



Photo by Andy Warren

5th May 2023 Vol:6-23

“We are in the country of the Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their elders, celebrating their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.”

On Sunday, 14 May we celebrate Mother’s Day. We offer our gratitude for all mothers and for mother figures in our life. We offer the following prayer for all mothers:

Thank you, Lord, that you fill a mother’s heart with love,

That you have instilled in her very being the need to protect her children, if at all possible,

Thank you for giving her the gift of nurturing her children, of teaching them, of comforting them,

for feeding them and making a safe place for them.

For guiding them to be all that God has created them to be.

Fill every mother with love, wisdom and endurance,

with strength and patience and joy.

Give them ability to forgive again and again.

Enable her to rely on You and call upon You, because You will give her all she needs.

In Your precious and all powerful name, Amen

St Paul

Pray for Us

ANZAC Day

St Paul's was represented at both the Teralba and Toronto ANZAC Day ceremonies by our Year 12 Student Leaders and other students and staff from the community. Ellarna Gayler and Regan Loveday delivered the Prayer of Thanksgiving at each of the ceremonies. Thanks to the students and their families for attending the services and also to the staff who were present.

The St Paul's community gathered on the first day of Term 2 to pay our respect to our service women and men as well as honouring the sacrifices they made for our freedom.

We will remember them,

Lest we Forget.



Exploring St Paul's Program

In 2023, the College has introduced the "Exploring St Paul's Program" for students in our feeder primary schools. During Terms 2 and 3 students from the feeder primary schools will visit St Paul's on Friday afternoons and undertake activities in Science, Food Technology and Drama. The program provides an experience of high school for the students and builds closer links between our feeder primary schools. Last Friday, students from St John Vianney, Morisset were the first students to visit the College. St Paul's looks forward to welcoming the students from our other feeder schools in the coming weeks.



2023 and 2024 Enrolments

Following on from our Information Evening at the end of Term 1, Enrolment Forms are due on 11 May, 2023. For our feeder school students these can be returned to your local primary school, apart from St Mary's Warners Bay, they need to be returned directly to St Paul's. For those families from our non-feeder schools your Enrolment Forms can be returned directly to St Paul's.

Families are still able to apply for a place for Year 7 2024 after next week. These families are asked to contact the Main Office for further details.

There are currently some places available in some year groups for 2023. If any current St Paul's families are aware of any families who are considering enrolling their students at the College, please encourage them to contact the school to discuss possibilities.

Year 12 Awards Ceremony and Student Conferences

Last Tuesday, Year 12 students were affirmed for their efforts throughout the first semester of the HSC year at the Year 12 Semester One Awards Ceremony. It was pleasing to witness the students be acknowledged for their dedication to their studies and to their community.

Students were reminded of the importance of having a well-developed plan in place for the remaining two terms in the lead up to the HSC examinations which allows them to include time for homework, assessments, preparing study notes, work, relaxation, and socialising.

After the Awards Ceremony, Student Conferences took place in the Damascus Centre. These discussions provided important feedback on each student's progress and allowed for plans to be put in place for the remainder of Year 12.

Thanks to the parents and carers who attended the Awards Ceremony and Conferences to support their children. Thanks also to the staff who organised the Awards Ceremony and Conferences and to those who contributed to both events.



Year 7 STEM Day

On Monday Year 7 students took part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) day which saw them complete a range of problem-solving activities. The students were highly engaged in the activities and had an enjoyable day of learning in the collaborative environment.

St Paul's STEM teachers are participating in a program with Sydney University that explores ways to integrate STEM activities into the curriculum. St Paul's is appreciative of the support for the provided by the staff at Sydney University.

Thanks to Mrs Zammit, Mrs Grant, Mrs Lund, Mr Cassel, Mrs Evans and Mrs Daniels for their organisation of and assistance on the day.



Year 9 Reflection Day

In Week 1, Year 9 students took part in a Reflection Day at Rathmines Theatre which was facilitated by Chris Doyle. Chris is a very experienced presenter and has a gift in engaging the youth about how their life today connects to the mission of the Church. He led students in activities which were based on music and dancing as well as making some time for reflection.

