



Newsletter

November 2017—Term 4 Issue 8

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Key Dates

7 Nov: Year 9 Reflection Day, International Teachers Day, HSC Exams conclude
15 Nov: Year 11 RYDA excursion
17 Nov: Year 8 Pirate Day
20 Nov: Year 7 Ninja Day
27 Nov: Chat Group @ 10am
1 Dec: Year 10 Nirimba Experience
4 Dec: RISE UP Award Day
12 Dec: Stage 4 & 5 Award Ceremonies
13 Dec: StJP II Christmas Liturgy
14 Dec: HSC results available, School Interviews, Term 4 concludes

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From the Principal - Mr Fanning

At the end of Term 3, we turned our attention to the college motto "the way passes through this land" as the Year 12 students came to the end of their journey with us. We celebrated who we are at St John Paul II/Terra Sancta Day and said farewell to these fine young men and women as a whole school through the beauty and spiritual richness of the Mass. As befits the dual nature of our one school, the Mass was once again celebrated at the Schofields Campus with the senior students returning to the place where they commenced their journey six years ago.

Traditions were also reinforced and strengthened when we took the opportunity at Mass to symbolically hand over the student leadership of the College for this term and next year. The transition of leadership includes the passing on from one year to the next of the school symbols including a crucifix to the incoming Student Leaders, Brodie Chidgey and Andrew Smith.

We are now in Term 4, Week 4 and Year 12 are currently completing their HSC Examinations. While we look back at the past six years of schooling for the Year 12 students we also look forward to rejoicing in their lives beyond St John Paul II as valued members of a wider community. We trust that they will take with them core values of respect, honesty, integrity and above all, faith into their lives from now onwards. With Year 12 leaving the college we welcomed 200 Year 6 students for their Year 7-2018 Transition Day at the Schofields Campus last Monday.

[READ MORE >](#)

PRAYER

All Saints Day, the day on which Catholics celebrate all the saints, known and unknown, is a surprisingly old feast. It arose out of the Christian tradition of celebrating the martyrdom of saints on the anniversary of their martyrdom. All Souls' Day, also known as the Feast of All Souls, follows All Saints' Day (November 1). Both days mark a period for some churches, including the Catholic Church, to remember the saints in Christian history and to pray for people. All Souls' Day is traditionally a time for the Christian community to remember deceased family members and friends.

[READ MORE >](#)

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

As a key message of St John Paul II, the common good is important to the members of the St John Paul II Catholic community. We talk to students about this quite often, reminding them to be good to one another. Whilst we often look to support the needy, we also need to consider the ways in which we treat those around us - members of our family and our friends. A little kindness to those in our immediate community is an important way of supporting one another and making the world a happier place...

This article includes important information for both students and parents/caregivers about the common good, attendance at school, uniform, HSC examinations, learning and assessments.

[READ MORE >](#)

TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

LATEST NEWS

YEAR 9 ALL SAINTS DAY MASS



On Wednesday, 1 November, our Year 9 students joined other students from Mary Immaculate at their Parish Church to celebrate Mass for All Saints Day! This was a special time to remember and invoke all Saints during this day of obligation.

YEAR 8 TEXTILES FUN



Recently, our Year 8 textiles class created a contemporary dot art fabric painting, tie-dyed fabric as well as felted and created a printed piece of fabric using stencils. They will use all of the pieces of fabric in their practical assessment task where they get to create their own iPad cover! We can't wait to see the final masterpieces. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 11 S&C STATE LIBRARY



On 16 October, our Year 11 Society & Culture students visited the NSW State Library to begin working on their HSC Personal Interest Projects (PIP)! After attending a VERY valuable lecture on academic research and referencing, students were able to check out the top 10 award winning PIPs in the state from the last few years. [READ MORE >](#)

2017 SPORTS PRESENTATION BBQ



Congratulations to all recognised at the 2017 Sports Presentation BBQ! This event is an opportunity to acknowledge the hundreds of students who proudly represent the College in a range of sports throughout the year. We are so lucky to have such a great group of determined and talented students that contribute to the fantastic sporting culture at the College! [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY MASS



Year 11 gathered at Mary Immaculate Parish to celebrate Mass as they come to the end of their Preliminary year and prepare for the HSC year ahead! As they reflected on their time so far at StJPII, Fr Ever challenged students to do their best and be the best person they can be in this final year of their high school journey. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 11 SEMESTER 2 AWARDS



