



FEBRUARY 2020 | ISSUE 2

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents, Students and friends of the College,

Thank you to all parents and guardians who were able to attend one or more of the Assessment Information Evenings over the last two weeks. The college hosted Assessment Information Evenings for Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 during this period. Attending students and parents received a copy of the relevant Year level Assessment handbook in addition to a very thorough presentation that explored assessment requirements for all year levels. During these Information Evenings, Mrs. Khina (Deputy Principal- Curriculum) and I emphasized the importance of students working and studying from home every day to complement their learning at school. Important aspects covering assessment policy and procedures were discussed. Respective Year Advisors offered valuable advice to students and their parents about challenges students may face in the year ahead.



KLA Teams

This week marks Mid-Term week (week 5), where KLA Teams across the college set time aside after school to collaborate to analyze a range of available 2020 student data that we have been collecting during the first four weeks of this term. Staff intend to turn this data into meaningful information that we can use to determine what actions teachers would need to undertake to improve students learning experiences and outcomes. At the end of next week, KLA teams will endeavor to generate specific action plans for the rest of the term based on their analysis of student performance information. They will then commence implementation of their action plans, which may involve providing intervention classes and other support mechanisms to target both, high potential learners and at-risk students.

P&F Meeting

The first P & F Meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday, 4th March from 9:30 to 10:30 in the staff lounge room. All welcome, especially our new parents.



Scholarship Applications

The 2020 Mar Meelis Academic Scholarship applications have been processed and several applicants will be invited for interviews next week. In that week, a final decision will be made by the scholarship panel to award a number of academic scholarships and all successful applicants will be notified within the same week. On behalf of the Scholarship Panel, I would like to thank all students who submitted scholarship applications for this year.

Thank you,
Mr. E. Dinkha

A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE THE ISSUE:

Message from the Deputy Principal
Bus Safety
Math Faculty
Learning Support Faculty

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Written by Mary Khina

Deputy Principal -Curriculum

Where am I going?

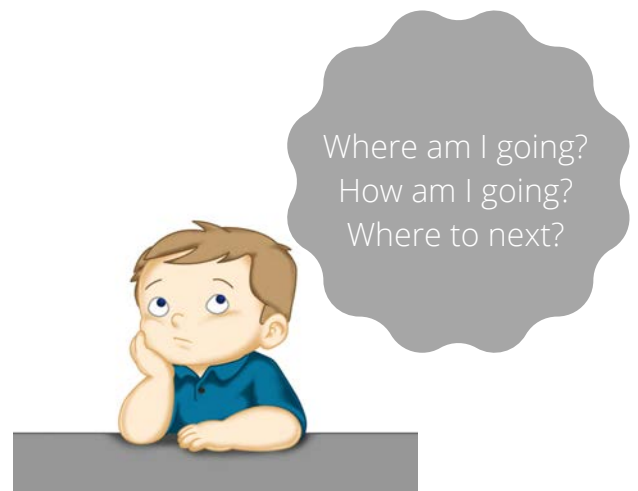
How am I going?

Where to next?

These are the three key questions that all students should be asking themselves.

Teachers have been asking students to create goals based on these questions.

To reinforce this, we encourage you to ask your child what their goals are and how they are working towards meeting them.



Information Evening

Thank you to all parents and students that attended our information evenings. I will be meeting with all students that did not attend to provide them with vital information regarding their studies at St Narsai. Please ask your child to provide you with the information and handbook given to them. If you were unable to attend, please contact the College and speak to the Year Advisor.

Assessment Notifications

As we approach Week 5, students will be starting to receive assessment notifications for tasks that they need to complete. Please take some time to ask your child about tasks that are due and ensure that they are writing in their diaries. Being organised and starting assessment tasks early will ensure that every student is able to reach their full potential and receive the mark that they deserve.

NAPLAN and Minimum Standards

We are preparing our Year 7 and 9 Students for the NAPLAN online tests that will take place between 12th – 22nd May this year. Each student will complete three tests: Language Conventions, Writing and Numeracy. You will receive further details and specific dates closer to the test period. Please spend time assisting your child to prepare for the tests. They can do this by completing the demonstration tests, completing NAPLAN style questions (NAPLAN books can be purchased from Newsagencies and selected department stores) and completing tasks given by their class teacher. Their maths teacher has also provided them with access to SmarterMaths which is an online NAPLAN practice site. Please make sure that your child is logging in and completing the questions set. Teachers will be monitoring the completion of progress of each student and assist them further in class as needed.

