



## St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College

# Harp of The Spirit

## N e w s l e t t e r

### Dear Parents and Guardians of SNACC Issue 6 Term 2 10/6/2016

#### COLLEGE EVENTS

##### Monday 13/6/2016

Queen's Birthday public holiday

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##### Tuesday 14/6/2016

Year 10 HSC subject selection evening at 6 pm

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##### Wednesday 15/6/2016

Year 11 English Excursion—  
Smyour Centre

P&F meeting  
6.30 to 7.30 pm

Topic

#### What does A to E mean on my child's report?

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##### Thursday 16/6/2016

Year 11 Science Excursion

Year 12 Careers Expo Excursion

Year 11 2017 Subject Selection Interviews  
3:10-5:00

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##### Friday 17/6/2016

Year 8 Tech Excursion

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##### Tuesday 21/6/2016

Alumni Evening Function

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##### Thursday 23/6/2016

Year 10 English Excursion

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##### Friday 24/6/2016

Athletics Carnival

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##### Monday 27/6/2016

Year 10 Spiritual Day

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##### Tuesday 28/6/2016

Year 9 2017 subject selection information session P2

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##### Wednesday 29/6/2016

Parents/Teacher interviews  
3:10-7:00 pm

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##### Thursday 30/6/2016

Last day of Term 2 2016

It has been a very difficult time for the College Community with the tragic loss of **Rhonda Audisho**, on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Rhonda was the driver of a car, travelling with two companions. The car was involved in an accident and her two companions escaped with minor injuries, but unfortunately Rhonda passed away from her injurie.

As a deeply loved student of St Narsai Assyrian Christian College, Rhonda, a Year 12 student, will be truly missed. An intelligent and highly motivated student, Rhonda excelled in many aspects of college life. She will be remembered as a warm and generous friend who was a source of motivation and inspiration to her fellow students. She was well-known for her compassion and kindness, and most importantly, her vivacious personality. The community of St Narsai (students, teachers and parents) are reeling with the shock of her sudden passing. We hope that God will be with her family and friends during this time of need. We pray that her memory will be forever cherished, as we hold her in our hearts forever.

**Year 10** are currently in the process of choosing their HSC subjects for 2017. A number of meetings are being held for both parents and students to ensure that they can make a well informed choice. On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June, a special meeting will be held, at 6.00pm for parents and students. This is a great opportunity to find out about the subjects but also about the nature of the HSC. All Year 10 parents are invited to attend. I would like to thank Mr Hardman for his hard and efficient work in making sure that the school curriculum is well organised.

**The P&F meeting** will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June. The educational session at the meeting will be on understating the *Grades A to E* and what they really mean. There will also be a discussion regarding how parents can assist their child to improve their grades. Please come along and join the growing group pf parents that have been attending the P&F meetings.

I am very pleased to share with you that **St Narsai Assyrian College** has successfully undergone the **Accreditation and Registration** process on the 25<sup>th</sup> May. This is a regular five year event that all Independent and Private Schools need to do. We were inspected by Government inspectors from BOSTES to make sure that the school is performing effectively and efficiently. They praised the Curriculum delivery and other aspects of the College educational organisation. This will reassure all parents that the provision of education, at St Narsai, for their children is of a very high standard. I would like to thank the College staff for their commitment and sound teaching and learning that they continually do at the College.

A reminder to parents, of Year 7 to 11 students, which a **parent- teacher interviews for Semester 1 Reports** will take place on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June from 3.10pm to 7.00pm. The Reports will be issued to parents on this day, just prior to their interviews with the teachers. This year we are introducing an *on-line booking* for the interviews and you child has the details on how this operates. If you are having trouble using it, please contact the school.

One of our goal this year has been for the College to form an **Alumni Association**. This has the benefit that past students can stay in contact with the College and they can support it in years to come. We have formed a task-force to initiate such association. The first official function is on 21st June 2016, starting at 7.00pm at the new renovated Nineveh Lounge in Smithfield Rd., adjacent to the College; we are expecting well over 100 students to attend. All past students & teachers (since 2006) are invited to attend. Please ring the school to register your attendance (for catering purposes). As part of this inaugural reunion, dinner will be provided free of charge.

God Bless

# FROM THE DEPUTY

**Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,**

Our Years 7 & 8 students completed their half-yearly examinations last week and Years 9 & 10 students will complete their half-yearly exams next Monday. I am pleased to report that their conduct and application to these exams have been pleasing. From next Tuesday, Year 11 students will commence their half-yearly examinations, which will extend to week 8.

