



Newsletter

Issue 15.2 March 2015

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KEY DATES

Mar 6: Working Bee 3-6pm

Mar 6-20: HSC mid year exams

Mar 10: Opening & Blessing of Buildings/Renaming Ceremony

Mar 16: Open Afternoon—Evening
Parent Chat Group 10am

**THE TERM 1, 2015
CALENDAR OF EVENTS CAN
BE DOWNLOADED [HERE](#)**



MEET THE SRC:

Year 11
Francinne
Buenaagua

[Get to know
the young
leaders of StJP II](#)

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FROM THE PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



With the year very much underway it is very rewarding to see how well the students have settled into the teaching and learning processes that are occurring everywhere in the college. Year 12 are busily studying for their upcoming examinations while Year 7 seem to have easily settled into the fabric of College life. In Week 4 we visited our feeder schools with some Year 7 students who spoke about their time here so far at St John Paul II. It was also an opportunity to inform parents/caregivers that the enrolment process for 2016 has commenced. We also held our opening College Mass recently with the theme “strengthen our footsteps for the journey towards the future”.

Next week we will be celebrating the process of growth and change with the official ceremony of Opening and Blessing of our new buildings and refurbishments as well as the official renaming of the college to St John Paul II Catholic College. The new teaching spaces have been long in the planning and construction, but the end result is extremely worthwhile and there is ample opportunity for creative, unique and dynamic learning and teaching to continue to occur.

[READ MORE >](#)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

At St John Paul II there is a well thought out program of alternative activities for students who are not involved in representative sport on a Thursday afternoon. This is carefully tailored to the needs of each group at that time of the year. In addition there is the scope for students to become involved in other mixed age groups in special projects. Sport and physical activity for all in years 7 -10 is still a mandatory experience but is managed in a different way that is working well. Take a look at the kind of activities our students are taking part in during Learning Enrichment!

[READ MORE >](#)

PRAYER

At St. John Paul II Catholic College staff have been learning about the Charism, the giftedness, of this great man of faith. His five loves include young people, human love, the Most Blessed Sacrament, our Lady, and the Cross. How do we become more knowledgeable and intentional regarding our action for each of the 5 loves?

“Oh, St. John Paul, from the window of heaven, grant us your blessing! Bless the church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading it along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. ...”

[READ MORE >](#)

[ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR YEAR 7 & 11 2016!](#)

News, Updates and Reports

PARENT NOTICES

- [School Fees 2015](#): Term 1 fees due 6 March
- [NAPLAN 2015](#): Read the Information for Parents/Caregivers document in preparation for NAPLAN 15'
- [Parent Representative Council of Parramatta Diocese](#): Letter to Parents/Caregivers regarding political considerations for Catholic Schools
- [QCS Survey](#): Letter to Parents for QCS 2015

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

We invite you, your family and friends to LIKE the page for all news stories, updates and notices about all the great learning experiences, events and opportunities at the College.

Majority of the content shared on our Facebook page will reflect information that is already accessible on the website - Facebook is a way for you to easily access information through a different form of communication!

[LIKE THE FACEBOOK PAGE HERE](#)

LATEST NEWS

YEAR 11 AT PENRITH LAKES



On 24 February, Year 11 Senior Science and Biology students went to Penrith Lakes to complete a field study for their very first preliminary assessment task. [READ MORE >](#)

SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2015



On Monday, 23 February, students headed to the Nirimba Education Precinct Swimming Pool for the annual college swimming carnival. [READ MORE >](#)

SRC AT CARITAS LAUNCH



On 16 February, 4 SRC members and Mr. Feeney had the opportunity to attend the official launch of Caritas Project Compassion 2015 at NSW Parliament House! [READ MORE >](#)

COUNSELLORS CORNER

Your child comes to you and says they're worried about one of their friends. How do you respond? As a parent/carer, you are the person most likely to be approached. Do you feel you have the skill and knowledge to respond well? If the tables were turned and your child's friend was asking for guidance from THEIR parent/carer about YOUR child, what do you hope would be their response? Read on for helpful tips and advice from Mr. Graham for handling and approaching these kinds of situations.

