



Newsletter

October 2016—Term 4 Issue 10

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KEY DATES

31 Oct: Year 7 2017 Transition Day
31 Oct: Parent Chat Group 9.15am
1 Nov: Year 9 All Saints Mass
1 Nov: International Teachers Day
4 Nov: HSC Exams conclude
8 Nov: Year 9 Reflection Day
(classes 9.01-9.04)
9 Nov: Year 9 Reflection Day
(classes 9.05-9.08)
16 Nov: Year 11 RYDA
18 Nov: Stage 6 Year 11 Semester
Two Awards (Nirimba)

Term 4 Calendar of Events is now
available to download!

[CLICK HERE](#)

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From the Principal - Mr Fanning

As we commence Term 4 we keep our Year 12 students in mind as they complete their HSC examinations which commenced on Thursday 13 October. We have also recently commenced interviews with our current Year 11 students asking them a series of questions about their classes and their hopes for the upcoming time as Year 12 students.

There have been several leadership changes within the college. As you are aware from previous announcements. Mr Phil Smith is now working with the Catholic Education Office - Diocese of Parramatta working with several primary and secondary schools in regards to improving their learning and teaching. It was announced earlier in Term 3 that Mrs Kathy Cairns has submitted her resignation as Assistant Principal, effective from the end of this year. Kathy is looking for some other challenges in her life and while stepping down as Assistant Principal, she may look at remaining in education in some form. After 18 years at Terra Sancta/St JPII CC Mr Ken Wolffe – Assistant Principal will be working with the St Agnes Catholic High School, Rooty Hill in the same leadership role commencing Term 1 2017.

The new leadership model of the College will include Principal and 3 Assistant Principals. Mr Peter Regan has already commenced with us this term as Assistant Principal. Peter held this same leadership role at St Agnes Catholic High School, Rooty Hill for several years. The two other Assistant Principal positions have been advertised and will be finalised before the end of this term. With this change in leadership we will learn and discover further insights about how we can continue to improve the learning of all students at our College. [READ MORE >](#)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

We know that good relationships are the basis for learning and that anything that affects relationships [such as inappropriate behaviour] impacts on learning. However, we also need to challenge inappropriate behaviour in a way that can be experienced as an opportunity for learning. A major question we ask ourselves is, "How do you challenge students in a way that helps them think about their behaviour, yet still allow them to feel okay about themselves and you?" We believe that one of the answers to this question lies in Restorative Justice, a program that we have been using for many years now.

[READ MORE >](#)

PRAYER

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others. "Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven. [Catholic Culture]

[READ MORE >](#)

STILL ACCEPTING 2017 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS!

SCHOOL FEES NOTICE

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Please note that all school fee accounts for 2016 should be finalised by Friday 9 December 2016, unless you have contacted the school office and made other arrangements to extend your payment arrangement.

Should you be experiencing financial difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Jean Webb on 9208-7239 or Mr Andrew Noney on 9208-7238 to discuss this matter further. We would like to thank those families that have finalised their accounts for 2016.

Mr Andrew Noney (Business Manager)

TERM 4 CALENDAR AVAILABLE

The Term 4 Calendar of Events is available to download, print off and pop on your fridge!

[Click here](#) to download

SKOOLBAG APP ON YOUR PHONE

The College encourages all parents/caregivers to download the new communication service to more easily access important information. "Skoolbag" is a smartphone application that allows parents/caregivers to easily access a range of information about the College from a smartphone or device. Skoolbag is available to download for free on both Apple and android devices including smartphones, tablets and computers. Please find details and instructions as to how to download the application onto different devices [here](#).

For those who have already downloaded the application, we remind you that there are settings available to receive information specifically for your child's Year group. Find this in the app in "More" > "Set Up Push Notifications".

If you have any questions regarding Skoolbag, please email Rachel Aquilina, Communications and Marketing Officer, at raquilina1@parra.catholic.edu.au.

