



St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College

Harp of The Spirit

N e w s l e t t e r

COLLEGE EVENTS

Tuesday 16/6/15
Year 11 2016
Subject Selection Info
Evening – 6pm

Wednesday 17/6/15
Year 12 Physics Excur-
sion to Liverpool Hos-
pital

Thursday 18/6/15
Year 11 2016
Subject Selection Inter-
views (3:10-7:00)

Friday 19/6/15
Athletics Carnival

Tuesday 23/6/15
Year 12 PDHPE Enrich-
ment Day

College Disco 6-9:30

Wednesday 24/6/15
Year 8 Tech Excur-
sion
Year 12 CAFS Enrich-
ment Day

Thursday 25/6/15
College Assembly
Parents /Teacher Inter-
views 3-6pm

Friday 26/6/15
Term 2 Ends

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Issue 9 Term 2 12/6/2015

This is a very busy time for all members of our college community as we near the end of semester one. Our senior students (Year 10 & 11) are in the middle of their half yearly exams and teachers are marking examination papers and writing semester one reports.

Semester one parent –teacher interviews will take place on Thursday, 25th June during week 10 of this term, from 3:10 to 7:00 pm. Parents will be able to receive their child’s semester one report inside the College hall after 3 pm. Semester reports will not be issued to students.

This is a great opportunity for parents to enquire about their child’s academic progress to date, and I hope that all parents will be available to be part of this important college event.

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It is wonderful to see so many students enjoying and engaged in a number of extra curricula activities across the college. These include, two indoor soccer teams (boys & girls), Inter-School sports involving junior and senior boys soccer teams, the College Chess Club, the Book Club, and software gaming development group. Next term, we will be offering optional dancing lessons for all students.

I ask that parents encourage their children to participate in one or more of these activities. Students who participate in college related activities develop a sense of belonging and self-worth and will grow into productive citizens who will contribute positively to our society at large.

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The subject selection process for our current Year 10 cohort started last week with in-house sessions for the Year 10 cohort to inform them about the range of subjects on offer for Year 11 in 2016. Next Tuesday, 16th June we will have a Year 11 2016 Subject Information Evening at 6:00 pm in the College Hall.

This information evening will be followed two days later, on Thursday 18th June by subject selection interviews from 3:10 to 5:00 pm in the college hall. At least one parent must be present for their child’s subject selection interview.

Message from the Acting Principal cont'd

Continuing from last year, the transition of Year 10 students to Year 11 in the following year will no longer be automatic. We have made changes to this process to allow students who have demonstrated consistent poor attitude and commitment towards their studies, the opportunity to explore other pathways external to SNACC. In other words, any Year 10 student who has demonstrated consistent failure to apply the required effort or diligence in his/her studies and demonstrated total disregard to College expectations in terms of student conduct and behaviour will not be allowed to proceed to Stage Six at St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College.

This marks an added emphasis on improving the academic performance of all students at the college and in particular, the senior students. We want classes where teachers can focus all their time on enhancing the quality of teaching and learning, not on classroom management. Students are entitled to classrooms where learning thrives in a positive and supportive atmosphere free from distractions.

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The school received another complaint from a member of the public about safety concerns in relation to conduct of drivers associated with the college. The complaint is about unsafe and improper driving practices on Smithfield Road and Fitzgerald Avenue, in particular doing unlawful U turns. In the interest of safety of our students and their families, as well as the safety of members of the public, I urge all parents to adhere to correct and lawful driving practices and refrain from unsafe and potentially dangerous driving habits.

The complainant has advised that police have been contacted in relation to this matter.

Thank you,

Mr. E. Dinkha



Counsellor Message

But it's the Same Thing!

A couple of weeks ago, a group of our friends from the Church's Youth Association made our way down to Sydney's CBD to witness the beautiful harbour's Vivid show; and what a great show it was!

Walking down the streets of the CBD, we came across numerous street performers. One of which completely blew my mind away, standing in the corner of the Queen Victoria Building on George Street and playing the violin majestically.

I stood for a couple of minutes and continued my walk down to the harbour. In those couple of minutes of listening to this street performer, I remembered a case study I once study at uni whilst studying my psych degree; the case study of Josh Bell.

In 2007 an experiment was conducted where the world famous violinist by the name of Josh Bell posed as a street musician in a Washington D.C. metro station to see how many people would stop and listen. Despite the fact that he was playing a \$3.5 million handcrafted violin, very few people stopped to appreciate his outstanding performance.

One thing that is quite astonishing; only a couple of weeks before this street performance experiment, Josh Bell's concert in Boston was completely sold out – whereby each ticket was sold for an average price of \$100. However, during his street performance (that entailed the exact same content as the concert in Boston) he made a measly \$32 in change.

On the day of the street performance, all it needed was a large number of passers to stop and appreciate the beauty of this performance – and there you'd have it, a free-of-charge concert worth thousands of dollars in the middle of Washington D.C.

Moral of the story, do you take the time to stop and appreciate the beauty around you? Despite the social perspective which people around you may have? Let's concentrate on the subject, not the environment!



College Activities - Chess Club



College Sport Activities



TAS Faculty-3D Printing in TAS




3D printing is a process of making three dimensional solid objects from a digital file. The creation of a 3D printed object is achieved using additive processes. In an additive process an object is created by laying down successive layers of material until the entire object is created. Each of these layers can be seen as a thinly sliced horizontal cross-section of the eventual object.

