



Newsletter

June 2016—Term 2 Issue 5

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FROM THE PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



As we rapidly progress through Term 2 we should take the time to reflect upon the vast number of events that have been happening at St John Paul II. There have been the inter school Debating, MCS and MCCS winter sport and our Athletics Carnival. Recently Year 12 students, a number of teachers and an impressive number of ex-students spent three days at Collaroy on the annual Year 12 Retreat. This Retreat is always a highlight of school life for our students beyond the classroom and it allowed them to take time out of their daily routine to refresh themselves for what lies ahead this year and beyond.

We have also seen our Year 7 and 9 students engaged in NAPLAN tests and we have held the Year 7, 2017 enrolment interviews for the students from the non-feeder primary schools. We have a large number of applications for Year 7 next year and enrolment acceptances are currently being posted to families. If you know of any family wishing to enroll for 2017 please ask them to contact Mrs. Fay Lovett on 9208 7205 in order to avoid the disappointment of missing out on a place in 2017.

[READ MORE >](#)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

The assessment and reporting period is well upon us and you may have noticed your child completing assignments and studying for tests. Please continue to encourage your child to dedicate time and effort to this important home study that complements their learning in class. Year 10 will be completing their subject selections for Year 11, 2017, early term 3 so this report will be a useful guide and one of the many tools we provide to help them make these important subject choices. Finally, the transition to full winter uniform has now occurred and it is expected that all students are appropriately groomed in full winter uniform each day.

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PRAYER

Divine Mercy has been called "the greatest grassroots movement in the history of the Catholic Church" and has changed millions of lives. But what is Divine Mercy? What is this thing that gets to the heart of Sacred Scripture and to the very centre of our faith? Fr. Michael Gaitley's book Divine Mercy explains...

To begin, mercy is "love's second name," as John Paul II said. It's a particular kind of love, a particular mode of love when it encounters suffering, poverty, brokenness, and sin. Divine Mercy is when God's love meets us and helps us in the midst of our suffering and sin.

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KEY DATES

9 June: Year 11 Semester One Awards

9 June: Year 12 Group Photograph at Nirimba (full winter uniform)

13 June: Public Holiday

14 June: Staff Evangelisation Retreat Day—Pupil Free Day

15 June: Parent Chat Group, 10am Schofields Campus

21-22 June: Year 8 Reflection Days

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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STILL ACCEPTING 2017 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS!

News, Updates and Reports

ABSENCE/ LEAVE FROM SCHOOL: PROCEDURES

A student's school attendance is crucial to their learning and development at the College. This article provides an insight into the importance of school attendance, as well as processes and procedures that need to be followed for different lengths of absence from school. Definitely worth a read!

[READ MORE >](#)

SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

A reminder to those Parents/Caregivers who have not paid Term 2 fees and may require an extension of time to please contact either Mrs Webb on 9208-7239 or myself on 9208-7238 urgently to make arrangements and therefore prevent receiving further reminder letters in the mail. Thank you to those who have paid or who have made arrangements.

YEAR 7 2017 LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE

The Letters of Acceptance for Year 7 2017 were mailed out to those who have been offered a position of enrolment at the College on Friday, 27 May. We would like to remind everyone that the return letter is due back to the College Office by Friday, 17 June. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the College on 9208 7200.

REMINDER TO LABEL PROPERTY

The College Office would like to remind students and parents/caregivers to please label all belongings brought to school so that lost property can be returned to the correct students. This includes uniforms, devices, stationary, sports equipment and any other important items. If your child has lost any of their belonging, please advise them to visit the College Office.

VOLUNTEER/CONTRACTOR FORMS

It is now a requirement that all volunteers and contractors complete an online form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering or contracting at schools, Catholic Out of Schools Hours Care and Catholic Early Learning Centres. [Click here](#) for further details.

UPCOMING CHAT GROUP

The Co-operating Principals' Parent Chat Group is an opportunity to meet and discuss a range of issues relevant to the College community. Why not join us on Wednesday, 15 June, at 10am in the Schofields Conference room, have a cuppa and discuss all things StJPil with others from the community!

LATEST NEWS

YEAR OF MERCY WRITING COMPETITION



In this competition students were challenged to persuade a panel of teachers as to why they're specific person should be awarded the 2016 Year of Mercy Award. We had a large number of students who submitted fantastic pieces of writing.