Students in Year 10 will commence the minimum standards tests. They will need to meet the minimum standards in reading, writing and numeracy to receive their HSC. Any student in Years 11 and 12 that hasn't met the standard will also be working on them this year. We will be providing intervention classes for these students to assist them to pass the tests. Please encourage your child to work on their skills at home and complete any practice questions set by their teacher. We have tutorial sessions available every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon as well as the writing workshop every Thursday morning to help any student that requires it.

I thank you for your continual support

Mrs. Khina

HOMESCHOOL CLUB

IS AVAILABLE EVERY TUESDAY
AND WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON UNTIL
4PM IN THE LIBRARY.

DROP-IN STUDY CENTRE

IS AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY FROM
7.45 AM TO 8.20AM EVERY MORNING

PNF MEET AND GREET:

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH FROM 9.30 TO
10.30 AM

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Bus Safety

All students are to abide by the bus safety rules, especially:

- Keep clear of the doors to avoid getting caught in them when they open and close.
- If you cannot reach the next stop button, you can ask another passenger to press it for you.
- Quickly take a seat if one is available or hold onto a handrail so the bus can get moving.
- When seated, keep both feet planted on the floor in case the bus stops suddenly.
- If seated, offer your seat to someone who needs it more than you. This includes people who are older, who have a disability or impaired mobility, who are pregnant or travelling with children.
- If no seats are available, move to the back of the bus and hold onto the handrails and straps.
- If standing, do not stand in the safety area around the doors.
- Ensure luggage, bags and personal items are stowed correctly and are not blocking the aisle.
- When standing, place bags between your feet.
- Allow other passengers enough room to move if they are getting off the bus.
- Give the driver plenty of time when you ring the bell before your stop to allow the bus to safely and smoothly pull into the stop.
- Do not interfere with the operation of the bus in any way.
- Do not distract the driver when driving the bus unless there is a security or safety incident.
- If you need information about the route or your destination, ask the driver when you board or when the bus is at a bus stop.
- If the bus doors have closed before you have been able to get off at your stop and you need them reopened, call out to the driver.

If you are concerned about your safety or the safety of others, or in an emergency, please:

- Move away from danger if possible
- Alert the driver
- Listen for instructions from the driver

Chewing Gum

Students with 3 demerits or more for chewing gum will be given an afternoon detention and a letter will be sent home to parents informing them of a \$15 fine which will pay towards cleaning fees to have the gum removed from school grounds.

Afternoon Detention

If your child is unable to attend an afternoon detention, please call Ms Ismail to organise another afternoon.

If your child does not attend an afternoon detention and Mrs Ismail has not been notified, a second will be issued with a warning of suspension. If the issue has not been resolved following the second detention, the respective parents are asked to call the school to organise an interview to discuss the issue.

Defacing/ripping pages

This is classified as vandalism of school property. Parents will be called in for an interview. Further consequences may apply.

Multiple demerit

If a student is receiving excessive demerits in a week, parents will be called in for a formal interview with the Deputy Principal and the student will receive a warning of suspension, afternoon detention and possibly placed on the College behaviour level system.

Lateness to school

Please read pg 17 of the student diary regarding students being late to school. 3 or more times results in an afternoon detention, more than that will result in a formal interview with parents to discuss the issue.



MATH FACULTY

Written by Adwena David
Math Coordinator



Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

It has been an exciting and busy start to 2020. I would like to officially welcome two new staff members that have joined our mathematics faculty, Meetu Chhaabra and Mary Said. These new staff members along with our existing mathematics faculty members have started the year collaborating and planning for a successful year with our learners.

Year 7 and 9

Our Year 7 and 9 learners have been working with their teachers to prepare them for the upcoming NAPLAN Numeracy tests. Learners have commenced Numeracy intervention in their mathematics classes as well as their other subjects. Learners are taught concepts for each strand in Numeracy; they work through NAPLAN style questions and are able to ask their teacher for ongoing assistance.

Further, all learners have been enrolled into an online program 'Smarter Maths'. They have received login details and instructions on how to access these tests. The instructions have also been included below. Learners must complete the NAPLAN style adaptive testing timetabled for each week. Please note that NAPLAN is now online, therefore we encourage your son/daughter to complete the assigned test to better prepare them for the final test in May 2020. The results obtained from completing these tests will help teachers identify where your son/daughter requires assistance and put in place strategies to improve their skills.

