



Photo by Andy Warren

13 December 2017 Vol: 20 - 17

To all our community, Merry Christmas and have a wonderful New Year

This is the last newsletter for 2017. It is also the last newsletter from St Paul's High School. In 2018, we begin as St Paul's Catholic College. It is a very exciting time for us and our wider community. Our new signage will be up, our new administration wing will be completed and hopefully, our new chapel will be ready for final fit out so that we have a beautiful space for prayer and worship. Our strategic plan has been finalised and we begin the next five years with a common direction and goals that we hope will continue to build this college into the future.



As we end the year, we bid farewell to a number of staff. This is a bitter sweet moment as we say farewell to close friends and associates knowing that we will be the poorer for their leaving but also knowing that the great adventure continues for those leaving.

Rose Batchelor has been working in the Learning Support area. She replaced Catherine Maloney who is currently on Maternity leave and who is returning next year. We thank Rose for her work and wish her the best for 2018.

Jessica Brunton came to us earlier in the year teaching science. She has been successful in securing a permanent position at Maitland. Jessica has been a wonderful addition to our science staff and has been hosting some exciting Astronomy Evenings at St Paul's. We wish her all the best in the future.

Clare Walsh has been working as a laboratory assistant in the science domain this year. She has been one of those quiet, behind the scenes operators that are the keystones to the success of this place. She assists our scientists with preparations for experiments and orders for equipment.

Riley Warren leaves us after one year at St Paul's. He is heading to Europe next year to further his career in music and he will be missed particularly by our young performers. His pop-up concerts have been a highlight of the year.

Alicia Lang leaves us as well. Alicia is a much valued member of our Maths staff and has been in a job share position for 2017. Her work with our students has been one of thoroughness and deep empathy and she always asks her students to perform at their best. We will miss her smiling, bubbly personality and we wish her well for the future.

Tatiana Tinlin has been working in the LOTE domain and we thank her for what she has given to the students of St Paul's. She is a passionate educator and loves to show the students how small their world really is. We wish Tatiana well for next year.

Margie Walker is leaving us for St Joseph's at Lochinvar. Margie has been at St Paul's for a number of years and I know that she is very sad to be leaving us. She is going to St Joseph's to help them as they begin their first Year 11 cohort in 2018. It is an exciting time for Margie and I know that she will be a wonderful asset to the community at Lochinvar.

Colin Mulhearn is heading into town, taking up the position of Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning at St Francis Xavier. Colin has been a Student Coordinator for a number of years and I know that he will be missed by our students who have relied on his constant care and advice. We wish Colin all the best as he begins this exciting new position.

Jane Snell and Libby Plsek will retire from teaching at the end of this year. At the final farewell for staff at the End of Year Liturgy, students spoke about the beautiful gifts that these ladies have given to our students over the time that they have been part of our community. Both Jane and Libby have been absolute constants here at St Paul's for many years and have taught so many

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of our young men and women to great success. Jane and Libby are great friends and it was beautiful to see them both being farewelled together by the students. Travel and family will replace reports and lesson preparation. I thank them both for the wonderful service that they have given to education and wish them all the best for this next adventure.

The Building project continues at pace. We are beginning the move from this temporary administration wing with the hope that we will be fully operational from the beginning of the new year. Our Chapel project will be complete but we will use term one to ensure that it is fitted out appropriately so that it is the spiritual heart of our school. The landscaping should be complete around the building and the new signage will be installed over the break. The electronic signs have been delayed and will be completed by the end of February. We are also installing new smart TV's into the new classrooms and these will be delivered early in February.

We have had 9 students taking part in the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Sydney that was held over the past few days. After 3 days of plenary meetings, young people working together to promote their faith to each other and to the rest of the world, 15,000 joined together in the Domain for the largest Catholic Mass to be held in the world since the 2008 World Youth Event. At this point, I have not been able to speak directly with our students who attended but I will be asking them to talk to the school community in the new year to talk about this life changing event.

The students at St Paul's over the past week have been engaged in End of Year Activities. I would like to publically thank the organisers, Mrs Flood, Miss Chapman and Mr Burke for the huge amount of work they have done since the middle of the year to get this massive undertaking organised. I would also like to thank our staff who have been working so well with the students on these events that are greatly valued by the community. Well done to all.

I would like to end with this message from Pope Francis.

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Christmas!

Christ is born for us, let us rejoice in the day of our salvation!

Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of this day, which is Christ himself. Jesus is the radiant "day" which has dawned on the horizon of humanity. A day of mercy, in which God our Father has revealed his great tenderness to the entire world. A day of light, which dispels the darkness of fear and anxiety. A day of peace, which makes for encounter, dialogue and, above all, reconciliation. A day of joy: a "great joy" for the poor, the lowly and for all the people (cf. Lk 2:10).



Thank you, St Paul's Community for your love, patience and support during 2017. I hope and pray that this Christmas season is one of friendship, love and family. Enjoy the warm summer holidays with your beautiful children and we look forward to seeing you all in 2018.

Go gently

Mr Graeme Selmes
Principal

School Return Dates

Wednesday 31st January—Year 7 & 11

Thursday 1 February—Years 8, 9, 10 & 12



Andreena Kardamis is an ex-student of St Paul's who completed her HSC in 2011. She has studied Law at Newcastle University and has now been acknowledged in an amazing way with her new role as a Youth Advocate for the United Nations for 2018.

"Today I have been lucky enough to accept the position of 'Youth Advocate for the UN for 2018'. I cannot begin to express how happy this makes my soul, that I am one of 8 people around the world that has been offered to advocate for young people globally. I cannot wait to become a fierce advocate."

Andreena Karadamis with the Vice-Chancellor of the The University of Newcastle

Christmas Message

As we begin our wind down for the academic year with awards ceremonies and EOYA it is important to recognize the importance of Advent for Catholic Schools around Australia. An important message I read this time last year still had some significance for 2017 and no doubt beyond in terms of social justice.

