



# Newsletter

August 2016—Term 3 Issue 8

[FROM THE PRINCIPALS](#)

[ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS](#)

[PARENT NOTICES](#)

[LATEST NEWS](#)

[COUNSELLOR'S CORNER](#)

[STAGE 5 UPDATES](#)

[LEARNING & TEACHING](#)

[DIOCESAN NEWS/EVENTS](#)

[PHOTO COMPETITION](#)

[CAREERS REPORT](#)

[SRC UPDATE](#)

## KEY DATES

Aug 29 - Sept 2: Literacy & Numeracy Week

Aug 31: Year 11 Examinations Commence

Sept 2: Year 11 2017 final Subject Selection to be Submitted

Sept 5: Chat Group - 10am @ Schofields

Sept 6: Year 7 2017 iPad Evening @ 5.30pm

Sept 6: Year 9 2017 Laptop Evening @ 7.30pm

Sept 9: Working Bee 3pm @ Nirimba

Sept 9: Year 7 Vaccinations - 3rd Dose

Sept 9: Year 9 2017 Subject Selection to be Submitted

Sept 12: Year 11 recommence normal classes

Sept 15: Year 9 & 11 2017 Subject Selection Confirmation to Students

Sept 16: StJP II/Terra Sancta Day & Year 12 Graduation Mass

Sept 20: Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

## 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 PRINCIPALS – MR JIM FANNING & MR PHIL SMITH



Wonderful things have been happening this year and Term 3 is no exception at St John Paul II. 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. It is no time for the students and their teachers to relax and take it easy. Their classes are certainly places of energy and excitement as the students and teachers work together to achieve their goals. 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.

Finally, on a matter of a very practical nature we have now accepted 206 applications for Year 7 in 2017. It is also important for the community to know that our spaces for Year 7 are extremely limited and we are still receiving applications from families in local parish schools who feel that enrolment is automatic without realising that this may not be the case if there are no places available. If you are aware of any families who have not made application for next year please advise them to contact Mrs Fay Lovett on 92087205 at the college as a matter of urgency to avoid the possibility missing out on enrolment for their son/daughter.

[READ MORE >](#)

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Year 9 and 10 students have recently concluded their formal exam block, Year 11 are about to start and of course the HSC begins after the next holidays. Exams are often a huge source of stress. This article includes an excerpt from ReachOut.com that may be helpful called "Tackling exams. There are a whole bunch of things you can do to help you get through exams the best way you can. These including managing your stress, taking the pressure off, doing it together, get enough sleep, eat good food and keep moving as well as further advice if you are really stressed. This is a great read for parents/caregivers and students.

[READ MORE >](#)

## PRAYER

For us Catholics, during this Year of Mercy, there are important questions that we should be asking ourselves. How do we as Catholics respond to God's mercy and love? Are we open to Mercy in our lives? Is our relationship with God visible in the way we treat those around us, in particular the most vulnerable? This encounter with the Merciful Father must also be an encounter with others—those who are the least among us and live at the peripheries and margins of our society. In a special way, to encounter migrants and refugees both within our communities but also those abroad.

[READ MORE >](#)

**STILL ACCEPTING 2017 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS!**

### NOTICES

- **School Fees Reminder:** Term 3 Fees were due and payable by 22 August 2016. A reminder to those Parents/Caregivers who have not paid Term 3 fees and may require an extension.
- **Work, Health & Safety Update:** An evacuation drill was carried out at the Schofields campus on Tuesday, 2 August. The evacuation drill tested the new evacuation alarm system.
- **Chat Group:** Join us at the upcoming Chat Group on Monday, September 5, 10am at the Schofields Campus

### STAFF UPDATE: KATHY CAIRNS

It has been announced that Mrs Kathy Cairns has submitted her resignation as Assistant Principal, effective from the end of this year. Kathy is looking for some other challenges in her life and while stepping down as Assistant Principal, she may look at remaining in education in some form. We are sure that you will feel a great sense of loss as Kathy has been an exceptional leader and staff member. She is an inspiration to all of us. We will make sure we farewell her properly prior to the end of the year.

### DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE CHANGES

The Schofields Campus has recently upgraded the student drop off/pick up zone! The drop off zone for our Schofields Campus is located next to the College at Rose Cottage and now has a separate entry drive way and exit driveway. We ask that parents/caregivers dropping off or picking up students please use the new entry and exit driveways as shown in the image found [HERE](#).

### UPCOMING WORKING BEE

**Join the StJPII community at the upcoming Working Bee at our Nirimba Campus on Friday, 9 September—3pm!**

**Staff, students and parents/caregivers will gather to assist with mulching the gardens at the Nirimba Campus before ending with a pizza dinner.**

## FATHER'S DAY STALL



**Friday 2nd September**  
Lunch time  
Cooperative Learning Space

*A huge range of gifts for your Dad and Grandpa!*  
Gifts from \$1.00-\$5.00

Socks  
Key Rings  
Cards & Gift bags  
Can coolers  
Thongs  
Tie & Cufflink gift packs  
BBQ Apron  
Cooler Bags



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### Western Sydney Apprenticeship and Traineeship Expo 2016

Penrith Panthers Exhibition Marquee  
Mulgoa Road, Penrith  
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3.00pm - 8.00pm Free Public Entry

The perfect opportunity for students and job seekers to talk with over 100 potential employers and training providers.

