



# The Spinnaker

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14 December 2016 Vol: 21 - 16

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



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Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year to you all!

It was interesting that as soon as December came about, the TV was full of Christmas advertisements imploring all of us to spend up big in the coming weeks on a multitude of gifts, food and drinks. I have noticed that the latest strategy is to talk about "stocking fillers." When I was young, it was one present under the tree from Santa and possibly a couple of small gifts purchased with very limited pocket money from brothers and sisters. The odd aunt might have sent a family gift – in our case it was the annual subscription to Readers Digest! The advertisement for a stocking filler I

heard the other day was some sort of electronic device that cost in excess of \$100.00! I can only imagine the expectation for what Santa should bring.

Thankfully in Australia, we still use the term "Christmas." When I took my family to New York a number of years ago, I was rather shocked that the concept of Christmas was almost an afterthought in the language that was being used in the media, ads on TV and in store windows. The term that had replaced it was "Holiday." People said to each other "Happy Holidays!" The stores and shops advertised "Holiday Sales." The media referred to the time as the "Holiday Season". The irony was that the only reason for the holiday was Christmas!

The root of the word "holiday" comes from the thirteenth century. *Haliday* (c. 1200), from Old English *haligdæg* or "holy day, consecrated day, religious anniversary; Sabbath," from *halig* "holy" + *dæg* "day"; in 14century, meaning both "religious festival" and "day of exemption from labor and recreation". The entire purpose of the "Holy" day on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December is to celebrate the coming of our Lord. Perhaps the New Yorkers have missed the fact that "Christ" is in the name "Christmas".



So as we head towards this sacred time in our Christian calendar, it is timely that we remember what the true meaning of Christmas should continue to be. We welcome our savior, The Christ Child.

We pray for peace in our world. We cannot find peace by excluding those who challenge us or disagree with us. We cannot find joy and abundance by getting more and more stuff. We cannot find love by turning inward and giving a high importance to our personal needs, potential and purpose than relationships or service or others. To know peace, we need to change how we do things. We need to allow ourselves to carry out the risky acts of listening, dialogue, hospitality, service, justice and compassion. As we give ourselves to create peace for others, we discover that peace finds us, and God's reign is truly within us.

Last Tuesday evening, the Diocese farewelled **Ray Collins**. The Mass of thanksgiving was concelebrated by Bishop Bill and a large number of clergy from around the diocese.

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Guests came from far and wide and included Ray's wife, Annette, children and grandchildren. It was a beautiful celebration of a career that began in western NSW and ended here as our Director of Schools for the past nine years. St Paul's wishes Ray and Annette all the best as they begin the next part of their journey.

On Friday evening, St Paul's staff farewelled **Greg Ptolemy** and **Peter Rayner**. Greg, as you are aware, is heading to St Mary's at Gateshead and Peter has decided to call an end to his teaching career having been part of the St Paul's community since 1986.

Peter and his wife Bron are looking forward to completing some of the "bucket list" items that Peter has been thinking about for some time. It includes the writing of a book and riding his lovely Triumph motorcycle. We wish Peter all the best as he too, begins the next phase of his life.

We received news last week that Mrs Terri Martin has decided to retire from teaching, Terri has been away for a time and has decided to begin to explore new adventures. We wish Terri all the best and hope that she enjoys what life has in store for her.



**Most of the staffing has been sorted for 2017. We welcome four new permanent staff to St Paul's:**

- ◆ Roisin McVeigh – Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning
- ◆ Michelle Lund – Science
- ◆ Christine Churchwood – LOTE/RE
- ◆ Nicole Burns - English

**The following staff members have secured temporary positions for 2017:**

- ◆ Lauren McCafferty – HSIE/PE/English
- ◆ Tracey Evans – PE/RE
- ◆ Emma Cameron – PE/RE
- ◆ Kate Vorais – TAS
- ◆ Melinda Blandford – HSIE/RE

*Have a wonderful Christmas and I hope that the New Year brings you great joy and happiness.*

**Mr Graeme Selmes**  
**Principal**



**2017**

**School Return Dates**

**Tuesday 31st January—Year 7 & 11**

**Wednesday 1 February—Year 8, 9, 10 & 12**

## ***From the Assistant Principal - Curriculum***

As the year begins to draw toward a close, and the busyness of our lives engulfs everything we do, I just wish to pause for a moment to extend my sincere thanks to the St Paul's community for your support over the last decade.

I have been blessed in my time at St Paul's to work with wonderful staff, students and families in the pursuit of truth. Thank you to the multitude of people who have helped me on this part of my own journey.

For our Year 12 students who are anticipating their results this week - remember that whether you get the marks you are after or not, you are at the beginning of another exciting phase of your life. Ultimately, the person that you are will determine whether or not you are successful in your life, not your academic results. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once suggested, "*What lies behind us, and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us*".

Best wishes to you all - be courageous and believe in yourselves – you are yet to discover just how great you can be.

May God abundantly bless each member of our community during this special time of year.



**Mr Greg Ptolemy**  
**Assistant Principal - Curriculum**

## ***From the Assistant Principal - Welfare***

The following is an extract from the history of Christmas website that portrays a popular history of the "Silent Night" carol. This carol has significant reference for Austrian Catholics as it details the history of the lyrics and music in the 1800s and then it's use in the trenches of the Great War of 1914-18.

The story is as follows:

*The words of Silent Night were written by Catholic Priest, Fr. Joseph Mohr whilst in Austria, in 1816 and the music was added in 1818, by his school teacher friend Franz Xaver Gruber, for the Christmas service at St. Nicholas church in Oberndorf, Austria – a snow filled town in December.*

*Fr. Mohr asked Franz Gruber to compose the melody with a guitar arrangement. It was several years later that Franz Gruber wrote an arrangement for the organ.*

*There is a legend associated with the carol that says, Fr. Mohr wanted the carol to be sung by the children of the village at the midnight Christmas Eve service, as a surprise for their parents.*

*At Midnight Mass in 1818, Fr. Mohr and Franz Gruber sang each of the six verses with the church choir repeating the last two lines of each verse. Mohr set down the guitar arrangement on paper around 1820 and that is the earliest manuscript that still exists. It is displayed in the Carolino Augusteum Museum in Salzburg. There are a number of manuscripts of various 'Stille Nacht' arrangement that were written by Franz Gruber in later years.*

*The original words of the song were in German (and it was called 'Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht') and translated in to English went like this:.....*

*Silent night, holy night,  
Bethlehem sleeps, yet what light,  
Floats around the heavenly pair;  
Songs of angels fills the air.  
Strains of heavenly peace.*

*It's thought that the song might have travelled around the area with an organ repairman, Karl Mauracher, who could have taken an early arrangement with him in about 1820. Then two singing families (like the 'Von Trappes' in The Sound of Music) seem to have discovered the song and performed it as part of their concerts.*

It was translated into English in 1863 by John Freeman Young. The carol was sung during the Christmas Truce in the First World War in December 1914 as it was a song that soldiers on both sides knew.