The following extract is from the Jesuit Refugee Service who aim to support and highlight the issues in Australia with our stance on those defined as refugees. The parallel with the Christmas story should be familiar but it also asks the question of what we need to consider as a society .



A Crisis of Solidarity 30th November 2016

A migrant boy wrapped in a thermal blanket stands on the beach moments after the arrival of a rubber dinghy packed with refugees and migrants on the Greek island of Lesbos, January 29, 2016. Photo: Darrin Zammit Lupi



What the world is facing is a crisis of solidarity: an inability or an unwillingness to share the home that we have been given, and to risk the largesse of the hospitality that we enjoy.

The Christmas story is steeped in irony. The shepherds who work on the edges of the city move to the centre of the world when they become the recipients of the angelic message. The Magi seeking a King are sent to see a newborn baby. The vulnerable child is in fact the Lord of the universe.

In the familiar words of Christina Georgina Rossetti's

*In the Bleak Midwinter,
Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign.
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.*

That notion of welcome is one of the greatest ironies of the Christmas story. The child born at Christmas receives hospitality from the world, and finds a home in it; but in fact it is that child who offers the world hospitality, and who welcomes all of us into his eternal home. The guest is in reality the true host, the One who has made all things, and will gather all things to Himself.

We have forgotten this central fact: that we all share, in the words of Pope Francis, a common home, one that is given to us as pure gift, not ours by ownership or by right. The great irony about the so-called migration and refugee crisis is that it is not about that at all. What the world is facing is a crisis of solidarity: an inability or an unwillingness to share the home that we have been given, and to risk the largesse of the hospitality that we enjoy.

It is ironic that at the end of the year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, Australia has demonstrated by its treatment of people seeking asylum what it means to lack mercy. Instead of celebrating the Prince of Peace, we have allowed ourselves to be ensnared by the Prince of Lies, and all his works, and all his empty promises: border security, resettlement as our only obligation, stopping illegal arrivals, and so on.

Scrooge was haunted in *A Christmas Carol* by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. This Christmas I pray that we also will all be haunted: by every child whom we have turned away from Australia; by every family that we sent to Nauru; by every young man who has seen hope and life seep slowly away while confined to Manus Island.

The Prologue to John's Gospel tells us that the Word was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. That does not make for a comforting Christmas message, but perhaps there is little this Christmas for us to be comfortable about. *Aloysius Mowe SJ*

Hopefully some thought provoking works in this advent season.

Mr James Furey
Assistant Principal – Community and Wellbeing



St Paul KAASO Primary School

From Mr Ross Wilson at the Graduation Ball - *'And as a final note, on this night of celebration of academic achievement, it is important to remember those children in our world who do not have the opportunity nor advantage to access the life-changing gift of education.*

To this end, each person here tonight has contributed one dollar towards St. Paul KAASO School for Orphans in Uganda, a charity funded primary school whose motto is "Invest in Education". St Paul KAASO is a unique community project in Uganda that provides education and mentorship to orphans and disadvantaged children in one of the areas hardest-hit by the HIV/AIDS crisis. An ex-student of St Paul's Booragul and Olympic Sailing champion Nathan Outteridge, has an association with the school through the charity efforts of his wife Emma. KAASO was founded in 1999 by two Ugandan teachers, Dominic and Rose Mukwaya, who set out to provide free, high-quality education to children who — due to poverty and social pressures — would otherwise be unlikely to complete their schooling.'



I visited this school in November with my family and presented the donation to Rose and Dominic in person. They were very much appreciative and we discussed a few things that they would like to do with the funds. I am hopeful that Emma and Nathan might be able to join us next year at a school assembly to share with us where the money has been put to good use.

Mrs Jasmine Outteridge



Year 7 News

It is with excitement and sadness that we write to you for the final time as the 2017 Year 7 Coordinators.

We are so proud of all the achievements of our Year 7 students this year. Not every student made it to the stage the recent semester awards, however, we want to take this moment to publicly acknowledge and congratulate all students on their first year of high school and the effort, persistence, resilience and willingness to take a chance this year. Sometimes we may feel disappointed in not receiving a certificate or think that our efforts weren't noticed. Be assured this is not the case. We saw each of you and the effort you gave.

Did you ever feel like a support character in a movie? Everyone has their role to play. Hei Hei, the seemingly insignificant chicken from Moana, is an inspirational character – all you need to do is look a little deeper at the story. Hei Hei means 'a disruption from the norm', and the character has intense determination that is revealed in the scene where Moana loses the green stone – the heart at the centre of the story – and Hei Hei leaps up and saves the stone before it falls into the watery abyss. Hei Hei represents great challenges and a break from normality for Moana and the world she lives in. If we dive deeper into your story, we see the challenges you have faced, your uniqueness and the gifts you offer the community of St Paul's. If you're looking for some inspirational listening over the holidays, look no further than the soundtrack from another Disney movie - Zootopia's '*Try Everything*'. It says, very succinctly, the encouragement that students have received this year from Mrs Furey and Mrs Evans, Mr Furey, Ms McVeigh and Mr Selmes, as well as other teachers, parents and friends and family members.

*"Look at how far you've come,
You've done enough, take a deep breath
Don't beat yourself up, don't need to run so fast
Sometimes we come last, but we did our best
I won't give up, no I won't give in
Til I reach the end and then I'll start again
No I won't leave, I wanna try everything
I wanna try even though I could fail
Try everything!"*



(Furler, S., Hermansen, T., & Eriksen, M. (2015). *Try Everything* [Recorded by Shakira]. On *Zootopia* [CD]. California, USA: Walt Disney Records.)

Wishing you and your family a wonderful, love-filled Christmas and a restful, enjoyable break. We will watch from a distance next year, but know that you are in the amazing, capable care of a new Student Coordinator.

