



# St John Paul II Catholic College

*a unique and dynamic learning experience*

## NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018, Issue 5



***“Never see a need without doing something about it.” - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop***

**ABOVE:** Year 7 had their St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass on 8 August, 2018.

### KEY DATES

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AUGUST

- 20 Vaccination Year 7, 2nd dose HPV
- 21 Write-a-Book-in-a-Day
- 22 Captivate 10th Anniversary Performance
- 27 Yr 7 & 9 NAPLAN Online Readiness Test
- 28 Yr 11 & 12 Art Showcase (6pm, Schofields)
- 29 Yr 7 & 9 NAPLAN Online Readiness Test
- 30 Father's Day Liturgy

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Yr 11 Final Preliminary Exams Begin
- 7 WYD Raffle Tickets Due Back
- 7 Yr 11-2019 Subject Selection Interviews
- 11 Principal Parent Chat Group (11am)
- 11 Chromebook Info Evening - Year 7 (2019), 5.30pm - 7pm @ the CLS

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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL (Mr Fanning)

#### Tell Them From Me Survey

Parents/caregivers were recently invited to provide feedback about our college by completing the Tell Them From Me Survey. The following are some of the results from the parent/caregiver survey that were discussed at the last two Principal/Parent Chat Groups in Term 2.

- Students included in all of the learning and extra-curricular activities;
- Supporting learning at home;

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# PRAYER

## The Assumption of Mary

The Assumption of Mary into Heaven is, according to the beliefs of the Catholic Church, the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life. This day is marked as a 'Holy Day of Obligation' for Catholics. On Wednesday 15 August the whole school celebrated mass to honour the Feast of the Assumption.



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS (Ms Refalo, Mr Regan & Ms Roach)

***“Our strength will grow through community”***

### Student & College Leaders 2019

The SRC election process has begun to determine our Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 student representatives for 2019. During Week 6 Learning Enrichment, Year 11 students who have courageously nominated for College Captain will present their “campaign speech” after which voting will take place. There are eight equally suitable candidates, so we are bound to see the election of two excellent students who will be excellent leaders. We look forward to commissioning our new captains and leaders at the Year 12 Graduation Mass and College feast day Friday Week 9.

### HSC Trials & HSC Preparation

The HSC Trials is the final internal HSC assessment. The Trial period commenced Monday 6th August and concludes Monday 20 August. As the name suggests, this assessment is designed as a Trial run for the HSC in terms of both the rigour and length of the tasks. They also provide a sound measure for the amount of revision, study and preparation required for a student to feel confident they can complete the examinations with results commensurate with their ability and effort. The results and feedback a student gains for each of their subjects will enable them to establish a study and revision routine... [Read More >](#)



## COLLEGE NOTICES

### Raffle Tickets on sale now!

Don't forget to sell your raffle tickets so we can send our pilgrims to World Youth Day in Panama in 2019! There are some amazing prizes up for offer, including a brand new Mazda, a travel voucher, iPhone Xs, and more! You can also buy tickets online [here](#).



### NAPLAN Readiness Testing

All students in Year 7 and Year 9 will be sitting the NAPLAN School Readiness Tests in Week 6. The Writing Test will be completed on Monday and the Omnibus Text will be held on Wednesday. Catch up tests will be held on Friday. Students are reminded to bring a fully charged laptop or iPad to school on these days along with a set of earphones. Please note that students do not receive any results for these tests, they are completed to prepare schools for the testing going online next year. For more details, [click here](#).

### Finance

Term 3 Fee Statements were posted out on Monday, 23 July 2018 and fall due/payable by Monday, 29 August 2018. Please contact Jean Webb on 9208 7239 if you have not received your statement.

Should you wish to discuss your account or apply for an extension of time to pay the fees, please contact either Mrs Jean Webb on 9208 7239 or Mr Kel Haynes on 9208 7238.

Thank you to those Parents/Caregivers who have paid or are paying off their school fees through an arrangement.

## COLLEGE EVENTS



### Stage 4 & 5 Semester 1 Award Ceremonies

On Wednesday 1 August, we had both our Stage 4 and Stage 5 Semester 1 Awards Ceremonies!