Thanks to the students for the willingness to participate in the day and to Mrs Pola-Kuras and Mr Doyle for their organisation as well as to the staff who assisted on the day.



Students Attending International Games

Two students Evie Lucas and Jett Jenkinson from Year 9 have been selected to represent Team Lake Macquarie at the 2023 International Children's Games in South Korea during the July school holidays. Evie and Jett will be both competing in swimming events during the games.

The International Children's Games are the largest multi-sport youth games in the world and are recognised by the International Olympic Committee. More than 1500 athletes aged between 12 and 15 participate annually at the games.

Congratulations and best wishes to Evie and Jett as they prepare for the competition.



St Paul's Uniform Expectations

St Paul's has clear expectations regarding the wearing of the College uniform. These expectations were clearly outlined to the students at our Assembly at the end of last term and in our final Newsletter of Term 1. The expectations have been published once again below:

- Shoes need to be polishable leather lace up shoes.
- Runners / Joggers worn for sport and PDHPE lessons need to lace up and have a supportive sole and arch - refer to information provided in Student Handbook.
- Socks are to be white and ankle length high.
- Ladies' skirts need to be worn at the knee (not rolled up).
- Ladies' sports shorts need to be at an acceptable length (not rolled up).
- Jewellery, the rule of one applies – rings, necklaces and earrings.
- Sports uniform is only to be worn on Friday or when they have practical lessons for PDHPE and PASS.

Lowes at Glendale have advised the College the new Soft Shell jacket is now in stock and can be purchased for \$89.95. Verdun Hiles have advised they will have stock of the jacket during Term 2. These jackets can be worn by students in Years 7 – 10. The Soft Shell jacket is not a compulsory item of the school uniform, but an option for students and families.

The Soft Shell jacket has been introduced after feedback from students and families who indicated the current parts of the uniform were not warm enough during the cooler months.



With the introduction of the Soft Shell jackets students are *not to wear undershirts or hoodies to school from the start of Term 2.*

Students uniform will be checked during Care Group and there will be whole year group checks completed to ensure students are complying with the expectations of the College's Uniform Policy.

Students who are not complying with the expectations will be issued with a warning and on the third occurrence they will be issued with an Afternoon Detention.

The support of parents and carers is appreciated as the College works to ensure the uniform is worn correctly by the students.

Mr Nicholas Wickham

Principal



The Critical Questions

If you have had the opportunity to visit some of our classrooms, you may have seen the St Paul's Learning posters displayed at the front of the room. The questions on this poster describe the learning approach students are encouraged to engage in through the teaching and learning cycle. These questions are one strategy that has come about through the ongoing partnership across the diocese with Lyn Sharratt to enhance student learning.

Another strategy which we have adopted are learning walks which use the critical questions to gauge student engagement in learning. Leaders of Learning have been visiting classrooms on a regular basis this year with a focus on students and their learning. Along with the critical questions, learning walks have provided the Leaders of Learning with valuable insights into student learning and has enabled them, as a team, to develop strategies to improve student engagement and enhance the work of teachers in the classroom. When Leaders of Learning ask students the critical questions the focus is on the learning the student is engaged in, not necessarily the content.

Parents and carers can also use these questions to guide their child in reflecting on the learning they had engaged in during the day. Finding opportunities to guide children through an intentional reflective process helps them to make connections with their learning, articulate steps to improve learning, and importantly, identify where they can go for help.



Year 12 Awards

On Tuesday we also acknowledged the academic achievements and contribution students have made to College life through the Year 12 Mid-Course Awards. Students were recognised for achieving First in Course and achievement in the Top 10% in a course. The Diligence Award was also awarded to students who were nominated by their teachers across four courses for their sustained and conscientious approach to their studies. Students who, through their actions, have reflected the College core values of Compassion, Appreciation, Respect and Endurance were awarded the CARE Award.

This year we also recognised the achievements of students who are undertaking study through alternate learning pathways such as distance education. Several of our students are achieving exceptional outcomes through engaging in learning that is not defined by the physical classroom. This takes determination and assists students in developing skills which allow them to advocate for their own learning.