Thank you Year 7 for an amazing 2017.

Mrs Furey and Mrs Evans - Student Coordinators

Year 9 News

Welcome to the **end of Year 9!** Congratulations to both students and parents/carers. It has been a journey with up's, down's, twist's and turn's, but we all survived in the end.

Yr 9 Peer Support Leaders were outstanding in their care of the Yr 6 students at their Orientation Day two weeks ago. They were welcoming and encouraged the new students in all activities and tasks presented to them. This mentoring relationship will continue next year.

We are near the end of our **End of Year Activities**. The students have enjoyed each other's company and the activities they have been involved in. It is a pity that many Year 9 students did not attend school to participate in these activities and be involved in the community.

A reminder that Yr 10 will be expected to have their **own computer devices** from day one of school next year. They will be given time and shown how to set up their devices to access the school network. I would still suggest though, that each student has a homework diary and use it to record homework and tasks, and as an organisational tool.

A last reminder about **uniform** for the year but in reference for next year. School shoes are to be black leather polishable school shoes, the uniform is to be worn properly, skirts are to be of a modest length, sport socks are white and sport shoes are proper supportive sport shoes.

Thank you to the parents and carers who were able to attend the Yr 9 **Semester Awards** last Wednesday. As always, it was lovely to be able to chat to parents, and present awards and congratulations to so many students. I spoke about how I hoped that the challenge that I presented to students at the start of the year had been followed up – the challenge of setting yourself a goal and having something to succeed in. I truly wish the best for every child and that they strive to be the best person they can be.

I announced to the cohort that I will be taking **Long Service Leave** during Term 1 2018, and will return Term 2. I have just been informed that I will be looking after Yr 12 on my return to school for 2018, under the proviso that I will be able to coordinate Yr 11 2019. I will still stay in contact with families and still have the same email address, but I know that Mrs Tracey Evans will guide Yr 10 through 2018 very well. God Bless for Christmas and the New Year.

Mrs Cayte Pryor—Student Coordinator
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Year 10 News

On Monday the 27th November St Paul's hosted special guest Mr Steven Bradbury, who is a gold medal winter Olympian. He joined our Yr 10 students for the day. He spoke to the students about the importance of overcoming adversity, developing a positive mindset, the non-negotiable task of goal setting, the benefits of hard work (endurance), and the significance of self-belief, teamwork and leadership when becoming a senior student. Steven presented his message through life experiences in a light hearted and engaging fashion.



In the evening the school invited parents and members of the community to an evening with Steven Bradbury, so that they too are able to communicate the same powerful messages that we are promoting at school with our students. In 2018 the students will continue to explore these themes which Steven introduced in our form meetings and well-being programs.

The school received a significant amount of positive feedback for this initiative. With parents and community members stating

"we would like to say 'thank you' for organising the night. We came away from the talk on a high, finding Stephen to be entertaining, inspiring, and motivating. Thank you for providing an evening where we, the families could get an insight into what was provided for our year 10 children".

The Yr 10 students were also appreciative and receptive to the experience

"The Steven Bradbury Day was a great initiative of the school. It was an inspiring day of speeches, talks, games and activities which truly brought us together as a year group. Steven Bradbury is an inspirational motivational speaker, who really encouraged us to ponder on our own lives. It was a humorous, yet highly beneficial talk from which I am sure each and every one of us was able to learn and take so much home with us".

"On Monday 27th of November we had the privilege to have had a visit from Steven Bradbury. He spent some of the day telling us his story and teaching us the importance of never giving up and setting goals for ourselves. He told us about the journey he went through to reach his goal to be an Olympian as well as the adversity he had to overcome such as breaking his neck eighteen months before the Olympic games. He also tested some of my peer's leg strength and stamina. The second part of the day our Yr 10 Coordinator planned to help us establish our goals and write them down. After we wrote them down we stuck them on a tree and then identified barriers which may prevent us from achieving our goals, how we can overcome these setbacks and finally the people who will help us achieve our goals. We then played some games involving team work and to end the day went through a slide show of our years at St Pauls".



Year 10 News Continued

Peer Mediation

St Paul's are very excited about Peer Mediation, our new wellbeing initiative in 2018. We have hand selected an excellent group of students and trained them this week in Peer Mediation skills. This included lots of invaluable skills about the mediation process, body language, facial expression and brainstorming techniques.

The idea is that these future Year 11 leaders will take on the responsibility of helping Year 7 and other younger students with minor disputes that may occur. They will be on hand to help with issues like name calling, problems with lunch time games and friendship problems. We look forward to launching this program next year.



**Mrs Blair Brownlee & Miss Kerrie-Lee Guest
Student Coordinators**

Wishing everyone in Year 10 a Merry Christmas! I hope you all enjoy the break and I look forward to seeing you come back as seniors. I have really enjoyed being your coordinator this year! Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to get to know you all better. I wish you well in the future and I look forward to working with you all again in other areas like English or Peer Mediation.

Miss Kerrie-Lee Guest



2017 has been a wonderful year with many highlights including the Challenge Camp and our end of Yr 10 Program. I would like to wish all Yr 10 students and their families a very merry Christmas. I hope that you are all surrounded by loved ones and take time to enjoy each others company. I am looking forward to continuing with you on your journey into senior schooling next year as Yr 11 Coordinator, and will see you all on Wednesday 31st January 2018 which is your first day back at school. Please ensure you are organised, recharged and ready to go from day one! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Kerrie-Lee Guest and the Yr 10 Tutor Group Teachers for their support and guidance of both the students and myself in my role of student coordinator.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs Blair Brownlee

Year 11 News

As 2017 draws to a close, students have successfully completed their first lot of assessments which will contribute to their HSC. I would like to thank all Year 11 students for their efforts throughout the year with their academic endeavours, their sporting and cultural achievements and their ability to be solid leaders for our school. The coming year will undoubtedly bring its stresses so it is important to use this coming break to rest, reenergise and get organised for 2018. Many of you will realise the importance of using some of this time to get re-focused and consolidate some things that have already been covered in Term 4.