By the time that the carol was famous, Fr Mohr had died. Franz Gruber wrote to music authorities in Berlin saying that he had composed the tune, but no one believed him and it was thought that Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven had written it. However, the 1820 manuscript was found and in the top right corner Fr Mohr had written: 'Melodie von Fr. Xav. Gruber.'.

To all in the St Paul's community, I wish you a happy and holy Christmas, as well as a deserved break to end the academic year.

**Mr James Furey**  
**Assistant Principal - Welfare**



## Ministry News



**'The Annunciation' by Fra Angelico (1433)**

### **Christmas Liturgy**

On Wednesday last week the school community celebrated our Advent Liturgy. A group of Year 7 students performed a drama of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel announces to Mary that *"nothing will be impossible with God"* (Luke 1:37).

We presented the Christmas hampers to members of the local Vinnies conferences, listened to the SRC 'Year in Review' and farewelled staff who are leaving at the end of the year.

Thank you to the Year 9 Music students for leading us in singing Christmas hymns, to the SRC students for their presentation and to the following Year 7 students for their wonderful drama performance:

**Holly Callaghan, Chantelle Finlay, Imogen Hunt, Letisha McCudden, Bree-Anna Paget, Summah Richards, Ella Ryan and Lillyana Shadwell.**

Thank you also to the members of the 'Ministry and Production' group for their hard work in preparing and running the liturgy:

**Steven Cherniayeff, Joshua Ford, Benjamin Kennedy, Ethan Parkes, William Turnbull, Aidan Van Montfoort, Amber Trick, Matthew Webster and Michael Fennell-Fraser.**

Thank you to all the students and families who contributed to the Christmas hampers. As the school year ends, we

thank God for the blessings we have received this year. We pray for a safe and joyful Christmas holiday.

*"... the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord."*

(Luke 2:10-11, NRSV)

### **Important Dates for 2017**

February 10<sup>th</sup> - St Paul's High School Opening Mass, 11am

March 1<sup>st</sup> – Ash Wednesday

March 22<sup>nd</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> – Year 12 Retreat

April 9<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday, Way of the Cross at Kilaben Bay

May 3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> – Year 10 Camp

December 7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> - The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) at Sydney Olympic Park

### **Christmas Mass Times**

In the table below are some of the local parish Christmas Mass Times. For a full list visit:

<http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/special-events/christmas-2016>

**Mr Michael Doyle**  
**Ministry Coordinator**

Mass Centre	Parish	Church/Venue	Time		
			Vigil	Midnight	Christmas Day
Cathedral (Hamilton)	Hamilton	Sacred Heart Cathedral	5.30pm	Midnight	9.30am
			10.00pm Polish		11.30am Polish
Belmont	East Lake Macquarie	St Francis Xavier's	6.00pm		9.15am
Booragul	Booragul	St Michael the Archangel			7.30am
Cardiff	Blackbutt South	St Kevin's	6.00pm outdoor byo chairs		
Glendale	Sugarloaf	Holy Cross	6.00pm	Midnight	9.00am
Kotara	Blackbutt South	St Philip's	6.00pm late comers byo chairs		8.00am
Morisset	Morisset	Showground	Ourimbah St	6.00pm Carols 7.00pm Outdoors	
		St John Vianney	60 Yambo St		
Swansea	East Lake Macquarie	St Patrick's	6.00pm		7.30am
Toronto	Toronto	St Joseph's	6.00pm & 8.30pm		8.00am
Warners Bay	Boolaroo-Warners Bay	St Mary's	5.30pm & 7.30pm		9.00am
Windale	East Lake Macquarie	St Pius X	7.30pm		7.45am

### WELL DONE EVERYONE!

You have successfully negotiated your first year of High School. There have been some ups and downs, but on the whole the majority of the year group have expressed more positive experiences than negative ones. There have been many highlights beginning with the daunting experience of Day 1 sooo long ago.....

- ◆ *meeting new friends*
- ◆ *Peer Support*
- ◆ *Parents in the Classroom*
- ◆ *Reflection days*
- ◆ *Brainstorm Productions*
- ◆ *Bridges and Luna Park excursion*
- ◆ *Music Night*
- ◆ *Aladdin excursion*
- ◆ *History incursion*
- ◆ *St Pauls day*
- ◆ *numerous out of uniform days, sport afternoons*
- ◆ *End of Year Activities and more freedom to be ourselves*



Many students have discovered talents they didn't know they possessed from supporting friends, to being good friends and standing up for others. There have been breakthroughs on the Softball pitch in PDHPE, developing confidence to speak out when required, negotiating the train, increased independence, learning how to play new instruments, realisation that I can play Sport (yeah!!).

In a recent Year 7 survey about school life students had the opportunity to comment on their experience at St Paul's High School. This information provides us with an invaluable insight into the daily dilemmas faced by our students. Students did highlight some bullying behaviours by a very small minority of students in their group and offered suggestions on how to overcome these situations. The survey was very positive – one comment that stood out for me was - *"This is a great school, it's a shame some people are bullies and let the school down with their silly behaviour. Overall I love St Paul's"*. This comment is a wonderful accolade but also highlights that St Paul's has some work to do to ensure that all students experience our school in a positive light.

Congratulations must be extended to all students who have achieved milestones throughout the year.



Recently **Joshua Willis** completed an Advanced Scout Leadership Course. This is an invitation course that is offered to only a small number of Scouts across NSW. To successfully gain the award Josh was tasked with negotiating his way around Sydney, sourcing his own food and navigating his way via public transport through a challenging "Treasure Hunt" in the city. Congratulations Josh this is a fabulous achievement, negotiating your way around Sydney on your own is amazing.



**Bree-Anna Paget** has been dancing with The Rhythm Factory for nine years and also represents the dance school in performance troupe for tap and jazz and this year all her hard work and dedication was very rewarded with a Troupe scholarship, which includes a year of tuition. Bree-Anna also represented St Paul's this year in the Aspire performing arts program. Congratulations Bree-Anna on a very successful year.

There are many other amazing students in Year 7 at St Paul's with many wonderful gifts and talents. I urge you all strongly to continue to develop your strengths and contribute to making our school more wonderful.

Congratulations to all students who achieved **Merits and Commendations** in Term 4. Also congratulations to all students who received awards at the Semester 2 Academic Award ceremony. For those who did not receive an academic award I would like to encourage you to continue to strive for your best and improve your academic success next year and beyond.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students in Year 7 for making my year as their Student Coordinator interesting, challenging and enjoyable. I will miss you all very much and I truly hope that you continue to look for the good in each other and support each other and stamp out the small bullying factor in your year group. I am pleased to announce that **Mr Colin Mulhearn** will be continuing with Year 7 into Year 8 as their Student Coordinator for 2017.



