: being willing to adjust your pace to assist others or as circumstances around you change, for example when training a new staff member or when learning a new skill.
- **Emotional control**: keeping calm, polite and professional in stressful or frustrating situations, for example when dealing with a difficult customer.
- **Resilience**: being able to 'pick yourself up' after a disappointment or setback.

By demonstrating these skills to an employer, you will reassure them that you will be able to work effectively and cooperatively with others and help the employer meet their business goals.

You can develop your employability skills through paid or unpaid work such as volunteering, or through extracurricular activities like team sports.

You can also demonstrate your employability skills when approaching employers directly or when networking with friends and family for possible job opportunities.

Teacher Training Scholarships CSO 2018

The Catholic Schools Office, with the support of Federal Government funding from the National Partnerships Teacher Quality initiative intends to offer up to FIVE (5) **Scholarships** to current **Yr. 12 students** in our Catholic schools, who intend to commence undergraduate courses in teacher training in 2018. Under the program each student will receive a total benefit of up to \$7000 over four years. This is an effort to develop a targeting of scholarships recipients for potential employment in Catholic schools.

Application forms can be obtained at the Careers Office. Closing date for all completed applications is **Friday 22ND September 2017.**

2017 UAC Books and Information The University Admission Centre books have arrived and will be distributed to students in the coming weeks. An information session has been arranged and will take place at school in the coming weeks during Yr. 12 Assembly period. If you have received your **UAC PIN** number, please keep it safe and make a copy if necessary.



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UAC 2017 Information Seminar These seminars will take place at St Paul's in Wk. 6 – 24th August. Students will be issued with their 2017 UAC Guides and a presentation on how to use them will follow the talks. Students in Yr. 12 doing an ATAR pathway should soon have their UAC PIN, please keep your number very safe and make a few copies just in case.

<u>University Open Days</u> Many institutions have open days for prospective students and their families to attend in the coming weeks. This is a valuable opportunity to visit the campus, talk to current student, prospective student advisers and lecturers about courses, scholarships and other opportunities. You can look around facilities such as the library and other student areas, sports facilities and also inspect on campus accommodation/colleges.

It is really important you visit institutions and get a feel for the environment. You don't want to end up somewhere you have never seen and when you arrive to commence your study you don't like it or it doesn't meet your expectations!! You wouldn't buy a car without looking at it first. The same applies when choosing your education provider!

For Open Days across Australia see: http://www.openday.com.au/





Important Dates for Term 3

2nd August – UAC Applications Open

19th August- UON Open Day

24th August - Yr. 12 UAC Talks

29th September – UAC Application close

Casual Positions/Employment Links:

These are ready to view on the school site MN Live, go to News & Events and click on Student News. These are also emailed to students in Yrs. 10-12 through their school email accounts.

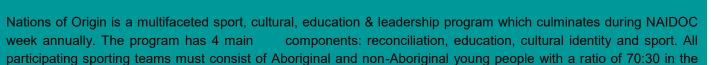
Mr Craig McLoughlin Leader of Pedagogy—Vocational Education/Careers

Aboriginal Education News



All About Awabakal

formation of the teams.



Cultural identity is a focal point of the project with all teams representing their community under their traditional local Aboriginal nation name from their area, with uniforms adorned with totems of their Aboriginal nation. This provides an opportunity for non-Aboriginal young people to learn about their local Aboriginal culture and foster relationships and understanding between local cultures.

Nations of Origin has quickly become the largest Aboriginal youth sporting event in NSW with more than 3500 participants since the inception of the program. The 2017 tournament will had three sports for young people to participate: rugby league 7s, football 5s and netball.

Alexandra Holliday describes her day at the Nations of Origin as "Good Fun".

Alexandra played for the Awabakal 2 side in the under 14's girls after being asked by her friend. Awabakal played against the Kamilaroi Goannas.

It was a fierce close game with the final score 10 –7 to Awabakal 2.

Alexandra said "It was a great day with all my friends and I will play again next year." Alexandra is of Kamilaroi heritage and played with the Awabakal team and that is the true spirt in which these games are played. Nations of Origin fosters strong relationships and understanding between local cultures.



Alexandra with her medal and trophy

Miss Astro Stewart
Aboriginal Liaison Officer

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From the Finance Office











Opening Hours for Payments to the Finance Office

Parents: come to Reception from 8.30am to 2.30pm
Students: mornings from 8.30am until tutor group bell
all of recess time and all of lunch time

School Fee Payments

- 1. Qkr
- 2. BPay through your own home banking via the Internet
- 3. Eftpos Minimum payment \$10
- 4. Cheque
- 5. Cash

Excursion Payments

- 1. Qk
- 2. Eftpos Minimum payment \$10
- 3. Cheque
- 4. Cash

QKR is a great way to pay fees and excursions



For more information about QKR visit our website

www.booragul.catholic.edu.au

For your convenience, when paying for excursions the new Qkr! app is now live for families of our students. Qkr! by MasterCard can be downloaded for free from Apple's app store for iPhones, iPad users can also download the IPhone app or from Google Play for Android phones. Simply:

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Scan the QR code or search for our school name. Our school will also appear in "Locations Nearby" if you are within 4kms of the school

Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing your school menu, you will be prompted to register your child. This allows you to make school orders on their behalf.

