



St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College

Harp of The Spirit

N e w s l e t t e r

COLLEGE EVENTS

Term 3

Students
return
Wednesday
19/7/2017

Thursday
20/7/2017
Patriarchal
Visit

Dear Parents and Guardians of SNACC

Issue 5 Term 2 30/6/2017

This is the last Newsletter for Term 2! I would like to thank all parents for their support during the Term. A special thank you to the Parents and Friends (P&F) Committee for their involvement in school matters and assisting the College to work towards better outcomes for all students.

In Week 8 of this Term, many Stage 4 students attended an *African Drumming* exhibition held at the College. This was organised for Year 7 and Year 8 CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) students. Students will participate in an African Drumming workshop led by professional musicians. Students played their own Djembe, which culminates into a group performance. Thank you Mr. Bottaro and Mr. Rossman for organising this event.

Subject choices for both Years 8 to 9 and for 1 to 12 were held at the College. The students were given lots of information about the nature of the subjects/electives and how to go about choosing them. Parental meetings were also held for Parents and they were well attended. I would like to thank all staff involved with this important process especially Mr. Dinkha and Mr. Hardman. You would be interested to know that for the first time we are having students to chose online and this will save much time and the data will be much more accurate.

Thank you to all parents and students for completing the *College Improvement Online surveys*. Many parents responded to the survey. The surveys will be used to make improvements in the education of al students at the College. We will keep you informed about the results of the survey.

On Monday 20th June, the College celebrated *Refugee Week* at the College Assembly with Mr. Rufo giving a talk about the importance of the week and one of our students (refugee), Miron Al-Wakeel, speaking about his, and his family, experiences as a recent refugee. The College was also represented the Fairfield City Settlement Action Plan event on Thursday, 22nd June where Maryam Al- Wakeel gave a young refugee perspective regarding settling in a new country. She was a great ambassador for the College.

A *College disco* was held for the students on 20th June. It was well attended and it was very successful. The proceeds About \$1500 have been donated to ACERO. I would like to thank the staff that gave up their evening to support the evening and Ms. Nona and Ms. David for the great organization.

Students were issued with their *Semester 1 Reports* on Wednesday, 28th June. Parent Teacher Meetings were held on Wednesday and the Thursday- two sessions were needed because of the high demand. They were both well attended. Thank you parents for taking a very keen interest in the education of the students. Students were also recognized for their academic excellence, effort and outstanding attendance during Semester 1.

We wish al a restful and safe holiday, Term 3 starts for students on Wednesday, 19th July 2017.

God Bless

A Rufo

(Principal)

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

It was wonderful to meet so many parents in the last two evenings during the teacher- parent- student interviews. I take this opportunity to congratulate all students who exceeded and achieved their academic potential in semester one and hope they continue to aspire for even better results. I also would like to encourage all other students to reflect on their Semester One results and make a concerted effort to work harder next semester and to seek the assistance of their respective teachers.

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A big thank you to all parents who were able to attend both, the Year 11 201 Subject Selection Information Evening and the Year 9 2018 Subject Selection Information Evening over the last two weeks. At this point and based on student selections, we are finalising what subjects will be offered next year to these two groups of students.

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Messages from the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)

Year 11 and 12 students are reminded that the [HSC 2017 Study Guide](#), published on 9th June, is now available online. This important resource contains information from the printed version as well as additional online-only material, subjects and videos and direct links.

It is full of practical information and advice for HSC students from NESA curriculum inspectors, experienced teachers and high achieving students. The digital edition, which contains lots of extra material and will remain available until after written exams, includes:

- 50 articles
- sample questions
- 100 HSC courses
- videos
- tips for written, oral and performance exams
- advice on submitted works
- smart study tips
- stress busting strategies
- advice for parents
- links to further information.



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Year 12 students are reminded that they can now access their personal 2017 HSC timetables in [Students Online](#) by logging in to their personal account via [My Details](#). Students need to check that their personal timetables are correct. They also need to check that their personal details are also correct, including their email address and mobile number.

