



OCTOBER 2020 | ISSUE 16

# HARP OF THE SPIRIT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Two weeks ago, we welcomed our students back to term four and the start of the countdown to the conclusion of the 2020 school year.

Students returned from the term break excited to catch up with their mates and peers and reconnect with learning in our spacious and safe school environment.

The college's new facility- the outdoor Sports Court has added a new dimension to fun and sporting activities for all students. Year Advisers have developed a roster that allows for students from all Year levels to be rostered for equitable access to the court. The recent good weather has allowed access to all three ovals at the back of the College as well as the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area).

### Morning drop-off

I ask our wonderful parents to try to start their morning journey to school a bit earlier because too many parents are arriving to school within a limited time span between 8:10- 8:25. This is causing traffic problems outside and inside the school and potentially creating a dangerous situation that we would all want to avoid in the interests of the safety of our kids. I value your support in changing your time of arrival to the school to help ease the morning traffic problem.

### 2020-2021 HSC Course

Congratulations to Year 11 students for completing the preliminary HSC course requirements last term and good luck to all of them as they commence their Year 12 HSC courses this term.

During a special assembly on Monday this week, I discussed with Year 11 students their course results and reminded them about the importance of working together to help improve learning outcomes for all. I reminded students how important it was for all of us to meet the College's high expectations. I explained that we would all be rewarded by doing the right thing every day and making a concerted effort to improve our work ethics across all subjects. Students who performed poorly for the 2020 Preliminary course were urged to attend to their studies in positive and practical way.

All students were informed that the Year Adviser, Mr. Ablakatov will be monitoring teachers' feedback on student's engagement in their courses every fortnight and that some students will be challenged accordingly.

Preliminary End of Course Reports have been issued to students to bring home today.

At this time every year, we host the Year 12 Assessment Information Evening for Year 12 students and their parents at the College to go over important assessment information.

However, due current COVID-19 restrictions, Mrs. Khina (Deputy Principal) has kindly produced a video presentation of the Year 12 Assessment Information for our Year 12 students and their parents to access at their leisure at home. This video presentation covers important HSC course assessment information, NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) assessment requirements and the school-based assessment procedures and protocols

Students were also issued with a copy of the current 2020-2021 HSC Assessment Information Handbook that includes all relevant assessment information, including assessment schedules of all subjects offered at the college. Students have been also issued with a Year 12 Senior Student Agreement that students and parents are required to sign. This is a way we want to hold students to account in relation to meeting the college's academic high expectations.

Thank you,

Mr. E. Dinkha



### A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE THE ISSUE:

- Message from the Deputy Principal
- English Faculty
- PDHPE Faculty
- Harp of the Spirit Podcast

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends

### World Teachers Day

As today is World Teachers Day, I would like to thank all the teachers for the hard work and effort that they put into helping our students. The theme for this year is A Bright Future. I acknowledge the dedication that our teachers put into making the future bright for all our students.



### HSC Exams

As the HSC exams continue, we wish the Year 12 students the best of luck with the remaining exams. I commend them on their perseverance in a very difficult and unpredictable year.

### Year 12 has commenced!

Students in Year 11 have now commenced their Year 12 coursework. They had an information session today and were provided with important information regarding their course work, important assessment handbooks and their Preliminary reports. In October each year we hold an information session for Year 12 students and their parents.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the scheduled information evening has had to be cancelled this year. Instead, we have created a YouTube clip with important information for parents and students. This was messaged to all parents and is available on the students Teams page. Please contact me if you would like further information.

### Yearly Examinations

Students in Years 9 and 10 will have their Yearly examinations in Week 5 with Years 7 and 8 in Week 6. Students will receive a timetable with details of when and where the exams will take place. Please have a conversation with your child about their upcoming exams and encourage them to prepare and organise for them early.

I wish all students the best of luck as they work towards completing their course requirements for 2020.

Mrs. M. Khina  
Deputy Principal / Curriculum



## English Faculty

Written by Mr. Cunningham  
English Coordinator

Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

The year has undoubtedly been one of many challenges; and as I write, this is it hard to believe that we are already well into term four. As the year slowly comes to an end, it does not mean that the learning slows down. All students are fully engaged in their learning; being exposed to an array of outstanding literature. I would encourage all students to continue their exploration of literature at home by reading a wide array of text types.

During term three, year 7 students engaged in the world of drama, through a close study of Shakespeare's play 'A Midsummer Nights Dream'. This term, students are learning about fractured fairy tales; as well as, language of film and will end the year with a close study of the movie Shrek.

