



Photo by Andy Warren

19th May 2023 Vol:7-23

***“We are in the country of the Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their elders, celebrating***

This week has been a celebration of Catholic schools throughout New South Wales with the theme being *Encounter – Journeying Together*.

As we are aware Catholic schools proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. We celebrate the important role that Catholic schools continue to play in helping our young people remain active in the faith and in their learning.

Especially, during this week we are called to encounter Christ, through our relationships, our world, and our school community. The theme of Catholic Schools Week invites us all to consider how we can live a life that is modelled on Jesus.

Our Catholic Schools Week prayer is

*God of all time – yesterday, today and tomorrow,  
For nearly two hundred years, in this great Southern Land of the Holy Spirit, You have inspired in generations of  
believers the vision of Catholic Schools.*

*We give thanks to You, the source of wisdom and inspiration, for the passion of teachers who spark the curiosity of  
their students, and for opening their students’ hearts and minds to the mystery and wonder of the world and  
nature.*

*We thank You for the passion and creativity of students in their search for truth and beauty, as well as for pursuing  
what is right and good.*

*We thank You for the leaders of Catholic education who ensure our schools are places where Catholic faith and  
learning go hand in hand.*

*We thank You for the support of our clergy and religious, the bearers of the Good News, leading and educating us  
in prayer and the celebration of the sacraments.*

*We thank You for the passion, love and sacrifice of parents, carers and local communities as they work together to  
provide a Catholic Education for their children.*

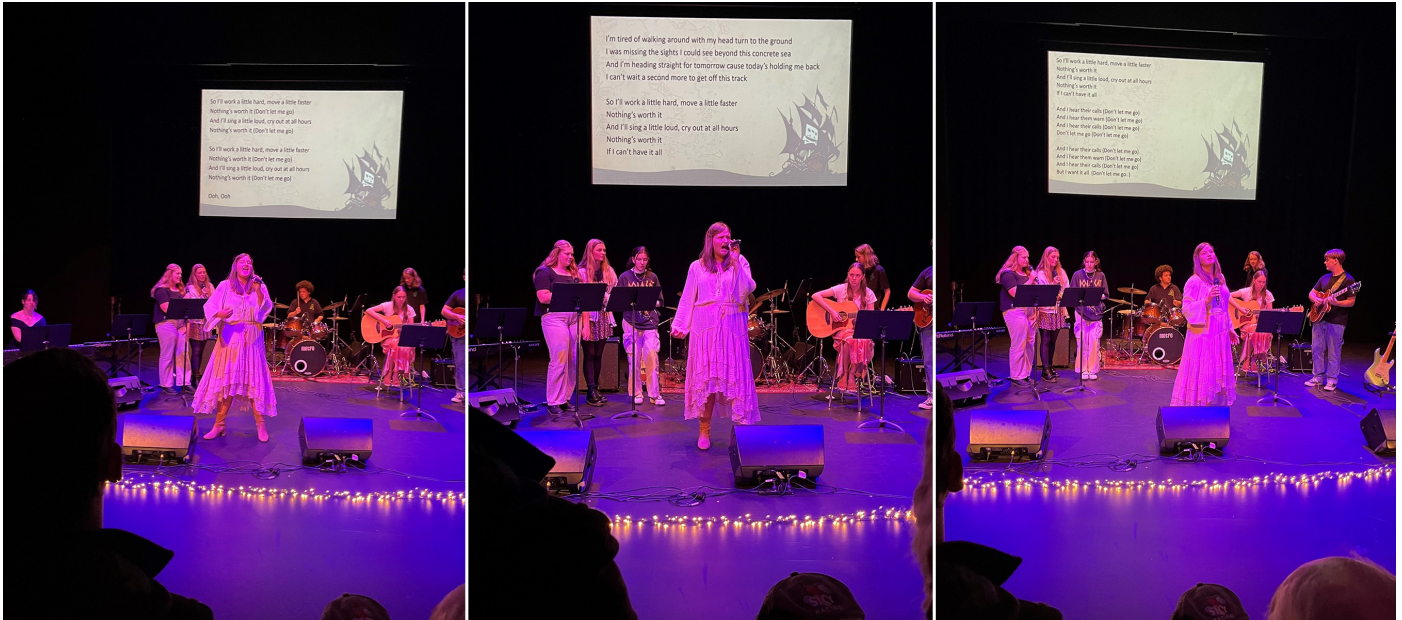
*We pray that our schools, today and tomorrow, will continue their work in God’s mission, spreading the Joy of the  
Gospel.*

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Amen*

## ASPIRE Song Competition

Kirrily Boslem from Year 11 participated in the ASPIRE song competition. This required her to write the lyrics and the instrumentation (music) to her song and then perform it on Thursday 11 May at St Pius, Adamstown. We offer our congratulations to Kirrily as she was announced as the winner of the Senior section of the competition.