During the Year 11 half-yearly exams, year 11 students will be allowed to leave the College at the end of their daily exams to allow the time at home to revise for their next day examinations. Alternatively, students are welcome to stay at the College after their examinations and study or use the time for last minute consultation with their respective teachers. Where students have no exam for the day, they are not required to attend the college.

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We are in the middle of our Transition Program for the current year six cohort from St. Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School enrolling at St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College for 2017. This week, we conducted a transition forum at the College for a selected group of St. Hurmizd students, where St. Narsai students and staff responded to questions from the year 6 students about the demands and experiences of a high school student.

I would like to remind Year 6 Parents to ensure that they deliver their completed SNACC Enrolment Forms to our College office as soon as possible. Please be advised that we are accepting applications from students of other schools competing for the limited places at SNACC. Unfortunately, late applications risk being put on a waiting list.

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It is that time again, where the year 10 students receive information and advice about Year 11 subjects or courses on offer in 2017. This process will start next week with an in-school sessions delivered by KLA Co-coordinators and subject teachers explaining and promoting a wide range of Year 11 subjects. This will be followed by a Subject Information Evening for current Year 10 students and parents on Tuesday of week 8. This is therefore an opportune time for year 10 parents to start a discussion with their child about what subjects to consider for their HSC course in 2017. Subject selection interviews will be conducted two days later, on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June from 3:10-5:00. At least one parent must attend the interview with their child.

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The college is hoping that laptop program package from Interlinked will be available to parents from next week so they can start purchasing their choice of devices. As was stated before, we believe that equipping students with computer based devices, including laptops in classroom settings offers many additional learning opportunities to them. Laptops or similar devices can provide a high level of interactivity between students, teachers and subject matter and will contribute to improving efficiencies across a number of areas.

Again, our intention is to change classroom dynamics to all SNACC students from next term.

Thank you,  
Mr. E. Dinkha



# Message from the Counsellor

## **Teenage gaming as an addiction, we ask why?**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Generation Next for holding a rather beneficial and interesting conference last week in Brisbane, Queensland. Respective members of the Assyrian Schools were in attendance of the conference which shed much needed light on sensitive issues our children face in this day and age.

The conference covered various areas of child and adolescent development; talks about child abuse, self-harm and suicide, the government's stance on particular youth issues and a very interesting talk on teenage excessive gaming and addictions.

Dealing with parents who complain about their children's increased hours on PlayStation and computer video games has always been a part of the agenda at our College, and every other high school in this modern society. The guest speaker at the conference was a clinical psychologist who once was "the most addicted and low life gamer on the face of the planet", according to himself.

Our children and adolescents are growing, and within their growth the right environment must be created and maintained for a healthy process. It is clear that parents strive to do the best for their children in all circumstances, however life gets tough and certain circumstances hinder the control we have over this perfect and healthy environment which we've created and continue to create for our children. Children need to grow, they need to be challenged, their imagination needs to be nurtured and their energy needs to be beneficially used.

When these children are not receiving such needs, they turn to other avenues. If parents are not feeding the imagination of their children in their homes and activities, they will turn to a video game that allows them to be kings in their campaigns; virtual soldiers in their wars, technological machinery in their advancements and graphically rich in their palaces. A video game can make the poor rich, can make the weak strong, can make the neglected loved, can make the geek cool and can make the useless all powerful. In a magical sense, this is the spell of video games on our children.

Before they feel poor, before they feel weak, before they feel neglected, before they feel like a geek, and before they feel useless – nurture your child, love your child, attend to your child, challenge your child, provide for your child. Our children turn to video games because our real lives become routine and boring. They are placed into a cycle of home, breakfast, school, homework, dinner and sleep. Their minds are thirsty for more; their imagination hungers for more.

Involve your children when they are young in local sporting activities and competitions, get them registered on different mind-challenging hobbies and watch them do the impossible – watch them turn the power of a video game into real life.





# Year 9 Camp





# Year 9 Camp





**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](http://WWW.snac.nsw.edu.au)

**Email Address**

[school.office@snac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:school.office@snac.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)**

**673-683 Smithfield Rd, Edensor Park NSW 2176**

**T: 9753 0700 F: 9753 0800**

**E: [school.office@snac.nsw.edu.au](mailto:school.office@snac.nsw.edu.au) W: [www.snac.nsw.edu.au](http://www.snac.nsw.edu.au)**