



JUNE 2020 | ISSUE 9

# HARP OF THE SPIRIT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

I have been fortunate enough in recent days to visit several classrooms around the College and witnessed firsthand outstanding teaching & learning practices and an impressive learning climate that continue to foster quality learning for all students. This is possible because of the effective systems that we have devised for some years now and because of our amazing and dedicated teachers and staff. These systems and processes that staff implement prioritise the learner at St. Narsai College. Everything we do is designed to ensure the welfare and wellbeing of all students and in doing so we enhance their capacity to make progress and achieve to their potential.

### Canteen Helpers

Helping and serving others is a significant Christian virtue that we value and emphasise on at the College because it allows our students to grow in Christ.

This week, several students have started serving food and helping in our Canteen and others have volunteered to become College Bus Monitors. These students join many others before them in the St. Narsai College tradition of service to others. This way, we walk the talk in living our faith everyday and continue to help and support each other inside and outside the College.

This is just one way that shows that to be a student at St. Narsai, is to experience much more than just going to school to study, rather, to be nurtured in a Christian environment that helps build character that sustains them for life.

### Feedback Framework

A small team of dedicated College staff have just completed the development of a new Feedback Framework that we will be implementing from next term. This Feedback Framework will enable effective feedback to flow between parents, teachers and students in a way that leads to enhancing the quality of education at St. Narsai College.

Therefore, the College will be engaging with parents in different ways that enables more parental involvement in their child's day to day learning. From next term, assignments and assessments will have new components that parents will need to complete with their child. The college will evaluate this new process at the end of the year and decisions will be made on full implementation from 2021. Naturally, we will be seeking your feedback as part of this end of year evaluation and we will be very keen to know your views and opinions on this process or project.

Thank you,  
Mr. E. Dinkha  
Principal



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

Message from the Deputy Principal  
Christian Studies Faculty  
Math Faculty  
2021 and 2022 Scholarship  
2020 Trial HSC Timetable

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of the College

As we enter the last 2 weeks of Term 2, it is a busy time for all students as they complete assessment tasks based on their subjects.

### HSC Trial Examinations

Year 12 Trial Examinations will commence on Monday 17th August and conclude on Monday 31st August. All students will return to normal classes on Tuesday 1st September. Students have been given a timetable of exams and should be prioritising their studies based on the timetable.

Students will not be required to attend school on the days that they do not have an exam. Students may go home at the conclusion of their morning exam. For many students, the trial exams are the last formal exam before the HSC exams and a general indication of what the final HSC exam structure will be.

A study timetable will be beneficial to all students so that they prioritise their studies to meet their full potential.

### The Mar Meelis Academic Scholarship

We are now accepting applications for the Mar Meelis Academic Scholarships for Year 7 and Year 11 students in 2021. If your child is excelling in all areas of their schooling, please consider applying. Please check the criteria on the application form to assess whether you wish to apply. Application forms are available from the College website or by contacting the school office.

### Attendance and Punctuality

Parents are reminded that all students must attend school everyday. If your child is unwell and needs to stay home, please ensure that a letter explaining the absence is given to the office on the day of their return. You can also email the reason for their absence to our school office [info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au).

Students are required to be at school by 8.25am. Students that arrive well before the bell rings are better prepared for the day. Students that arrive late will receive detentions followed by an after school detention for their third lateness. A suspension will be issued to any student that receives more than 3 afterschool detentions.

### COVID-19 Precautionary Measures

This week we ceased checking student temperatures on a daily basis. We continue to maintain other precautionary measures and hand sanitiser is still available to all students. If students appear with flu like symptoms, parents will be contacted and a medical clearance is required on the students return to school. To maintain the health and safety of all students, they are reminded not to use the water bubblers. Students are advised to bring their own water bottle from home that can be refilled at the water refills station or purchase bottles from the canteen.

### Homework Club

The Homework Club is available for students needing extra assistance with classwork, homework or assessment tasks every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3- 4pm.

All students that require assistance are encouraged to attend the library where teachers are available to help them with their tasks.