All Year 12 students were sent an email recently in relation to the above details. If a student did not receive the email, their contact details in [Students Online](#) may not be correct and should be updated as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Mr. E. Dinkha

Excellence
Christian
Values
Commitment

FROM THE HEAD PRINCIPAL

St Narsai Assyrian Christian

As the term comes to a close I write to thank the staff, students and parents for their very warm welcome to me. St Narsai and St Hurmizd are unique schools with wonderfully friendly students, committed, hardworking staff and supportive parents.

Over the last 5 weeks I have had the opportunity to meet with a large number of staff and students to gain an insight into both schools. In addition I have met with a number of parents to gain their impressions of the schools. What has struck me is the passion that each hold for the Assyrian Schools. This together with the strength of Faith which is integral to both schools makes for a unique and special learning environment for staff and students.

I am especially grateful to the large number of staff, students and parents who completed the survey. It is pleasing to see that we have had an overwhelming response to this School Improvement Survey. The data from this survey together with information gathered from interviews and observations will form the basis for a report to be tabled with His Beatitude and the School Board in late July.

The focus within the report will be on school improvement. The School Board is intent on ensuring St Narsai and St Hurmizd are Independent Schools of excellence. There is clear evidence that a lot of progress has been made particularly over the last few years. However it is evident there are many areas for improvement. While this will take time you will be kept informed as to the key areas of focus to ensure we are pursuing excellence in all that we do.

I look forward to providing a more in depth update early in Term 3. I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing holiday break and again thank you for your assistance with the recent survey.

May God bless you.

Kind regards

Mr Brian Kennelly

Head Principal of Assyrian Schools

College Events: IEC Excursion

The St. Narsai IEC group were treated to an excursion to Sydney's Powerhouse Museum on Thursday 29th of June, after a term studying all about space, the Earth's climate and the evolution of transportation. The students were split into four groups to participate in scientific experiments, a literacy style treasure hunt, in addition to stepping back in time and experiencing what an old 1940s style cinema felt like by watching the short animation *Iggy Peck Architect*.

It was a great day filled with active learning and collaborative tasks. I would like to thank all IEC teachers and support staff for their hard work and dedication this term, placing the students' educational needs as a priority. The IEC students appreciate the positive classroom environment which you provide for them every day through your constant dedication and commitment.



CAPA Faculty

African Drumming

A Music event was held for Year 7 and Year 8 CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) students. Students participated in an African Drumming workshop led by professional musicians. Children played their own Djembe, which culminated into a group performance.

The incursion was very be an enjoyable experience for all students and promoted teamwork, and self-confidence. Students had a hands-on learning experience of musical concepts such as duration, poly-rhythm, syncopation and texture.



CAPA Faculty

SHAPS Concert 2017

On Wednesday 28th June a Music students from Years 7 – 10 travelled to SHAPS to showcase performance pieces they have been learning in class. There were two sessions during the day, a morning session for K -2 students and an afternoon session for Years 3 – 6. Each session was followed with question time where SHAPS students were invited up on stage to ask the SNAC performers questions about studying Music at school and about their performance pieces.

A primary school student asked “How are you so talented”? to one of the SNAC students. The reply was talent and hard work go hand in hand. There is not one without the other. To achieve any goal, you need to work hard for it. I am proud to hear such words come from SNAC students, clearly demonstrating their Growth Mindset.

I would like to congratulate all the performers on the day for their outstanding effort and dedication. Our musicians performed with confidence and were professional with their execution. For their outstanding efforts, a special sausage sizzle with be held in Term 3.

Thanks,

Mr Bottaro



English Faculty-Year 8 English Excursion

On Wednesday, June 7th 2017, year 8 attended an excursion at the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta.

Students have been studying the text 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', and as a result were taken on an excursion to view the performance of the play. This performance is directly related to the English syllabus in which students study a Shakespeare play for its dramatic themes.

The visit was an invaluable opportunity for students to witness a live production and had exposed them to a variety of elements of performance and drama. The performance ran for 90 minutes with no interval.

On behalf of the grade, I would like to thank, Mrs Hormoz, Miss Shakir, Mrs Kurver, Miss Isaac, Miss Younan and Mrs Swid for sacrificing their time to organise and attend this wonderful excursion. Year 8 had a great time!

By: Angelina Daniel



SNACC Leader Ship Team

Youth Leadership and Mentoring Day at Fairfield City Council.

