



# Newsletter

May 2016—Term 2 Issue 4

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



As you are aware we have been focusing very much on school attendance this year and our efforts are having significant results with student attendance rates climbing. We know that students who attend school regularly find it easier to keep up with work and they also find it easier to form strong friendships with others. Regular attendance at school not only helps students understand and complete school work it also provides valuable social and cultural experiences.

Recently ANZAC Day ceremonies were held at the Schofields and Nirimba Campuses to pay respect those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for all of us. Finally, if you are aware of families who have not applied to attend St John Paul II Catholic College in 2017, please let them know that they need to send their application in now otherwise they may miss out on being enrolled.

[READ MORE >](#)

### KEY DATES

**16 May:** Parent Chat Group—Schofields Campus @ 10am

**16 - 18 May:** Year 12 Retreat

**23 May:** Year 7 2017 Offer of Enrolment letter mailed out

**24 May:** College Council Meeting

Download the Term 2 Calendar of Events and pop it on your fridge for easy reminders of all the upcoming events at the College!

[CLICK HERE](#)

### CONTACT US

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### FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

**Kids want parents to obey these 7 technology rules:** Are these rules parents have for their children? Think again. There are some rules for internet and phone use that, given the chance, children would set for their parents. researchers say the study is among the first to explore children's expectations for parents' technology use. [READ MORE >](#)

**Explaining the Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank (ATAR):** As the year progresses, students in Year 11 and 12 are beginning to receive feedback about how they are achieving in their subjects. Read more for frequently asked questions about ATARs. [READ MORE >](#)

### PRAYER

St. Joseph has two feast days on the liturgical calendar. The first is March 19—Joseph, the Husband of Mary. The second is May 1—Joseph, the Worker. There is very little about the life of Joseph in Scripture but still, we know that he was the chaste husband of Mary, the foster father of Jesus, a carpenter and a man who was not wealthy. We also know that he came from the royal lineage of King David. We can see from his actions in scripture that Joseph was a compassionate man, and obedient to the will of God. He also loved Mary and Jesus and wanted to protect and provide for them. Joseph is the patron of many things, including the universal Church, fathers, the dying and social justice. [READ MORE >](#)

**STILL ACCEPTING 2017 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS!**

## News, Updates and Reports

### SCHOOL FEES

Term 2 fees were posted out on Tuesday, 3 May, and fall due/payable by Monday, 30 May 2016. Please contact Jean Webb on 9208 7239 if you have not received your statement.

Should you wish to discuss your account or apply for an extension of time please contact with Jean Webb (9208 7239) or Andrew Noney (9208 7238).

Thank you to those parents/caregivers who have paid or are paying off their school fees through an arrangement.

### ENROL NOW FOR 2017!

The College will still be accepting 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. We look forward to welcoming many new students to the St John Paul II Catholic College community in 2017!

### 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.](#)

### 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

#### YEAR 11/12 RE CONFERENCE



Year 11 and Year 12 Studies of Religion classes attended the "Studies of Religion Conference" at Nirimba Precinct to assist with SOR HSC preparation.

[READ MORE >](#)

#### STEP UP INTO TEACHING



Five St John Paul II students from Year 12 have recently received their results after completing a university course at the Australian Catholic University called "Step Up Into Teaching"!

[READ MORE >](#)

#### STJP II ANZAC CEREMONIES



Students reflected on the time of the ANZACs at three very intimate ANZAC ceremonies held with the three Stages. Students respectfully attended and listened to some inspiring history. [READ MORE >](#)

#### 2016 COLLEGE MUSICAL IS HERE—REHEARSALS UNDERWAY



St John Paul II Catholic College is pleased to announce that rehearsals have started for this year's musical "Back to the 80's". Keep an eye out for advertising and ticket details coming soon! [READ MORE >](#)



## YEAR 12 ART MAJORS PROGRESS



Our Year 12 Visual Arts students have been working very hard towards their HSC major body of work with great enthusiasm and pride! Mrs Brooks says that the students understand that "great art takes time." [READ MORE >](#)

## ANZAC MARCH @ RIVERSTONE



This ANZAC Day students from our senior Student Representative Council joined other StJP II students and Mrs Sundstrom for the annual ANZAC Day March and Dawn Service at Riverstone RSL. [READ MORE >](#)

## MERIT MORNING TEA



27 April, 60 students from Years 7 - 12 were recognised at the first RISE UP Merit Morning Tea for 2016! Throughout the year, students can receive merits for either of the RISE UP behaviours. [READ MORE >](#)

## TEACHING & LEARNING: Co-Teaching & Tea Parties



To learn or to have a tea party - why not both? A tea party is when students create both an inner and outer circle, facing each other. Each student is armed with an interesting fact about the current topic which they share with the person standing in front of them. The students partake in educational discussions about their new found information using accountable talk and are then asked to move around the circle and share their information and discuss with someone new. [READ MORE >](#)

## StJP II RAISES OVER \$7000 FOR CARITAS AUSTRALIA!

# LEARNING MORE CREATING CHANGE



Each year St John Paul II Catholic College comes together during the time of Lent to support Caritas Australia with Project Compassion. This year the StJP II community were challenged to raise \$7000 in support of the "Learning More, Creating Change" campaign for Project Compassion 2016. The College has raised \$7,971.40 to be exact! Thank you to the StJP II community for your generosity!

[READ MORE >](#)

## StJP II ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2016



Students of StJP II turned into sports stars and athletes on Tuesday, 3 May, as they hit the tracks and sporting fields at Blacktown International Sports Park for their annual Athletics Sports Carnival! Each year, all students from Years 7 - 12 gather for a day full of sports, fun and team spirit. Brady came first place on the points board at 1051, followed by Locke at 861, Therry at 826 and Cross at 644! [READ MORE >](#)

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

In news sure to upset those who think that 'the dismal science' of economics is narrowly focused on arcane measures of dubious reliability based on an inadequate model of how humans behave, some researchers from the London School of Economics have been wondering about what makes for a woolly thing like adult life satisfaction. Specifically, they wonder about which childhood predictors make a difference. Seriously, the question matters – what makes for adult wellbeing? Every parent/carer wants to see their child flourish and turn into a happy adult.

[READ MORE >](#)

## STAGE 4 UPDATES



Year 7 2016 have now completed their very first term of high school at StJP II! Year 7 students Nicole Azzi and Faith Estrada tell us about their experiences in their first term of high school, including the swimming carnival, Year 7 Camp and project compassion fund raising. [READ MORE >](#)