**Mrs Natalie Squires**  
**Student Coordinator**

**Merit Awards**

Ruby	Adams x2	7TG1	Naomi	Alexander	7TG4
Liam	Crowe	7TG1	Mitchell	Bennett	7TG4
Emma	Curran	7TG1	Jade	Crouch	7TG4
Raegan	Dunn	7TG1	Tiarna	Davis-Keegan	7TG4
Taylor	Gill	7TG1	Chantelle	Finlay	7TG4
Rachael	Harmer	7TG1	Mia	Grenfell	7TG4
Hayden	McCarthy	7TG1	Imogen	Hunt	7TG4
Ella	McIntyre	7TG1	Jenaya	Richardson	7TG4
Lily	Ryder	7TG1	Michelle	Fernandez	7TG5
Kari	Williams x4	7TG1	Layla	Jones	7TG5
Reegan	Bradley	7TG2	Jordyn	Laucht	7TG5
Bronte	Bull	7TG2	Conor	Reilly	7TG5
Bridget	Carrall	7TG2	Jordan	Snowden	7TG5
Molly	Fairleigh	7TG2	Phoebe	Stivano	7TG5
Mitchell	Groen	7TG2	Amber	Tindall	7TG5
Clinton	Hutchinson	7TG2	Gabriel	Turton	7TG5
Molly	Larnach	7TG2	Ashley	Appleby	7TG6
Daniel	Newton	7TG2	Alexandra	Braun	7TG6
Riley	Thomas	7TG2	Ellie	Goldrick	7TG6
Lauren	Wilmen x2	7TG2	Krystal	Lowe x2	7TG6
Claire	Wilson x4	7TG2	Callum	Stalling	7TG6
Amelia	Alexander	7TG3	Daelyne	Matthews	7TG7
Kent	Azas x2	7TG3	Abang	Mayek	7TG7
Amber	Crouch	7TG3	Jed	McLean	7TG7
Zana	Jones	7TG3	James	McMillan	7TG7
Angelina	Joyce	7TG3	Bree-Anna	Paget	7TG7
Zachary	Parker	7TG3	Olivia	Renshaw	7TG7
Alexis	Scholefield	7TG3	Georgina	Roach	7TG7
Wyeth	Scott	7TG3	Heidi	Trethowan	7TG7
Aidan	Van Montfoort	7TG3	Riley	Cullen	7TG8
Andrew	Wilson	7TG3	Olivia	Heaton	7TG8
			Lucas	Houston	7TG8
			John	Kennedy	7TG8
			Madeleine	Yeo x2	7TG8

**School Commendations**

Emma	Curran	7TG1
Taylor	Gill	7TG1
Lily	Ryder	7TG1
Kari	Williams	7TG1
Kari	Williams	7TG1
Lauren	Wilmen	7TG2
Claire	Wilson	7TG2
Amelia	Alexander	7TG3
Kent	Azas	7TG3
Angelina	Joyce	7TG3
Naomi	Alexander	7TG4
Michelle	Fernandez	7TG5
Matthew	Gilmour	7TG5
Ethan	Konz	7TG5
Letisha	McCudden	7TG5
Ashley	Appleby	7TG6
Krystal	Lowe	7TG6
Lucas	Houston	7TG8
John	Kennedy	7TG8
Xander	Williams	7TG8
Madeleine	Yeo	7TG8

## ***Year 6 Orientation Day***

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, St Paul's welcomed the incoming Year 7 cohort for 2017 at our Year 6 Orientation Day. Students took part in:

- ⇒ a number of 'Get To Know You' games
- ⇒ experienced Tutor Group
- ⇒ met and spent time with their Peer Support group members and leaders

The day was facilitated by **Mrs Trish Furey** (Year 7 Student Coordinator for 2017) and a number of other staff members. The students were engaged in activities all day and made many new friends and left with big smiles on their faces. Overall the day was extremely successful and marks the beginning of their St Paul's adventure.

Thanks to all of the Year 9 Peer Support leaders for their fabulous work on the day.

***Mrs Natalie Squires***  
***Student Coordinator***







- ◆ The end of Year 8!
- ◆ The end of Stage 4 education!
- ◆ The end of the year!

And what a pleasant year it has been. We have welcomed new students to our Year 8 community – one as recent as last week (Welcome Blake). We have seen others who have ventured to other schools, some who have had losses in this time, others who have struggled in their own way and for their own personal reasons. We have enjoyed time together orienteering, going to the zoo, enjoying the movies, making movies and having fun in the playground.

As I mentioned last Newsletter, I was able to inform the students, that their tutor group teachers and myself as their Coordinator, will be following the group through to Year 9, 2017 by choice. As I continue to tell the students, they are a great group and prove this to the school many times. Sometimes, though, they need to be reminded to continue to be the best person they can be, and to do this they sometimes need to get out of their own way.

### Congratulations to:



**Harrison Kettles:** who was selected in the Hunter Wildfires U/15 Rugby union Rep team for 2017. He will play in both the NSW Country Championships in May and the NSW State Championships in June.



**Matthew Webster:** who was selected to represent the Newcastle District Bowls Association in an U18 rep squad down in Rydalmere.

Congratulations also, to the following who were recently presented with Merit Certificates and School Commendations.

### Merit Certificates:

Gareth Baynham	Grier Gillies	Olivia Griffiths	Lara Betts	Jack Carlson
Jade Harding	Bailey Thomas	Tayla Conway	Toby Maher	Ashten Mason
Caleb McCudden	Max McDonald	Wil Negline	Braith Sneddon	Nicholas Field
Lachlan McGregor	Ella Nealon	Ellie Winter	Keely Dunning	Hannah Finley
Lochlin Harkins	Caleb Tripp	William Buchmasser	Abbey Finn	Damon Hartcher
Gabrielle Loveday	Kayla Navin	Conor O'Neill	Georgia Tomassetti	Elizabeth Knorre
Katie O'Malley	Owen Winter	Hannah Young	Nicholas Curran	Michael Fennell-Fraser
Keeley Gayler	Emma Katon	Jessica McNamara	Danielle Roberts	Kyle Ryan

### School Commendations:

Gareth Baynham	Mackenzie Bell	Grier Gillies	Jack Swinsburg	Benjamin Kennedy
Toby Maher	Zoe Ashmore	Grace Hemson	Harrison Kettles	Gabrielle Loveday
Katie O'Malley	Owen Winter			

Please continue to keep in contact with me via email for any issues of concern, celebration or interest. I will post a letter home early in the new year, reminding parents to ensure the students have the correct uniform including shoes, that skirts are reassessed for a modest length, and other reminders.

