



HARP OF THE SPIRIT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

As we reach the middle of Term three, staff are working on comparing Semester One student performance data with term three student formative assessment trends as well as student academic behaviour, i.e., their personal motivation, self-efficacy and value expectancy. The aim of this exercise is for staff to identify ways to support all learners and to get teachers to focus on all learners' progress, in particular, to focus on learners who are showing limited progress and/ or improvements in this term. I would like here to remind parents of the crucial role they play in their children's education and their crucial role in helping their children succeed academically. Unfortunately, we do notice that some students are not getting this support from home. To this end, we are planning to run information sessions to all parents based on their child's year level and we will endeavour to announce these sessions soon.

Enrolments

Congratulations to all existing and new college families for being successful in their enrolment applications for Year 7 2020 and wish to remind our community that there are only limited places available as we come closer reach the target figure for 2020.

The 2021 Year 7 enrolment interviews are scheduled to take place from Monday, 2nd September 2019 and I want to thank all parents and families who have submitted their enrolment applications early and we look forward to meeting you and your children during these interviews. Because of high demand, I urge all interested parents to contact the College Office to enquire about application forms so they can secure an interview and hopefully a place in the 2021 enrolments.

Year 12 HSC Trials Exams

Our wonderful Year 12 students have been sitting their Trials HSC exams for the last two weeks and today will mark the end of this examination period. These students will then be back to their normal classes from next Thursday, continuing their formal HSC studies for the next five weeks.

A number of these students have also been extremely busy completing, finishing off and submitting their practical projects, major designs and works across few subjects. We extend to them all our best wishes as they do their best to finalise their submissions in these HSC courses.

Year 11 Exams

Year 11 students are scheduled to sit their End of Year Examinations during week 7 in building B. These exams will run for 8 days and several students will have to sit two exams per day. As usual, students will be permitted to leave school grounds after their exams and will not be required to attend the college if they have no exam scheduled for the day.

It is important to remind students that usual HSC examination rules and procedures apply during this major HSC assessment event. Some of these rules include, being on time, having the right equipment for the examinations and not bringing restricted materials or equipment into the examination hall, e.g., mobile phones and other restricted electronic devices.

Moreover, the college will be organising a Year 11 End of Year Parent- Teacher interviews early next term to discuss students Year 11 reports, which will be distributed during the interviews.



A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE THE ISSUE:

Message from the Deputy Principal
English Faculty
PDHPE Faculty

God bless,
Mr E Dinkha

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Carers and Student,

Wow – by the time you are reading this we would be coming to the end of week 4 and entering week 5, half-way through the term already!

Year 12 have completed their trial exams, are 5 weeks away from graduation and 8 weeks away from their HSC. Our Year 11 students will commence their trials in two weeks with students across the school commencing assessments in various subjects. It is fitting, then, to remind all of our students of **Philippians 4:6-7** *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

We are always here to support any and all of our students who may start to feel the pressure of their studies. We ask all parents to remind them of this verse, but also remind them of all the people in their support system; firstly, you as their parents, their Year Advisers, teachers, KLA coordinators, the Counsellor, Pastoral Care Coordinator, Chaplain, Deputies and Principal. Your child is never alone.

It has been an amazing fortnight including;

- Having the pleasure of hosting Dr Anahit Khosroeva upon her visit to our College and deliver a presentation to our Year 11 students on Assyrian Genocide,
- Having the honour of attending NSW Parliament with the Premier of NSW Gladys Berejiklian, members of parliament including the Member for Mulgoa and our dear friend the Honourable Tanya Davies, Dr Anahit Khosroeva and many other distinguished guests on the Commemoration of Assyrian Martyrs' Day,
- The College held its own assembly to honour our Assyrian Martyrs on the 7th of August with Year 10 as the audience,
- Participating in the Assyrian Universal Alliance Commemoration of Assyrian Martyrs' Day at the Assyrian Genocide Monument on Sunday 12th August
- Year 11 attended their Spiritual Camp
- We commemorated the passing of St Mary on the 15th August with the Christian Studies faculty and students of the Christian Representative Council handing out sandwiches across the whole school
- Fun-filled and engaging learning experiences for all our learners.

It has been a great start to term 3 thus far with much more to come.

School Diary

Each student is to bring their diary to every lesson, every day. We ask that all parents/carers check their child's diary for communication from their teachers.

Attendance

Regular attendance is extremely important to a child's education. This includes arriving with plenty of time for school and class. School starts at 8.30am, however students are expected to arrive prior to 8:20am to ensure punctuality. Minimum attendance requirement is 90% with parents receiving letters at 85%.