Excursions Coming Up

Please pay for all excursions by the due date written on the excursion notes which are sent home with your child. This date is important as excursion costing is calculated on the number of students who should be attending that particular event. Venues and buses have to be paid when the booking is first made. Your understanding of this would be very much appreciated.

Year	Subject	Date	Venue	Cost	Money Due
9-11	Elective Music	2 August	Civic Theatre—Aspire	\$20.00	26/7/17
Class 10.1	Science	2 August	Forum Gym	\$5.00	
8	Brainstorm	16 August	School Hall	\$8.00	14/8/17
9	Brainstorm	17 August	School Hall	\$8.00	14/8/17

Health Care Cards and Pension Cards If you (the Fee Payer, not the child) are in receipt of a health care or pension card, please bring it in and you may be entitled to a reduction in tuition fees.

Please let the School know if you change your email address. School Accounts & Receipts are sent via email.

Mrs Betty Harris
Finance Officer

finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

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Monday 31 July — Friday 4 August

Mon	Kristy Baker, Sharyn Kiely, Lisa Kelly		
Tues	Paula Tripney, Christine Jones		
Wed	Nannette Preston, Kim Harding		
Thurs	Paula Douglas, Mel Dobosz, Kelly Cameron		
Fri	Jennifer Barrett, Carol Crabbe, Mel Parker		
	Monday 7—Friday 11 August		
Mon	Kristy Weller, Cathy Dutch		
Tues	Susen White, Sharne Johnson, Worakot Walker		
Wed	Candace Way, Sara Ashmore		
Thurs	Nicole Ferry, Paula Douglas		
Fri	Tania Egan, Kylie Powell, Caroline Hickey		
Canteen Supervisor: Carolyn Phone - 4946 3115			

AUROZA

If you are unable to come on your day, please try to arrange a swap or contact Carolyn.

9.00am to 2.30pm

Aurora - the magazine of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese is available in The Newcastle Herald or online.

Look out for it on the first Wednesday of every month or via the below link.

https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/aurora/

Please be aware that the events and dates listed on this school calendar are subject to change. Please check regularly.

	Term	3 2017
Week 2	Thurs 27 July	CCC Football Knock-out DIO Netball & Rugby 7's gala day
Week 3	31 July-5 Aug Mon 31 July Wed 2 August Thurs 3 August	ASPIRE Week Yr 8 to 9 Information Evening NSW Netball All Schools Comp 10.1 Science Excursion Yr 9-11 Music Excursion—Aspire Yr 11 Marine Studies Exc.
Week 4	Tues 8 August Thur 10 August	HSC Drama Evening 6pm Yr 11 Geography Excursion
Week 5	Mon 14 August Tues 15 August Wed 16 August Thur 17 August	Yr 7 Technology Excursion CCC Netball Yr 11 Legal Excursion Yr 11 Driver Education Yr 8 Brainstorm Production Dio Athletics Carnival Yr 9 Brainstorm Production
Week 6	Mon 21 August Wed 23 August Thur 24 August	Dio Basketball Yr 8 English Excursion Yr 11 Geography Excursion
Week 7	Tues 29 August Wed 30 August	Archipauls Exhibition Yr 12 Legal Excursion
Week 8	Mon 4-15 Sept	Yr 11 Exams
Week 9	Thurs 15 Sept	Yr 11 Exams Continued CCC Athletics Yr 11 Ski Trip
Week 10	Wed 20 Sept Thur 21 Sept	Yr 12 Grad Mass Yr 12 Final Assembly



Canteen Hours:

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service is Coming to Town!

The Mobile Blood Donor Centre will be visiting

Toronto Lions Park, 2 Anzac Parade

Donating is even easier and more satisfying than you might think. It only takes one hour and you can save up to three lives!

Opening Times

 Tuesday 15th August
 12:30 - 17:30

 Wednesday 16th August
 12:30 - 17:30

 Thursday 17th August
 12:30 - 17:30

 Friday 18th August
 9:30 - 14:30

To make an appointment call 13 14 95 or visit donateblood.com.au

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Clothing Pool

Clothing Pool Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 8.30am - 9.30am



Location: E Block (near the basketball courts) - students & adults welcome

- We can sell your near new items on Consignment (must be \$20 and over).
- Please put a label/tag on each item with the price, name, address and phone number of the person who is to receive payment.
- ♦ When the item is **sold**, a P&F cheque will be issued.
- ♦ 10% commission applies for items less than 3 years old.
- Any items under \$20 are donations to the P&F Clothing Pool.

School Uniform

Catering Uniforms

Available at reduced prices!

Uniforms

All NEW uniform items are available at Lowes Glendale and Verdun Hiles, Toronto.