I personally have enjoyed my time with the students and have equally enjoyed my interactions with their wonderful parents. God Bless at Christmas.

**Mrs Cayte Pryor**  
**Student Coordinator**  
[cayte.pryor@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cayte.pryor@mn.catholic.edu.au)



Term 4 has come and gone in lightning speed. Earlier this term a panel had the difficult task of selecting a group of Year 9 students as Peer Support Leaders for 2017. The Year 9 students met their small groups on the Year 6 Orientation Day and enjoyed the day exploring the school and getting to know them. The Year 9 students will lead small groups for four sessions in Terms 1 and 2 next year. Peer Support leaders will be presented with their badge at the beginning of Term 1 2017. Congratulations to the following students on their selection.

GROUP	Leader	Leader	Leader
1	Jordyn Payne	Alana Jessop	Lachlan Maddrell
2	Bronte McInnes	Ashley Kite	Aaron Bower
3	Zoe Coyne	Florence Hale	Patrick Dyett
4	Jasmine Callaghan	Ella Pearce	Darcy Grew
5	Olivia Richardson	Georgia Dando	Ryan Feenan
6	Iana Roberts	Kaliyah Endersby	Jai Inkster
7	Sabine Bowdidge	Isabel Gaminde	Ryan Goodhew
8	Catherine Lerch	Sami Shiels	Thomas Hall
9	Jenna Walker	Eloise Way	Julian Bishop
10	Charlotte Gilmour	April Kent	Cameron Sparkes
11	Nyah Thomson	Sophie Lowe	Seaton Pommier
12	Alysha Toomey	Shayna Gael	Luke Johnston
13	Annika Baker	Mackenzie Johnston	Samuel Houston
14	Jenna Crowe	Jade Neal	Bailey Baker
15	Amber Kelly	Brielle Taape	Daniel Robson
16	Shaila Dube	Leisel Gillies	Cooper Martin
17	Sarah Arnold	Keasha Prasad	Lachlan Harrison
18	Ella Murphy	Evangeline Latu	Oliver Miller
19	Simone Dobosz	Holly Vincent	Jackson Botham
20	Mikaela Conway	Bethany Conlan	Curtis Matthews
21	Alyssa Wojcik	Nikila Johnston	Jack Coyne
22	Keeley Fuller	Kaiah Alexander	Seamus McNeely
23	Mary Gralton	Adam Foster	Jacob Adams
24	Georgia Tupou	Bridie Camps	Timothy Wilson

A number of ex-students from St Benedict's and Holy Family were selected to attend a combined Year 5 Leadership day in at the Foreshore. The small group of peer support leaders were given the opportunity to further develop their own leadership skills by guiding groups of students through reflection sessions and activities. Thank you to the staff from the two primary schools and the students involved.



Our end of year awards ceremony was a wonderful way to finish our school year together. Congratulations to all our awards recipients, your efforts and diligence throughout the semester are appreciated. If you were unable to attend the last day and have not received your report they should arrive by post this week. Semester awards can be collected during the first week in Term 1 2017.

As we move together into Year 10 in 2017 we have much to look forward to, including our Year 10 Challenge Camp on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2017. Please return your permission note and deposit to the office as soon as possible so that we can continue to plan this wonderful experience for our year group.



A very special congratulations to **Joshua Ford** who was an Award Recipient of the **Australian Scout Medallion** recently. **Well done Josh.**



I would like to wish all of the students and families of Yr 9 a very merry Christmas and all the best for a happy and healthy 2017. Please enjoy your time together over the festive season and travel safely whilst holidaying. I would like to thank all the parents and families of Year 9 for your continued support through the school year. I look forward to working with this wonderful group of students next year as Year 10 students.

**Mrs Blair Brownlee**  
**Student Coordinator**

Whilst their junior high school years have been drawing to a close, Year 10 have been involved in a variety of different activities throughout these past few weeks. Firstly they attended the RYDA Program which is a Road Safety Education package run by the Rotary Club of Newcastle. On this day **Emily Callinan** was named as the 5,000<sup>th</sup> student from across the region to have attended this program which has been running now for the last four years. NBN presented a story which can be viewed on:



<http://www.nbnnews.com.au/2016/11/15/5000-pass-through-newcastle-ryda-program/>

The students attended Newcastle University and were given a tour of the campus and presented information about university life. Information was also given about the variety of ways that students can gain entry into university and the types of courses available. Guest speakers from Headspace and the Dooralong Centre were invited to speak to students about the services offered and the help given to those in need or crisis in our community.

In preparation for Year 11, an alternative program has also been completed as well as the "All My Own Work" course. Senior interviews have enabled students and parents to be informed about the requirements of senior years and consider final subject selections for Preliminary Courses.

To finish the year, the students had community day with an exhibition of the project based go-karts that Mr Cassel's Year 10 Design and Technology class made. Following this, a walk to Speers Point pool and a swim completed the day.

As well as the Academic Awards which were presented last Wednesday, many Merit Certificates, School Commendations and Awards of Honour have been presented to the Year 10 students for their efforts throughout Term 4. One student, **Lucy Lantz**, has received the prestigious Principal's Medallion for her continued diligence, consistency and application. Congratulations Lucy!

### Merit Certifications

Taj Abrahams(2)	Kendyll Fahey	Calista Harrison	Hannah Hickey	Harrison Manning,
Jedd Camps	Jordon Maybury	India Newton	Brinly Baxter	Gabrielle Bracken
Tom Negline	Liam Bennett	Connor Davies	Tahlia Ebbeck	Jarvis MacLeod
Daniel Mason	James Roper	Abby Ruyter-Kehoe	Luke Baker	Tully Maurer
Shae McManus-Smith	Cooper Thomas	Emily Callinan	Markus Favilla-Schirk	Cacey Mathews
Caitlin Sawyer	Nicole Davis	Charlotte Renshaw	Jinn Yi	Maddison Ashenhurst
Jack Heness	Natalia Hogan	Jessica Robson	Bradley Baker	Lucy Lantz

### School Commendations

Taj Abrahams	Claudia Becus	Maddison George	Lauren King	Tom Negline
Abbey Nugent	Liam Bennett	Jarvis MacLeod	Daniel Mason	Tully Maurer
Samuel Herring	Liam O'Neill	Natalia Hogan	Jed Fatches	Lochie Kneis

### Award of Honour

Lantz Lucy(2)	Hickey Hannah
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Two major awards were presented to Year 10 students in their Final Awards Ceremony last Wednesday. The first was the **Long Tan Leadership award** which is supported by the ADF. This award was received by **Markus Favilla-Schirk**. The second, is the **Jacqui Chatburn Award** which honours the memory of Jacqui who lost her battle with cancer whilst a Year 10 student at St Paul's. This Award was received by **Natalia Hogan**. Congratulations to both Marcus and Natalia!