Students were encouraged to reflect on where they are at this point in their final year of secondary schooling and, importantly, to recognise they do not do this journey alone. We have significant support structures around our students to help them to be the best version of themselves as they continue to strive for excellence. The phrase 'personal best' was used several times throughout the addresses to the students. The important message we are expecting students to take on board is that personal bests look different for each student, and if we are all working towards a 'personal best' we lift each other and, collectively, we achieve beyond what we were able to individually.

Congratulations to the award recipients. Thanks is also extended to the families who were able to join us for this celebration of student achievement.

¹<https://www.lynsharratt.com/post/closing-the-gap-to-raise-the-bar-the-power-of-5-critical-questions>

Year 11 2024 Studies Expo

We are excited to announce that we will be holding the Year 11 2024 Studies Expo on Tuesday 23 May starting at 4:30pm. This is an interactive event and an opportunity for students and their families to hear about the comprehensive range of courses available to students at the College. Information sessions about course selection will be repeated throughout the evening and Leaders of Learning and teachers will be available to answer questions about patterns of study.

Further details regarding the Studies Expo will be made available closer to the date.



Year 11 Reports

A reminder that Year 11 Reports will be made available to students and families on 31 May. The issue of the report is an opportunity for students to reflect on how they are going with their senior studies and to make adjustments so they can achieve their potential. There are a range of supports available to students beyond the classroom including study afternoons on Wednesday, Edrolo which also includes information on study skills and Sumrise which is hosted through the Mathematics Faculty. Students and families are encouraged to make contact with teachers if there are any concerns arising at any stage throughout the course, not just when reports are issued.

Skills – a resource for all students

Developing effective study techniques is an important skill for all students to develop from Year 7. Teachers work closely with students in assisting them in developing a wide range of techniques they can apply to different courses. A quick search on the internet also shows a wide range of resources available to students. A good starting point is the information found at the following link which covers time management, note taking strategies, presentation skills and examination techniques.

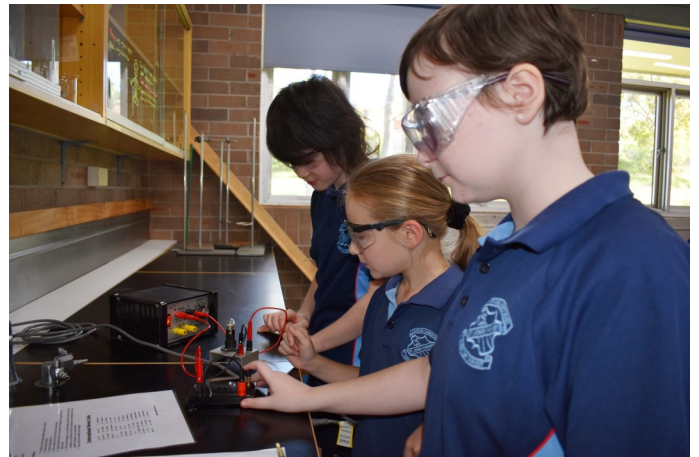
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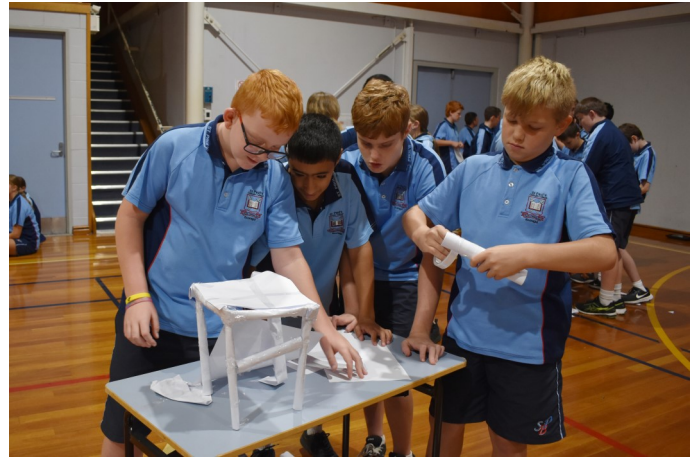
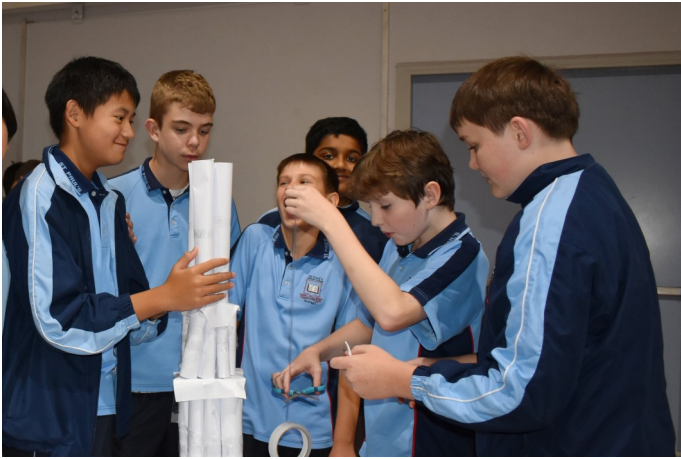
Mrs Amber Carter
Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning



Year 12 Awards







OrangeSky

— Australia —

Recently the Year 12 CAFS classes welcomed guest speakers Lesley and Wayne from [Orange Sky Australia](#). Lesley and Wayne spoke about their experience volunteering with this organisation, which provides shower facilities, and access to washing machines and dryers for those in the community who are experiencing homelessness. Thank you, Lesley and Wayne, for taking the time at St Paul's and providing some great real-life examples that the class can use for their Trials and their HSC exams. An even bigger thank you for the wonderful contribution you do to help those in society who are doing it tough.



Mrs Nicole Burns
English Faculty



Mock Trials

The St Paul's Mock Trial team have recently been in action against St Patricks College Campbelltown. They were able to successfully defend a charge of obstructing a railway and win the trial. Finding time to juggle assessment tasks and trial preparation at the end of the term proved challenging. The trial was a hard slog lasting nearly 4hrs, giving students an insight into the protracted nature of court appearances. The competition is now run virtually which still surprisingly retains the combative nature of the arguments. The trial featured Kirrily, Grady, Maddi, Mitchell, Paige and Alexandra who all gave an excellent account of themselves and St Pauls.



Mr John Gallop
HSIE Faculty



We have a small group of students who have taken on the additional challenge of studying HSC courses via Distance Education providers.

These students are developing their problem-solving strategies, navigating various technological difficulties, planning out their practical components and engaging on online platforms. If COVID taught us anything, it was just how difficult this style of learning can be. Yet, our students have met this challenge and managed to achieve their outcomes with great success.

I'd like to particularly recognise the following students who are currently ranked first across their distance cohort.

Holly Kehoe – 1st in Design and Textiles (External)

Michael Pockran – 1st in Chemistry (External)



I'd also like to recognise Kezia Graham who has shown immense improvement to be currently ranked 2nd in Ancient History (External).

Mrs Belinda Richardson
Mathematics / Distance Education



Two of our keen sailors from St Paul's competed in the CHS Combined High School sailing championships held at Belmont 16ft Sailing Club during the school holidays. The event hosted 68 boats from NSW and QLD, all vying for the crown of Australian school champion. Conditions over the four days of competition ranged from light-moderate to fresh and frightening when a 28 knot squall from the South hit the fleet. The rain was so torrential visibility on the water was reduced to less than 100m and provided very challenging sailing conditions. Well done to Kate (Year 11) and Noah (Year 10) coming 12th and 21st respectively overall.





School Student Travel

May 2023

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School student travel information for parents and students

School Travel Passes

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass but have not yet applied need to [apply](#) or [update](#) their details as soon as possible.

In the Opal network, students should travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

New Student Opal cards (including new Term Bus Passes) will be sent to the student's nominated postal address within two weeks of their application being approved.

Students living in rural and regional areas will receive their travel pass from their nominated transport operator. It may be issued via their school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some rural and regional operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Terms of Use

Students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Opal terms of use](#).

All students are required to comply with the [Student code of conduct](#). The code of conduct aims to ensure the safety and well-being of school children and other passengers. It is important that parents ensure their child is aware of this, as failure to comply with the code of conduct can result in a suspension from travel.

Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/school-travel
Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/passes-concessions-feedback

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LEARN TENNIS FOR LIFE

Bolton Point Tennis Club

Did you know our members are anywhere between 6 to 86 years old?

Tennis is for everyone!



Come and join us today:

- Junior Coaching
- Adult Coaching
- Junior & Adult Social Tennis

For more info:
Phone 0455885133 or email boltonpointtennis@bigpond.com
<https://play.tennis.com.au/boltonpointtennisclub>




FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

EquiEnergy Youth
Enhancing Community Connections

Coach 2 Cope: Families and Carers


Are you concerned about your child's mental health and well-being? Would you like to improve the support you provide your child to develop their coping, resilience and positive ways of seeking help? This is your invitation to join many other parents and carers in our community to learn better ways to respond to your child when they are struggling.

Guest speakers include:


- Dr Stephen Spencer (PhD)** (Mental health nurse and Co-founder of Equi Energy Youth)
- Dr Caroline de Vries** (Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist and Founder of The Base Health)
- Bradley Dunn** (CEO of Lake Macquarie & Newcastle Suicide Prevention Network)
- Byron Williams** (headspace Community Development)

**13th of June 5.30pm to 8pm
At NEX Newcastle**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER OR SCAN THE QR CODE



www.eeyouth.org.au



Youth-led disaster and climate resilience project




About the project

This project aims to enhance and increase young people's ability to identify and sustain activities that can reduce the impacts of emergencies, disasters and climate change on themselves and their communities.

As part of this project, a pilot training program is being developed, to support youth leadership and understanding of emergencies, disasters and climate action. Knowledge of these issues ultimately makes young people feel empowered and in control of decision-making before, during, and after a disaster. This enables them to respond to crises and build resilience.

This disaster resilience program consists of interactive discussions and activities for young people (ages 12-18) in the Lake Macquarie LGA.

Program activities include:

- Disaster preparedness and how to plan for an emergency.
- Psychological first aid skills to support mental resilience.
- Information sessions on understanding local disaster and climate risk, and how to reduce it.
- Ideas incubation workshops where young people will actively participate in community initiatives around disaster risk reduction and climate action.
- Capacity-building workshops to guide youth in designing a range of resources, tools and materials to support disaster risk reduction activities locally.

Collaborate with us:

We want to collaborate with local high schools, youth service providers, community-based organisations and local emergency services, to develop and deliver activities for this project. If you'd like to know more or get involved, please get in touch.

Contact:

Ana Mortimer
0423 323 077
amortimer@redcross.org.au

This project is funded under the joint Australian Government - NSW Government National Partnership Agreement on Disaster Risk Reduction and NSW Disaster Risk Reduction Fund - Local & Regional Risk Reduction Stream. Although funding for this product has been provided by both the Australian and NSW Governments, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views of either Government.

For all Finance enquiries please use the following email address: finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

To calculate your Weekly, Fortnightly or Monthly payment amount, please go to our Website and use the calculator. <http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/about-us/finance/fee-calculator/> (Please take the figure to the next five cents)

If you have not already done so, please ensure I have copies of relevant updated Health Care / Pension Cards and the Application Form.

School Fee

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

Excursion Payments

1. Qkr

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.

Opening Hours for Payments to the Finance Office

Parents: Payments can be made at Reception between 8.30am and 2.30pm

Students: Mornings from 8.30am until tutor group bell, all of recess and all lunch times

QKR is the way to pay fees, excursions and Friday Sport



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 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

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10km's of the school, or search for our school by name.

Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

For more information about QKR visit our website

www.booragul.catholic.edu.au



Mrs Erica Gale—Finance Officer
finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au



St Paul's Catholic College

Address: Primrose Street, Booragul
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Telephone: 4958 6711
Email: admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au
Web Site: <http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/>

Switch/Reception

Hours: 8.15am until 3.30pm

Finance Office

Hours: 8.30am to 2.30pm
Email: finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

Canteen

Telephone: 4946 3115

Clothing Pool

8.45 - 10.30am Thursdays



St Paul's
Catholic College
Booragul

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

10th-12th May: Year 10 Challenge Camp

15th-19th May: Catholic School's Week

23rd May: Yr 11 2024, Studies Expo Evening