



# StJPII Newsletter

## March 2018 - Issue 2

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### Key Dates

**26 Mar:** Homework Club @ Schofields  
**29 Mar:** Easter Liturgy @ Schofields (8.10am) & Nirimba (12.35pm)  
**30 Mar:** Good Friday Public Holiday  
**2 Apr:** Easter Monday Public Holiday  
**4 Apr:** Year 7 Reflection Day @ Mulgoa  
**9 Apr:** School Interviews @ Schofields (3.30pm—7pm)  
**10 Apr:** School Interviews @ Schofields (3.30pm—7pm)  
**13 Apr:** Last day of Term 1  
**27 Apr:** Year 7 2019 Enrolments close  
**30 Apr:** Pupil Free Day  
**1 May:** Term 2 commences  
**9 May:** Year 7 2019 non-feeder school Enrolment Interviews  
**17 May:** Year 12 Semester 1 Awards

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## From the Principal - Mr Fanning

This Term we have witnessed college events which are in addition to the daily timetabled learning and teaching experiences and 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. Our Open Evening attendance numbers should also serve to remind parents and caregivers that it is important to submit enrolment applications promptly to ensure a place at St John Paul II Catholic College in 2019. If you know of a family that wishes to enrol their son/daughter in Year 7 at the College in 2019 please advise them to contact the College to obtain an enrolment information pack prior to the end of term one vacation break.

At the end of this term we say farewell to Mrs Kristine Hutchinson who has been a member of our teaching staff for the last five years. We are also farewelling Ms Rachel Aquilina on Friday, 20 April, who has been our Communications and Marketing Officer for the last four years. We welcome Mr Kel Haynes to our College who has been appointed as Business Manager replacing Andrew Noney who retired at the end of last year.

This article also includes information on upcoming Pupil Free Days and Project Compassion. As we move closer to Easter our students are continuing their Lenten practice of working for Project Compassion and each completing daily donations. We thank families for their support.

[READ MORE >](#)

## PRAYER



Religion classes have been taking part in a special 'Stations of the Cross' liturgy of their own, where they visit the 14 crosses placed on Campus, representing the 14 stations. Students also each created a special little cross that will be given to someone else during the big Easter Liturgy next Thursday!

[READ MORE >](#)

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

**RIGOUR:** The dictionary defines rigour as "the quality of being detailed, careful and complete". As a College we are working to improve our culture of rigour through the quality of the learning and teaching in order that each of our students has the opportunity to achieve their personal and academic goals.

**ASSESSMENT:** Assessment is an important tool for both students and teachers. For students it provides them with the opportunity to demonstrate, on a daily basis, what they know and can do; for teachers it is valuable feedback on the impact we are having on student learning.

**ATTENDANCE:** There is no substitute for being in the classroom. Yes, work can be accessed electronically or via a textbook; but these do not replicate the multitude of classroom experiences. If your child has had more than 3 days of consecutive unexplained absences or has accrued 10 or more full or partial day absences their homeroom teacher will be in touch to discuss ways we can support you and them to be at school and learning.

**UNIFORM:** This is also a timely reminder to check that the winter uniform is ready for Term 2. We will be transitioning to this uniform in Week 1 with all students expected to be in full winter uniform by Monday Week 2.

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEARS 7-12 ENROLMENTS OPEN NOW

## NOTICES

### SCHOOL FEES

Just a reminder that Term 2 fees were posted out on Monday, 1 May 2017 and fall due/payable by Monday, 29 May 2017. 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 Mrs Jean Webb on 9208-7239.

### 2018 NAPLAN INFORMATION

NAPLAN 2017 will be taking place for Year 7 and Year 9 students from 15-17 May. Please feel free to contact the College if you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN testing for your child.

[NAPLAN 2018 Letter for Parents/Caregivers](#)

[NAPLAN 2018 Parent/Caregiver Information](#)

### YOU'RE INVITED—STJPII EASTER LITURGY DETAILS



**Join us!**  
**Thursday, 29 March**

**Schofields Campus:**  
**8.10am**  
**Nirimba Campus:**  
**12.35pm**

### HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES & FIRST COMMUNION

[Click here](#) for Holy Week Mass times for all local parishes and program details for those wishing to make their first Holy Communion.

### WATCH: 2018 OPEN EVENING

Check out all the action from our Open Evening [HERE](#).  
Miss the Open Evening? Call to book a tour today!

## LATEST NEWS

### YEAR 12 LIVING HISTORY TIMELINE



To illustrate what they had learnt so far students interacted with a 'living timeline' students worked together as a class to match up the key events that they had studied with important dates for German history. Students enjoyed engaging with this topic!

