



Newsletter

November 2015—Term 4 Issue 11

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KEY DATES

18 Nov: Year 7 Ninja Day at Schofields, Year 11 RYDA Driver Safety at Penrith

23 Nov: Parent Chat Group at Schofields—10am

24 Nov: College Council Meeting at Schofields

Download the Term 4 Calendar of Events [HERE](#)

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FROM THE PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



It is nearly a year that we have existed as St John Paul II Catholic College and we have been working towards building upon the history of Terra Sancta into the future as St John Paul II. In particular we have emphasized the charism of Pope John Paul II in our prayers and liturgies throughout the year. At the same time however there has been the conscious link to Terra Sancta. We would agree: it is a new name but still a great school. That great school is built upon traditions and the wonderful partnership between parents/caregivers, students and staff.

That tradition continues every day and was clearly seen in the recent transition day for Year 7 students for 2016 when we saw more than 200 eager young students and their families at our Schofields campus learning more about their peers, the College and the joys and realities of a Catholic Secondary education. We are entering into a journey together to educate and mentor these young people for the next 6 years. This is both a great privilege and a great responsibility. We will work with you to guide and challenge these young adolescents to achieve their personal best in their studies and in their personal lives using Christ as our example. [READ MORE >](#)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Attendance at school provides children with opportunities to develop the basic skills for learning, and assists in the development of social skills including communication, self-esteem, teamwork and friendship building. The Australian Government recently conducted a detailed study of the relationship between attendance at school and student achievement.

[READ MORE >](#)

PRAYER

St Francis has recently spoken to us about refugees, family, religious tolerance and respect for our environment. These three issues enter our lives everyday. "God did not want to come into the world other than through a family," pope Francis said, referring to Jesus' birth to Mary. "That is why the family is the living symbol of the loving plan of which the Father once dreamed," he said.

[READ MORE >](#)

Congratulations Year 12 for completing their HSC!

News, Updates and Reports

PARENT NOTICES

- [School Fees Reminder](#): outstanding fees to be paid
- The last Student/Parent/Caregiver/Teacher Interviews will be on Wednesday, 16 December at the Schofields. A letter and booking code will be sent home late November.
- Road Safety & Transport Management Policy updated, read [HERE](#).
- [Parent Intranet](#) available for parents/caregivers!

Reminder to Update Your Details!

The College reminds our parents and caregivers of the importance of keeping the College up to date on matters relating to change of address, mobiles, contacts, emails and any medical conditions. This can be done by either emailing the College at stjohnpaul2@parra.catholic.edu.au or by phone on 9208-7200.

We thank you for your co-operation.

Uniform Shop Updates

Don't throw out old uniforms - students have the opportunity to sell their Terra Sancta or St John Paul II uniforms back to the Uniform Shop!

The uniform shop is open on Tuesdays from 8am - 2.30pm and Thursdays from 9am - 3.30pm at Rose Cottage (Schofields Campus). Year 12 2015 students or ex-students can sell their uniforms now!

Heavily discounted Terra Sancta College sports tracksuits—50% off!

Tracksuit jackets available in sizes 10, 12, XL, 2XL & 3XL

Tracksuit pants available in sizes 10, 12, 14 & L

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS IN 2016

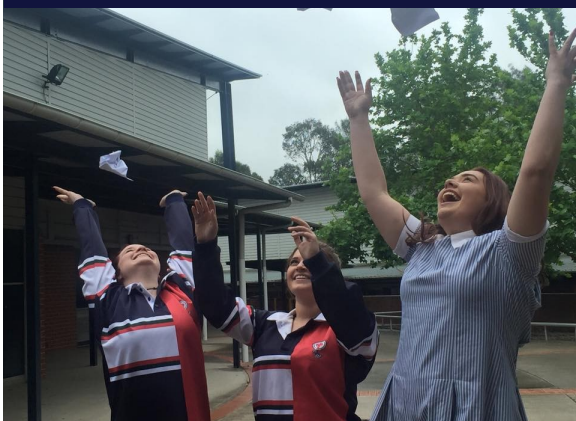
[School Student Transport Scheme \(SSTS\)](#)

introduces the School Opal Card for 2016
Fact Sheet available

[HERE](#)

LATEST NEWS

Congratulations to our Year 12 Students for completing their HSC!



On November 4 our Year 12 students of 2015 walked out of their very last HSC examination EVER! We would like to congratulate our students on all of their hard work, effort and commitment to their studies up to the HSC. We wish you all the very best of luck in the future and look forward to hearing about your successes.

Year 8 Visit Primary Students



Year 8 students visit our feeder primary schools for the Leading Learning Program., making valuable learning connections with Year 5 students.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 11 Semester Two Awards



On Friday, 23 October, Year 11 students and parents gathered in the Nirimba Hall for the Stage 6 Year 11 Semester Two Awards!

[READ MORE >](#)

Students go to Matilda Musical



Last week senior Music, Dance, Drama and Entertainment students had the opportunity to see "Matilda" the musical as part of their units.

[READ MORE >](#)

Year 7 2016 Transition Day



StJPiI welcomed over 200 new students for their Year 7 2016 Transition Day before entering the world of high school in 2016!

[READ MORE >](#)

StJPII in WorldSkills Competitions



We had students compete in both the Hospitality Commercial Cookery Competition and the Entertainment Competition!

[READ MORE >](#)

Co Teaching—What students think!



Year 8 students told us what they think about the teaching technique after one of their Co Teaching lessons!

[READ MORE >](#)

Victor Chang Science Award



2015 StJPII Dr. Victor Chang Award recipient was Shafiq Hussain in recognition of her exceptional achievement in her Science studies. [READ MORE >](#)

COUNSELLORS CORNER

Gabor Mate, physician and criminologist in Vancouver treating drug addicts, places great importance on attunement between parent/carer and child, where the adult communicates to the child that their feeling is understood, and thereby eases their emotional pain. parents/carers who have their own troubles may find it harder to be attuned to their child's emotional state...

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Learning Continuum: Stage 5 Active Learning



In Stage 5 teenagers generally become disengaged in learning. Active Learning aims to combat this by making learning engaging through active learning strategies. Active Learning focuses the responsibility for learning on learners.

[READ MORE >](#)

DIOCESAN NOTICES & EVENTS

Expand your imagination
by reading this summer and
you could win an iPad mini

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of four iPad minis. The more books you read, the more chances you have to win*.

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 5 February 2016.

Executive
Director's
Summer Reading
Challenge

@CatholicEdParra
catholicedparra

Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta
*Terms and Conditions apply

STAGE 5 UPDATES



Year 9

Year 9 students have recently participated in two days of Peer Support Training in preparation for the Year 7 students of 2016. Although all students demonstrated great leadership qualities only 66 students were selected to be Peer Support Leaders. They put their leadership skills into action on Year 7 2016 Transition Day, where they met their peer support students for the first time!

Year 10

Mr Cowan, Student Learning Liaison - Year 10, had a chat with a few students around their recent Year 10 Reflection Days as well as their thoughts and feelings around heading to the senior campus next year!

[READ MORE >](#)