



Newsletter

August 2016—Term 3 Issue 7

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KEY DATES

Aug 8-12: 2016 Years 8 and 10 Religious Literacy Assessment Trial
Aug 8: St Mary Mackillop's Feast Day
Aug 8: Chat Group
Aug 9: College Council Meeting
Aug 12: Year 9 Mary & Saints Expo
Aug 12: Year 11, 2017 Round 1 Subject Selection Submission
Aug 15-18: Years 9-10 Examinations
Aug 19: Pupil Free Day due to Staff Learning Day
Aug 22-26: 2016 Year 8 Religious Literacy Assessment online Test at Schofields
Aug 22-26: Book Week

CONTACT US

All correspondence:

85 Hambledon Road
Schofields NSW 2762

PH: 02 9208 7200

stjohnpaul2@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



There are many well wishes going around as we reach one of the busiest times in the year! We congratulate all those involved with the College Musical, Back to the 80s, and their amazing performances, we thank all the parents/caregivers who attended the Parent/Caregiver/Student/Teacher interviews in Week 2 and wish our Year 12 students the best of luck as they work through their HSC trials.

We also wish to remind parents and caregivers that there will be Staff Learning Day on Friday 19th August. The focus of the day for staff will centre on the writing process and descriptive feedback to improve student performance. As this will be a pupil free day there will be no classes on that day. The main office will be open only at the Schofields campus. However, as always, the College will assist parents/caregivers if there are difficulties in arranging care for their son/daughter on this day.

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FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

On Monday July 25 over 550 families attended the Parent/Caregiver/Teacher/Student Interview day. It was a chance to discuss the Semester 1 reports and to address any concerns that may have been raised. Students were able to discuss the strategies that may help them to improve in their learning. Above all it was an opportunity to strengthen the partnership between school and home so that all are working in the best interests of the students and their learning and well-being. We would like to thank all staff and families for attending.

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PRAYER

Last Sunday at the parish we celebrated Marriage and Family Sunday, where we remember, honour and pray for all marriages and families. In this year of Mercy, we reflect upon Pope Francis' teaching in Amoris Laetitia. He tells us that we need to not focus on the rules, but rather focus on how to live, how to cultivate virtues and how to love one another. He understands marriages and are difficult and complex relationships. He says on his transformational message that we have rules, yes, but they are this idealistic way to live rather than provide useful guidance for helping people live in the 'messiness of hard complex relationships.'

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STILL ACCEPTING 2017 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS!

News, Updates and Reports

NOTICES

- [Friday Morning Prayer schedule available:](#) fortnightly at Schofields Prayer Room at 7.45am
- Chat Group: Monday, 8 August, 10am at the Schofields Campus Conference Room—discussing careers with Joe Evans (Careers Advisor) and the new HSC standards for 2020—all welcome to join!
- [Privacy Notice](#) from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority
- [Download the Term 3 Calendar of Events](#)

UPCOMING VINNIES DOORKNOCK APPEAL

The 2016 Vinnies Doorknock Appeal is taking place on August 20 - 21 and you're invited! Gather a group of friends and family and donate a few hours of your time fundraising for those in our community less fortunate. Collectors will meet at the StJPII Nirimba Campus, Eastern Road, Quakers Hill anytime between 9am and 2pm. More information and permission note is [available here](#).

BLACKTOWN COUNCIL PLANT DONATIONS

Each year Blacktown City Council provide two free plants per household to be collected. If you have not yet collected your free plants and don't think you will use them, why not consider donating the plants to the College?

[INFORMATION HERE](#)

SCHOOL FEES NOTICE AND REMINDER

The Broken Bay Diocese recently announced significant increases to their school fees in some schools which were widely broadcast in the media recently. Please note that these increases do not affect our Diocese or school. Term 3 fees were posted out on Monday, 25 July 2016 and fall due/payable by Monday, 22 August 2016. Please contact Jean Webb on 9208-7239 if you have not received your statement. [READ MORE >](#)

LATEST NEWS

STJPII MUSICAL WAS A HIT!



