



Newsletter

August 2015—Term 3 Issue 8

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24-28 Aug: Book Week, Year 8 & Year 10 Religious Assessment Week

25 Aug: Book in a Day Comp

26 Aug: Year 11 Preliminary Examinations Commence

27 Aug: Year 7 Medieval Day

28 Aug: Year 11 2016 Round 2 Forms Due

31 Aug: Parent Chat Group (10am),
31 Aug - 4 Sept: Literacy & Numeracy Week

1 Sept: Year 7 2016 iPad Info Night at 5.30pm, Year 9 2016 Laptop Info Night at 7.30pm—Schofields

4 Sept: Working Bee (3pm) at Schofields, Year 11 Preliminary Examinations Conclude, Year 9 2016 Subject Selection Forms Due

10 Sept: Year 9 & 11 2016 Subject Selection Confirmation

11 Sept: StJP/TS Day, Year 12 Mass

14-18 Sept: Year 11 to Year 8 Peer Learning Program Week

15 Sept: Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

CONTACT US

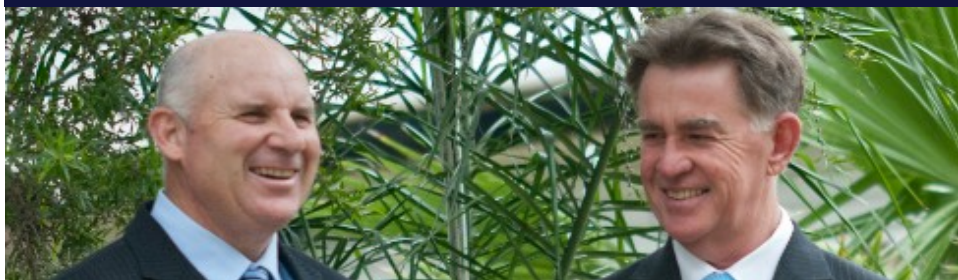
All correspondence:

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



It's common knowledge that schools are busy and exciting places, and St John Paul II is no different. Our Year 12 students have now completed their Trial HSC examinations and are moving onto the next phase of their journey as they prepare for their upcoming graduation ceremonies followed by the HSC examinations shortly afterwards. At the same time Bodies of Work for practical subjects are being finalised for marking as are the major performances for the creative and performing arts.

On a whole school perspective we have been developing our St John Paul II Learning Continuum so that learning at the college is a progression from Co-operative Learning in Stage 4, through Active Learning in Stage 5 onto Blended Learning in Stage 6.

Finally, on a matter of a very practical nature we have now accepted 200 applications for Year 7 in 2016. So it is important for the community to know that our spaces for Year 7 are extremely limited. We are still receiving applications from families who feel that enrolment is automatic without realising that this may not be the case if there are no places available.

[READ MORE >](#)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Our Year 12 students have just finished a big block of exams and are now in the final stages of preparing for their HSC exams. Year 11 students are about to go into an exam block and these events can lead to stress. Here is an excerpt from a page of the University of NSW website about handling stress where, even though it refers to university students, much of the information is applicable in the school setting. A great read for all parents/caregivers!

[READ MORE >](#)

PRAYER

The solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary falls on a Saturday this year. The Assumption is a holy day of obligation in Australia. The Roman Catholic Church believes that the Blessed Virgin Mary was "assumed" body and soul into heavenly glory when she died. St John Paul II reminds us of Mary's place in the life of the Church and in our lives ... "Mary, Woman clothed with the sun, help us to fix our gaze on Christ..."

[READ MORE >](#)

[ENROLMENTS STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2016!](#)

News, Updates and Reports

PARENT NOTICES

- [Parent Chat Group](#): Join us at the next Parent Chat Group on Monday, 31 August
- [Working Bee](#): Come along to the Term 3 Twilight Working Bee on Friday, 4 September at 3pm—Schofields Campus
- [Vinnies Van Training Opportunity](#): Students and families are invited to attend Vinnies Van Training on Wednesday, 16 September
- [Download the Term 3 Calendar of Events HERE](#)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

We invite you, your family and friends to LIKE the page for all news stories, updates and notices about all the great learning experiences, events and opportunities at the College.

