



# Newsletter

March 2016—Term 1 Issue 3

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## KEY DATES

**8 April:** Term 1 Concludes  
**25 April:** ANZAC Day  
**26 April:** Term 2 Commences  
**27 April:** Year 7-12 Merit Awards  
**28 April:** College ANZAC Ceremonies  
**29 April:** Year 12 Reports Distributed & SMS sent  
**3 May:** Whole College Athletics Carnival  
**4 May:** Year 7, 2017 Interviews  
**5 May:** Year 12 Semester 1 Awards  
**6 May:** Year 7 2nd Vaccinations  
**10-12 May:** Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN  
**13 May:** NAPLAN Catch Up Day & Newsletter emailed

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## FROM THE PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



This term we have witnessed a number of exciting and energizing college events which have included our 2015 HSC High Achievers Assembly, the Year 7 Welcome BBQ, the Opening School Mass and our recent Open Afternoon /Evening. Each event has helped develop our great community at St John Paul II and each one has enhanced our community faith formation and educational endeavours. The Open Afternoon/Evening which was held recently highlighted everything that we do here as a community with staff and students displaying our school to the wider community with genuine warmth and enthusiasm. If you know of a family that wishes to enrol their son/daughter in Year 7 at the College in 2017 please advise them to contact the college to obtain an enrolment information pack prior to the end of Term 1.

In this newsletter you will find the Term 2 calendar of events. This provides advance notice of the many events that will be occurring during Term 2. For each event listed, letters will/have been issued with the details of the event. During Term 2 there will also be reminders and updates about these events placed in the College Newsletter and Facebook. The next Staff Evangelisation/Retreat Pupil Free Day is Tuesday 14 June. Please contact us at the college by Friday 3 June if there are any difficulties in organising care for your son/daughter on this day.

[READ MORE >](#)

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Following on from information presented in the last newsletter, we present some hypothetical scenarios regarding absence that some parents may come across. Example 1: Tyson is a year 8 student. Next week he is going on a family holiday to Japan for two months. What should happen? A couple of months ago, Tyson's mum approached the school to discuss the holiday. After the principal approved the absence, Tyson's teachers worked with Tyson to develop a learning plan to ensure that he doesn't drop behind while on holiday. Tyson's family adapts the trip to include time for Tyson to do some school work. When Tyson returns he feels confident about fitting back into his school, knowing he is up to date with his classmates...

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## PRAYER

In the Gospel reading we hear at the blessing of the palms, Mark tells us that Jesus rode on a borrowed donkey. Kings and conquerors made grand entrances into cities on well-bred horses or in horse-drawn chariots. But what kind of king makes his triumphal entrance on a borrowed donkey? Borrowed things are a feature of Jesus' whole life. He was born in a borrowed stable, wrapped up and placed in a borrowed manger. Having "nowhere to lay his head", he slept in borrowed accommodation. He celebrated his farewell meal in a borrowed room, died on a borrowed cross and was laid to rest in a borrowed tomb. In the broken body of Jesus, God's love and compassion become a force of hope and healing in a hurting and desperate world...

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**STJPII OFFICE IS OPEN DURING THE HOLIDAYS!**

## News, Updates and Reports

### PARENT NOTICES

- [Winter/Summer Uniform Change Over:](#) Students are to wear summer uniform in Week 1 of Term 2 and either winter or summer uniform in Week 2. All students must be wearing winter uniform from Week 3 onwards.
- [50% Off Terra Sancta Uniforms:](#) Follow the link to see what clothes and sizes are available.
- [Clothes Collection Bin:](#) now located at Schofields campus for donations
- [QCS Information Letter:](#) Information regarding the Quality Catholic Schools Survey students, staff and selected families will be taking part in over the next few weeks.
- [NAPLAN Information Letter](#) for Parents/Caregivers is now available online.
- Term 2, 2016 Calendar of Events now available!

### DROP OFF ZONE TRAFFIC

The College is looking at ways of improving traffic flow in the parents' drop off zone at Rose Cottage. One suggestion currently being considered is to have a separate exit onto Hambledon Road from the small roundabout inside the school grounds. This will leave the present entry/exit as an entry point only into the school. This proposed change we believe will improve traffic flow.

### NOTICE FROM THE OFFICE

**LOST PROPERTY:** There is a large amount of lost property that has been collected and kept in the Schofields Office including all items of clothing, pencil cases, jewellery, keys and recently two new pairs of leather school shoes. If your child has lost an item at school, please advise them to check with the Schofields Office for their belongings!