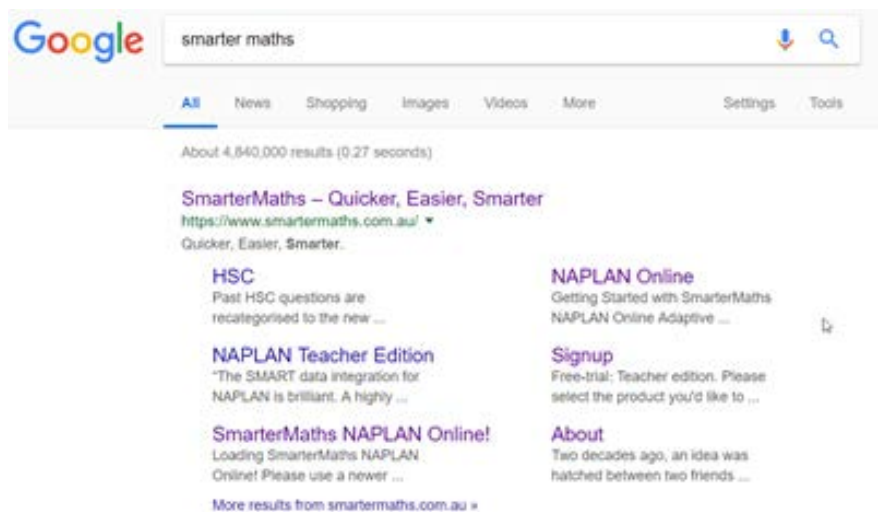
Please ensure learners are following the schedule below:

Year 7 Schedule	
Exam	Due Date
Number Test 1	Friday 14 th February 2020
Number Test 2	Friday 21 st February 2020
Algebra Test 1	Friday 28 th February 2020
Geometry Test 1	Friday 6 th March 2020
Geometry Test 2	Friday 13 th March 2020
Measurement Test 1	Friday 20 th March 2020
Measurement Test 2	Friday 27 th March 2020
Statistics and Probability Test 1	Friday 3 rd April 2020
Statistics and Probability Test 2	Thursday 9 th April 2020
Short Trial Exam 1	Friday 17 th April 2020
Short Trial Exam 2	Friday 24 th April 2020
Full Trial Exam	Friday 1 st May 2020

Year 9 Schedule	
Exam	Due Date
Number Test 1	Friday 14 th February 2020
Number Test 2	Friday 21 st February 2020
Algebra Test 1 AND 2	Friday 28 th February 2020
Geometry Test 1	Friday 6 th March 2020
Geometry Test 2	Friday 13 th March 2020
Measurement Test 1	Friday 20 th March 2020
Measurement Test 2	Friday 27 th March 2020
Statistics and Probability Test 1	Friday 3 rd April 2020
Statistics and Probability Test 2	Thursday 9 th April 2020
Short Trial Exam 1	Friday 17 th April 2020
Short Trial Exam 2	Friday 24 th April 2020
Full Trial Exam	Friday 1 st May 2020

Smarter Maths

1. Go to Google and type "Smarter Maths" in the search engine. Select the first search that appears.



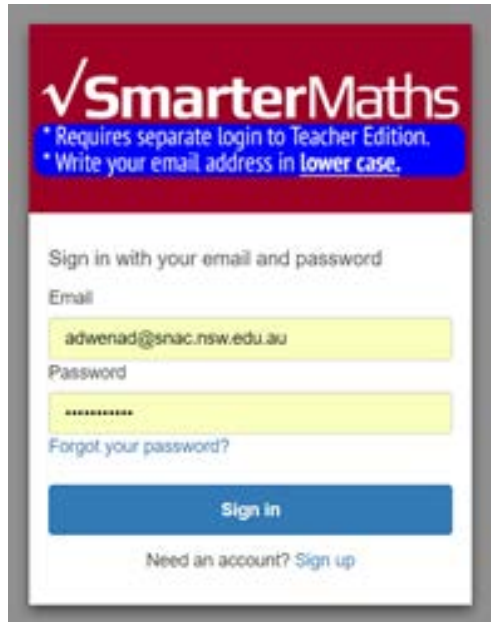
2. Click "LOGIN – LOGIN NAPLAN Online"



3. Click login on the corner of the page.



4. Enter your email and password as given to you by your teacher. Note: the email address must be in small caps. The password is exactly as given to you "Ssnac523".