Students who are leaving St Paul's at the end of this year were farewelled. We wish the following students a fond farewell and all the best in their future endeavours. **We say goodbye to: Luke Baker, Caitlin Buse, Madalyn Cherry, Ben Dunning, Olivia Fanning, Hannah Hickey, Jordan Kotevski Kaye, Lucy Lantz, Steven Lerch, Casey Mathews, Jordan Maybury, James Miller, Heath Penfold, Jordyn Wilkes and Samantha West.**

To all Year 10 students and their families I wish you a safe, relaxing and enjoyable break. I look forward to once again working with you in 2017.

**Mrs Anne-Maree Shipman**  
**Student Coordinator**



Did you know that even though school has finished for the year you can still borrow books?

Our digital library can be accessed by going to our website <http://booragul.lib.overdrive.com>. Your username is your firstname.lastname and your password is your student number (the number on your student card). You can read books on your computer from here.



You can also download the Overdrive app from Google Play or iTunes to read books on your tablet or phone. Once you have downloaded the app you need to register our library. Search for St Pauls Booragul 2284. Then search for a book to read.

Our library webpage <http://booragul.catholic.libguides.com/library> has links to the digital library and some of our favourite authors.

Have a great holiday.

**Mrs Kerri Beezley**  
**School Librarian**

## **Vinnies Christmas Hampers**

Thanks so much to all those families / students who contributed to our Christmas Hampers. We were able to donate 35 hampers to our local St Vincent de Paul conferences including Booragul, Toronto, Boolaroo and Morisset.

These hampers will help those in our local community to have a much better Christmas.

We hope you all have a safe holiday and blessed Christmas

**Ms Fran Heard and Mrs Brigid de Winter**



## **Career Thought of the Week:**

*“Accept responsibility for your life. Know that it is you, who will get you where you want to go, no one else”*



**Les Brown**



If you are considering university studies but think that you won't qualify for entry, there are a range of support programs and different pathways available to you.

University entry has historically been achievable by successful completion of Year 12 and gaining an ATAR score (or OP in QLD) at the minimum level or above for a particular course. While this pathway continues to be an effective one for many, it is not the only way to access further education at university.

You may have:

- ◆ not studied the prerequisite subjects for your chosen course
- ◆ not achieved an adequate ATAR score for entry
- ◆ left education early and want to return to studies
- ◆ not studied for a long time (eg due to family duties) and want to return to studies.

New alternative entry points have recently been developed and are available to assist a broader field of applicants such as you to access university level education. Most universities within Australia are developing and offering a range of 'alternative entry pathways'.

## **8 Alternative Entry Points to Higher Education**

### **1. Enabling courses**

Enabling courses can be used to develop entry level skills for university studies. These courses can provide foundational skills for successful university careers.

Enabling courses are often offered over one or two and are administered in smaller, highly supported groups that help you to acclimatise to the university environment and develop skills in academic studying and writing. Successful completion may offer entry to your course of choice. Eg. Newstep at UON.

### **2. Enabling outreach courses**

Some larger universities are now offering outreach services, similar to the enabling courses above, but with more assisted learning and smaller groups. You may be interested in these courses if you want to enter tertiary education using a highly supported entry point. Some universities work with community organisations and job search agencies to deliver the courses in more accessible locations.

### **3. Bridging courses**

Similar to enabling courses, bridging courses give you an opportunity to further develop skills in prerequisite areas (eg science) before you enter your chosen course of study.

#### 4. Special Tertiary Admissions Test

If you are 'mature age' (in many states, over 19 in the year of application) there are further options. You can sit a Special Tertiary Admissions Test, which is usually done in one day and which includes a general intelligence element and an essay. You will get a score that can be used instead of an ATAR in applying for a university course.

Local colleges often offer preparation courses to assist you to understand the test format and reduce anxiety in sitting the test.

#### 5. Vocational education and training (VET) and TAFE pathways

Many universities and TAFEs have an agreed pathway arrangement where you can start a course at Certificate III or IV, continue to diploma level and transition into a specified university level course.

For many learners, this is a preferable process, as it offers short-term goals, an opportunity to re-enter study for a shorter period and an opportunity to gain confidence, while building skills and benefiting from clear progress points along the way. Sometimes a university will give credit for work (usually at diploma/advanced diploma) level and advanced standing into your course of choice, reducing your overall time in study.

#### 6. Credit for recognised learning (CRL)

CRL (previously RPL or recognition of prior learning) is another approach if you have previous study or work experience (paid or voluntary), and can demonstrate certain skills in an area. Each institution has its own preferred method of applying CRL and should be contacted directly.

#### 7. Portfolio entry

Whether you are a school leaver or mature entry candidate, portfolio entry allows you to apply for a place using a combination of WACE courses, vocational education course results, training, endorsed programs, an introductory letter, resume and letters of support.

#### 8. VET in schools

In high school, you may choose not to work towards university entry through an ATAR. Some students' learning styles are better supported in the Vocational Education & Training (VET) system. VET programs offered through your school may help you gain entry to your chosen field of study. For example, you may choose a VET course in Certificate III Health Services. After years 11–12, that could be followed by a Certificate IV in Preparation for Nursing, then a Diploma of Nursing. That could then create a pathway to university and there may be an opportunity to apply credits to a nursing course.

If you are interested in any of the above options, it is important to talk to someone who can help you.

Contact your local TAFE, Registered Training Organisation or university directly, or discuss your needs with the School Careers Advisor, who can assist you to identify your best pathway to success.

### Careers in Retail



Students often ask about the range of careers in retail, which is one of the largest industries in Australia! *What qualifications does one need to have? What opportunities are there?* **Retailworld Resourcing** has an excellent website - [Retailworld Resourcing](#) – and features useful information about the range of positions out there.

### What's the Right Health Job for You?



*Are you considering a career in the health industry but are undecided about the range of careers you may be suited to?*

[Health Heroes](#) and browse the various videos and numerous jobs in the health industry from *acupuncturist to youth worker* and many in-between!