As we move into the 2018 school year, it is with mixed feelings that I share with you that I will not be working with Year 12 in the capacity as their Student Coordinator. In 2018 I will be taking on the role of Administration Coordinator for St Paul's. This was not an easy decision as I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the young men and women in this year group. I will however, still have the opportunity to enjoy with these students their final year at St Paul's.

Parents, I thank you for your support throughout the year and wish you all a wonderful Christmas which is full of peace, happiness and love. Keep Safe.

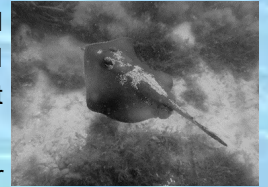
Mrs Anne-Maree Shipman

Student Coordinator
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On the weekend of 25th -26th November, 6 of our Year 12 students accompanied by Mr Newell and Mrs Furey participated in the Open Water Diver Certification course run by "Dive, Skate & Ski" Newcastle. The students had completed up to 10 hours of theory via an online forum through DIVE-RAID and the 2 ½ days practical was the last hurdle. Thursday night they met for theory session, equipment fitout and setup and Review Exam. Saturday was spent in the pool learning the necessary skills in a more controlled environment before diving at Shoal Bay. On Sunday they completed 2 x Open Water dives at Shoal Bay and Little Beach - along with the refinement of skills making for 2 exciting days.



They learned to fill and clear their mask, remove and replace masks and air supplies, rescue their buddy when they ran out of air and descend and ascend safely from depth. Pete our instructor was very patient, competent and good for a laugh!



The students once again did St Paul's proud with their attentiveness, level of responsibility and willingness to assist with setting up and packing up. We want to thank Pete Ward (instructor) and Peter Freeman from Dive Skate & Ski for their patience, professionalism and generosity which made the experience both comfortable and thrilling.

Mr Mark Newell
Organising Teacher



Ministry News



Year 12 Retreat

During Term 1 next year, all Year 12 students will participate in the Year 12 Retreat. This will take place in Week 8 of Term 1, Wednesday March 21st until Friday March 23rd 2018.

The Year 12 Retreat is an opportunity for students to reflect on their own journey and their goals for the future. It helps to develop a sense of camaraderie among students and staff in preparation for the HSC and life after school. It is an enjoyable and rewarding experience and all Year 12 students are invited and expected to attend.



A note will be emailed to students and parents this week. A \$50 deposit is required by the 16th of February 2017.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Last week a group of students from St Paul's joined a group of young people from the Diocese as 'pilgrims' at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF), a national gathering of Catholic young people which this year was held in Sydney.

The last day of the festival began included a 'pilgrimage' walk across the Harbour Bridge, through Circular Quay and the Rocks to the Domain for the Closing Mass. The night ended with an amazing fireworks display, which served as the perfect ending to an inspiring and joyful festival.



Congratulations to the following St Paul's students for their participation: Laura Boslem, Kiara Conaghan, Jackson Morgan, Daniel Mason, Catherine Lerch, Amber Trick, Brian Fennell-Fraser, Sophie Lowe and Matthew Webster.



The Closing Mass of the festival in the Domain, Sydney

Christmas Mass Times

The Christmas Mass Times for Churches in the Diocese are available online:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/christmas-mass-time-maitland-newcastle/>

Prayer for the End of the School Year ©Liturgy Brisbane

As school ends for the year, let us give God thanks and ask God to keep us safe.

Lord God, we give you thanks for the blessings we have received in 2017.

Protect us during the holidays

and keep us joyful in spirit.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mr Michael Doyle
Ministry Coordinator

2018 Sport Awards Year 12

Year 12 students were recognised for their sporting achievements at their end of year awards ceremony in September. The following students achieved a **Sporting Achievements Award**: Lauren Cameron, Lara Duggan, Lucinda Tolhurst, Jessica Godwin, Lexi Hemson, Jordyn Hiles, Isla Laven, Amy Fraser, Olivia McEnery, Hayley Carey, Isaac Davis, William Norris, Ethan Coulter, Aaron Gardner, Joshua Pippen, Nicholas Fakes, Hugh Woollett.

Sporting Blue Award was presented to **Chelsea Goodhew** for Athletics. This prestigious award recognises a student who achieves at an elite level for a specific sport for most, or all of their years of enrolment at St Paul's. A Sporting Blue award is a prestigious award that recognises a student who achieves at an elite level for a specific sport for most or all of their years of enrolment at St Paul's.

The Sportswoman of the Year Award and **Elite Sporting Achievement** was presented to **Layne Morgan** for her involvement in many representative sports, but in particular, her achievements in Rugby Union and Touch Football.

The Sportsman of the Year Award was presented to **Joshua Pidutti** for his involvement and participation in a number of different sporting teams but in particular for his achievements at an elite level for Swimming.