[READ MORE >](#)

NEP RECONCILIATION CEREMONY



On 25 May, StJPil joined staff, students and community members of the Nirimba Education Precinct who gathered for the annual Reconciliation Ceremony in celebration of Reconciliation Week and together created a "Sea of Hands".

[READ MORE >](#)

NEW BISHOP FOR THE DIOCESE



Holiness Pope Francis recently appointed the Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen O.F.M. Conv. DD, as the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Parramatta. Bishop Long Van Nguyen comes to the Diocese with a rich understanding of the challenges and opportunities of multiculturalism in western Sydney.

[READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 12 @ MUSEUM OF DISEASE



Last month, Year 12 Biology students went to the Museum of Human Disease at The University of NSW (UNSW) as a part of the unit 'Search for Better Health'. Students were introduced to the topic by learning about different classifications of disease, causes of disease and viewing specimens of different conditions in the body.

[READ MORE >](#)

LEGAL STUDIES BEHIND THE SCENES



Year 11 students got a "behind the scenes" look at insurance claims with visitor and Sydney Insurance Lawyer, Ingrid Woon, who gave a presentation on Insurance claims and how Insurance companies handle civil action claims for compensation as a result of traffic accidents and future court cases.

[READ MORE >](#)

CAREERS REPORT

The latest Careers Report looks at the upcoming Careers Expo our Year 12 students will soon be attending as well as the adventures and decisions coming up for our Year 11, 2017 students (Year 10, 2016). Mr Evans is available to assist students and parents with the subject selection process. To request an interview/appointment with Mr Evans, students and/or parents can email Mr Evans at jevans3@parra.catholic.edu.au OR ring 9208 7258 .

[READ MORE >](#)

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Of all the growing that teenagers do the area given least attention in our culture is the spiritual. Not that kids aren't having spiritual experiences, or asking the big questions. It's just that there are few places where those experiences and questions can be acknowledged and validated. Parents/carers who can encourage spiritual growth in their children are helping something precious to develop, and are also helping protect them from harm.

[READ MORE >](#)

TEACHING & LEARNING: Co-Teaching & Tea Parties



Learning & snowball fights in one sentence? Here's how it's done... Students were given the sentence "There are different forms of energy..." and had to write a response. They then scrunched up their paper and on the teachers' count threw the ball into the air. They then picked up a ball which was closest to them and responded to the other responses by adding their own. Read more about this and other great teaching and learning strategies! [CLICK HERE](#)

SPORTS REPORT



During Term 1 and 2 we have had many teams competing in the MCS and MCCS every Thursday, including our soccer teams, netball teams, water polo and many others. All teams have represented the school with pride and we are proud of all their efforts. The most notable result so far this season is the Junior Girl Volleyball team reaching the semi finals and our Netball teams' victorious day against Bethlehem Catholic College. We have also had a number of Individual Sport Representatives over the last 5 School Weeks. Check out the house points results from our swimming carnival, cross country and athletics carnival! [READ MORE >](#)

STAGE 5 REPORT



Stage 5 have had a very exciting start to Term 2 and have a lot ahead of them to look forward too! Year 9 have so far taken part in ANZAC Day ceremonies, the Athletics Carnival and NAPLAN tests as well as now beginning their Multicultural Day projects. Year 10 are looking ahead to the next step of their education as they look into subject selections for 2017! Students have been taking part in "Tastes of Nirimba" to get a feel of new subject opportunities before they attend the big Subject Selection Evening on 28 June. [READ MORE >](#)

DIOCESAN EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and Bishop's Office offer a range of events and opportunities in which you can be a part of, including the Mass of Installation of Bishop Vincent Long on 16 June! Other events include the Keeping our Young People Safe Summit on 11 June and Shrine Time – Holy Hour for Young Adults on 26 June.

[Click here for a complete list of upcoming events and opportunities!](#)

NIRIMBA EDUCATION PRECINCT ON FACEBOOK

The Nirimba Education Precinct now has it's own Facebook page! Our Year 11-12 students are located within the Precinct, where they have the opportunity to undertake pathway programs into TAFE and Western Sydney University.

Like the Facebook page for updates, news and opportunities!

Search Nirimba Education Precinct on Facebook, or go to www.facebook.com/nirimbaedp



Presents a
David Spicer Production



Thursday 21st July
Friday 22nd July

7 pm
Doors open at 6:30 pm

Nirimba Hall
Eastern Rd, Quakers Hill

Family Tickets \$20
(2 Adults, 2 Children)
Adult \$10
Child/ St JP II Student \$5

Tickets on sale through the
school office and at the
front door