### NEW PROJECT: The Harp of the Spirit Podcasts, Debating and Maths Club

The Harp of the Spirit podcast team will be up and running next week. Stay tuned for Podcasts coming soon. We are still accepting students to the Podcast team.

Additionally, the Debating Team and Maths Club are now on offer.

If your Child is interested in any of the above activities, please encourage them to put their name down on the lists in the library or front office.

$$2+2=4$$



### **Breakfast with Principal**

Yesterday, Year 12 had their first Breakfast with the Principal for the Year. Students enjoyed a breakfast while they had a discussion with their teachers and Mr. Dinkha. It was great to see them enjoying the food and having discussions. A great way to start the day.



### **Years 7-11 Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews**

Semester one reports will be distributed to all parents in Week 3 of Term 2. At this stage, the Parent/Teacher interviews have been scheduled for the 4th and 5th August. We are waiting on the advice from NSW Health to determine if the interviews can go ahead as scheduled. We will be providing alternative online arrangements for interviews in the case that they need to be cancelled.

### **Year 11 2021 Subject Selection**

Due to COVID-19 precautionary measures, we have had to cancel the subject selection evening that was scheduled for Term 3. Instead, parents and students will receive online information regarding the subjects that students can choose from for 2021. The subject selection interviews between teachers and students will continue as scheduled.

More details on the Subject Selection process will be sent to parents in Term 3.

In the meantime, I encourage parents to discuss with their child the subjects that they are considering on studying.

Thank you,  
Mrs. M. Khina

## Scholarships 2021 & 2022

Registrations for the Mar Meelis Academic Scholarship are now open for Year 7 and Year 11 2021 and 2022. <https://bit.ly/36Nxn0V>

Applications will close 20 July 2020 for 2021 applicants and 25 September 2020 for 2022 applicants.

For more information contact our Scholarship Committee on (02) 8818 1300 or via email [info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au)



## Saint Narsai Podcast

A promotional poster for the Saint Narsai Podcast. The background is a blurred image of a professional microphone on a stand in a recording studio. The text is as follows: "ST NARSAI PODCAST" in large white letters, "SIGN UP NOW!" in red letters below it, and "To sign up write your full name and roll call class on a piece of paper and place it in the PODCAST box at the front office." in white letters. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "Don't miss out on your chance to be featured on the official Saint Narsai Podcast!" in white.

**ST NARSAI PODCAST**  
**SIGN UP NOW!**

To sign up write your full name and roll call class on a piece of paper and place it in the PODCAST box at the front office.

Don't miss out on your chance to be featured on the official Saint Narsai Podcast!

# Christian Studies Faculty

Written by Jessie Kako  
Christian Studies Coordinator

*“Rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving”*  
**Colossians 2:7**

Dear St Narsai community,

What an eventful couple of months it has been. If we have learnt something during these months, it has been to place my worries, trust and understanding in the Hands of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is only through Him that we will be guided and protected from all that it trying to diminish us. During the end of term 1 and the start of term 2, the Christian Studies (CRS) department with the assistance of the College Chaplain as well as the Student Leadership Team (SLT) and Christian Representative Council (CRC) have developed various programs and initiatives to help continue spreading the Word of God during this new home learning environment. These creative and innovative components included:

### Online Videos:

It was unfortunate that we as a College community could not come together to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. However, our SLT and CRC leaders put together a video wishing all our community members near and far a blessed Easter, this video was posted to all cohort TEAMS pages as well as the St Narsai's Facebook page.



**Upcoming Event:**  
Due to social distancing restrictions, this term's Liturgical Service (Raza Qadisha) will be a little different as we try to compile with the restrictions but still have our students partake in the Holy Offering of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Service will take place Tuesday 30th of June (week 10) during period 1 and 2. Please have your child dressed in full school winter uniform.