LATEST NEWS

REP SPORTS PRESENTATION BBQ



On 19 October, over 500 students, parents and staff gathered for the annual Representative Sports Presentation BBQ! The Presentation acknowledged the achievements of all our great sports stars in the College, celebrating the strong sports culture that we have had here for many years. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 11 SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY



On 12 October, our Year 11 Science students got a taste of university, participating in workshops at Western Sydney University! Students experienced university-focused classes in a range of sciences offered at the University, including Biology, Senior Science, Physics and Chemistry. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 10 AT STJPII FEAST DAY MASS



On 26 October, Year 10 gathered at the Mary Immaculate Church to celebrate the Feast Day of St John Paul II. The theme of the mass was -"You are the hope of the Church, and of the world. You are my hope". Both Fr Ruben and Mr Fanning challenged Year 10 to live their lives with love for each other. [READ MORE >](#)

IN THE STUDIOS FOR KOOL SKOOLS



Miss Vella and our talented Year 9 - 12 music students have been busy in the studios recording for the annual "Kool Skools" Recording Project! Our music students have the opportunity to write and produce original songs and record their own album for the big competition with other schools in the Diocese. [READ MORE >](#)

DIOCESE MISSION MASS & EXPO



Year 11 WYD Pilgrims and Vinnies Van students attended the Diocesan Mission Mass at St Patricks Cathedral Parramatta! This occasion precedes and highlights World Mission Sunday, the day traditionally set aside for Catholics to recommit themselves to the Church's missionary activity throughout the world. [READ MORE >](#)

TEACHERS VS STUDENTS SOCCER



On 23 September, STJPII gathered to watch the annual staff/students soccer match. It was an extremely close game, where the lead continuously bounced between the two teams. College Groundsman, Ashley Watts, made his first goal in 13 years of playing. This was motivation for Student FC, as they took victory over the teachers! [READ MORE >](#)

WATCH

YEAR 9 PEER SUPPORT GETS FASHIONABLE



Year 9 students took part in a Peer Support Training program in preparation for Year 10 next year. One of the most enjoyable and anticipated activities was the Newspaper Fashion Show where students design their best outfit with newspaper to parade to their peers down the catwalk at the end of the day.

[WATCH HERE](#)

NIRIMBA ATSI STUDENT CONFERENCE



On 19 October, over 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from a range of attended the 2016 "Go For Gold" Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Conference. The conference celebrated the success of ATSI students and inspired students to achieve their own successes through a range of workshops and presentations throughout the day.

[WATCH HERE](#)

YEAR 10 'ENDLESS PRAISE' REFLECTION DAYS



Year 10 students experienced a very special Reflection Day with the inspirational group, "Endless Praise" that included a range of activities, songs and reflections about "Service to Others". Through these activities the students bonded, shared stories, and reflected on the importance of offering service to others in our lives.

[WATCH HERE](#)

ST JOHN PAUL II/TERRA SANCTA DAY



St John Paul II/Terra Sancta Day is the biggest event for the College every year, celebrating our graduating students and the pride we all take in being members of the St John Paul II Catholic College community. Check out all the fun and great memories from StJPII/Terra Sancta Day this year!

[WATCH HERE](#)

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

At St John Paul II Catholic College we are acutely conscious of this impact and we work to address it in several ways. Firstly, we educate for wellbeing, particularly in the PDHPE curriculum, but also through Learning Enrichment, pastoral care days, reflection days and retreats, and through various talks and events such as RUOK day. We work to increase positive relationships using restorative practices and to reduce bullying using the method of shared concern.

[READ MORE >](#)

STAGE 4 UPDATES: TERM 4



Year 7 are currently preparing for Ninja Day 2016 coming up in Week 7! During class and Learning Enrichment, students are taking part in activities such as origami, learning History of Japan and history of Ninja's, Haiku poetry, making class flags, practising ninja games and more. Year 8 are also preparing for their big Pirate Day in Week 6!

[READ MORE >](#)

TEACHING & LEARNING: Year 7 Jigsaw Learning



'Jigsaw' is the name given to a task that requires students looking at the smaller pieces of a task, topic or idea and then collating to put together the whole picture. In Year 7 MSP co-teaching, we completed a jigsaw about communicable diseases.

[READ MORE >](#)

DIocese EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Parramatta has a range of events and opportunities over the next few months that could be of interest to you!

[Click here](#) to view the list of upcoming events.