Kirrily's song was called 'All'. She has been working on this composition for the past 10 weeks.

Kirrily is a passionate musician who has been involved in the Diosounds performances and ASPIRE productions for a number of years.

Later this term, Kirrily will once again be a member of the St Paul's performance at the Diosounds production and at the start of next term she will be a member of the cast for the ASPIRE production, 'A Pirate's Code'.

## International Science School

At the end of last week, Lara Wrightson of Year 11 received the wonderful news she has been selected to participate in Prof Harry Messel International Science School. The residential school is hosted by the University of Sydney and takes place during the Term 2 School Holidays. Lara will join with 150 other Year 11 and 12 students from across Australia and overseas.

To be selected, Lara had to demonstrate her passion for science as well as meet academic benchmarks. During the school Lara will have the opportunity to hear from leading researchers, participate in STEM activities and scientific experiments.

Lara was very grateful for the opportunity, and we wish Lara all the best for the Science school.



## Decathlon

As part of the Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Schools high potential and gifted learning program, several students from St Paul's were invited to represent the diocese at the **2023 da Vinci Decathlon**, held at Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College. The students are required to work collaboratively to develop solutions to a range of different activities using their problem solving and critical thinking skills. At the conclusion of engaging in activities across 10 different disciplines the Year 8 and 9 Teams from the diocese were announced as the winners.

We offer our congratulation to Scarlett of Year 8 as well as to Luke, Oliver and Harper from Year 9 who was a member of the respective successful teams.



## Term 2 Parent and Carer Gathering

The Term 2 Parent and Carer Gatherings will be held online on Tuesday **13 June, 2023 commencing at 6.00pm**. Parents and Carers are asked to register at the link below (some people indicated they would prefer to attend the meeting in person, if this is the case then I ask that those people indicate this option via the link below).

The Agenda for the Meeting will be:

Overview of and Feedback on Ministry, Wellbeing and Learning at St Paul's.  
General Business.

Link to register for the Parent and Carer Gathering:

<https://forms.office.com/r/C6NYdqhSvq>

On the Tuesday morning prior to the gathering a Zoom link will be forwarded to those parents and carers who have indicated that they will be join the gathering online.

## Year 10 Camp

Last week, Year 10 attended AGH Camps in south-western Sydney for three days. The students enjoyed the opportunity to undertake a range of challenge activities. Upon their return from camp the students reported that they had a great time and enjoyed the time mixing with their peers in a more relaxed environment. Thanks to Mr Doyle, Mrs Pola-Kuras, Mr Connell for their attendance and organisation of the camp. We also extend our appreciation to the staff who attended.



## Exploring St Paul's Program

The Exploring St Paul's Program has continued with students from St Joseph's Kilaben Bay visiting St Paul's last week and St Mary's Warners Bay student in attendance today. Feedback from the students is that they have had a wonderful time participating in activities in different learning environments.



## 2023 and 2024 Enrolments

Following on from our Information Evening at the end of Term 1, Enrolment Forms were 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.

**Mr Nicholas Wickham**  
**Principal**



## Positive Friendships

As schools and families navigate the turbulent teenage years together the one message, we are consistently delivering is the importance of positive peer relationships. From the time students step into the secondary school setting they are constantly challenged by wanting to belong to a peer group. This is nothing new in the stage development of our adolescent students as they begin to forge their own identities. This challenge, however, can sometimes lead them into making poor decisions about the friends they choose to hang out with and the activities in which they choose to participate. In 2023 this is amplified by social media and the explosive way in which negative behaviours can be shared and discussed online, shared multiple times via various platforms and trolled by anonymous keyboard warriors. Several key reminders are important:

- If you know or feel in your heart it is wrong, it probably is and remove yourself from the situation
- Have the courage and confidence to say 'NO'
- Have the strength to walk away
- Report to a trusted adult if you think someone is in danger or if you need help to advise a friend

**Reach Out** is a great resource that parents can access as it provides some helpful strategies on how to talk to our teenagers about the impact of friendships. See [Talking to your teen about bad friendships - ReachOut Parents](#)



## School TV

School TV is also a resource available to parents which has a range of topics relevant to adolescence wellbeing and growth and development. This link can also be found on the school's webpage.