Facebook is a way for you to easily access information through a different form of communication!

[LIKE THE FACEBOOK PAGE HERE](#)

LATEST NEWS

Year 12 Industrial Tech Projects!



After 12 months of hard work, designing and producing, our Year 12 Industrial Technology students have handed over their fantastic Major Works for their HSC.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 12 HSC Music Showcase



On Wednesday, 19 August, the Year 12 HSC Music students put on a showcase of their final music major works for their HSC to their families and friends at the Nirimba Campus Hall.

[READ MORE >](#)

PDSSSC Girls Athletics Carnival



Congratulations to all of our StJPPII students who proudly represented the College in the Girls PDSSSC Athletics Carnival this Wednesday, 19 August! Well done!

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 11 Geography Explore



On Friday, 7 August, the Year 11 Geography students travelled to Bantry Bay for an excursion to study the biophysical interactions of the environment.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 9 Marian Expo



On Friday, 7 August, Year 9 students shared stories and knowledge of over 30 apparitions of Mary from around the world at the annual Marian Expo!

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 10 Vietnam Presentation



On Wednesday, 5 August, Year 10 attended a special presentation that focused on their Vietnam War unit of study! Some of our students even had the opportunity to dress as soldiers.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 9 Photography Hit the City



On Friday, 31 July, our Year 9 Photography students travelled to Sydney CBD for their Urban Environment unit of work & to enjoy the scenery.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 9 Celebrate Feast of Mary of the Cross Mackillop



On Wednesday, 5 August, Year 9 students and staff gathered to celebrate the Feast of Mary of the Cross Mackillop in the Co-operative Learning Space.

[READ MORE >](#)

SRC UPDATE



Term 3 is always an exciting yet intense time for the SRC as they go through the process of electing College Leaders and representatives for Term 4 and Terms 1-3 for next year. The SRC are also preparing for the 2015 RUOK? Day events!

[READ MORE >](#)

CAREERS REPORT

Careers Advisor, Mr Evans, discusses this important time of year for our Year 12 students. Mr Evans believes preparation is the key to HSC success! It's also a good idea for students to be looking through their UAC guides in preparation for selecting their course preferences and keeping an eye out for TAFE applications that open early October.

[READ MORE >](#)

STAGE 4 UPDATES



Leader of Learning, Stage 5, Miss Cairns, congratulates Year 9 and 10 students on their great efforts and hard work in the recent weeks in completing their exams.

Year 9 have been busy with Multicultural Day and their recent Marian Expo. Students put on a spectacular evening with great displays during the Expo, while Year 10 have been busy making big decisions about their subjects for Year 11 next year!

Year 10 students had the opportunity to learn about the Vietnam War with a great presentation that included stories and facts from first-hand experience. Year 10 will also be preparing for the upcoming RUOK? Day during Learning Enrichment. Whilst Year 9 are learning all things Money with Money Wise each Thursday.

[READ MORE >](#)

COUNSELLORS CORNER

We've all seen the fake gold of a politician's 'listening tour' that's hard to take seriously. No set of techniques can take the place of genuineness and integrity. Hidden agendas undermine listening: I'll listen so you stop whingeing; I'll listen so I can tell you what to do; I'll listen so I can point out where you went wrong; I'll listen to shut you up!

St Benedict in his Rule speaks of 'listening with the ear of the heart', implying that the real gold of listening assumes the other has something important and valuable to say; it is deeply respectful. Here's some ideas for good listening! [READ MORE >](#)

Learning & Teaching



Last week 8.07 and 8.08 joined in "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" revision for their upcoming Religious Literacy Assessment as one of their mini lessons classes have been creating for each other. [READ MORE >](#)

DIOCESAN NOTICES & EVENTS

Catch up on all notices and events from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta including the blessing of the St John Paul II statue on 5 September! [READ MORE >](#)

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us.

Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

You can contact us on:

Phone: (02) 9933 0233
Web: www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding
Email: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au
Mail: PO BOX 3066 North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact **NSW Police on 1800 333 000**