



HARP OF THE SPIRIT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Last Tuesday, we welcomed back our students and their families to Term three and the start of Semester two of 2020. Unfortunately, due to the recent upsurge in the number of positive COVID-19 diagnosis in Sydney, several families have chosen to keep their children at home and learn remotely.

To help protect our students and staff, we continued our temperature checks of all students attending the college throughout the last two weeks and we will maintain other vigilant practices from next week to help protect our students and staff.

I refer you to COVID-19 related notices later in this Newsletter and ask that you review and take appropriate actions if they apply to you as necessary.

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The college will be commemorating next week the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which is one of the seven Holy feasts in the Assyrian Church of the East. This feast recalls the revelation of Christ's glory on Mount Tabor in the presence of three of his disciples, Peter, James and John.

Our College Chaplain, Fr. Shamuel will lead a prayer service during recess next Thursday, 6th August and students and staff are invited. Naturally, we will be observing college social distancing protocols.

Assyrian Memorial Day

The college will also commemorate Assyrian Memorial Day next Friday, 7th August- SHAWA B'TABAKH, where our staff and students will stop and join all Assyrians around the world to remember all Assyrian Martyrs.

At St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College, we continue to honor our martyrs by offering special educational programs that support our children as they develop and strengthen their Assyrian cultural heritage and their Christian faith.

May all our Martyrs rest in peace and may God give them a place in the kingdom of heaven.

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Staff Team Building Day

For the first time, college staff started this term with a Staff Team Building Day that was full of sporting and other entertaining activities.

We started the day with a prayer service conducted by Fr. Neil and assisted by Dn. Ramen and staff went on to engage in a wide range of activities that helped strengthen staff understanding and appreciation of each other.

As staff engage regularly in many team-based projects throughout the year, this team building initiative will no doubt go along way to enhance the effectiveness of these teams as they collaborate in their projects.

In our first Staff Professional Learning session on Monday, staff worked on developing strategies to help improve classroom climate, where it feels safe, respectful, welcoming, supportive of student learning. We hope that staff will be able to finalise a St. Narsai College model for a positive classroom climate that we all adopt from next term.

Semester One Reports

Semester One Reports will be issued next Monday, 3rd August and because of current COVID-19 restrictions Parent- Teacher Interviews will take place over the phone or on MS Teams.

More details are provided in the Curriculum article in this newsletter. It is vital that all parents book a time with your child's teacher next Wednesday, 4th and Thursday, 5th August from 3:00 to 6:00.

Trails – HSC Examination

I wish our Year 12 students the best of luck as they commence their Trials HSC Examination in week 5, from Monday 17th August and pray that they achieve their best in their respective examinations.

More details about these examinations are provided later in this newsletter.

Thank you and God bless,

Mr. E. Dinkha



A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE THE ISSUE:

- Message from the Deputy Principal
- English Faculty
- PDHPE Faculty
- Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ
- Latest COVID-19 case locations in NSW
- Important Dates

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of the College

I would like to welcome the College community back to Term 3. This will be a busy term, particularly for our HSC Students as they complete their final schooling term. With the recent health issues in the wider community, I pray that our College community remains safe and we complete Term 3 as normal as possible.

HSC Trial Examinations

The Year 12 Trial Examinations will commence on Monday 17th August and conclude on Monday 31st August. All Year 12 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.

As published in the last newsletter, I have included the timetable for the exams again below. Please make note of these and spend time with your child discussing their readiness for each test.

The safety of our students and teachers is paramount. This year, exams will be spread out more than previous years to ensure the safety of all in the exam rooms. We continue to conduct daily temperature checks, thoroughly clean all classrooms and offer sanitiser. We ask that students that have flu like symptoms to remain home.

If your child is sick, please contact the school the morning of the exam. They will be required to complete an illness and misadventure form and attach a medical certificate on the day they return for their next exam. We will reschedule an alternative exam when they return.



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

Subject Selection

All Year 9 and 11 2021 students will receive details on the subject selection process for next year. The process will commence in the coming weeks with online information on all the subjects. We will be posting subject selection video information and a subject selection handbook on our website. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss their options and choices with a panel of Coordinators. More details on the process will be sent home with your child next week. Students are encouraged to start thinking about their options. The following people may assist students with their selection choices:

- Teachers and KLA Coordinators
- Careers Advisor, Mrs Kattos.
- Year Advisors
- Current and former students on their experiences with the subjects
- Parents

In addition, students can look through online sources such as UAC, NESAs and university websites for subjects recommended for particular career choices.

Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

Semester one reports for Years 7-11 will be distributed to all students this Monday. The reports will provide you with information about your child's learning during Semester 1, 2020.

The reports will offer information about your child's performance across all subjects in Semester 1, 2020 covering both, school-based as well as home-based learning that took place due to COVID-19.