<https://booragul.catholic.schooltv.me/>



## WELCOME

Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource that can support you in the challenges relating to modern-day parenting.

This award-winning resource helps build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It can assist in starting conversations on topics that are sometimes awkward or difficult to tackle.

"The wellbeing of today's youth has never been more challenging."

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

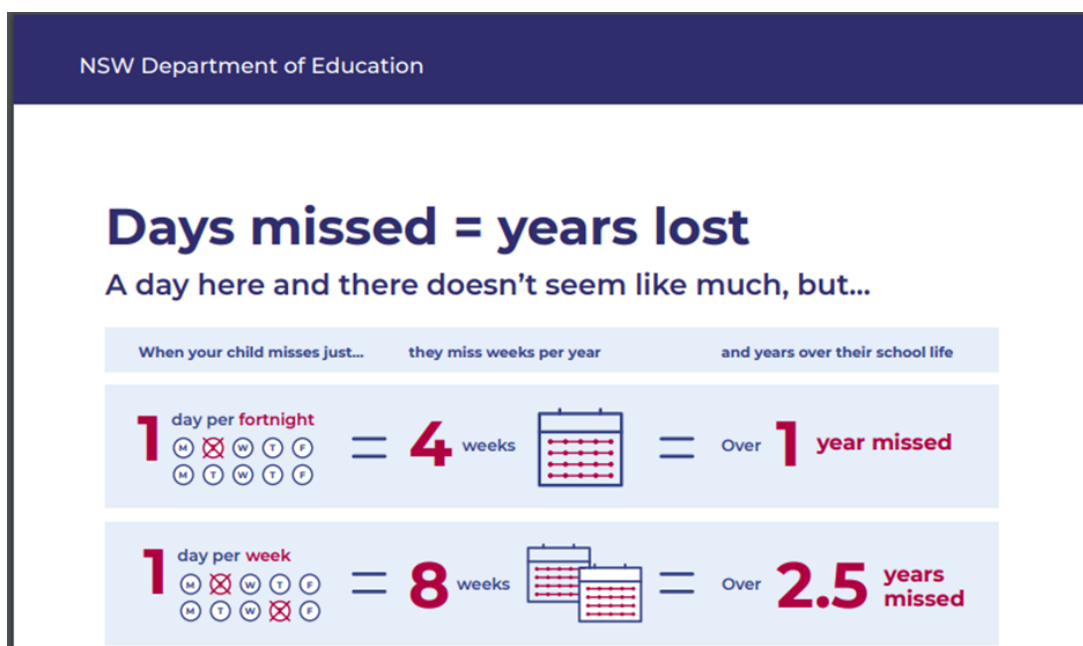
## Attendance

The NSW Education Act 1990 and the Catholic Schools Office of Maitland-Newcastle require parents/carers to ensure that children of compulsory school age attend school on each day that the school is open for operation. If children are absent from school, parents/carers are required to provide the school with an acceptable explanation, in writing, within seven days of the absence. A medical certificate is required for more than three consecutive absence days.

St Paul's is required to notify parents of all student absences and communicate at certain stages when absences are accumulating. This requirement includes all justified and unjustified absences. The following is a guideline of the process St Paul's uses to communicate student absences.

- Day 1-3 Communication with/from parents/carers regarding student absence – a Compass notification and SMS alert is sent to parents.
- After 3 consecutive days absence – communication with the respective Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement.
- After 4-10 days absence a letter (1) to parents/carers will be sent to discuss attendance concerns
- 10-20 days absence a letter (2) to parents/carers will be sent to discuss attendance concerns. An Attendance Plan may need to be created.
- 20 Plus days and where no parent contact with the school from parents/carers has been made a request for a formal meeting will be made with parents/carers.
- 30 plus days absence and where school-based interventions have been exhausted the Catholic Schools Office and the Department of Education will be notified.