2018 Sport Awards Years 7-11

Last Wednesday many students were recognised and congratulated for their sporting achievements throughout 2017. Students who willingly participated in three or more different representative sports received the Recognition for Participation in Representative Sport. These students are:

Year 7: Alex Binkin, Tiarna-Lee Daniel, Jonas de Winter, William Hall, Lacey McLean, Jaymes Reddish, Gabriella Sneddon, Caitlin Taylor, Ruby Wills, Jade Winter

Year 8: Kent Azas, Ryan Bonett, Matthew Boslem, Holly Callaghan, Riley Cullen, Raegan Dunn, Jess Dunn, Flynn Guest, Summah Johnson, Kiara Lowe, Krystal Lowe, Hannah Murphy, Charlotte Pratt, Conor Reilly, Callum Stalling, Brock Steele, Macy Taape, Heidi Trethowan, Summerset White

Year 9: Emma Katon, Harrison Kettles, Grier Lovell, Ciarnan Maybury, Caleb McCudden, Maxwell McDonald, Hannah Olive, Blake Spruce Conn

Year 10: Luke Attard, Julian Bishop, Jasmine Callaghan, Joshua Cherry, Zoe Coyne, Georgia Dando, Simone Dobosz, Anton Fenech, Keeley Fuller, Shayna Gael, Isabel Gaminde, Thomas Hall, Lachlan Harrison, Jai Inkster, Kye Jacobson, Nikila Johnston, Amber Kelly, April Kent, Alex Madden, Cooper Martin, Seamus McNeely, Jameson Montgomery, Ella Murphy, Jade Neal, Angus Nichols, Alexander Santarelli, Cameron Sparkes, Nyah Thomson, Georgia Tupou

Year 11: Kendyll Fahey, Sarah Gardner, Jemma Lawson, Charlotte Renshaw, Dakota Thomas



The Contribution to Sport Award – Thomas Hall

This award is designed to recognise a student who always offers their time, effort or expertise to assist others in their sporting endeavours. This student always models the highest level of sportsmanship and encourages their peers to participate and celebrate their own sporting achievements. We are proud to have so many great sporting personalities within our school community. In receiving this award this year Thomas has not only ably and generously assisted with helping many teams this year, he has also participated in a number of representative sports. Thomas was recognised and nominated by teachers who have worked closely with him and observed the quiet, humble manner in which he presents and works with others. The fine qualities of Thomas is certainly valued and appreciated, not only by coaches of these teams but students who have been members of teams in which he has helped.



The Elite Achievement Award – Sarah Gardner

Lachlan Moore – BMX Racing – Yr 7

Christine Connell – Swimming – Yr 8

Zachary Moore – BMX Racing – Yr 8

Nicholas Curran – Football – Yr 8

Aidan Davies - Indoor Netball - Yr 8

Chantelle Finlay - Ice Skating - Yr 8

Ashley Probert – Ice Skating – Yr 9

Harrison Kettles – Rugby Union – Yr 9

Hannah Finley – Dancing – Yr 9

Thomas Webster – Athletics – Yr 10

Joshua Ford – Archery – Yr 10

Thomas Curran – Football – Yr 11

Isaac Milajew – Rugby Union – Yr 11

Riley Smith – Football – Yr 11

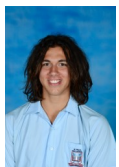
Jed Fatches – Sailing – Yr 11

Sarah Gardner – Triathlon – Yr 11

Excellence in Sport Awards

An excellence in sport award recognises students who have excelled across multiple sporting disciplines this year including representation in at least one NSWCCC event. These disciplines are pathway sports that are offered within the school sport program, which includes tournaments or competitions at Diocesan, Northern Division, NSWCCC, NSW All Schools and Australian Representation. Whilst performing at a high level in their chosen sport, they have also been proud to contribute to a number of sports and teams at St Paul's demonstrating sportsmanship on and off the field. From this list of students the Sportsman and Sportswoman was determined.

Amber Kelly	Kendyll Fahey	Jemma Lawson	Lydia Philpott
Charlotte Renshaw	Anton Fenech	Dakota Thomas	Matthew Boslem
Sarah Gardner	Krystal Lowe	Charlotte Pratt	Thomas Webster
Harrison Kettles			



Sportsman of the Year - Harrison Kettles

Harrison has represented St Paul's in a number of sports throughout the year. It has been, however in Rugby League and Rugby Union that Harrison has achieved success. Harrison was not only selected in the U'15 Northern Division Rugby League team that competed at the NSWCCC Championships but also in the U'15 NSWCCC Rugby Union team. It is in Rugby Union, which is his preferred code, that Harrison has excelled. He was a proud member of the NSWCCC U'15 Rugby team that defeated CHS and CIS for the very first time. With Harrison as one of their strong running forwards, CCC proved to be too strong by snatching a win from their more fancied opposition in the last minute. This achievement followed on from Harrison being named best forward at the NSW Junior Rugby Union Country Champs where his U/15 Wildfires side were champions. From this Harrison was also selected in and captained the NSW U'15 Country Squad which played against City. Congratulation Harrison!



Sportswoman of the Year – Dakota Thomas

In May of this year, Dakota represented Australia in the All Schools Netball team for School Sport Australia at the International Netball Championships in Fiji. Dakota achieved selection after a strong performance as Goal Keeper at the School Sports Australian Netball Championships. In addition to this Australian selection, Dakota has once again in 2017 made the NSWCCC Open's Netball team which competed at the All Schools Tri Series. Despite going down to the CIS and CHS teams she was chosen in the All Schools State Open Girls Netball Merit Team. As a result of her representation in Netball, she has received a NSWCCC Blues Award which is the highest sporting accolade for Catholic students. She will be presented with this award at a ceremony early next year. Not only is Dakota a talented Netballer she has also achieved outstanding results in track and field by continuing to break records at our own carnival, achieving a number of first placings at Diocesan level and competing once again at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships. At these Championships, Dakota finished 6th in the 200m, 5th in the 100m, 3rd in the Long Jump and 2nd in the Shot Put.

Congratulations Dakota!

More Sporting News...

AFL

Hunter Academy of Sport – Nominations are now Open for the **2018 Female AFL** Development Program – See Information on Flyer attached.