Due to the recent COVID-19 developments in the wider community, Parent/Teacher interviews at the College this semester will take place via phone and Teams calls only. No face to face interviews will take place. The interviews will be held this Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th August 2020 from 3pm-6pm. All students were sent details on the booking process on Tuesday. If you haven't received any details, please contact the College Administration Office on 8818 1300 and they will guide you through the process.

Once again, I take this opportunity to thank you for your continual support.

Thank you and God bless,
Mrs. M Khina.
Deputy Principal - Curriculum



STUDENT WELFARE

DANGEROUS NEW VAPING CRAZE

On Wednesday night A Current Affair reported on the increase use of vape among school children. I believe it is extremely important for you, the parents, to be aware of this new craze. These new vape devices do not look like vapes. They look like a USB or highlighter (see images below)

As a school, we try to protect our students from such things, however we also rely on parents being aware and vigilant regarding their children. Please see the video clip of the very informative report shown on A Current Affair - <https://bit.ly/2EENLXT>. The only way to tell if it is a vape, is one side has the name of the flavour. The image below is a sample of what it looks like.

Thank you,
Mrs. M Ismail.
Deputy Principal -
Student Welfare



PDHPE Faculty

Written by Mrs V. Tatian
PDHPE Coordinator

This term has started off well for the PDHPE faculty. The school has purchased new soccer goals for the top oval and new netball goals for the cola area. Students have really enjoyed getting involved in these sports and utilising this equipment. Term 3 is an extremely exciting time for the PDHPE faculty as the school is currently building and putting together a brand new basketball court and futsal court. This is located at the front of the school and should be completed within the next few weeks. We look forward to sharing this new sporting space with our students and providing them with new and fun practical opportunities to boost their wellbeing and motivation at school.



English Faculty

Written by Mr. M Cunningham
English Coordinator

Year 7 students started their first Shakespeare unit in a close study of the comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Admittedly, the English staff at St Narsai love teaching Shakespeare, and this enthusiasm proved to be contagious in Year 7!

Year 8 began the term with a film depth study. They are building upon film technique analysis gained in Year 7. Our Year 8 learners are showing a great deal of potential in developing skills in analysing language as well as images and how it shapes meaning – a crucial component of the English syllabus.

Year 9 students also are engaged in a novel study. They are currently deepening their understanding of characterisation and setting in order to create meaning. Through a close analysis of language, voice, tone, and techniques, our Year 9s were able to explore how Markus Zusak shapes meaning within his novel.

Our Year 10 cohort are engaged in a novel unit, where they are analysing how language, setting, characterisation and themes are used to engage audiences. Many of our students are demonstrating exceptional creative and analytical writing skills in class and genuinely impressing the English team with their beautiful responses.

Year 11 have continued their remarkable start to senior English with some astounding multimodal presentations and essay response in Term 2. Their enthusiasm, work ethic, and dedication to learning are excellent traits of successful learners, and I look forward to joining them on their HSC journey, which starts in one term!

Finally, as I write this, English teachers are busy preparing our year 12 students for their trial HSC examinations. I wish every single student the very best of luck. This is their final term of school, and I know without any doubt whatsoever, our Year 12 students will make us all proud.

Thank you to the English team in their inspiring, innovating, and thought-provoking lessons day in and out to challenge and drive our students to be the best they can be and continually grow in their learning.



Christian Studies Faculty

Written by Miss. J Kako
Christian Studies Coordinator

This coming Thursday (6/8/20) we will be commemorating the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which is one of the seven Holy feasts in the Assyrian Church of the East. It is on this day that Christ revealed His divine glory on Mount Tabor in Galilee. After revealing to His disciples that He would be put to death in Jerusalem, Christ, along with Peter, James, and John went up the mountain. There “He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light” (Matthew 17:2).

During Thursday's roll call, there will be a reading and prayer through the PA system. Please have students paying attention and listening to the message spoken by our year 9 CRC student, Meera Butrus. Also, we will be having a prayer service conducted by our College chaplain, Rev Father Shamuel at recess in FG.03, all are invited to partake in the service.

An excerpt from St. Ephraim the Syrian on the Transfiguration of our Lord and God and Saviour, Jesus Christ:

He led them up the mountain to show them who the Son is and whose He is. Because when He asked them, 'Whom do men say the Son of man is?' They said to Him, some Elias, others Jeremias, or one of the Prophets. This is why He leads them up the mountain and shows them that He is not Elias, but the God of Elias; again, that He is not Jeremias, but the one who sanctified Jeremias in his mother's womb; not one of the Prophets, but the Lord of the Prophets, who also sent them. And He shows them that He is the maker of heaven and earth, and that He is Lord of living and dead. For He gave orders to heaven and brought down Elias, and made a sign to the earth and raised up Moses.

May the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord be a blessing to all.