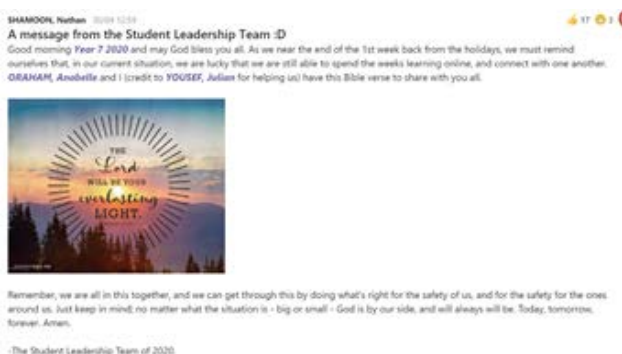
### Prayer Services:

Within the College, our main goal is to develop strong faithful leader who practice the teachings and traditions of the Assyrian Church of the East (ACOE). One-way of doing so is to give students the opportunity to partake in Liturgical Services (Raza Qadisha), prayer services and prayer readings. Our College Chaplain, Reverend Father Shamuel with the assistance of the CRS department developed a video with various prayers and reading. This again was sent to all students to view and listen to, to help them root and build up their faith.



### Spiritual Messages:

Every morning when students where in the College campus, they would start their day with a prayer and reading from the Bible. In order to continue this initiative within the home school setting, our CRC and SLT team developed a roster where each Monday and Friday a student would break down the key message behind a particular Bible verse. This gave the students an opportunity to send to their peers messages of hope during such a difficult time. It is truly incredible to witness these young leaders put into practice all the learning that has taken place in the Christian Studies classroom.



# Mathematics Unit

Written by Adwena David  
Mathematics Coordinator

Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

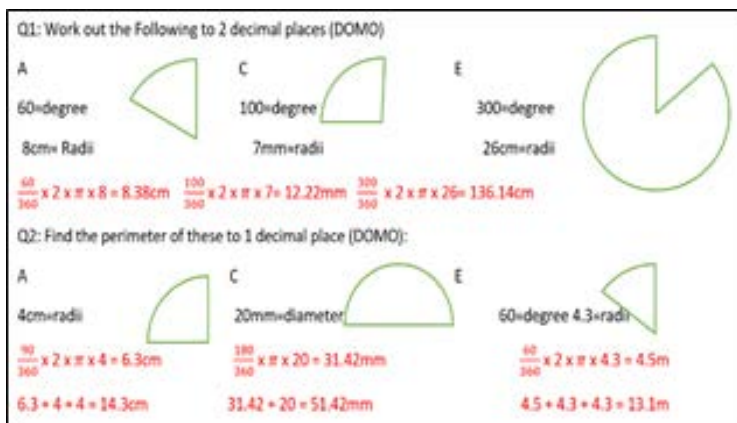
It has been a very busy and different Term 2 in 2020. Thus far, our students have experienced what it is like to live through a pandemic and how being an independent learner is extremely vital. We are proud of the efforts our learners put in during their time of Online Learning. They gained new skills, engaged in a variety of ICT mediums and produced outstanding work.

## Year 7 – 10

This term, Year 7 – 10 learners took the role of the teacher and developed their own lessons as part of their Assessment tasks. Learners were assigned a unit and asked to create the lesson along with worked examples and a homework worksheet that also included full solutions. Learners were asked to make their lessons detailed, engaging and follow our school initiatives and implement LISC (Learning Intentions Success Criteria). We are very proud of the work that our students have submitted. Aside from the mathematics knowledge and skills, our learners gained skills in ICT, research, organisation and worksheet development. They appreciate their teachers much more now!



**Liana Jendo Year 8:** Teaching learners how to use a mathematics online graphing tool to answer the questions she has created.



**Bahra David Year 7:** Part of a detailed worksheet with worked solutions testing learners knowledge on perimeter of sectors.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Anabelle Oraham of Year 7 for not only creating a lesson with the worksheet, but she took it one step further and screen recorded herself teaching the content. We are proud that Anabelle took the lessons she learnt from her time Online and produced quality work.



*“Learning from home was a challenge, it was something new that no one had experienced before. But once we started learning how to use the online tools it became less stressful, the teachers were showing full support and answering any questions we had. In Term 2 Mathematics we were assigned to create a PowerPoint on a unit from a chapter we were studying in class for our assessment task.*

*The main purpose of this was to move away from traditional testing in mathematics and to demonstrate our knowledge and understanding through other mediums. For my assignment, I was asked to focus on 'Dividing Fractions'. I decided to do something different to everyone, so I chose to do a screen recording as part of my assignment. I was inspired by Miss David and some of my other teachers who used this method during our online learning period. I chose to do this extra bit for my assessment task because I wanted to challenge myself and demonstrate what ICT skills I gained during our Online Learning period.” – Anabelle Oraham (Year 7)*

# HSC MINIMUM STANDARD

You need **reading, writing and maths skills for everyday life** after school. This why you are required to demonstrate a **minimum standard of literacy and numeracy** to receive the Higher School Certificate (HSC) from 2020.