The first two letters in this process are a way of communicating with parents/carers that absences are accumulating. Even if absences are justified (explained) a formal notification from the school to parents/carers is required. At all times parents/carers are encouraged to communicate with the relevant Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement about the progress of their child. Wellbeing support can then be offered.



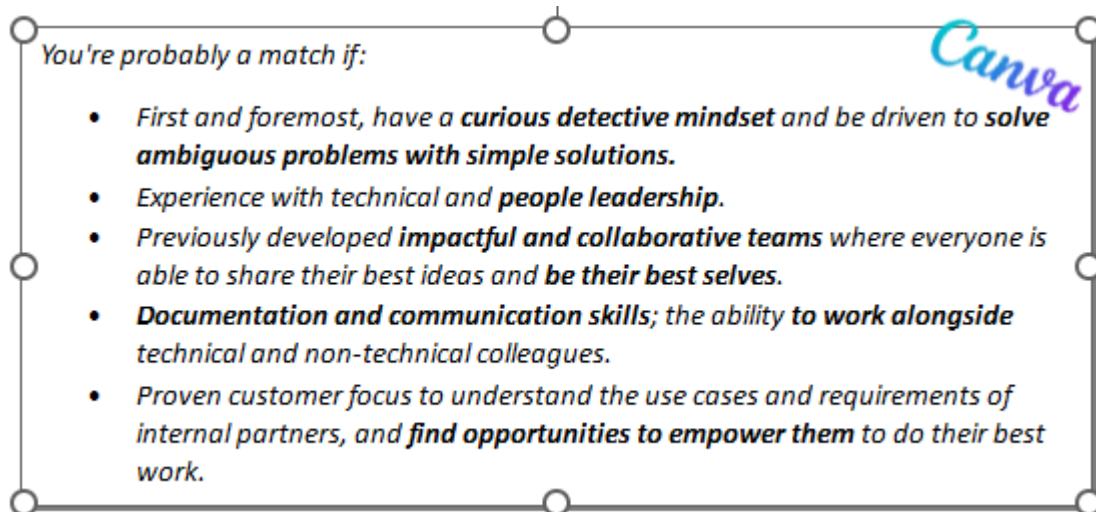
**Mrs Anne-Maree Shipman**  
**Assistant Principal - Wellbeing & Engagement**



## St Paul's Students: Future Ready Graduates

Over the past few weeks I have come across several publications which outline the changing nature of work for young people. McCrindle released statistics indicating young people in Australia will remain in a position for just over three years<sup>1</sup>. What this means for our young people today, is that by the time they reach retiring age they could have up to 17 different employers and they may also have up to 5 separate careers. These statistics have an implication for education as we look to prepare our students for their next steps after school. We need to focus on providing them with opportunities to develop skills and capabilities which allow them to engage productively in change and to be agile in a rapidly changing society.

To illustrate the future-ready capabilities our young people require, I found an entry level position at Canva for an incidence response team member. The points below outline what the company is looking for in an applicant for this position:



*You're probably a match if:*

- *First and foremost, have a **curious detective mindset** and be driven to **solve ambiguous problems with simple solutions.***
- *Experience with **technical and people leadership.***
- *Previously developed **impactful and collaborative teams** where everyone is able to share their best ideas and **be their best selves.***
- ***Documentation and communication skills; the ability to work alongside technical and non-technical colleagues.***
- ***Proven customer focus** to understand the use cases and requirements of internal partners, and **find opportunities to empower them** to do their best work.*

Canva

There are two very interesting aspects to this role description. First, there is a distinct focus on 21st century capabilities such as curiosity, collaboration, communication and creative thinking. The second interesting aspect is the role is expecting the applicant to be able to work with a wide variety of people. The role also outlines the successful applicant can chose to work from home, so being able to show these types of capabilities in an on-line environment is reflective of the changing nature of work and employment.

As a comprehensive Catholic school, it is our imperative to provide our students with opportunities to thrive in a society that values curiosity, collaboration, communication, critical and creative thinking and to be agile in the way they engage with others and the community. As Year 10 start the journey of considering what their study patterns will be moving forward, we are encouraged to challenge our biases and assumptions about what students 'should' be studying. This requires us, teachers, students and families, to apply a future-focused lens on what skills and capabilities we want our young people to develop so they can flourish in a rapidly changing contexts.