Eligibility: To be eligible to apply for a position within the girls AFL program, athletes must be:

- Female 14, 15 or 16 years of age in 2018 (i.e born in 2004, 2003, 2002)
- Reside within the Hunter Region;
- Attend school within the Hunter Region;
- No AFL club experience necessary

Nominations close: Thursday 8th February 2018

NSWCCC Registrations 2017/2018

Registrations are open for the following sports:

Water Polo - Closing Date: Friday 10th November 2017

Cricket - U/19 years - Closing Date: Thursday 8th February 2018

Softball - Closing Date: Friday 16th February 2018

Triathlon - Closing Date: Wednesday 21st February 2018

For me information - please go to the CSSS website - <https://www.csss.nsw.edu.au/nswccc-home.aspx>

2018 School Sport

Students in Year 8-10 will be required to choose their Term 1 School Sport online using their student portal. In the new year, **an email will be sent to all students alerting them to begin this selection process.** This will occur the week prior to student returning so please check your student emails to get this sport selection completed.

School Sport will begin on Friday 2nd February and therefore all students are asked to assist with this process by selecting a sport.

Year 7 will be doing an alternative sports program in Term 1. Further information will be distributed to Year 7 students in the New Year.

St Paul's Swimming Carnival – will be on Wednesday 7th February 2018 at Lambton Pool.

Many Thanks to all students who have participated in sport throughout the year and to those teachers and parents who have assisted in so many ways to ensure that our students have an opportunity to compete in all of the sports offered. Enjoy the Christmas break with family and friends. Keep Fit and Healthy!

Mrs Anne-Maree Shipman
Sports Coordinator



Active kids do well in class!

Research shows....

- Kids who are active...
- ... and eat well
- Do better in class!

This is why our school has introduced the PA4E1 program.

Did you know?

- The Government recommends kids do at least **60 minutes** of moderate-to-vigorous activity each day.
- This is activity which makes kids huff and puff!
- Sadly, only **1 in 5** kids meet the guidelines!*

* NSW SPANS Survey 2015

Physical Activity for Everyone (PA4E1)

Our school is now part of PA4E1. This will help us in our aim to increase student physical activity levels. Some ways we will do this are:

- More activity in our PE lessons
- Creating physical activity plans
- Resistance training at our school
- More activities during our breaks
- More information sent home
- More links with our community

For more information, visit: PA4E1Online.com.au



NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN

HUNTER ACADEMY OF SPORT
2018 FEMALE AFLNSWACT ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Female AFLNSWACT Athlete Development Program will provide recognition & motivation to identified emerging talented athletes in the U14-16 age groups, with a stated goal to achieve selection into the NSW/ACT U16's squad. The program will provide coaching, education, training & competition to improve athlete development with the view to:

- Develop fundamental skill level of athletes, as well as providing educational & personal development opportunities.
- Prepare athletes to a level where their transition to any NSW State team is 'seamless'.
- Increase the level of success of those athletes at competition & events in Female AFL nationwide.

Athlete Benefits:

- 20 weeks of training running from March-August 2018.
- Academy Games (inter-Academy tournament) entry.
- Athlete education sessions including specialised strength & conditioning coaching, sports psychology & nutrition.

Athlete Eligibility

- Open to all Females turning 14, 15 or 16 years of age in 2018 (born in 2004, 2003, 2002).
- Reside within the Hunter Region.
- Attend school within the Hunter Region.
- No AFL experienced necessary.

Nominations close on Thursday, 8th February 2018.

For more information & to nominate please visit
www.hunteracademy.org.au



For more info contact Mrs Brigid de Winter on

brigid.dewinter@mn.catholic.edu.au

School is closed
but the digital library
is **always open.**

OverDrive



Tis the season to be reading

Don't forget you can still borrow books over the holidays, simply log onto our digital library, Overdrive.

<http://cenet.lib.overdrive.com>

OR download the App



Use your school log in details. Enjoy the holidays



End of Year Activities

Yachting



A small group of students enjoyed some wonderful sailing weather aboard 'Aja' on beautiful Lake Macquarie during the EOYA week. From fast paced tacking to reaching across the afternoon Nor'easter to leisurely cruising (read: "just lazing on the deck"), the students had their share of all weather yachting.

Standing behind the helm, perched on the rail or scurrying from side to side made the week one to remember. We would personally like to thank the students for their participation, sense of fun and adventure, and exemplary behaviour.

Thanks also to Mr Les Binkin from Marmong Marina for allowing us to leave Aja overnight in a berth on the marina. Their support is truly appreciated

Miss Ellis and Mr Newell.



Horseriding

The Horseriding group learnt so many skills from how to saddle, clean and feed a horse. They all were able to skilfully ride horses. Well done!

Ms Christine Churchward





Career Thought of the Week:

“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it’s going to be a butterfly”

R. Buckminster Fuller



UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE - Info Sessions

Friday, 15 December 2017, 10:00 am — Saturday, 16 December 2017, 01:00 pm

If you’re a future student and have questions about studying with us in 2018, we’re here to help!



Come on campus and talk to our team about our degrees, changing preferences, scholarships, accommodation, alternative entry options, and more.

The Info Sessions are held after ATARs are released and prior to the close of change of preferences for consideration in December Round 2, so it’s perfect timing to get the advice you need to finalise your application.

For non-school leavers you can also get help with applying for credit, which could save you time and money!

For school leavers, knowing your ATAR means your choices may have changed. There is a swelter of UON entry schemes and bonus points available to you. Talk to our admissions team who can help you understand your adjusted ATAR and your options. On Friday 15 December you can also join our Q&A session on our Facebook page.

If you are yet to apply and needing face-to-face advice, be sure to attend this event.

Please note: If you're planning to attend one of our Newcastle events and are interested in studying a Business, Commerce, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Law or Creative Industries degree, you're best to attend the Newcastle City Info Session.

REGISTER NOW

The following three Info Sessions will be held on Saturday 16 December 2017 between 10am – 1pm:

Newcastle – Great Hall, University Drive, Callaghan

Newcastle City – NeW Space, Cnr King and Auckland Streets, Newcastle

Central Coast – Information Resource Centre (Library), Central Coast campus, Chittaway Road, Ourimbah

Summer holiday activities – some suggestions!