Did you know?

- 80% attendance rate = being absent 1 day per week, 10 days a term or 40 days per year
- 85% attendance rate = being absent 7 or 8 days a term, 30 days absent per year
- 90% attendance rate = 1 day per fortnight, 5 days a term or 20 days per year
- 95% attendance rate = 2 to 3 days a term, 10 days per year

School Uniform

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who have ensured their child is in correct College uniform.

A reminder;

- Blazers are part of the winter uniform and is expected to be worn by every. The College jumper is optional for extra warmth.
- Hoodies and non-college jumpers are not permitted.
- Beanies are not permitted
- Multiple earrings and/or piercings on any part of the ear that is not the lower earlobe are not permitted.
- For girls, skirts are to be worn below the knee, hair tied up

Semester one reports are available to be picked up from the school office during school hours.

Gum Ban

The College has a strict no gum policy, due to the damages and cost associated with this act. Any student seen chewing gum, will be held accountable and may be asked to cover the cost for the damages incurred.

All families are asked to ensure that their child's uniform meets our expectations details of which can be found in the student's diary. The school uniform is always available for purchase at The School Locker (2/20 Orange Grove Road, Liverpool Mega Centre, Liverpool)

Youth Resilience Survey

In August, the College conducts the Youth Resilience Survey to gather information about our students' wellbeing. We are in our second year of a three-year project. Every year, the Welfare Team uses the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve every student's resilience and wellbeing. We want to improve every student's schooling experience to hopefully show a positive increase in the student's attitude to their school and their learning which will filter through to their daily life.

Mobile phones

A reminder St Narsai has banned mobile phones from the college. Students are not to have a mobile phone on their person at any time during school hours.

Students may have the phone on them before entering school grounds and after leaving school grounds. However, during school hours, the phone is to be turned off and locked away. Anyone seen with a mobile phone has the risk of having the phone confiscated and having it returned only to parents.

Final Word

Our college is dedicated to educational excellence, encouraging students to go beyond their potential, providing them with opportunities to excel whilst catering to their well-being. Students are encouraged to be Safe, have High expectations, Achieve, show and have Respect and are always Prepared (SHARP) and effective learners whilst on their educational journey at St Narsai.

God bless,
Mary Ismail

Attendance: Student's attendance rate is to be above 90%.

Lateness to school: every minute counts ensure your child arrives by 8:20am, 10 minutes prior to the 8.30am bell for roll call.

ENGLISH FACULTY

Written by Mr Michael Cunningham
English Coordinator

Students across English have started to engage in a variety of Cultures of Thinking routines designed by Harvard University. These routines are purposefully constructed to challenge and push students to become critical independent thinkers. Currently, Year 10 are undertaking a close novel study of either 'To Kill a Mockingbird' or 'A Monster Calls' to deepen their understanding of how an author creates meaning through character, setting, language choices, and themes.

Pictured below is 10A English Class deeply immersed in a Colour, Symbol, and Image routine, which saw high levels of independent student learning.



PDHPE FACULTY

Written by Mr Christopher Lazarou
PDHPE Coordinator

Term 3 has started well, and the PDHPE Faculty is ready to tackle the new challenges and learnings this term will bring.

On Wednesday 14th August, SNACC athletes represented the College in the annual Christian Schools Sports Association West Metropolitan Secondary Zone Athletics Carnival. The carnival was held at Blacktown International Sports Park at Rooty Hill. 38 students participated in a variety of events including; high jump, shot put, javelin, discus, long jump, 100m, 200m and 400m races.

We congratulate these students on their effort and determination.

Year 7 PDHPE students participated in their practical 'Skills Man' assessment. This task examines each student's fundamental movement skills, which include throwing, catching, kicking and specialised movement patterns. The PDHPE faculty commends all year 7 on their effort and diligence to the task.

I conclude by wishing all the Year 12 PDHPE students' luck in their Trail HSC exams, I have no doubt we will see some great results.



R U OK?

R U OK?'s vision is a world where everyone is connected and protected from suicide. Here at the College we understand the importance of this vision which is why we have selected year 9 students to plan a video for R U OK day to raise awareness for suicide prevention.

The year 9 IST class have been given tasks to help write, direct, edit and produce the video.

Stay tuned for R U OK day to see the final product on September 12!



Upcoming Events

Year 12 HSC Trials

Friday 23rd August
Daffodil Day