<sup>1</sup><https://mccrindle.com.au/article/job-mobility-in-australia/>

## Year 11 2024 Senior Studies Expo

The **Senior Studies Expo** will be held on **23 May starting at 4:30pm** in the Damascus Centre. Students and families can attend one of two information sessions which will be held in the rooms above the library. Registration for the evening can be found at the following link: <https://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/news-events/latest-news/st-paul-s-catholic-college-year-11-studies-expo/>



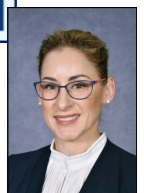
Our theme for the Senior Studies Expo is ***‘Imagining Possibilities’*** with the purpose of encouraging students to think about all possibilities regarding their studies and future pathways. We look forward to welcoming all our Year 10 students and families to this event, along with visitors from the wider community. This is an interactive event which provides students and families with the opportunity to discover the wide range of courses and experiences offered to students. By applying the future-focused mindset previously described, we will be encouraging students to think about the possibilities for their senior studies and beyond. Over the coming weeks, Mr McLoughlin, Mr Connell and myself will be working with students as they share their aspirations and goals.

## Year 11 Mid-Course Reports

The Year 11 Mid-Course reports will be made available to students and families on Wednesday 31 May and these reports can be accessed through Compass. An important trend students need to be aware of is the increasing reliance of universities on students’ performance in Year 11 for early entry schemes. The mid-course report is an opportunity for students to reflect on how they are going with their senior studies and to plan for improvements in their learning moving forward. In the coming weeks Mr Baker, Mr McLoughlin and I will be speaking with students regarding the importance of the mid-course reports and establishing effective routines of study and homework. Regardless of how a student performs in the mid-course report, it is important they recognise what their strengths are, areas for improvement and to identify steps forward.