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### LATEST NEWS

#### MR LARA'S WYD EXPERIENCE



It's been 2 weeks since the life changing experience that was World Youth Day 2016. From our home Diocese of Parramatta to the provinces devastated by the 2013 earthquakes in Bohol, Philippines, to the buzzing hub of WYD that was Krakow, Poland - the theme of mercy was well and truly alive. [READ MORE >](#)

#### WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY COMP



On Tuesday, 23 August, three teams of StJPII students put themselves up to the challenge and spent 12 hours putting together three fantastic books for the Write a Book in a Day Competition. All funds go to the Cancer Council and books go to children's hospitals! [READ MORE >](#)

#### PDSSSC CARNIVAL SPORTS STARS



On Wednesday, 17 August, 15 girls from StJPII travelled to Blacktown Olympic Park to compete against other schools in the Diocese at the PDSSSC Athletics Carnival. The students represented themselves and the College exceptionally, worked as a team and supported one another the entire day! [READ MORE >](#)



## AN EXCITING TERM FOR THE SRC

The St John Paul II SRC has been working hard in everyday College life. Recently the newly elected Year 7 SRC students have experienced leading the College in the daily Angelus prayer, having been guided through this process by existing SRC students. It has been excellent to see the SRC working together and helping one another in their roles. In recent weeks Year 8 students were able to nominate themselves to be part of the SRC for 2017 and 2018. It was excellent to hear students express their desire to join the SRC in the hope of being a positive voice for their peers.

[READ MORE >](#)

## CAREERS REPORT: UAC ADVICE FOR YEAR 12

Year 12 students have received their UAC Guides and are now in the process of finalising their UAC entries for 2017. To familiarise themselves with the UAC Guide students can follow these simple steps: Familiarise yourself with Part 1, page 9-46, read pages 21-29 carefully, which explains the application process, (there is also a YouTube video on the UAC website which explains the application process and is worth viewing) and research TABLE 1 on page 48 which will give you the ATAR CUT-OFFS for the various university courses. Don't forget about attending the university Open Days and that the deadline for on-time applications is 30th September!

[READ MORE >](#)

## TEACHING & LEARNING: Year 12 Stations Activity



Year 12 Studies of Religion students have been studying about Christianity and in particular about the significant person of Paul of Tarsus. One of the main parts of Paul's life was the four journeys that Paul made to spread the Christian faith. For the students to understand this they were provided with a map of the Nirimba campus and given directions around the school to find information about the journeys of Paul.

[READ MORE >](#)

## TEACHING & LEARNING: Year 7 iMove Activity



In Term 3 Year 7 EHR classes are focusing on understanding film and how meaning is portrayed through different film techniques. Miss Turner's and Mrs Madigan's Year 7 classes work together each week in Co Teaching and have been working on developing their own iMovie, demonstrating their knowledge of all the different film techniques.

[READ MORE >](#)

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

'I think I'm depressed'. School counsellors are hearing students say this in the past few years. Before that, it was unusual for kids to use the word 'depressed', though that may have been an accurate description of their feelings. Increased awareness, public discussion, and the availability of simple online questionnaires have enabled easier recognition and labelling of mood states. How would you recognise depression in your children? A big survey of 3000 Australian young people shows that parents/carers may not realise when their kids are depressed. When young people (aged 11-17) were asked directly, one in 13 (8%) had experienced depression in the previous 12 months, with higher rates among girls than boys. That's about 2 in every classroom. [READ MORE >](#)

## STAGE 5 REPORT

Year 9 and 10 students have hit the ground running this term with many great things happening. Students have just completed their exams and the Leader of Learning, Stage 5, Miss Cairns and Student Learning Liaisons Miss Jessica Idone and Mr Brendan Ford congratulate 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. Year 10 students have just submitted their first round of subject selections for year 11, 2017. Exciting times lie ahead for these students as we work to finalise their subject choices for next year. [READ MORE >](#)

## DIOCESAN EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

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



1. FIND SOMEONE IN THE PLAYGROUND WHO IS READING

2. ASK THEM IF YOU CAN TAKE A PHOTO OF THEM FOR THE COMPETITION

3. SEND THE PHOTO WITH YOUR NAME AND THE READERS NAME TO MISS AQUILINA AT [RAQUILINA@PARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU](mailto:RAQUILINA@PARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU)

4. WAIT TO SEE IF YOUR PHOTO IS FEATURED ON THE STJPII FACEBOOK PAGE AND ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO LIKE YOUR PHOTO

**THE PHOTO WITH THE MOST LIKES WINS!**  
THE READER & PHOTO TAKER BOTH RECEIVE AN ITUNES VOUCHER

ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER. WINNERS ANNOUNCED MONDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER.

LIKE THE ST JOHN PAUL II, SCHOFIELDS & NIRIMBA FACEBOOK PAGE!