On Thursday 29th June, St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College students participated in the Youth Leadership and Mentoring Day at Fairfield City Council. The day provided students with the opportunities to develop their leadership and mentoring skills. They met the Mayor of Fairfield Council, Frank Carbone, who spoke of his background, experiences and leadership. Students also met Australian adventurer James Castrisson who spoke about his expedition from Antarctica to the South Pole. Students met leaders from other schools in the area and took some useful skills with them that will benefit them in their roles as future leaders.

Thank you to the students that attended and to Fairfield City Council for organising the event.

Mrs. Khina

Student Leadership Team Organiser



Science Faculty: Year 11 Biology Field Trip

Friday 23 June, saw forty intrepid Year 11 Biologists, with Ms Nanao, Ms Mathew and Mr Yager, travel to Narrabeen Environmental Centre for their ecosystem study. Larger than expected wave activity forced a change of venue, so we trekked out along the headland. On top of the whale watching hilltop, we paused to take in the spectacular views of the Northern Beaches before descending to the rock platform.

As soon as we hit the sand, students were engaged by the variety of shells from once living animals accumulated along the shore. However, the real treat awaited us in the shallow pools and rock crevasses of the tidal rock platform. It was low tide but a few soggy shoes resulted from the occasional surprise wave. Students searched the water to find limpets grazing on algae, barnacles closed to the drying sun, snails hiding under the shade of rocks, and starfish hunting along the pool bottoms. The occasional scurrying crab brought students running.

Thermometers and salinity meters came out to make measurements of physical abiotic characteristics along a measurement tape while surveys of living creatures were used to try to explain why animals live where they do.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable day and I saw our students alive to the wonders of nature. However, the most memorable moment was as we entered the Environmental Centre and the teacher employed to guide us said to me, "I had forgotten how nice your kids are!" Well done St Narsai and thank you for a great day.

Mr Peter Yager. Biology Teacher.



Science Faculty: Year 10 Luna Park Excursion

On the 16th of June year 10 visited Luna Park as part of their Science curriculum, which allowed the students to explore the world of physics. Students braved the cold and ventured out early morning to the city as they congregated at the exhilarating entrance of Sydney's favourite centre for fun and physics. Students started the day with a quick tour of all the rides, revising their knowledge on what physics concepts the rides were built on. The rest of the day was a blur of rides, including The Wild Mouse, The Hair Raiser, The Spider, The Rotor and The Power Surge, to name a few. Students worked through their 'physics is fun' booklet as they investigated gravitational acceleration with the Hair Raiser, centripetal force with The Rotor, inertia with Dodgem City, and energy conversions with the tumble bug. All in all, it was a fantastic day that allowed students to see the real life application of the laws of motion that they had spent the term learning about.



SNACC Soccer Team

Congratulations to the U15s Soccer Boys

Crowned Sydney Champions

A big congratulations to the U15 boys for their efforts at the CSSA Met-West Zone beating Tyndale Christian College 2-1 in the finals to be crowned champions of the Sydney Christian schools district. This group of boys will be the first to represent St Narsai Assyrian Christian College at the State Championships later next month, an excellent achievement.

The boys competed against the best Christian schools in Sydney in a tough nine week competition and went up against teams that included: Toongabbie Christian School, Norwest Christian College and Hills Adventist College.

The boys fought through the semifinals beating Toongabbie Christian School (3 year champions of the competition) 2-0. They then had to face off in a tough final against Tyndale Christian College and in a hard-fought game, they managed to turn around a 1-0 deficit to win the competition 2-1 thanks to goals from Veron Khammoo and a spectacular 50 yard strike from Ramen Kako.

A big thank you to all the people who supported these students on an excellent journey to becoming champions. Best of luck to the U'15 boys in the State Championships!



AKAD UNIFORM SHOP

School uniforms are now in stock and available from AKAD uniform store
 Open Monday and Tuesday
 9am-11am
 Wednesday
 2:30pm-4:30pm
 7-9 Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Park

**School Hours**

8:40 am

To

3:00 pm

Office Hours

8:am

To

4pm

Monday to Friday

Tel: 9753 0700

Fax: 9753 0800

Website

WWW.snac.nsw.edu.au

Email Address

school.office@snac.nsw.edu.au



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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

673-683 Smithfield Rd, Edensor Park NSW 2176

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