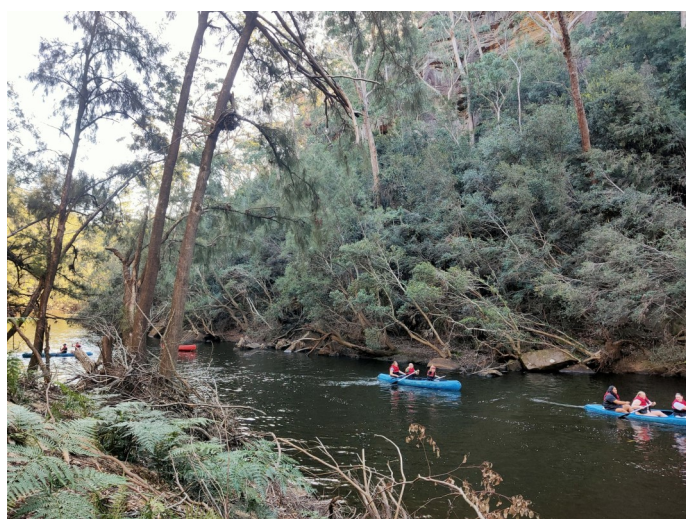


**Mrs Amber Carter**  
**Assistant Principal - Teaching & Learning**



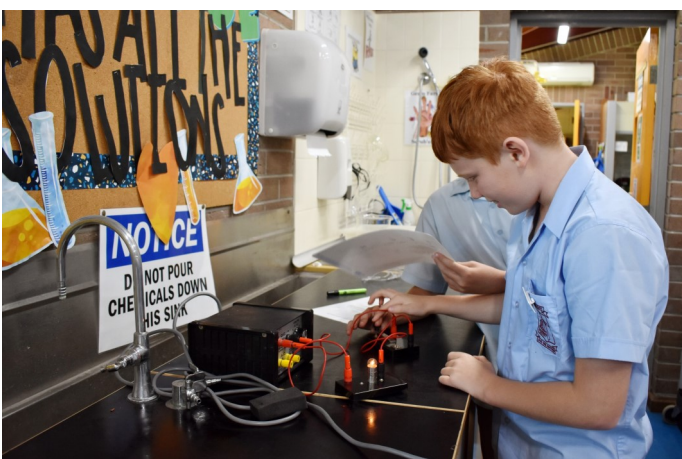


# Year 10 Challenge Camp



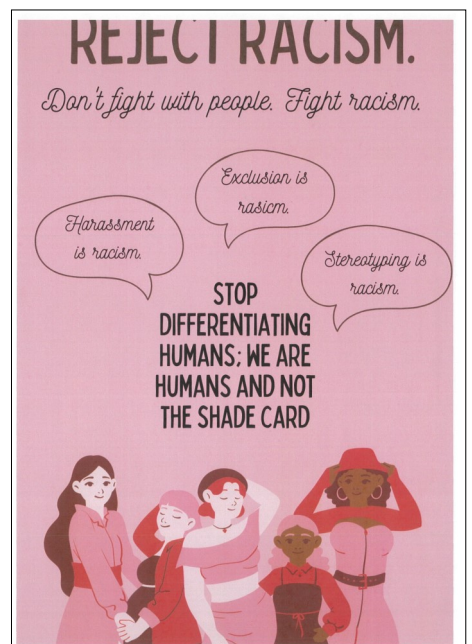
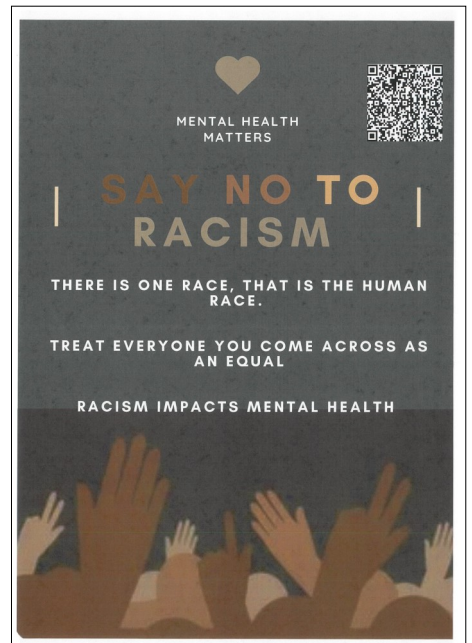
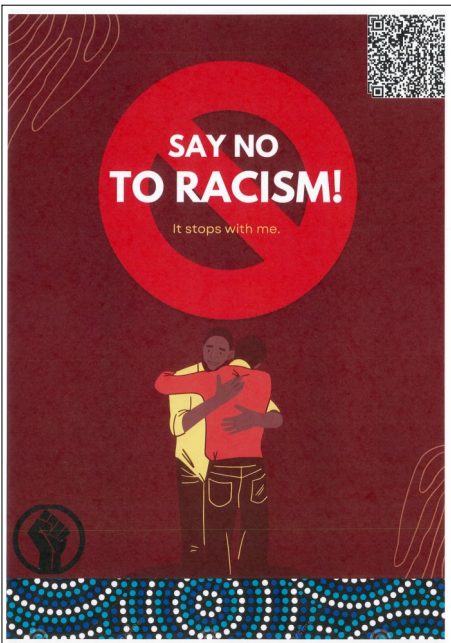
For more photos click the link below:

<https://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au/.../year-10.../>



## Protests in English

This term, Year 10 are studying protest songs and speeches. The idea is to analyse the ways protest texts represent the world, both as it is and as it could be. To make the investigation directly relevant to our lives here at St Paul's the students engaged in their own educational protest based on racism. Students produced high quality posters and chose the location where their own personal concept on the protest would be most effective. Check out some of the amazing posters as we work towards Reconciliation Week commencing on May 27.



# Mock Trials

The St Paul's Mock Trial Team recently competed against Epping Boys High and were successful. They won damages for their client Koby, who was injured on his motorbike as result of negligent driving by the defendant. He had a highly capable legal team, being represented by Maddie, Grady and Kirrily. Paige was helpful as a witness being able to withstand the stern cross examination. Alex was highly efficient as the magistrate's clerk. The team is building on its performance showcasing the teamwork and skill of all of Year 11 Legal Studies.



**Mr John Gallop**  
**HSIE Faculty**



## Sports Results

### Diocesan Football Trials

Congratulations to Alisha Ingrey who was selected in the Opens Diocesan Football team to compete in the NSWCCC Football Championships later this month.

### Diocesan Cross Country

17 St Paul's students made the trip to beautiful Lake Glenbawn for the Diocesan Cross Country on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Congratulations to all students for their fine efforts and the way they represented St Paul's on the day. Well done to the following students on their results:

- Madeline Platt 2<sup>nd</sup> 15 Girls
- Grady Platt 2<sup>nd</sup> 17 Boys
- Holly Kehoe 3<sup>rd</sup> 18 Girls
- William Dalgliesh 3<sup>rd</sup> 17 Boys

Good luck to Madeline, Grady, Holly and William when they represent the Diocese in the CSNSW Cross Country in June.