### UAC Key Date Reminders

- ⇒ ATARs released **16 December 2016 (9am)**
- ⇒ Early Round Preferences must be in place by **Monday 5 December 2016 (midnight)**
- ⇒ Early Round Offers released **Friday 9 December 2016 (7.30am)**
- ⇒ Main Round Preferences must be in place by **Friday 6 January 2017 (Midnight)**
- ⇒ Early Round Offers released **Wednesday 18 January 2017 (6pm)**

⇒ Check the UAC website for late round offer details: [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au)

### **Important Dates for Term 4**

- \* UAC Dates for Yr 12 refer to UAC BOOK
- \* 15<sup>th</sup> December HSC results out
- \* 15<sup>th</sup> December Parent/Teacher Interviews
- \* 16<sup>th</sup> December ATARS released

### **Casual Positions/Employment Links**

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

### **Merry Christmas and God Bless**

This is the last Careers newsletter of the year and with that I wish every member of the St Paul's community a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Mr Craig McLoughlin**  
Careers & Vocational Education Coordinator



## **School Rewards Program**

**Next time you are shopping at:**

***The Athlete's Foot***



***Rebel***

**rebel**

***Lowes***



**Please mention you are a member of St Paul's High School, Booragul  
and the school will receive School Rewards**

**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. Qkr
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](http://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
11/12	Drama Yrs 11/12-2017 Students	9 February 2017	Onstage—Sydney	\$70	Finalised
12	Retreat 2017	22-24 March 2017	Elanora Heights	\$50 Dep	Friday 3/3/2017
12	English Advanced	30 March 2017	Sydney Opera House	\$40	Finalised
10	Year 10, 2017	3-5 May 2017	Broken Bay Sport & Recreation Centre	\$50 Dep	Friday 24/2/2017

**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.

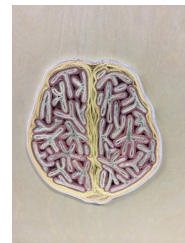
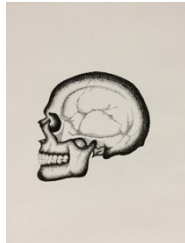
**Mrs Betty Harris**  
**Finance Officer**

[finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au](mailto:finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au)





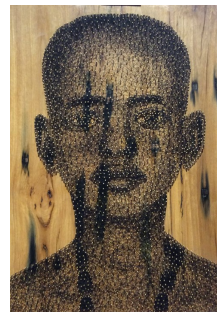
First Class 16, is a Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery project curated by Lisa Who and Helen Willis to be held 17 March – 30 April 2017. This year, St Paul's has had three students included in the exhibition, drawn from a record number of submissions from schools across the Hunter and Central Coast Regions. The curators of this exhibition recognise the commitment and talents of all the nominated Visual Arts students in producing such outstanding works and also acknowledge the strong commitment made by teachers and parents. It is a significant achievement to have made the final selection and we would like to acknowledge Year 12, 2016 students Laura Parker, Laura Miller and Brooke Dennis for being successfully chosen for this exhibition. This is a significant achievement for our school and I would like to publicly acknowledge Miss Sarah Adams, supported by Mr Luke Beezley, for their roles in mentoring and teaching these three students. I hope to see you all there when the exhibition opens in March 2017.



Laura Miller "Antiquity of Form"



Laura Parker "Constant State of Flux"



Brooke Dennis "Before They Vanish"

Year 9 Drama and Music students held a wonderful evening last week under the stars in our amphitheatre and in A18 as a way of celebrating their Stage 5 elective journey so far. The students were amazing in their collegiality, support of one another and their incredible talent. A big thank you to all their parents who came along and supported us and to Miss Hook, Miss Heads and Mrs Burns who supported the evening and worked so beautifully with the students and their families to create a very special night.



In other news, the 2017 Senior Drama Excursion to OnStage at the Seymour Centre is currently being planned and students in Years 10 and 11 (who will be studying Drama in 2017) have received a note in relation to this excursion. The intention is to take students to see selected Drama works from exemplary 2016 HSC Performances whilst also attending a Playwriting and Film Workshop as part of the Individual Project study. Students will gain invaluable HSC experience, seeing live theatre and exploring projects in written, performance and design. Cost of the excursion is \$70 which includes both the exhibition, films and performances. Students are to pay their train fare on the day and they may bring lunch or there will be a chance to purchase lunch from the University of Sydney cafeteria. Assessment work will be based on the performances and the excursion content has direct links to the curriculum. Attendance is expected by all students. Please email [cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au) for further enquiries.



FRANCE/GERMANY APRIL 2018



Expressions of interest are called for any students interested in travelling on a European cultural tour to Germany and France in April 2018. The trip is open to all students of St Paul's who will be in Year 9 – 12 in 2018. Parents are also welcome to join us and Year 8 students may apply as long as accompanied by a parent. The trip will run for approximately three weeks and further details will be made available in the new year. At this stage we are inviting you all to have conversation and thought over the holidays. Contact [cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au) OR [edwina.pichler@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:edwina.pichler@mn.catholic.edu.au) for more information.



Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to farewell several members of our faculty for this year. **Mrs Toshiko Ogawa** leaves us from Languages, having completed three terms here at St Paul's, following Mrs Thompson's retirement in Term 2. Toshiko has brought passion and humour to her classroom and is dearly loved in our faculty for her stories and energy. We will miss her and wish her every happiness. Secondly, to **Miss Geraldine Hook** (now Mrs Whiteside) we say goodbye and good luck as she leaves us to take up a full time position at SFX in Learning Support. Geraldine has mentored and supported many of our Music students for the past two years and her energy and humour will be missed. In closing I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a wonderful holiday break. Thanks for your support and engagement throughout the year.

**Mrs Cathy O'Gorman**  
**Creative Arts & LOTE Coordinator**

## Design & Technology News

### Design and Technology Billy Cart Derby



On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> of December Year 10 had the opportunity to witness a group of their peers demonstrate their skills at building and racing billy carts down the school driveway outside E block rooms.

This was the culmination of the work completed in the last unit by the Year 10 Design and Technology class. Students negotiated this unit of work with their classroom teacher before embarking on a self-directed journey through the process of designing and making of their billy carts. The race day was a long time in planning, with students having to go through a number of processes in order for the day to go ahead. The

day arrived and a few brave students from the DAT class prepared to demonstrate their carts to the rest of Year 10.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Year 10 students who participated as the audience for these exciting, fast runs. Their behaviour and support of their peers was absolutely outstanding and reminded me of why I feel privileged to be a member of the St Pauls community. After some initial slow runs, and with the assistance of some willing helpers, we were able to complete some reasonably good runs down the hill to the finish line. After some slower than expected time trials, students demonstrated their carts'



ability to steer around some obstacles, then on to some head to head racing. During this time, Pravin showed the class of the seatless cart by driving luge style down the hill, Josh's times improved with every run and Tully, Matt, Tom, Max, Sidney and Jess all demonstrated excellent driving skills.

My congratulations and thanks to these students who showed great courage to complete these runs in front of their peers. My thanks to Mrs Shipman and Miss Garrett who entertained the crowd with their short, but eventful race. Josh's last run proved the most exciting for the crowd when he managed to get some "air" whilst completing a part of the course that was not originally designated to be part of the course – I am not sure four-wheel driving was meant to be tested on this day. I would like to thank all the people involved, both directly and indirectly, in ensuring that this was a successful and fun finish to the year for Year 10. I hope that all involved enjoyed watching the exploits of the daredevil Year 10 DAT class.