Blazers

There are a few BRAND NEW BLAZERS still available from Clothing Pool .

Normally selling for \$150.00 - **Now only \$100.00**. Please pay at the Finance Office.

Senior Uniforms

Large range of boys and girls sizes.

Shirts, shorts, skirts, ties, blazers.

Cash or cheques only

Special

LARGE RANGE OF JUMPERS AND SPORTS UNIFORMS IN STOCK NOW

For further information please contact Kathleen Dyett at: kathleend@extrabuild.com.au

Uniform Shop - P & F Notice

The Uniform Shop currently has a large number of **uniforms on consignment** and these items in some cases, have been in the shop for some time.

The P & F Committee has recommended that consignment items that have been in the shop for more than 18 months will be reduced in price by 15%. This reduction began March 2017.

If you currently have items on consignment and you are aware that they have been in the shop for more than 18 months and you do not wish to have the priced reduced, I ask you to make contact with the Uniform Shop



2017/2018

ENTERTAINMENT TM

Buy an Entertainment ™ Membership and help support St Paul's High School –

Booragul

Please use the following link to purchase an Entertainment τ_M Book or Digital Membership

https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/ orderbooks/340e72/

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Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

EducationCouncil

School Students with Disability

Information for parents and carers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to disability and the level of reasonable adjustment they are receiving.

The national data collection counts students who have been identified by a school team as receiving an adjustment to address a disability as defined under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students receiving an adjustment due to disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as other students.

The national data collection provides an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When undertaking the national data collection, every school in Australia uses the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney collects and submits data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The annual collection aims to, over time, lead to nationally consistent, high quality data that will enable schools, education authorities and governments to gain a more complete understanding of students who are receiving adjustments because of disability in schools in Australia, and how to best support them.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting teaching methods) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student receiving an adjustment due to disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability.

National Parents/Carers Fact Sheet Version No. 5 as at March 2017

The information collected by schools will be available to all governments to inform policy and program improvement for students with disability.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder, as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy or diabetes, that require monitoring and the provision of adjustments by the school, may be included.

WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

Teachers and school staff count the number of students receiving an adjustment due to disability in their school, and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided, based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- · any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.



HOW IS MY CHILD'S PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential and is an explicit focus of the national data collection. Personal details, such as student names or other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

Further information about privacy is available from www.education.gov.au/notices.

IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

Yes. All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students receiving adjustments due to disability in their care, and the level of adjustment they receive.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child's school principal and the relevant education authority.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability.

An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/.



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Toronto Chamber of Commerce will be holding Toronto Festival of Lights on December 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th & 31st from 6.30pm to 9.30pm to stimulate the visitor economy during the Christmas Season.

We see this event attracting both locals and visitors from around the region.

CBD businesses are being asked to decorate their business window or exterior and have it illuminated during the festival times. Toronto Chamber is planning to have a mixture of substantial illuminated and static Christmas and Holiday themed displays for everyone to enjoy. Along with being able to walk along a 2km route from the Royal Motor Yacht Club, a 5km driving route will be suggested. There will be small busses available to drive those who cannot or don't want to walk around for a small fee leaving the Royal Motor Yacht Club or CALM (on The Boulevarde next to the Caltex Service Station). There will be many exciting and interesting displays to look at. The plan is to make Thursday evenings (5pm to 9.30pm) a Christmas Market with stalls and businesses offering Christmas Wares. All stalls will complement rather than compete to add diversity to our current shopping options. Friday evenings 6.30pm to 9.30pm will be centered on Holiday Music being performed throughout the town as visitors walk around enjoying the displays.

What we are asking of our local community music groups is support of a creative nature.

On the Friday evenings including December 8th, our Carols by the Lake, Dec 15th, Dec 22nd & Dec 29th there are multiple opportunities for all sorts of performances, from large groups to busking. This can include music, song, dance and acting. We envisage groups of carolers engaging with the families and visitors as they view the holiday displays, impromptu acting playing out various holiday theme scenes, characters dressed up and interacting with the families. So if your group would like to participate please let us know and we can include you in the program for the evenings. Preparation goes into full swing on July 1st.

We look forward to you and your students participation in the Toronto Festival of Lights. We can be contacted on 1300488356 Option 1 or by email at info@toronto.com.au

Keep update with our website torontofestivaloflights.com.au

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HOW TO SURVIVE THE HSC!



Christine Chapple is an Education Officer (Secondary Curriculum) and experienced teacher who specialises in the process of the HSC.

Christine will provide tips for parents to assist them in supporting their child as they prepare, experience and recover from the HSC.

WHEN: Wednesday, 26th July, 2017

TIME: 6.00pm

WHERE: St Mary's ASC

16 Grant Street, MAITLAND

(enter through the gates in Bent St opposite

the basketball stadium)

RSVP: Cath Garrett-Jones (for catering purposes) – Friday, 21 July.

E: <u>cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au</u>

P: 4979 1303

