



St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College

# *Harp of The Spirit*

N e w s l e t t e r

## COLLEGE EVENTS

**Wednesday  
12/2/14  
Year 9 Boys  
Year 7 Boys & Girls  
Vaccination**

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**Thursday  
13/2/14  
College Assembly**

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**Monday  
17/2/14  
Year 7  
Parent Information  
Evening 7:00pm**

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**Wednesday  
19/2/14  
Year 10  
Parents Information  
Evening 7:00pm**

**Motivational Media  
Sessions (School Hall)  
Year 7-12**

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**Dear Parents and friends of SNACC**

**Issue 1 Term 1 7/2/2014**

Welcome back to the 2014 academic Year ,I hope you had a safe and happy holidays with your children . We have enrolled 84 students in year 7 and the school population has increased to over 400 students from year 7 to year 12.

Last year's year 12 students did very well in their HSC exams ,we had a number of students achieving ATARS over 80 % with Ramiz Gorla and Jina Ishak on top of the list. Our students received 4 band 6 grades which is the highest band in the state and we also received 52 band 5 grades which are above 80 % mark.From our 32 students who sat for the HSC exam 21 have already received University offers in NSW. We are very happy and proud of our students who are doing well at St Narsai Assyrian Christian College , many thanks to their teachers who work very hard to make sure that our students achieve their potential.

Thanks to all the parents who have continued to support our College's policies and procedures throughout the year ,we hope to continue working together during this 2014 Academic year and be proud of our children's achievements.

Graduation of current year 12 students will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014, this is going to be a very special event as these children of year 12 were the first group that started in St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School in 2002 and now will be graduating ,thus completing the first cycle, and we must always remember and be thankful of His Eminence Mar Meelis's vision for our children in Australia .

We ask parents who wish to join our Parents and Friends Association for St Narsai Assyrian Christian College to send their names to our school office or email me on: [johnh@snac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:johnh@snac.nsw.edu.au) the P & F committee will meet with the principal once a month to discuss student welfare, student wellbeing, teaching programs and academic standards. It is very important that we keep our lines of communication open and active so that the whole community becomes involved in their school .

Please send me your name and phone number so that I can contact you and organize our first meeting.

God Bless

J Haskal



# FROM THE DEPUTY

## Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to another busy school year. I look forward to working with you and meeting many of our parents throughout the year. A special welcome to our new Year 7 students and their parents as they join the community of St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College. It is great to report that the Year 7 cohort has already settled in their daily school routines, thanks largely to a very successful Year 6- 7 transition program in 2013. This program was led by our very capable Year 7 Advisor, Mrs. Kaya and involved students, parents and staff from both St. Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School and SNACC.

Our teachers are pleased with the quality of our Year 7 students and are working diligently with them to ensure that every student is given the best educational experience possible. Other students in the College are already engaged in their respective studies and teachers are focused on setting high expectations across all aspects of the school and supporting all students as needed.

This week we conducted the Year 11 Assessment Information Evening, where we shared with Year 11 students and parents important assessment information about the Preliminary Courses that commenced last week. Year 7 and Year 10 students will have their information evenings on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February respectively. It is crucial that at least one parent attends the information night with their son or daughter.

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Excellence  
Christian  
Values  
Commitment

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## Student Diary or Planner 2014

All students have been issued with new planners that contain very important information including policies, procedures, agreements, College expectations, uniform information, prayers, and a wide range of literacy, academic and study activities. Parents are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with these planners so they can be in a good position to support their children's education at SNACC in 2014. Parents are also asked to inspect their child's planner every week to check for communication from teachers and to sign the planner at the end of each week.

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## Student Wellbeing

St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College has in place a new Student Welfare policy and other relevant procedures that aim to ensure that students feel safe, respected and cared for every day in a positive and rewarding learning environment. Pastoral Care Teachers supervised by Year Advisors keep a close eye on all students so they can provide support when needed. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's PC teacher or Year Advisor to discuss any concerns they may have.

Thank You,

Mr. E. Dinkha

## From the Schools Chaplain

On behalf of His Beatitude Mar Meelis Zaia, I would like to welcome you back to another year at St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College. I would also like to welcome the new staff members, new students and our beloved parents. We thank God for a successful 2013 and I pray that our Lord Jesus Christ continues to bless our School community with many more blessings for 2014.

Two days ago we held our first Eucharistic service for this year, in my sermon I mentioned about the reasons and importance of one of our compulsory fast Rogation of the Ninevites (Ba'utha d-Ninwaye). This fast is observed for three days and for this year it commences on the Monday 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2014. The first reason we observe this fast is to commemorate the repentance of the Ninevites by the preaching of Jonah (Old Testament).

The second reason for this rogation to be observed is at the time of Mar Sawresho Metropolitan-Bishop of BeitSlokh in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century, there was a pestilence (deadly epidemic disease), which is called in the world "the plague", which took place in our lands. It came about because of the multitude of men's sins, almost consuming and bringing to an end all the men of BeitGarmai, of Assyria, and of Nineveh. When Mar Sawresho prayed to God because of the rod of wrath which was destroying his flock he heard the voice of an angel saying, "Proclaim a fast and make petition, and the pestilence will be removed from you." At once this holy man commanded that the people observe a Fast. On the final day of the Fast the people had fellowship in the Sacrifice of the living Body and holy Blood of Christ, and by it were pardoned and sanctified. Indeed, utterly none of those into whose bodies the corruption had spread died, not even one.

This Fast is observed by either of these two types 'Absolute Fast' or 'Partial Fast'.

Absolute Fast – Person refrains from both food and water for 3 days.

Partial Fast – During partial fasts the faithful abstain from eating anything that comes from animals e.g. No meat, dairy, eggs etc. Only food that comes from the earth is permissible.

Three ways in which faithful observe the partial Fast;

Fast absolutely from dusk till dawn or after the Evening Prayer (5pm). After the evening prayer, you may eat one meal of foods that are permissible in a Partial Fast.

Fast from dusk until the Mid Day Prayer (12pm). Thereafter you may eat food that is permissible in a Partial Fast.

Eat throughout the day, but only the foods that are permissible in a Partial Fast.

God bless,

Rev. Fr. Ninos Elya

Assyrian Schools Chaplain

**UNIFORM SHOP**

School uniforms are now in stock and available from SHAPS uniform store

Open Mon, Tue, Wed

8.45am – 10am

7-9 Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Park

9753 4185

**School Hours**

8:30am

To

2:50pm

**Office Hours**

8:am

To

4pm

Monday to Friday

Tel: 9753 0700

Fax: 9753 0800

**Website**

WWW.mnac.nsw.edu.au

**Email Address**

School.office@mnac.nsw.edu.au



Need to talk? Kids Helpline counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Nothing is too big or too small to call us



**Help is available. No one needs to face their problems alone.**

**Call Lifeline on 13 11 14 for support or dial 000 if life is in danger.**

**Parentline**

**Parent line is a confidential telephone counselling service providing professional counselling and support for parents and those who care for children.**

**Phone: 1300 1300 52 (cost of a local call) - 24 hours a day, seven days a week-[www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au)**

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