After 8 months of hard work and preparation we finally were able to showcase the talents of our students in the musical "Back to the 80's". We hope we have given those students involved, a high school memory that they will never forget. [READ MORE >](#)

STJPII WYD PILGRIMS IN POLAND



StJPII World Youth Day pilgrims did some amazing mission work in Bohol, Philippines and have now arrived in Kraków, Poland for WYD 2016! Catch up on the mission work and adventures they have been on so far, including their visit to a very important place of St John Paul II. [READ MORE >](#)

STAGE 4 & 5 SEMESTER AWARDS



On Wednesday, 27 July, parents/caregivers, students and staff gathered for the Stage 4 & 5 Semester One Award Ceremonies, where students were recognised for their academic achievements and great efforts from throughout the year so far. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 9 MULTICULTURAL DAY



On the last day of Term 2, Year 9 gathered for their annual Multicultural Day where they performed dances, shared food and learnt facts about many different countries! Check it out the awesome recap of the day. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY INVESTIGATE



our Year 12 Chemistry students became investigators at the Australian National Maritime Museum! The students had a very informative tour of the museum before investigating the conservation and restoration of the anchor from "Sirius" that sank in 1790. [READ MORE >](#)

NURSING HOME VISITS



During Learning Enrichment in Term 2, some Year 8 students visited Quakers Hill Nursing Home and spent some time with the residents! Students had the opportunity to chat, play games, give Mother's Day card/gifts and even share new technology with them. [READ MORE >](#)

NEW HSC STANDARDS FROM 2020

From 2020, in order to be eligible for the HSC, students will be required to reach a minimum literacy and numeracy standard. The standard is set at the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) Level 3, which is a nationally agreed standard of functional literacy and numeracy. Students can demonstrate that they meet the standard by achieving either...

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COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

As adults we know that the quest for meaning can entail struggle, darkness, confusion, disillusionment, suffering; there can be a loss of innocence from inside (why do I keep stuffing up?) or outside (illness, injury, betrayal, loss, bereavement, failure). That struggle, perhaps seen in comments reflecting worthlessness, hopelessness, or futility, or in pervasive negativity and anger, can be depressing. Here's a challenging question: could some of the depression that teenagers experience be an understandable reaction to the struggle for meaning in their lives?

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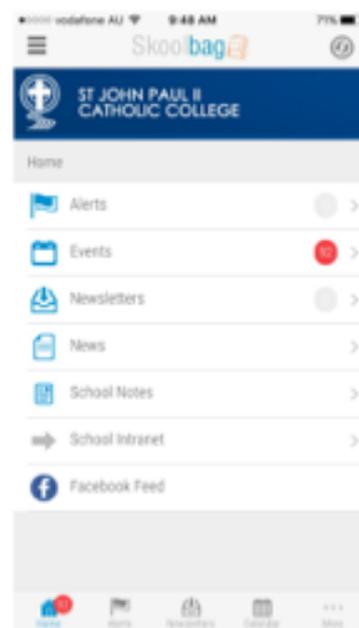


Search "St John Paul II Catholic College" in your app store and download FOR FREE!

Receive push notifications, alerts/notices, school notes, events and more in the palm of your hand.



Available on all Apple and android devices!



TEACHING & LEARNING: Slomation Videos & Experiments



Year 7 have found some very exciting and interesting ways to learn about water cycles and sustainability! Miss Goodwin's class has created a slowmation movie and Miss Noney's class has performed experiments to make their own discoveries!

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DIOCESAN EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

[Click here for a complete list of upcoming events and opportunities!](#)

STAGE 4 REPORT



It has definitely been a busy first two terms of the year for all of our students, but it's always a little more exciting for those Year 7 students who have just begun their high school journey. Jordan shares with us all the adventures and challenges of Year 7 so far as we reach half way in 2016, including Ancient China and Medieval studies, learning enrichment programs, sport activities and more!

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