Year 8 students were engaged in a film study of the 'Jumanji Welcome to the Jungle', which expanded on their film techniques as well as a range of writing styles. This term, they are busy exploring a range of different text types in regards to First Australians, as well as learning about grammar and punctuation conventions.

Year 9 students were engaged in a unit of how heroes and villains are conveyed in the film, through a close study of the movie 'Black Panther'. They had to analyse film techniques and explain how they shape meaning. In the final term of 2020, they are learning about nonfiction texts and reading a selection of short stories written by famous Australians with an Asian background.

Our Year 10 cohort were also engaged in a novel study, developing their understanding of literacy and language features in order to compose a creative response. This term, they are exploring the genre of comedy in a new unit "Just For Laughs" – students look at different conventions and a variety of branches of comedy and how it has changed through time and across cultures.

Year 11 sat their final preliminary exams at the end of term three, and now, they have started the HSC course and are officially year 12 students! The Stage 6 English Syllabus continues to be tweaked and adjusted to meet the requirements of students for their learning. I wish them the best of luck as they embark on what will be a genuinely challenging yet rewarding experience.

Finally, as I write this, our year 12 students are sitting their HSC exams in what has been a trying and difficult year for all. The English papers were completed on October 20 and 21, and as hard as I am to say goodbye to such a wonderfully unique cohort, it is such an exciting time for them as they get ready to embark into their new lives. Good luck, year 12, 2020!



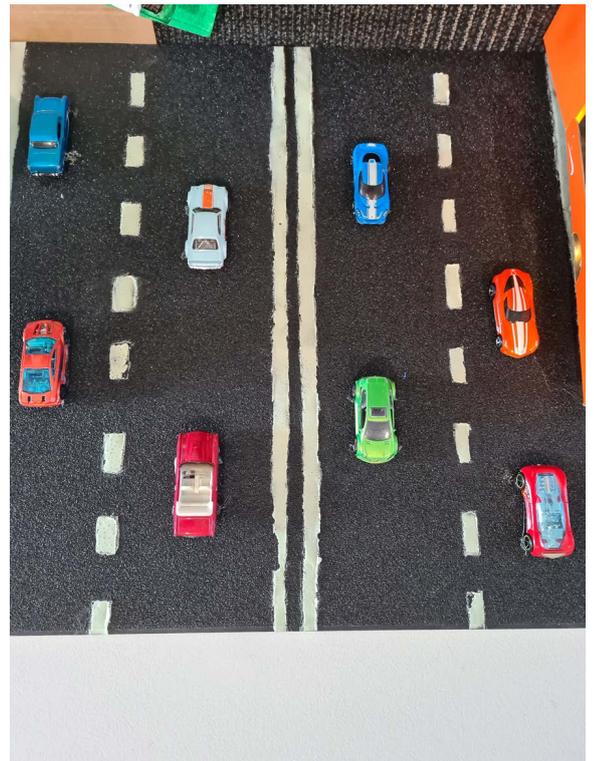
## PDHPE Faculty

Written by Mrs. Tatian  
PDHPE Coordinator

During Term 3 2020 year 10 students of the College undertook a unit on road safety. This unit educated students on the current statistics of young people on the road, what risks and why young people take risks on the road and the positive ways we can be safe on the road including practical strategies to be safe. Students really enjoyed this unit and found it very useful and relevant especially because many of them were or are going for their learner licence within this year or next. Students were then asked to design a 3D model of a new safety initiative or tool that could be used by the Australian Government to enhance safety on the road for a driver, motor bike rider, cyclist or pedestrian.

This was a new assessment task for the college and students really enjoyed the opportunity to be able to create a safety model and to communicate and work together to create this. The PDHPE faculty were very impressed with the student's creativity and innovation with these models and we congratulate these students on their efforts.

Below are some pictures of the hard work of our year 10 PDHPE students:



# HARP OF THE SPIRIT PODCAST

The official YouTube channel for St Narsai's, Harp of the Spirit Podcast is officially LIVE!  
Episode 4 'The Saints' is out NOW!

Tune in to our YouTube channel to watch it: <https://bit.ly/3jyCl6w>  
Be sure to like, share and subscribe!



## Congratulations!

### ICAS Mathematics Competition

We would like to congratulate our top achievers who received outstanding results in the ICAS Mathematics Competition.

These Year 7 - 10 students extended themselves beyond school mathematics and took part in the ICAS Mathematics Competition.

A big congratulations to Anthony Ochana (Year 10) for his Distinction and Principal Award for best in school.