Over 100 students from Years 7 - 10 received an award - an incredibly exceptional achievement!

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### Multicultural Day

We do Multicultural Day to recognise and celebrate the diverse culture of our college and Australia. Students learn about other cultures and bring together traditions like food and dance to incorporate the cultures into our school day...

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### Stage 4 & 5 RISE UP Award Ceremony

On Monday 13 August, we celebrated the achievements of students in both Stage 4 & 5 who have shown commitment to our RISE UP values!

Well done to all students who received their

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## IN THE CLASSROOM

### Literacy Escape Room (Learning Enrichment)

On Thursday 28 June, two Year 8 groups successfully escaped 'The Newsroom'.

These groups have been studying various forms of news media in a literacy-based Learning Enrichment

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### Year 8's Italian Restaurant

This term Year 8 students were given an opportunity to role play at their own Italian restaurant as part of their food unit. In the weeks leading up to the event, students spent time in class creating Italian menus, writing their script and rehearsing their roles and

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### History (Year 10 & 12) Vietnam Vets Incursion

On Monday 30 July, Year 10 Australian History students and Year 12 Modern History students were privileged to be visited by Vin and Nancy Cosgrove from the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia. Vin spoke to students about his time

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### Year 7 Medieval Incursion

On Thursday 9 August, Year 7 students in Learning Enrichment participated in a Medieval Incursion. Guest speakers James Adams and Wayne Robinson spoke to students about life in Medieval times. In particular, students learnt about the life of knights

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## OUT AND ABOUT

### NEP Indigenous Student Conference

On Tuesday 14 August, four of our Indigenous Students from Year 10 and 11 (plus those from Wyndham College and some of our NEP collegiate schools), joined the other partners of the Nirimba

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### Yr 7's St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass

On Wednesday 8 August, Year 7 attended their St Mary Of The Cross MacKillop Mass held at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church in Quakers Hill. Mary Helen MacKillop was an Australian nun who has

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## IT REPORT

### Chromebooks are coming to ST John Paul II Catholic College!

St John Paul II Catholic College is excited to inform you that in 2019 we will be transitioning Year 7-2019 to a Parent/Caregiver Chromebook Purchase Program. Please note if your son/daughter already has an iPad they will be able to use this in 2019.

During Term 2 of this year 7.06 participated in a trial of Chromebooks that we were fortunate enough to have loaned to the college from the CEDP. Mr Morgan and his class found that the Chromebooks had various benefits over the iPads including the following:

The Chromebooks have a keypad (similar to that of a laptop) which makes it easier for students to type.

Google Chrome has been integrated into the teaching and learning programs and activities at the college.

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## SRC REPORT

Currently we are going through the process of nominating, voting, interviewing and electing new SRC members for Stage 4, 5, and 6 for the remainder of 2018 and next year. It has been inspiring to see so many of our young people put themselves forward for a position on the Student Representative Council, and to take up the challenge and honour of being a voice of the student body, a leader in our College and local community, and following in Jesus' footsteps by living a life centred on service.

At the RISE UP Assembly on Monday, the new Year 7 SRC representatives were welcomed. I would like to extend a big congratulations to Alice Durkin,

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## UPCOMING EVENT



### Stage 6 Visual Arts Showcase Exhibition

On Tuesday 28 August, the College will be celebrating the 2018 HSC Major Body of Works of Year 12 Visual Arts and Body of Works of Year 11 Visual Arts. The exhibition will be held in the Schofields Art Block from 6.00pm - 7.30pm.

If you know a Stage 6 student studying Visual Arts this year, come along and support them and view their finest work on display!

We are incredibly impressed with the talent of this year's students. A light supper will be provided, and all are welcome to attend.

## SPORTS REPORT

A busy start to Term 3 has seen our MCCS and MCS competitions commence. Our girl's Soccer Teams have had a tremendous start to the year with both teams remaining undefeated thus far. Girls Basketball has also started well with our intermediate and senior teams picking up strong victories over the past two weeks. Boys Touch is underway with our 4 teams playing at least two games each week out at Kingsway Sporting Fields. Our MCS AFL boys have played one game after a Round 1 BYE with our Opens having a strong win where our U14's had a draw after the game had to be called off in the first half after an opposition injury.