### ENROL NOW FOR 2017!

The College is currently taking enrolments for Years 7 and 11, 2017! Please visit our Schofields Office or contact us on 9208 7200 for any questions or concerns regarding enrolments, including obtaining an enrolment pack, completing enrolment forms, booking a campus tour or any other enquiries. The Schofields Office is open from 7.30am - 3.30pm, Monday to Friday, as well as school holidays.

### VIRTUAL TOURS AVAILABLE ONLINE



Schofields Campus (7-10)  
TAKE A 360 VIRTUAL TOUR



Nirimba Campus (11-12)  
TAKE A 360 VIRTUAL TOUR

Head to our new and improved website to view all the great opportunities and facilities available at the College via our virtual tours! The online tours allow you to view all the facilities of both the Schofields and Nirimba Campus from the comfort of our own home. Find the above icons on the College homepage and enjoy exploring.

[Click here to view virtual tours](#)

### LATEST NEWS

#### WYD Palm Sunday Procession



On Sunday hundreds of staff, students, pilgrims, families and parishioners gathered at Parramatta for the annual Palm Sunday procession including our 6 pilgrims and 3 staff members!

[READ MORE >](#)

#### Year 7 Camp @ Yarramundi



Last week our Year 7 students went off to their Camp at Yarramundi! Students had the opportunity to step outside of their comfort zones, challenge themselves and create friendships with their new peers.

[READ MORE >](#)

#### NEP Koori Welcome Lunch



On 9 March, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Wyndham College and St John Paul II Catholic College gathered at the NEP Green Skills Hub for the annual Koori Welcome Lunch!

[READ MORE >](#)



## Performing Stations of the Cross



In the lead up to Easter, Miss Camilleri's 8.03 class and our 6 World Youth Day pilgrims have performed The Stations of the Cross at both Mary Immaculate Primary School and St Joseph's Primary School!

[READ MORE >](#)

## WATCH: All the Action from the StJP II 2016 Open Afternoon/Evening!



Check out all the action that took place at the StJP II 2016 Open Afternoon/Evening. Hundreds of families and students from our local community gathered at the College to explore the fantastic opportunities and facilities they could be a part of as they look forward to their high school years. Did you miss out? Call us today to book a campus tour! [WATCH HERE >](#)

## TEACHING & LEARNING: THINK-PAIR-SHARE & CO-TEACHING



Read about the fantastic learning and teaching strategies taking place in Year 7 learning such as "Think-Pair-Share", gallery walks and other cooperative teaching strategies throughout EHR and MSP. Students are gaining confidence in sharing their ideas with peers as well as their whole class!

[READ MORE >](#)

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

A day doesn't go by without bullying of some kind being in the news. We usually focus on helping the victims – but what about the bullies? What can be done for them besides punishment? And, most worryingly, could my child be a bully? Bullying is too important to ignore. Young people who bully others are more likely to do poorly in school, turn to violence as a way to deal with problems, damage property or steal, abuse drugs or alcohol, and get in trouble with the law. So what can you do?

[READ MORE >](#)

## STAGE 6 UPDATES



The Year 11, 2016 students commented about how easy it has been to settle into life at Nirimba. Students are enjoying working in a new senior culture and are relishing the opportunity to enhance their skills as independent learners. Year 11 have been enjoying Learning Enrichment, Reflection Day and various excursions so far in Term 1. Below is a photo from the year 11 biology/senior science excursion to Penrith Lakes.

Year 12 are nearing the end of the first semester of their HSC year. Students have returned to school after their 9 day HSC Mid-course examination block. It was pleasing to see the way in which the students conducted themselves through their exam period. Year 12 Jerseys have been delivered and as you can see they look fabulous!

[READ MORE >](#)

## STJP II 'PROGRESSION' ALBUM FOR SALE



The StJP II Kool Schools Album, "Progression" is now available to purchase! The award winning album features songs from several years gone by at the College and includes students from Years 7 - 12 in 2015. [Click here for purchasing details.](#)

## HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES FOR LOCAL PARISHES

Holy Week Mass Times at our local parishes can be found at the link below, including details for Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill, St John's Riverstone and many more. All of us in the St John Paul II Catholic College would like to wish everyone a happy Easter!

[Mass details for local parishes can be found here](#)