Get a part time job

Lots of people are looking for employment at this time of year – either a part time job for the summer school holidays, or full time employment as a school leaver or gap year student, or even as a graduate!

Depending on where you live might influence the availability of positions, but the retail and hospitality industries tend to be busy over the Christmas and summer period especially! So... to find a job:

- Update your resume – see your school careers website where you will find a template to do this under the ‘student secure area’
Cold canvass potential employers – introduce yourself to prospective employers who might need extra help over the busy holiday period – be sure to leave your resume and contact details!
Respond to advertisements in the local paper or websites
Apply on line to the ‘chains’ – some ideas and links below:

- www.mcdonalds.com.au/learn/careers www.bunningscareers.com.au/opportunities www.wowcareers.com.au
www.colescareers.com.au www.kfcjobs.com.au/team/apply.aspx www.kmart.com.au/jobs
http://careers.superretailgroup.com.au/brands/supercheap-auto www.myer.com.au/p/about-myer/careers

Go Volunteering!

There are lots of opportunities to be a volunteer in your local community, such as Rural Fire Service, St John Ambulance, Surf Lifesaving Society and surf clubs, WIRES, Meals on Wheels, Red Cross, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul shops....

Why being a VOLUNTEER in the COMMUNITY is important:

- increases self-confidence
makes you happy!
is great for career and job prospects
helps you demonstrate compassion and commitment.



For further information: Do a google search ‘volunteering in Australia’. The following links might get you started with some ideas and contacts:

- https://govolunteer.com.au www.volunteeringaustralia.org www.salvationarmy.org.au/get-involved/Volunteer
www.australianvolunteers.com www.redcross.org.au/volunteering.aspx www.conservationvolunteers.com.au

- **Tradie Start**

Tradie start is a network for tradesman, builders and apprentices in Australia.
 For **apprentices**, tradie start is a way to start your career as a tradie.
 For **tradesmen**, tradie start is a way to find a suitable apprentice and seek future work from builders.
 For **builders**, tradie start is a way to communicate and find new tradesmen.
 For **labourers**, tradie start is a way to post your expertise or search for job opportunities.



Browse [Tradie Start](#) to find out more!

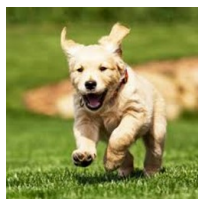
- **A Job with a Difference**

Are you an animal lover? Can handle animals with confidence and patience? Strong, to do manual work? Don't have any allergies towards animals?

Working as an animal control officer could be for you!

The Good University Careers Guide identifies the following tasks as part of the role for an animal control officer:

- ⇒ respond to and investigate complaints
- ⇒ operate the local pound
- ⇒ capture animals
- ⇒ prepare and present cases in court
- ⇒ run animal awareness programs



- **Work Experience at the Mint**

Do you like money? Well who doesn't?

Would you like to make a lot of money.... I mean really make money?

Did you know that the all the coins that are in circulation in Australia are made at "The Mint" in Canberra.

The Royal Australian Mint offers limited opportunities for Work Experience.

You can see how Australia's coins are made and even take part in their production.

For details, see: <https://www.ramint.gov.au/work-experience-mint>



Careers Advisory Service for HSC Students 2017-2018

The NSW Department of Education offers a free **Careers Advisory Service** that provides students and their families or caregivers with up to date, impartial information about the range of relevant career and study options available following the release of the Higher School Certificate results.

The **Careers Advisory Service** complements the services provided by NESA, the Universities Admissions Centre, TAFE NSW, universities and other providers.

The **Careers Advisory Service** offers three facilities:

- ◇ **Phone** - available on 18-20 December 2017. Phone: 1300 300 687.
- ◇ **E-mail service** - this service also operates on 18-20 December 2017. Access is through the website: www.careersadvisoryservice.com
- ◇ **Explore Options'** contains a large number of resources for school leavers. Access is through



Important Dates for Term 4 - Yr. 12 UAC 2017

15 December 2017	ATARs released
17 December 2017	change of preference closing date for December Round 2
21 December 2017	December Round 2 offers released
3 January 2018	change of preference closing date for January Round 1
12 January 2018	January Round 1 offers released
24 January 2018	change of preference closing date for January Round 2
31 January 2018	January Round 2 offers released
8 February 2018	February Round 1 offers released
15 February 2018	February Round 2 offers released



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.

Casual Positions/Employment Links:

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

Mr Craig McLoughlin

Leader of Pedagogy—Vocational Education/Careers

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

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 2018	Drama Students	8 February 2018	On Stage-Seymour Centre Sydney	\$70	8 December 2017

Family Discount Form 2018

If you have not already returned, please return your 2018 Family Discount Form as soon as possible. We are unable to apply a family discount to your fees in 2018 if we have not received your form.

Mrs Betty Harris—Finance Officer
finance@booragul.catholic.edu.au

ASPIRE

MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA



CREATE CHOREOGRAPHIC PROJECT

In an exciting new project, ASPIRE is collaborating with Newcastle based company, the internationally recognised, Catapult Dance in 2018. This collaboration has been created to provide students enrolled in a Catholic school within the Maitland-Newcastle diocese the opportunity to participate in an intensive contemporary dance and collaborative choreographic program.

This project seeks to provide students within our diocese with a dance and art experience that is inclusive, non-competitive, creative, collaborative and reflects the working processes of the professional arts industry. The young people engaged will have the opportunity to have a voice, presenting their thoughts and ideas in a live theatre setting at the end of the week's program.

The Project will run from 26th February to 2nd March and dancers will be split by age into Junior (Years 4-6) and Senior (Years 7-12) groups to create an original piece they will perform at the end of the week. They will work alongside professional choreographers through Catapult Dance. Secondary students need to have dance training whilst primary students must have a genuine interest and flair for dance but don't necessarily have to attend dance lessons outside of school.