[READ MORE >](#)

OTHER NEWS

- [Year 11 History become Archaeologists for a day](#)
- [GWS Giants officially open the new AFL posts at Schofields with Year 7](#)
- [St John Paul II is now on Facebook](#)
- [Year 7 Boys Soccer jump into the New StJP II jerseys for the start of the season!](#)
- [Peer Support Program ends with a BBQ celebration during Learning Enrichment](#)

ICT REPORT - MACBOOKS & IPADS

In 2015, St John Paul II Catholic College introduced the Macbook Parent/Guardian Purchase program to Year 9 and is continuing its iPad program in Year 7 & 8. The introduction and continued implementation of these programs will allow students to improve their learning outcomes. The devices themselves are essential to creating a 21st Century learning environment, as they engage students, however it is the applications and the strategies used within the classroom, that will see a continued improvement in student learning outcomes.

The MyMac and MyiPad days held on the 10th and 13th February respectively, were a great success for St John Paul II Catholic College. These days are designed to assist students to understand how to best use their device for learning. [READ MORE >](#)



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INTRODUCING

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St John Paul II Catholic College

SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS YEARS 7-10 NIRIMBA CAMPUS YEARS 11-12



Come and meet our welcoming college community and explore the educational opportunities we offer our students.

OPEN AFTERNOON - EVENING MONDAY 16 MARCH

4PM TO 8PM - SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS

Showcases, tours, subject stalls, barbeque & all your questions answered!

Tours are available by appointment at Nirimba Campus (Years 11-12).

Please contact the College Office on 9208 7200 for tour times.

SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS (YEARS 7-10)

85 HAMBLEDON ROAD, SCHOFIELDS

NIRIMBA CAMPUS (YEARS 11-12)

EASTERN ROAD, QUAKERS HILL

TEL: 9208 7200

www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au

A unique and dynamic learning experience...



WATCH: COLLEGE OPENING MASS



On February 25, the College gathered at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown for our Opening Mass. The theme was "Strengthen our footsteps for the journey towards the future".

[WATCH >](#)

SUMMER SPORTS REPORT

The New Year has seen us finish off our basketball and cricket seasons for 2014/2015 with some mixed results. Our basketballers finished the year very strong with wins over Eastwood to finish the season. As always the basketball boys represented the school with great sportsmanship whilst still having a competitive eagerness to do well.

Also congratulations to those boys and Mr Scurr who had our best result in cricket in a number of years!

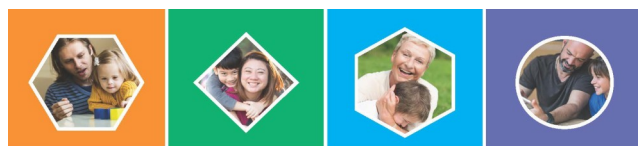
Our Girls have started strong in Volleyball and Touch Football and as the season is progressing. The girls recently received their new StJP II Jerseys, which seemed to give them an even bigger sense of pride and determination to do well on the field.

[READ MORE >](#)

DIOCESAN NOTICES & EVENTS

Catch up on all notices and events from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta including positions vacant, Ash Wednesday times, SURVEYS, requests for volunteers and upcoming events for you to join!

[Click here for all opportunities and upcoming events](#)



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STAGE 5 UPDATES

Year 9: An important part of the start of the year for year 9 was the Butterfly Liturgy. The butterfly symbol relates to the fact that it must struggle and work hard to emerge from its cocoon in order to strengthen its wings to enable it to fly. This is exemplified in a story that formed an important part of the liturgy. All the year 9 students were given a picture of a butterfly to decorate and these have been placed at the top of the stage 5 block.

Year 9 students also participated in a Mymac Day program. This day allowed all year 9 students to learn how to effectively use their apple MacBook's and taught students how to use Google apps including gmail, google docs and google sites.

Year 10 : For the last 6 weeks Year 10's and Year 7's students have been working together, doing multiple activities and games. These activities have been designed to help the Year 7 students fit in a lot easier and learn the key values to become a grade A student at St John Paul II Catholic College.

The peer support program lasts for 5 weeks including a party day for the 5th and final week of peer support where students and peer support leaders play games and have a BBQ for a celebration. All up peer support was a great experience for the Year 10s and the Year 7s as they all learnt something new that they will take away with them.

[READ MORE >](#)

Mackillop
Family Services

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