



# StJP II Newsletter

## February 2018 - Issue 1

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### Key Dates

**Mar 2:** School Photo Catch Up Day  
**Mar 5:** College Swimming Carnival @ Riverstone Pools  
**Mar 12:** StJP II Open Evening @ Schofields, Years 7 - 12  
Enrolment Information Tours, 4pm - 8pm  
**Mar 19:** Year 12 mid-course exams commence, Parent Chat Group @ Schofields, 10am  
**Mar 22:** Year 7 Camp @ Yarramundi  
**Mar 23:** Next College Newsletter available

**TERM 1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD [HERE](#)**

### **CONTACT US** All correspondence:

85 Hambledon Road  
Schofields NSW 2762

PH: 02 9208 7200

[stjohnpaul2@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjohnpaul2@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnpaul2.catholic.edu.au)

## From the Principal - Mr Fanning

Welcome to 2018. The students, both old and new, have arrived with enthusiasm for the year and are progressing well already. In particular we welcome the Year 7 students to St John Paul II, all 200 of them, as well the new students in Years 8 -12. We have seen all the new students settling in well and being supported by their peers and teachers who care for them. As we progress through 2018 we will continue to emphasise to all students the need to do their best, care for one another and concentrate on their learning making the college a place which has a unique and dynamic learning experience.

[READ MORE >](#)

## PRAYER

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. The season prepares us to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded of what we are when no longer sustained by God: dust. The message of Ash Wednesday is not morbid—it is a joyful reminder that, with God's life within us, we are so much more than dust and ashes! Read more for information about Caritas Australia's Project Compassion work for 2018.

[READ MORE >](#)

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS: Ms Refalo, Mr Regan & Ms Roach

We have been very happy to welcome all students to school for the start of the 2018 school year. It is lovely to see students return after a restful break, and we have particularly enjoyed welcoming the new cohort of Year 7 students to our high school community.

For students in Year 10 -12, forming a habit of regular home study is important for achieving academic success and reducing stress. We recommend 3 hours per week night and 3 hours over the weekend for Year 11 and 12 students.

Our annual Open Night is coming up on the afternoon of March 12, 2018. Please let your friends know about this event, particularly if they have children in Years 5 or 6, or in Year 9 or 10 at St John Paul II or another school. If your son or daughter would like to support their school at this time, please ask them to see their SLL for instructions and a permission note.

We would also like to remind families about some practical aspects that unify us as a community. The school uniform is to be worn as it has been designed. Please read on for more information.

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEARS 7-12 ENROLMENTS OPEN NOW

## SCHOOL FEES & TRANSACTIONS

School Fee Statements were posted to parents and caregivers last week.

Term 1 fees are due by Monday, 21 March, 2018. Enclosed with your statement is a Flexible Payment Plan should you wish to take this offer up please complete the on-line form or complete the form and return them in the self-addressed envelope provided.

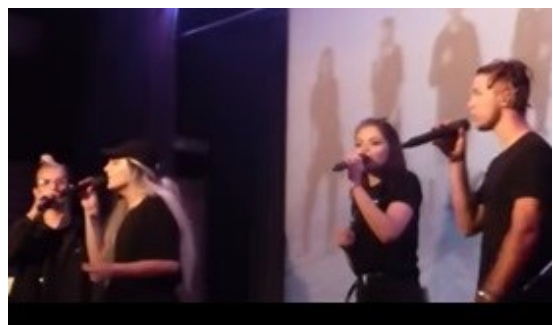
We would also like to make parents/caregivers aware that the incorrect biller code has been printed on the Term 1 School Fees statements. For any parents/caregivers making any future BPay payments, please use biller code 565036.

For those who have already made a payment to the incorrect biller code (636068), if you have not received your fee statement, would like to make a payment arrangement other than the Flexible Payment Plan or if you require any financial assistance, please contact Mrs Jean Webb on 9208-7239.

### WATCH: YEAR 7'S FIRST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL



### WATCH: YEAR 11 REFLECTION DAY (IRON & CLAY)



## LATEST NEWS

### DEBUNKING THE CAPA HSC MYTH



Many students are encouraged to withdraw from Creative and Performing Art subjects for their final year of study under the misguided belief it will have an adverse effect on their ATAR, thinking the creative subjects are scaled down. Luis Reyes, (Year 12, 2017) debunked that myth. Luis received a Band 6 for his Music 1 course, meaning over his HSC year of study, he received a mark of above 90%!

[READ MORE >](#)

### SHROVE TUESDAY + ASH WEDNESDAY



Last Tuesday and Wednesday, students took part in a range of special activities and liturgies to mark the beginning of Lent - celebrating Shrove/Pancake Tuesday and Ash Wednesday! Students learnt the importance of these special events within the launch of our Caritas Australia Project Compassion campaign for 2018.

[READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 12 DRAMA 'ONSTAGE'



Our Year 12 Drama students recently attended "onStage" at the Seymour Centre to check out exemplary HSC works & performances from 2017! This was a great opportunity for students to get ideas and inspiration as they begin their HSC major works.

[READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 12 JEWISH WEDDING



On February 13, our Year 12 Studies of Religion students celebrated a mock Jewish wedding with all the trimmings! Students were fortunate to have Rabbi Cohen come and speak to them about the significance of marriage, and talk them through the important symbols and rituals of a Jewish marriage ceremony.

[READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 12 LEARN STJPII MARKETING



Year 12 Business Studies students have been studying marketing and on February 7 we were privileged to have the schools Communications and Marketing Officer, Miss Rachel Aquilina, present to us on her role in the school and the evolution of marketing and communication at the college.

[READ MORE >](#)

## JOSHDEEP'S FIRST DAY OF YEAR 7



"After months of waiting, this was it! I was going to high school. I felt like I was in kindergarten, it was strange thinking about a new chapter in your life... After that the bell rang I didn't want to leave school because it was so fun and interesting! Overall my first day was a day I could never forget.

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEAR 7 IPAD DAY



Year 7 learnt the rules and ropes of iPad use at StJPII during their 'iPad Day'! Students got to test out their new apps and gadgets, emails and good online etiquette in a rotation of workshops throughout the day. It is great to see students making the most of the educational opportunities made possible with technology!

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEAR 9 PDHPE SKILLS FOR LIFE



Year 9 PDHPE have been studying the topic skills for life. They are learning about their sense of self and techniques to build resilience in themselves and using exercise as a way to destress. Some activities that they have include yoga, pilates, tai chi, boot camp, box fit and a variety of team sports.

[READ MORE >](#)

## PATHWAYS & CAREERS

### YEAR 10 STUDENTS START 7 WEEK TAFE EXPERIENCE



Three Year 10 students have taken up the opportunity of attending TAFE and completing carpentry, refrigeration and bricklaying for 7 weeks! These students will get a taste of different trades as they approach their senior years of high school. Not only are the students enjoying the program, but their eager attitudes towards the experience may lead to apprenticeship offers at the completion of the course!

[READ MORE >](#)

### CAREERS: ADVICE TO PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Start having conversations with your teenager about what they might want to do when they finish school as early as when they are in Years 9 and 10. Even if your son/daughter is planning to go on to Year 12, exploring their options early will help them to focus and prepare for the future. This will also guide them in choosing senior subjects that are relevant to their aspirations! This can be a daunting process, so I've compiled some tips for helping your child assess their career options and selecting the career path for them. Opening your teenager's eyes to the possibilities that are out there is important in helping them choose the right path for them. The earlier they start doing this the better!

[READ MORE >](#)

## PATHWAYS & CAREERS

### REPRESENTATIVE SPORTS UPDATE

Boys MCS Cricket and Basketball competitions continue from last term with teams pushing for a spot in the semi finals in weeks 5 and 6. Girls MCCS Volleyball and Touch Football competitions have commenced with all games at Doyle Park, Parramatta each week.

Boys will commence Soccer and Rugby League tryouts during PACT sport over the coming weeks in preparation for the season start later in term 1. Students keep an eye out for emails and notices for tryout days. Girls will have tryouts for Hockey, AFL and Netball towards the end of term 1 for term 2 competition. Keep an eye out for notices.

**Monday 5th March.** The College Swimming Carnival is fast approaching. This is compulsory for all year 7 students and competitors from year 8-12. The carnival will be held at Riverstone Pools from 10.15am - 1.45pm with students returning back to school in time for buses. Parents/Caregivers are invited to attend the carnival to support students.

### YEAR 8 SRC SHARE MESSAGES TO YEAR 8 COHORT

Our Year 8 SRC have written some very encouraging and positive messages to share to their Year 8 cohort around hard work, RISING UP in 2018, preparing homerooms for the big Pirate Day and earning more points in their homeroom competition! [READ MORE >](#)

### COUNSELLOR'S CORNER UPDATE

Welcome to parents/carers new to St John Paul II Catholic College, and welcome back to regular readers from previous years. For those who don't know, free confidential counselling is available here at school 5 days a week for students to assist them with a whole range of issues related to learning, friendships, peer relationships, family matters, handling strong feelings, risky behaviours – in fact, anything that's concerning them. Last year I was involved with about 1 in 7 students, either by talking with them directly or by working with staff, parents/carers, or other professionals to assist them. A tenth of those students were referred by their parent/carer. We are all aware that many young people are dealing with mental health issues. [READ MORE >](#)

### LEARNING AND TEACHING UPDATE

#### 'Ahoy there me hearties':

Year 8 have kicked off learning enrichment this year with Pirate Day preparation. Pirate Day is an annual event at StJPII that focuses on literacy and numeracy development with an added Pirate twist. Year 8 will be celebrating Pirate Day on the 15th March. More information to come closer to the date.

**Team Game Tournament** - will be starting in week 5 of this term. Homerooms have the chance to compete with each other in literacy, numeracy and general knowledge. Homerooms will accumulate points over the remainder of the term and the winning homeroom at the end of the term will receive a pizza lunch!

# St John Paul II Catholic College

Meet our welcoming College  
community & explore our  
educational opportunities!

Year 7 2019/2020 enrolment  
information, Years 7—12 subject  
stalls, tours, BBQ & more.

## OPEN EVENING

12 MARCH 4PM - 8PM

### SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS



SCHOFIELDS CAMPUS (YEARS 7-10)

85 HAMBLEDON ROAD, SCHOFIELDS

NIRIMBA CAMPUS (YEARS 11-12)

EASTERN ROAD, QUAKERS HILL

9208 7200 

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Catholic College