## Diocesan Tennis Championships

Koby Smith & Grace Toohey travelled to Singleton to take on the best Tennis players in the Diocese on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Koby was crowned Champion of the Senior Boys Division and Grace was runner up in the Junior Girls Division. Congratulations to these fine athletes.



## Upcoming Sport Events

Thurs 18 May	<b>Boys Bill Turner Cup Football</b>	Speers Point
Tues 23 May	<b>AFL Senior School Cup</b>	Warners Bay
Wed 24 May	<b>AFL Junior School Cup</b>	Warners Bay
Thurs 25 May	<b>Oztag Hunter Championships</b>	Maitland
Wed 31 May	<b>U16 Girls Rugby League Gala Day</b>	Cessnock

## Upcoming Closing Dates for Sport Nominations

14<sup>th</sup> July – CCC U18 Netball

For information on all individual and team pathway events, please go to <https://csnw.sport/>

**Mr Brad Melville**  
**Leader of Learning - PDHPE**





**WHO:** GRADE K-6  
**WHERE:** NEWCASTLE BASKETBALL STADIUM  
**WHEN:** SATURDAYS, MONDAYS, AND TUESDAYS  
**COST:** LATE ENTRY DISCOUNTED PRICE: \$105 (7 WEEKS OF 9)



**WHAT IS IT?**  
 AUSSIE HOOPS IS A FUN, LEARN 2 PLAY, BASKETBALL PROGRAM FOR K-6 STUDENTS. LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BASKETBALL THROUGH A SERIES OF FUN GAMES, WITH THE GOAL OF BUILDING UP TO PLAYING MODIFIED 5-ON-5 BASKETBALL.

**WHAT YOU GET?**

- ★ 7 X QUALITY SKILL SESSIONS
- ★ AN AUSSIE HOOPS PLAYER PACK (INCLUDING BASKETBALL, SINGLET, & BAG)
- ★ PLUS OTHER EXCITING HANDOUTS

REGISTER TODAY BY HEADING TO [NEWCASTLEBASKETBALL.COM.AU/AUSSIE-HOOPS-5-9](http://NEWCASTLEBASKETBALL.COM.AU/AUSSIE-HOOPS-5-9)  
 WANT MORE INFORMATION? CALL NEWCASTLE BASKETBALL ON 4961 3185



ACTIVE KIDS  
CLUB FOR THE YOUNGEST CHILDREN FROM 5 UP TO 10 YEARS OLD  
 NSW



**ST DOMINIC'S CENTRE**  
 MAYFIELD

## OPEN AFTERNOON INVITATION 2023

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR FIRST OPEN EVENING FOR 2023. FAMILIES LOOKING TO ENROL ARE WELCOME TO VISIT AND TOUR OUR DYNAMIC SCHOOL, AND MEET STAFF AND STUDENTS.

We are accepting enrolment applications for 2024.

St Dominic's Centre, Mayfield is a Kindergarten to Year 12 school that provides educational excellence for children with a range of disabilities including hearing impairment, Autism Spectrum Disorders and/or Cognitive Disability.



**MONDAY 22 MAY 4:00-5:00PM**

Where: St Dominic's Centre.  
 76 Havelock Street Mayfield NSW 2304

RSVP: Please RSVP by Wednesday 17 May.  
 Phone: (02) 4968 1295  
 Email: [admin@mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au)  
 Web: [mn.shor.tn/StDominicsMayfield](http://mn.shor.tn/StDominicsMayfield)

If you are unable to make the date, please contact the school for an alternate option or to request an enrolment package.

**ST DOMINIC'S CENTRE**  
 76 Havelock Street  
 Mayfield NSW 2304  
 (02) 4968 1295  
[admin@mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@mayfieldsd.catholic.edu.au)  
[@StDominicsCentreMayfield](https://www.facebook.com/StDominicsCentreMayfield)



For all Finance enquiries please use the following email address: [finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](http://www.booragul.catholic.edu.au)



**Mrs Erica Gale—Finance Officer**  
[finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au](mailto:finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au)





## St Paul's Catholic College

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Postal: PO Box 194, Boolaroo NSW 2284  
Telephone: 4958 6711  
Email: [admin@booragul.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto: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

**23rd May:** Year 11 Studies Expo Evening