Our representative Athletics teams will be competing at the next level of Carnivals later this term. Good luck to all our competitors.

Boys MCS Athletics @ Homebush Athletics Centre, Thursday

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### Harry's Experience with the Melbourne Storm!

Year 10 student Harry Bazley for the past 9 years has had the privilege of being the Melbourne Storm ballboy for their away games. Harry has been a part of the Melbourne Storm setup throughout the salary cap scandal in 2009 all the way up until the Grand Final win last year and into 2018. Harry arrives early for games, helping set up the warmup and stays back after the game to assist clean up. His role allows him to mingle with players and staff before and after games as well as running out with the players.

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## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

### Mental health problems – me or we?

Last post, we looked at possible reasons behind a recent big upsurge in children and youth going to the emergency department for mental health issues.

It is hardly likely that many kids separately and individually started swarming to EDs just by chance.

We are often tempted to locate mental health problems in the individual, and we then treat individual cases without considering that each of us is embedded in social environments, and some of those environments may be toxic to mental health.

Jean Twenge, a US psychologist, claims that the widespread advent of smartphones among teenagers has coincided with increases in mental health problems. One of her studies found that teens who spent more time seeing their friends in person, exercising, playing sports, attending religious services, reading or even doing homework were happier than those who spent more time on the internet, playing computer games, on social media, texting, using video chat or watching TV.

Every activity that didn't involve a screen was linked to more happiness, and every activity that involved a screen was linked to less happiness. The differences were considerable: teens who spent more than five hours a day online were twice as likely to be unhappy as those who spent less than an hour a day.

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## STAR SPOT

Congratulations to **Megan Whelan** who has been selected in the NSW U/12 Indoor Netball team. She will be travelling to Queensland later this year for the National Championships.

Congratulations to **Hailey Targarona** who will be representing Hills Gymnastics at the National Acrobatic Championships in Queensland later this year.



## CAREER'S REPORT

### Camp America Season Launch Events

Find out more as we kick off our 50th year of cultural exchange to Summer Camps in the US with our annual Season Launch roadshow. Learn more about the Camp America Program Sydney - 31st July Brisbane - 7th August Gold Coast - 8th August Geelong - 13th August Melbourne - 14th August Perth - 16th August Email: [info@campamerica.com.au](mailto:info@campamerica.com.au) Website: <https://campamerica.com.au/events/>

### ANU

ANU is coming to Sydney The ANU Admissions, Scholarships & Accommodation Roadshow will give you: Information on what it is like to study at ANU; An update on the new domestic admissions model that will

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## FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

### Natural Fertility Services

*"My husband and I opted for Natural Family Planning (NFP) after our first baby, we'd struggled with other means of fertility management prior to this. Since then, we've been shocked by just one thing, hardly anyone knows about it! Our educator has patiently guided us in learning, implementing and having confidence in ourselves. Best of all, NFP goes hand-in-hand with faith, as God's handiwork is on vibrant display in the human body. Beyond its practical benefits, NFP has revealed to us the astounding mechanisms that God has set in motion in our bodies to create life. NFP is family planning God's way"* - 40yr old couple with 2 kids.

To learn more about Natural Family Planning in the Diocese of Parramatta contact 02 8838 3460 or [nfs@parracatholic.org](mailto:nfs@parracatholic.org) or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) and [www.parralmf.org.au/nfs](http://www.parralmf.org.au/nfs)

### We're Hiring!

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is seeking a Nurse to attend World Youth Day 2019 in Panama. The role will be responsible for encouraging and coordinating healthy practices and the preliminary identification and assessment of medical, health and wellbeing needs of pilgrims. More information [here](#).

### Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse

This is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held May 26 – 31 2019. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griefftoGraceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griefftoGraceaus.org.au) or phone 0478 599 241. For more information visit [here](#).