SmarterMaths
 * Requires separate login to Teacher Edition.
 * Write your email address in **lower case**.

Sign in with your email and password

Email

Password

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Sign in](#)

[Need an account? Sign up](#)

5. A screen will appear with all the tests. Select the test your teacher has asked you to complete and click start now. Note: This is a timed test. Do not begin this test if you anticipate interruptions.

Type	Name	Time	Description	Attempts	Bands Achieved	History
Trial Exam	Y8 Full Trial Exam	60 min	Questions: 40 CA, 8 TIC	0		Start Now
Trial Exam	Y8 Short Trial Exam 1	30 min	Questions: 24 CA	0		Start Now
Trial Exam	Y9 Short Trial Exam 2	30 min	Questions: 24 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y9 NUMBER - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	1	5 6 7	Cancel Start Now
Revision	Y9 NUMBER - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y8 ALGEBRA - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y8 ALGEBRA - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y9 GEOMETRY - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y9 GEOMETRY - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y8 MEASUREMENT - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y8 MEASUREMENT - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y9 STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now
Revision	Y9 STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		Start Now

If we all work together, staff, learners and parents, we can ensure great results.

Thank You.

LEARNING SUPPORT FACULTY

Written by Ninva Yakou
LSU Coordinator

An inclusive school is one in which children with disabilities and special educational needs are included in the educational arrangements made for the majority of children. Inclusion is the development of strategies that seek to bring about a genuine equalisation of opportunities and that all children should learn together.

The Learning Support Unit at SNACC assists the school to cater for those students in regular classes who are experiencing difficulties in basic areas of learning. The LAST and Teacher's Aides, working with the executive and staff, play an essential part in the whole-school approach to provide for these students.

The fundamental role of the Learning and Support Teacher (LAST) and Teacher's Aides is to ensure that all children with additional needs are catered for in the mainstream school. This includes gifted and talented students.

In Term 1, the Learning Support Unit will focus on getting to know the new Year 7 students by observing classroom activities and administering standardised Literacy and Numeracy indicator tests known as the Progressive Achievement Test. These tests will assist teachers in understanding the strengths and weaknesses of students in order to assist them in preparation for the NAPLAN.

The Learning Support Unit has also completed all Individualised Learning Plans and parent meetings have now begun. It is important that we maintain a collaborative effort when planning and implementing strategies that will assist our students in achieving their outcomes. Collaboration includes LSU staff, parents, classroom teachers, the counsellor, Year Advisor and the students themselves.

St Narsai will continue to use the speech pathology services provided by AH Partnerships. We are delighted to be working with speech pathologist, Erin Horsfall, who has already begun withdrawing our students on Fridays to work in small group sessions. The students are enjoying these sessions and we are seeing improvements in many areas along the way.

Finally, as the Learning Support Co-ordinator, I would personally like to thank Mrs A. Haddad, Mrs J. Hatzisavvas and Mrs A. Andry, Mrs L. Francis for their hard work, dedication and commitment to our students. Their kindness and care have been exceptional even in the most challenging of circumstances.

Speech Pathology Program - Therapy Permission Form

As you are aware our school has the services of Speech Pathologist, Erin Horsfall to work with our Teachers in their classes to support the speaking and listening skills of our students.

Erin Horsfall will also be conducting individual/ group therapy sessions as part of the program being provided to our school. These groups consist of children who were identified through screening to have some difficulties with their receptive and expressive language skills, or speech clarity (articulation). Please note that there is no cost to you for this group therapy.

If your child already attends speech therapy outside of school please do not stop attending. The Speech Pathology program provided cannot offer the same individualised therapy your child will receive through either Community Health or Private speech therapy.

*Please notify St Narsai Assyrian Christian College on (02) 8818 1300 if you DO NOT want your child to take part in group therapy. If you do not notify your child's teacher then your permission is assumed.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

We look forward to the 2020 school year and maintaining our collaborative efforts with teachers, students and parents. God bless.

KEY DATES

Please make note of the following dates for Term 1 2020. Information about each event will be sent home with your child closer to the date.

Pupil Free Day Friday 28th February
Swimming Carnival Friday 6th March
Year 11 Spiritual Day Thursday 12th March
Year 7 Spiritual Day Tuesday 24th March
Assyrian New Year Wednesday 1st April
Eucharistic Liturgical Service (Raza)
Monday 6th April
Last day of Term 1 Thursday 9th April