Year 12 that are still yet to meet their Numeracy Minimum Standards are encouraged to use their study periods and work through the online numeracy tests. We would like to remind our learners that Mathematics staff are available every morning in the Library, and every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon in Homework Club. Year 12 are also encouraged to register with Mr Karim or Mrs Said during their study periods for extra support in Numeracy and Mathematics.

## 2020 Trial HSC Written Exam Timetable

	Monday 17 August	Tuesday 18 August	Wednesday 19 August	Thursday 20 August	Friday 21 August
<b>AM</b>	<b>English Advanced Paper 1</b> 1.5 hours 8:50-10:30	<b>English Advanced Paper 2</b> 2 hours 8:50-10:55	<b>Biology</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55	<b>Legal Studies</b> 3 Hours 8:50-11:55	<b>PDHPE</b> 3 Hours 8:50-11:55
	<b>English Standard Paper 1</b> 1.5 hours 8:50-10:30	<b>English Standard Paper 2</b> 2 hours 8:50-10:55		<b>Physics</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55	
	<b>English ESL Paper 1</b> 1.5 hours 8:50-10:30	<b>English EAL/D Paper 2</b> 1 hour 8:50-9:55		<b>Music Aural</b> 1 Hour 8:50-9:55	
<b>PM</b>	<b>Studies of Religion</b> 3 hours 11:30-2:35	<b>English EAL/D Listening</b> 0.5 hour 12:30-1:00			<b>Design and Technology</b> 1.5 hours 12:30-2:05
	Monday 24 August	Tuesday 25 August	Wednesday 26 August	Thursday 27 August	Friday 28 August
<b>AM</b>	<b>Business</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55	<b>Ancient History</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55	<b>Chemistry</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55	<b>Community and Family Studies</b> 3 Hours 8:50-11:55	<b>Engineering</b> 3 Hours 8:50-11:55
		<b>Information Processes and Technology</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55			<b>Food Technology</b> 3 hours 8:50-11:55
		<b>Visual Arts</b> 1.5 hours 8:50-10:25			
<b>PM</b>			<b>Society and Culture</b> 2 hours 12:30-2:35		<b>English Extension 1</b> 2 hours 12:30-2:40
	Monday 31 August				
<b>AM</b>	<b>Mathematics Advance</b> 3 Hours 8:50-11:55				
	<b>Mathematics Standard 2</b> 2.5 hours 8:50-11:25				
<b>PM</b>					

All exams will take place in Building B with the exception of the Music Aural exam which will take place in Building D. Most exams have 5 minutes reading time; English Advanced Paper 1, English Standard Paper 1, English EAL/D Paper 1 and English Extension 1 have 10min reading time. Students return to timetabled classes on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

## Important Dates

### Term 2 dates

Last day for students is Thursday 2nd July 2020

Pupil Free Day Friday 3rd July 2020

### Term 3 dates

Pupil Free day Monday 20th July 2020

Students return for Term 2 Tuesday 21st July 2020

Report distribution and Parent Teacher Interviews Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th August 2020. (More details will be sent closer to the dates pending COVID-19 advice from NSW Health).

Last day for students for Term 3 – Friday 24th September 2020

### Lateness to school consequences

On the day of lateness, student

will receive a lunch detention

After 3 days late = Lunch  
detentions and an afterschool  
detention

3 after school detentions = an  
external suspension



### 5km Speed Limit

Please slow down in the  
College carpark.

**SLOW DOWN**

### Chewing gum

Students are reminded that  
chewing gum is not allowed at  
the school. Students caught  
chewing gum will receive a  
detention and an invoice may  
be sent home to cover the costs  
of cleaning.