On October 26, Year 11, staff and parents/caregivers celebrated the great achievements and hard work of students during their preliminary year at the Year 11 Semester Two Award Ceremony! Students were recognised for their effort, academic achievements and special skills in sporting, early tertiary achievements and more. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 10 STJPII MASS



On Wednesday, 25 October, to celebrate a saint so influential to who we are as the StJPII community, St John Paul II, our Year 10 students joined others from Mary Immaculate Primary School for the Feast Day Mass, before enjoying a special lunch-time concert for all students at the Schofields Campus. [READ MORE >](#)

STJPII @ LIFTED LIVE



On Saturday, 28th of October, a number of students from our college attended "Lifted Live!" at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta. The event was a celebration of the feast of St John Paul II's feast, as well as the launch of a number of exciting events. The night was filled with fun games, guest speakers, dancers and live music. [READ MORE >](#)

YEAR 11 FIRST AID TRAINING



Recently our Year 12 2018 PHDPE, Sports Lifestyle & Recreation, Entertainment, Fitness and Construction students all took part in the Reviva First Aid Course and attained their First Aid Certificate, including CPR! This also included an online module they completed before the face-to-face session on the Friday. Well done to our newly certified students! [READ MORE >](#)

WATCH

ATSI STUDENT CONFERENCE



On 18 October, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from local schools including StJP11 gathered at the Nirimba TAFE Greenskills Hub for the annual ATSI Student Conference. Guest speaker, Clark Webb, shared an important message around keeping the Aboriginal language and culture alive before the students began a series of workshops focusing on future pathways. [WATCH >](#)

YEAR 7 TRANSITION DAY



On Monday, 30 October, StJP11 welcoming the new Year 7 2018 students for their Transition Day! This was an opportunity for the new StJP11 members to meet each other, make new friends, explore the College and learn about high school before they begin here next year. All of us at StJP11 are very excited to see you all next year! [WATCH >](#)

YEAR 9 PEER SUPPORT DAY



As Year 9 prepare to become the leaders of the Schofields Campus next year, many also prepare to take on the responsibility of Peer Support Leaders for the new Year 7 students. The 2017 Year 9 Peer Support Day was a great opportunity for students to learn new leadership and teamwork skills while having a bit of fun! [WATCH >](#)

YEAR 10 REFLECTION DAY



On 18 October, motivational youth group, Endless Praise shared messages around relationships and the common good with our Year 10 students! Through song, dance, reflections and team work activities students better understood what it means to contribute to the common good and the importance of relationships. [WATCH >](#)

UPDATES

UPDATE FROM YEAR 7 SRC

Welcome back to term 4! We finished last term off with leading staff and students in Friday Morning Prayer. We reflected on the journey the year 12 class of 2017 had taken, and the importance of Terra Sancta/St JP11 Day for them and we prayed for their success in the HSC and future after school. This term we are focused on fundraising for St Vincent De Paul. We have so far raised \$100 for St Vincent De Paul with a lolly jar guessing fundraiser. We will put this money toward the Christmas Hamper appeal which is beginning in Week 5. We will be coming around to classrooms soon to give you a chance to guess, so stay tuned!

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Often stoicism is thought to mean repressing or hiding emotions, putting on a brave face, grinning and bearing it, keeping a stiff upper lip – none of which sounds psychologically healthy except perhaps in the short term. However, ideas from those Greek thinkers have found their way into many aspects of life. In sport you will have heard coaches speak about focusing on the things that are within the player's control and not bothering with the rest... [READ MORE >](#)

STAGE 4 UPDATE: YEAR 8 RELIGION

Each Term, students from each Stage give our parent/caregiver community an update around what they're learning about in class. Here's an update from Year 8 Religion! Our whole journey throughout this world, revolves around our relationship with God; our covenant, meaning our commitment with our Lord. Loyalty, trust and love was the 3 main themes within the story of Exodus (part of scripture within the bible), that we have been studying during the fourth term. The events that occurred changed the lives of many, even our own. Moses was... [READ MORE >](#)

LEARNING & TEACHING: YEAR 7 FORENSIC SCIENCE



Year 7 became detectives in a mock crime scene as part of their "What's Up Sherlock" forensic science unit! Classes observed the clues of the crime scene in attempt to solve the mystery, before creating a newspaper article that describes their interpretation of the event! [READ MORE >](#)