Students can register for the program by filling out the attached form, their application must be co-signed by a teacher from their school.

There are scholarship places available for students in genuine need of assistance, please contact Anna Kerrigan for further information.

DATES ARE:

Junior Project 26th and 27th February 2018: 9am – 3pm Cost: \$50

Senior Project 28th February to March 1st 2018: 9am – 3pm Cost: \$75

CREATE | DANCE | ART | IMAGINATION | STORYTELLING

CONNECT WITH US



/csoaspire



/csoaspire



/catholicsschoolsoffice

aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au



REGISTRATION FORM:

Student name: _____

Year: _____

School: _____

Student email address: _____

Parent/carer name: _____

Parent email address: _____

Parent mobile number: _____

Address: _____

Why do you wish to be part of the ASPIRE Create Choreographic Project?

What dance experience do you have?

Application supported by (school teacher within the diocese)

Signed (Teacher): _____ Date: _____

Canteen Helpers

2018

If you know anyone that would like to volunteer as a Canteen Helper in 2018, please ask them to contact Carolyn Stanton (Canteen Supervisor) on

4946 3115 or

4958 6711

Office Hours for 2018

8.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Thursday

8.00am to 3.30pm Friday



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

Term 4 2017		
Week 10	11-13 Dec Wed 13 Dec Thurs 14 Dec Thurs 14 Dec Fri 15 Dec	Yrs 7-10 End of Year Activities Last Day of School for students Parent / Teacher Interviews Pupil Free Day Pupil Free Day (Staff Mass)
Week 11	Mon 18 Dec Tues 19 Dec	Pupil Free Day (Staff Develop.) Last Day of Term 4 for Staff
Term 1 2018		
Wk 1	Mon 29 Jan Tues 30 Jan Wed 31 Jan Thurs 1 Feb	Staff Development Pupil Free Day Staff Development Pupil Free Day Yrs 7 & 11 Return Yrs 8, 9, 10 & 12 Return
Wk 2	Wed 7 Feb Thurs 8 Feb Fri 9 Feb	Swimming Carnival Yr 7 - New Student ID Photos Senior Drama Excursion OnStage Opening School Mass 10am
Wk 3	Wed 14 Feb	P&F Meeting-HSC Review (TBC) Ash Wednesday
Wk 4	Thurs 22 Feb	Yr 7 Immunisations
Wk 5	Tues 27 Feb Thurs 1 March	Yr 7 Information Evening Yr 8 Incursion-Brainstorm Prod. Dio U/15 Rugby League Trials
Wk 6		
Wk 7	Tues 13 March Wed 14 March	DIO Swimming Carnival P&F AGM Meeting - 7.00pm
Wk 8	Mon 19 March Tues 20 March Wed 21-23 March	Europe Information Meeting 6-7pm Bishop Bill & School Captains Yr 12 Retreat

Vinnies Christmas Hampers

A big thank you to students and parents for their kind donations to the Vinnies Christmas Hampers. We were able to donate 35 hampers that were distributed to the Boolaroo, Booragul, Toronto & Morriston Vinnies.



Ms Fran Heard
Youth Vinnies Coordinator



TORONTO YEAR 7 SCHOOL SCHOOL AND OFFICE SUPPLIES BOOK PACKS

Simply go to:

www.torontoschoolandofficesupplies.com.au

Select the school and student year from the dropdown box at the top of the page and you're ready to go! Or follow the link on the schools website.

These packs have been put together in collaboration with St Paul's Catholic College.

Year 7 2018 book packs are available now and can be collected at the orientation evening.

Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



Contact
Cynthia Culhane
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator
Phone
02 4032 4703
1300 610 355
Email
cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au
Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.



TORONTO NEWSAGENCY
66 THE BOULEVARDE, TORONTO
 (02) 4959 1092

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FOR 5 x 30-MIN
LESSONS

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Special
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*Guitar
Lessons*

**-BEGINNERS WELCOME
-ALL STYLES**

MONDAYS to THURSDAYS 12pm til 9pm

**Professional tutor
Paul Green**

Ph : 0401 092 606

The New Way

There will be changes in route services which may affect students

Newcastle Transport announced the new network last week, with more than a thousand extra bus and ferry services to be delivered when the new network is implemented on 14 January 2018.

The new network will improve bus connections between major hubs and the Newcastle CBD offering services every 15 minutes during the day, and will also strengthen links between suburbs and town centers.

Most of the bus routes have been revised and new bus routes have been added to the network to better meet customer needs. To match the new network, we have simplified the route numbers to double digits.

There are no changes to dedicated school services.

School students who use regular routes will need to check their route to and from school. Our Travel Concierge can be contacted at newcastletransport.info to provide assistance to parents and students in understanding the changes and planning their new trip.

There are a number of ways customers and the community can access information, including:

- At newcastletransport.info where you can view an interactive map of the network, download the new map and read about key timetable and route changes by area.
- Our Travel Concierge will provide assistance to customers to understand the changes and plan their new trip.
- The Newcastle Transport Hub at 152 Hunter Street, Newcastle, where the community can talk to the Newcastle Transport team face to face and provide feedback. The Hub is open Monday to Friday, between 8am and 5pm and between Saturdays 9am and 5pm.
- The Newcastle Transport Facebook page.
- Our customer service team will be out and about on the network and in local shopping centres. A calendar of locations will be available on the Newcastle Transport website.

We would appreciate if you could pass this information on to parents and students.

Should you have any questions about dedicated school services, please contact Margaret Pannell or Alex Bowler by email at newway@newcastletransport.info.

Regards,

The Newcastle Transport team

Visit newcastletransport.info
6th December 2017



PROUDLY OPERATED BY
 Keolis Downer