It all starts with making a virtual design of the object you want to create. This virtual design is made in a CAD (Computer Aided Design) file using a 3D modeling program. The printer then reads the STL file and prints the objects using ABS plastic.

At St Narsai Assyrian Christian College we are lucky to have two 3D printers in the TAS faculty for students to use. In Year 9 students start their Design and Technology course with learning about 3D printing and designing and creating 3D printed key rings for their locker keys. Year 11 Design and Technology students design and create 3D printed phone holders. In Year 12 Design and Technology students develop their major design prototypes using the printers to help them develop their ideas.

It is predicted by some manufacturing advocates that this technological development will change the nature of commerce, because end users will be able to do much of their own manufacturing rather than engaging in trade to buy products from other people and corporations.

3D printers are capable of outputting in colour and multiple materials already exist and will continue to improve to a point where functional products will be able to be output. With effects on energy use, waste reduction, customization, product availability, medicine, art, construction and sciences, 3D printing will change the manufacturing world as we know it.

| Year 9 Key rings | Year 11 Phone holders | 3D Printer |
|---|---|--|
|  |  |  |

Acting TAS Coordinator

T.Rashidi

HSIE Faculty-*Preparing students for future learning*

Over the course of the past two terms the HSIE Department has endeavoured to equip students with learning skills that will assist students for future learning. At the commencement of the school year, we as a department set out to teach transferrable learning skills and formulated a plan to imbed within our curriculum skills such as research methods, correct referencing and essay writing to name a few.

Research methods are a lifelong skill that we have had great success teaching. Student and teachers have been actively developing different research methods and used these to produce amazing results. As a department we have provided students with the opportunity to use the college newspaper subscriptions, university online catalogues, and access to the state library's wealth of resources. Students have been guided in how to best navigate through this material and make the best of these valuable research tools.

Having developed the ability to research we then took on the task of correct referencing. As a department we decided that what was once reserved as a stage 6 expectation will now become and 7 to 12 standard. Students have been introduced to the idea of in-text and end of text referencing using the Harvard System of Referencing. The Harvard System of referencing is a world standard and is commonly used throughout Sydney's best universities. Both students and teachers have been pleased with the fantastic results and we have now introduced it as a requirement for all assessment tasks and included 'correct Harvard referencing' on all HSIE marking criteria.

A culmination of any successful research is the written report or essay. Students are first introduced to essay writing in year 7 and these skills and then developed throughout the course of their schooling years. In HSIE this year we have approached the teaching of these writing skills in a matter that has shown tremendous improvements in student outcomes, we have introduced explicit teaching. Explicit teaching is the use of a modelled, guided and independent approach to any new concept or skill. Students are provided with opportunities to see modelled responses, guided with the use of scaffolds and then assessed on their independent ability to produce a well-researched, referenced and supported piece of writing.

I have always seen the role of the HSIE department to be one where we have the unique opportunity to teach students about the world, its history and the importance of active citizenship. It is with the development of important learning skills that we hope that students take with them not only an understanding of curriculum, but the ability to be lifelong learners who are prepared for life and its endless opportunities. I would like to finally encourage parents to explore the extent to which their children are practicing the following processes of learning:

- **Analyzing:** breaking something down into its parts, examining each part, and noting how the parts fit together.
 - **Classifying:** identifying the types or groups of something, showing how each category is distinct from the others.
 - **Comparing and contrasting:** pointing out the similarities and differences between two or more subjects.
 - **Defining:** explaining the meaning of a term using denotation, connotation, example, etymology, synonyms, and antonyms.
- Describing:** explaining the traits of something, such as size, shape, weight, color, use, origin, value, condition, location, and so on.
- **Evaluating:** deciding on the worth of something by comparing it against an accepted standard of value.
 - **Explaining:** telling what something is or how it works so that others can understand it.
- Problem solving:** analyzing the causes and effects of a problem and finding a way to stop the causes or the effects.

Mr B.Khoshabeh

HSIE Coordinator

College Announcements

Pupil Free Day

Monday 20th July 2015

This is to inform you St Narsai Assyrian Christian College will be having a Pupil Free Day on Monday, 20th July 2015.

No student is to attend school on this day.

This is a Staff Development day for teachers engaging in Literacy based training.

From Library

At Saint Narsai Library, we strive to provide an inclusive and innovative learning environment where all students can reflect, think critically, feel supported, solve problems, collaborate, develop, share and engage in exciting learning opportunities. Co planning and team teaching is available daily from 8am to 4pm to students, staff and the parent community. Equipment is provided and supported to enable you to focus on the learner and their learning needs.

Essay writing and research skills as well as additional homework, literacy and assessment help is provided for by our teaching staff daily from 3pm to 4 pm. Homework Club is available on Thursday from 3pm-4pm with the Diverse Learning Needs Staff Support.

If you would like for your child to attend the library for extra homework, literacy, and assessment help please pick up a permission form from the front office.

Thank you

Library Staff

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

0753 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.snac.nsw.edu.au

Email Address

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

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673-683 Smithfield Rd, Edensor Park NSW 2176

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