**Yours in Technology**  
**Mr Phil Cassel**



# Canteen Roster



## Tues 31 January - Fri 3 February 2016

Mon	Pupil Free Day
	Vicki Blundell, Maree Adams, Sally Joliffe
Wed	Di Fennell-Fraser, Christine Forrester, Anneka Rhodes
Thurs	Kim McManus-Smith, Rochelle Loveday, Nadine Steenson
Fri	Julie Lerch, Anne Negline, Chantelle Lakin
<b>Monday 6 - Friday 10 February</b>	
Mon	Susan Noonan, April Baker, Fiona Wood
Tues	Amanda Holt, Janelle Haggerston
Wed	Joanne Bower, Pamela Amos, Karen Gilmore
Thurs	Michelle Hall, Kylie Smith, Sharon Roberts
Fri	Leanne Maher, Michele Pippen, Cathy Feenan

**Canteen Supervisor:** Carolyn Phone - 4946 3115

**Canteen Hours:** 9.00am to 2.30pm

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

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

## Term 4 2016

<b>Week 9</b>	Thur 8-14 Dec Thur 8-14 Dec	Yr 7- 10 End of Year Activities Yr 11 Assessment Block
<b>Week 10</b>	Mon 12-14 Wed 14 Dec Thur 15 Dec  Fri 16 Dec	EOYA, Yr 11 Assessment, <b>Last Day for Yr 7-11</b> P/T Interviews / HSC Results Pupil Free Yr 12 ATAR BBQ Pupil Free Day / Staff Mass
<b>Week 11</b>	Mon 19 Dec Tues 20 Dec	Staff Development /Pupil Free Day Last Day for Staff / Pupil Free Day

## Term 1 2017

<b>Week 1</b>	Fri 27 January	Pupil Free Day—Staff Development
<b>Week 2</b>	Mon 30 Jan Tues 31 Jan Wed 1 Feb	Pupil Free Day—Staff Development Years 7 & 11 Return Years 8, 9, 10, 12 Return
<b>Week 3</b>	Mon 6 Feb Tues 7 Feb Wed 8 Feb Thurs 8 Feb Fri 10 Feb	Swimming Carnival School Assembly DIO Awards School Photos Yrs 11/12 Drama Excursion Opening School Mass
<b>Week 4</b>		
<b>Week 5</b>	Mon 20 Feb  Tues 21 Feb  Wed 22 Feb  Thurs 23 Feb	NSWCCC Cricket Boys Selections HSC / ATAR Evening NSWCCC Cricket Boys Selections CCC Softball Yr 7 Immunisations All Schools Triathlon All Schools Triathlon
<b>Week 6</b>	Mon 27 Feb Tues 28 Feb Wed 1 March Thurs 2 March  Fri 3 March	Yr 7 Information Evening Launch of Project Compassion Ash Wednesday DIO U/15 Rugby League Trials Yr 11 Brainstorm Production Yr 7 Brainstorm Production
<b>Week 7</b>	Mon 6 March Tues 7 March  Wed 8 March	CCC Cricket Girls Selections Catholic Schools Week Mass DIO Swimming Carnival CCC Tennis Selections
<b>Week 8</b>	Mon 13 March Tues 14 March Wed 15 March	CCC Cup Rugby League Gala Day Yr 11 DT & HTT Excursion Sydney Yr 11 Marine Studies Excursion
<b>Week 9</b>	Mon 20 March Tues 21 March 22—24 March Wed 22 March	Yr 6 Parent Information Evening CCC Basketball Yr 12 Retreat CCC Rugby League Gala Cup

TO BE CONTINUED

## When Leaving School Early

### Leaving school without Parent/Guardian:

If students are leaving school early they must bring a note from their parent/guardian to leave class early.

The note should be shown to the class teacher to be dismissed from the class.

The student must then go the Front Office, hand in the note and swipe out.

### Leaving school early with Parent/Guardian:

If students are leaving school early during class time with their Parent/Guardian they must bring a note from the parent/guardian. (As Students may not be contactable e.g on PE Prac or in a class room without a phone)

The note should be shown to the class teacher to be dismissed from the class.

The student must then go the Front Office, to meet their Parent/Guardian.

A note is not necessary if leaving with a Parent/Guardian at recess or lunch.

## Panadol

Panadol is **not available** from the Office. If you think your child may need any - students may bring their own and keep in their bag.



## 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.
- ◆ Items that are not sold within 3 years are then considered a donation to the school.
- ◆ *Any items under \$20 are donations to the P&F Clothing Pool.*
- ◆

### 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.

### Special

**LARGE RANGE OF JUMPERS AND SPORTS UNIFORMS IN STOCK NOW**

For further information please contact Kathleen Dyett at: [kathleend@extrabuild.com.au](mailto:kathleend@extrabuild.com.au)



### Senior Uniforms

Large range of boys and girls sizes.

Great condition!

Shirts, shorts, skirts, ties, blazers.

*Cash or cheques only*

## 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 will begin at the end of 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 before the end of March 2017.



# THE BISHOP'S AWARD 2016



## DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

3  
AWARD  
Categories

**The Bishop's Award seeks to publicly recognise the efforts of students and young people within our Diocese who have contributed to the community through their Parish, Church group or Church agency.**

This may include involvement in groups or agencies such as Caritas, Youth Ministries, St Vincent de Paul Society, Mini Vinnies or similar church groups. This also includes contributions made within parishes eg liturgy and youth ministries.

It is hoped that this recognition will serve as a means of acknowledging and encouraging the continued efforts of these and other young people.

Students currently enrolled in Catholic secondary schools within our diocese in Years 7-11, students in Years 7-11 and belonging to a parish within the diocese, and young Catholics from Year 12 up to age 25 belonging to a parish within the diocese are invited to collect a Bishop's Award Information and Application pack from their schools administration office, parish office or download

the form online at [www.catholic.org.au/bishopsaward](http://www.catholic.org.au/bishopsaward) and discuss their application with their priest, deacon, minister, church leader as well as their school principal (where applicable).

The Bishop's Award comprises three categories:

- Catholic Schools Students Bishop's Award
- Catholic Students Bishop's Award
- Catholic Young People Bishop's Award

In each category there will be an award of \$1000 which may contribute towards the student's or young person's education or faith formation e.g. World Youth Day, diocesan youth retreat, music ministry. Each young person will also receive a Certificate of Recognition. **Applications close 22 December 2016.**

**For further information or to request an application form, please contact your parish office, Catholic secondary school (where applicable) or visit [www.catholic.org.au/bishopsaward](http://www.catholic.org.au/bishopsaward)**





24 November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Each school year the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, through its agency the Catholic Schools Office, reviews the fees for students in our diocesan schools for the coming year. By far the greater part of our schools' funding now comes from State and Commonwealth government grants, but the commitment and continuing financial contribution of parents and parish communities is still essential to fill the gap between the funds provided by government and the actual cost of running our schools.