[READ MORE >](#)

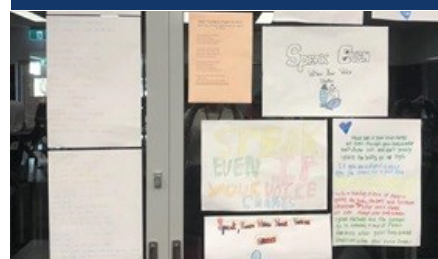
### PUBLIC SPEAKING STARS



A number of StJPII students represented the College at the CSDA Public Speaking Competition! All gave it their best and presented with great skill. Maddison Cauchi (Year 8) and Anointed Erhunwunse (Year 11) progressed through to the semi finals and Demi Spiteri (Year 9) to the grand final!

[READ MORE >](#)

### SPEAK, EVEN IF YOUR VOICE SHAKES



Last Friday, Miss Turner's Year 8 class wrote some very moving poetry in light of the 'Speak, even if your voice shakes' movement promoted for the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. What a great way to reflect on the importance of such a day!

[READ MORE >](#)

### A NIGHT WITH VINNIES VAN



StJPII recently headed out with the Vinnies Van. Student, Anointed Erhunwunse, filled us in on her experience! 'The night was pretty cool because I wouldn't usually get the chance to communicate with individuals who do find it difficult sometimes. Serving them was indeed a pleasure...'

[READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 12 S&C GUEST SPEAKER



The Year 12 Society & Culture class listened to a guest speaker John Cinya (Refugee School Liaison Officer) who shared his journey as a Refugee. He informed the students about the daily social exclusion he experienced from South Sudan to first settling in Australia.

[READ MORE >](#)

### STJPII JERSEY DAY



StJPII community were invited to wear their favourite sporting team colours and bring along a gold coin donation to raise money for our big Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal for 2018. Not only was the College bright in colours but we raised over \$500!

[READ MORE >](#)

## ATSI WELCOME LUNCH AT NEP



Staff and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) students from our four partners within the Precinct gathered for the annual ATSI Welcome Lunch! The lunch included some great ice-breaker activities and a talk from a NRL representative introducing some upcoming programs for these students. [READ MORE >](#)

## HARMONY DAY—YEAR 8 ITALIAN



In light of the day and celebrating Australian multiculturalism, Miss Henriquez's Year 8 Italian class reflected on what makes them a culturally respectful person. In groups, students shared stories of their own cultural identity and discussed the benefits of Multiculturalism. [READ MORE >](#)

## RESIDENT TEACHES CERAMICS



One of the residents at Quakers Hill Nursing Home has been teaching some of our Year 10 students ceramics during their community service! Not only is this an educational and rewarding experience for the students but Heather was able to share her skills and loved teaching the students. [READ MORE >](#)

## PATHWAYS & CAREERS

### YEAR 11 LEARN THE WORLD OF TAX



Year 11 students recently received information about TAX and superannuation from a guest speaker, Wendy from the Australian Tax Office. Wendy spoke about the importance of understanding tax and paying tax. She also went through the process of applying for tax and how to navigate the ATO website to access the information! [READ MORE >](#)

### CAREERS: UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES & COURSES

The world after high school includes such a vast range of pathways and opportunities for students, and at StJP II we believe it is important for students to explore their talents, passions and interests so that they are set in successful pathways as they graduate at StJP II. This article includes many upcoming opportunities in April including workshops and courses for a range of different professions, new university courses, TAFE courses and more!

[CLICK HERE](#) for upcoming opportunities & courses

## UPDATES

### REPRESENTATIVE SPORTS UPDATE



Our school Swimming Carnival held at Riverstone Pools was a great success with some fantastic results for our students who will now go on to represent the College at MCCS, MCS and PDSSSC Swimming carnivals. The final House point tally for the carnival came down to the final few races with Cross coming out on top!

Also a big CONGRATULATIONS to the following students: Riley Watson and Brock Tonna selected in the NSWCCC Softball team. Riley was selected in the NSW All Schools team to play at the National Championships later this year. Clayton Campbell and Riley Watson selected in the NSWCCC Baseball team. Kaia Chapman selected in the Under 17's NSW Oztag team. Kaia was then selected in the Under 17's Australian Oztag team to tour New Zealand in April. Holly Pender named Under 15's NSW Futsal player of the year. [READ MORE >](#)

### COUNSELLOR'S CORNER UPDATE

A relative started volunteering with Lifeline recently and went through their training program before answering any calls. He's always been the sort of guy that people find approachable and a good source of advice. But the training surprised him. He had to stop and think again about how he was helping his friends. He realised there was more to listening and helping than he thought. If there's one skill every counsellor needs – and every parent/carer too – it's to be available to listen, to have open ears, to show interest in what the other says, to refrain from coming up with un-asked-for advice or solutions, to hold back from reacting with too much emotion (anger, defensiveness, protectiveness), to show... [READ MORE >](#)

### STAGE 5 UPDATE



Mr Ford shares some thoughtful messages around the significance of our new Year 9 students becoming a part of Stage 5, including their new independence, subjects and the special butterflies they placed in the Stage 5 Block on their first day. We also hear from our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders about the very rewarding experience they had with their Year 7 students as part of the Peer Support Program during Learning Enrichment! [READ MORE >](#)