This letter is to inform you of the fee arrangements for 2017. The following rates and discounts have been reviewed by the Diocesan Finance Council (DFC) and upon the advice of the DFC and the Diocesan Executive, they have been approved by Bishop Bill Wright.

The school fees are comprised of three components:

1. Diocesan tuition fees
2. Individual school resource and service fees
3. Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL)

### 1. Diocesan tuition fees 2017

In 2017 the full rate diocesan tuition fees will be:

Kinder to Year 6	\$ 1,206	(increase of \$54 p.a. or \$1.04 per calendar week from 2016)
Years 7 to 10	\$ 1,662	(increase of \$75 p.a. or \$1.44 per calendar week from 2016)
Years 11 to 12	\$ 2,502	(increase of \$75 p.a. or \$1.44 per calendar week from 2015)

In 2017, the family discount on full rate diocesan tuition fees will be:

1 child family	0% - full rate to be applied
2 child family	10% - each child
3 child family	20% - each child
4 child family	40% - each child
5+ child family	50% - each child

### 2. Individual school resource and service fees

These are fees set by individual schools and can cover a range of costs including the supply of resources such as texts, school supplies, exercise books, subject levies, technology, excursion costs etc. The cost and nature of the fees can vary between schools and they will be set out in the parent handbook provided by the school and itemised in the school fee account from the school.

### 3. Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL)

The DFSBL is charged to the oldest child for each family. The levy is pooled to contribute towards past, present and future costs for building projects across all existing and for new catholic schools, and the acquisition of land for school purposes.

The DFSBL rate for 2017 will be \$600 per family. The DFSBL rate is reviewed, recommended and approved in the same manner as mentioned earlier for the tuition fees and discounts.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle consists of parishes, schools, CatholicCare Social Services, St Nicholas Early Education and the chancery offices. The chancery offices exist to support the work of Parishes and other pastoral ministries that are the responsibility of the Bishop and the diocesan community. There are approximately 160,000 Catholics residing in our diocese.

### Diocesan pastoral contribution

From 2017 a voluntary contribution of \$150 per family (\$50 per term) is being sought as a diocesan pastoral contribution. Funds support the ongoing pastoral works of the diocese which include, amongst many initiatives:

- The diocesan pastoral ministries office and the activities of its many advisory councils - the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Adult Faith Formation Council, the Liturgy Council, the Ecumenical and Interfaith Council, the Social Justice Council and the Diocesan Council of Ministry with Young People.
- The provision of chaplains ministering in the following areas – Newcastle University, Newcastle Port, Prisons, Hospitals and CatholicCare Social Services.
- Family Community Faith Co-ordinators who work to reach out to and connect families with their local parish and school.
- Pastoral Co-ordinators who work in those parishes without a resident Parish Priest.

### Special fee reductions

To assist families with limited financial resources, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle offer a lower tuition fee to means tested low income families such as Health Care and Pension Card holders. This rate is 50% of the diocesan tuition fee full rate for each child. This discount applies only to the diocesan tuition fee, not to the DFSBL or other resource and service fees charged by each individual school.

It is the policy of the Catholic Schools Office and the Diocese that financial hardship should not prevent any child from attending a Catholic school and no child will be denied a Catholic education because of a family's genuine inability to pay the required school fees. Any family experiencing financial difficulties is entitled to fee assistance, your local school Principal will be able to discuss this with you.

Together with parents, clergy and school staff, we are committed to offering the children in this diocese access to schools in which their faith can be nurtured in outstanding learning environments. We seek to assist young people to realise their full human potential, taking into account their unique spiritual, intellectual, physical and social needs. We value the opportunity to work in partnership with you, and thank you for your continuing support of Catholic education in this Diocese.

Yours sincerely,



Ray Collins  
DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS



## Bishop Bill's Message

The Diocesan Pastoral Contribution support from our school families enables the diocese to contribute generously to the social and spiritual capital of our community.

We are called to be good news and our pastoral works provide us with the opportunity to live out our faith in action.

Over several years the support by school families towards our pastoral outreach has assisted in making a difference to the lives of many who are struggling.

I am grateful for your continued generosity and am proud that the Catholic Church in this diocese continues to provide care and support to the wider community as well as those who are exploring their faith life.

**Most Reverend William Wright,**  
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

## Supporting Pastoral Works

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle consists of parishes, schools, CatholicCare Social Services, St Nicholas Early Education and the chancery offices. The chancery offices exist to support the work of parishes and other pastoral ministries that are the responsibility of the Bishop and the diocesan community. There are approximately 160,000 Catholics residing in our diocese.

The diocesan pastoral ministries team led by Vice Chancellor, Teresa Brierley is a hub from which many of the ministries commissioned by Bishop Bill are led, ensuring that the diocese remains a local church on mission.

**When you contribute to the pastoral ministries of the diocese, your funds support many initiatives, including:**

- ▶ Advisory councils – Diocesan Pastoral Council, Adult Faith Formation Council, Liturgy Council, Ecumenical and Interfaith Council, Social Justice Council, Council of Australian Catholic Women and Diocesan Council for Ministry with Young People.
- ▶ Chaplains ministering in the following areas – University of Newcastle, Port of Newcastle, Prisons, Hospitals and CatholicCare Social Services.
- ▶ Family Community Faith Co-ordinators
- ▶ Pastoral Co-ordinators
- ▶ Aboriginal Catholic Ministries
- ▶ Apostleship of the Sea
- ▶ Natural Fertility Services
- ▶ The Community Care Van
- ▶ Missionary of Mercy
- ▶ Refugee Service
- ▶ Children's ministries, including special religious education, sacramental programs and children's liturgy

## Where does your contribution go?

Apostleship of the Sea  
**\$47,000**



**\$240,000**  
Refugee Service



Chaplains  
**\$123,000**



Family and Community Faith  
**\$112,000**



Liturgy  
**\$107,000**



**\$213,000**  
Faith Formation



Missionary of Mercy  
**\$55,000**



Community Care Van  
**\$30,000**



Aboriginal Catholic Mission  
**\$17,000**



Diocesan Pastoral Council  
**\$36,000**



Pastoral Ministries Unit  
**\$20,000**





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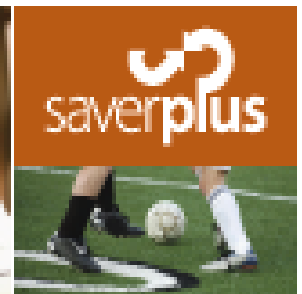
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