Dear St Narsai community,
Tomorrow (Saturday the 1st of August) marks the first day the Fast of the Commemoration of St. Mary. Remember fasting is not only abstaining one's self from food but rather anything that creates distance between yourself and God. Fasting is the basis of any virtue and the holy way to God. When you fast then your mind will aspire and wish to converse with God. The College prays that St. Mary's spirit is embedded in each of you to proclaim the greatness of the Lord. Let her spirit be in each to rejoice in the Lord. Christ has only one mother in the flesh, but we all bring forth Christ in faith.
God Bless, CRC Team

Latest COVID-19 case locations in NSW

Information as at 29 July 2020

Confirmed COVID-19 cases are associated with the following locations. This information will be updated if further locations are identified. Locations are removed when 14 days have passed since the last known date that a confirmed case was associated with the location.

Self-isolate and get tested immediately

If you have been to any of these locations during the time and date indicated you should:

- immediately self-isolate until 14 days after you were last there
- get tested even if you have no symptoms
- watch for COVID-19 symptoms and get retested should any symptoms recur
- even if you get a negative test, you must stay in isolation for 14 days (this is because it can take 14 days before you may show symptoms or test positive).



Location	Dates
Bankstown: St Brendan's Catholic Church	6:30pm to 7:30pm on Thursday 16 July
Bankstown: St Brendan's Catholic Church	10am to 11am Funeral on Saturday 18 July
Batemans Bay: Soldiers Club	Friday 10 July and Monday 13 July Wednesday 15 July to Friday 17 July
Fairfield East: Ausia Funeral Services	1pm to 8pm on Friday 17 July
Harris Park: Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral	5:30pm Mass on Wednesday 15 July 6pm Mass on Thursday 16 July 1:30pm Funeral and 6pm Mass on Friday 17 July
Mount Pritchard: Mounties, 101 Meadows Road	7pm to midnight on Thursday 23 July Midnight to 3am on Thursday 23 July Midnight to 3am on Friday 24 July 11am to 3:30pm on Friday 24 July 7pm to midnight on Friday 24 July Midnight to 3am on Saturday 25 July (Times and dates updated on 29 July)
Mount Pritchard: Our Lady of Mt Carmel	7:30am to 8:30am on Sunday July 19
Potts Point: The Apollo	Wednesday 22 July to Sunday 26 July (The period has been extended by two days to include Wednesday 22 July and Sunday 26 July.)
Potts Point: Thai Rock Restaurant	Wednesday 15 July to Saturday 25 July inclusive If you attended this restaurant for two hours or more, get tested for COVID-19 immediately. Self-isolate for 14 days since you were last at this restaurant, regardless of symptoms. If you attended this restaurant for less than two hours, monitor for symptoms. If symptoms appear, isolate immediately and get tested.
Rookwood: St John of God Lawn	11:30am to 1pm Burial on Saturday 18 July

Monitor for symptoms

If you have been to any of these locations during the time and date indicated you should:

- watch for COVID-19 symptoms
- self-isolate and get tested immediately if symptoms occur.

Location	Dates
Albion Park: McDonalds	2pm to 2:30pm on Wednesday 15 July
Bankstown: An Restaurant	9 to 11am on Thursday 23 July
Cabramatta: Tan Viet Noodle House (also known as Crispy Chicken Noodle House)	1pm to 2pm, Wednesday 22 July
Marsden Park: Costco	11am to 2pm on Sunday 19 July
Mount Druitt: Westfield Mount Druitt	1:30pm to 3:30pm on Saturday 18 July
Mount Pritchard: Pritchard's Hotel, 360 Elizabeth Drive	5pm to 7pm on Friday 24 July (Time and date updated on 29 July)
Parramatta: St Patrick's Cathedral	8am Mass on Sunday 19 July
Rushcutter's Bay: Cruising Yacht Club Australia (CYCA)	6pm to 7:30pm on Thursday 23 July 3:30pm to 5pm on Friday 24 July 4pm to 5:30pm on Sunday 26 July
Salamander Bay: Fingal Bay Cafe & Takeaway	11:30am to 12 midday on Friday 17 July
Salamander Bay: Salamander Bay Shopping Centre	Wednesday 15 July
Salamander Bay: Salamander Bay Woolworths	2:30pm to closing time on Friday 17 July 4pm to closing time on Saturday 18 July 12:45pm to closing time on Sunday 19 July 3pm to closing time on Monday 20 July

Help us 

stop the spread

-  **Clean your hands thoroughly** for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub.
-  **Cover your nose and mouth** when coughing and sneezing with a tissue or a flexed elbow. Put the tissues in the bin.
-  **Avoid close contact** with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.
-  **Stay home** if you are sick.

health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus

 **ساعدنا**

لوقف إنتشار الفايروس

-  **نظف يديك بعناية** لمدة لا تقل عن 20 ثانية بالماء و الصابون ، او بمعقم اليدين الكحولي.
-  **إحمي أنفك و فمك** عندما تسعل و تعطس بمنديل ورقي أو بثنية ذراعك. إزم المنديل في سلة المهملات.
-  **تجنب الإتصال القريب** مع أي شخص لديه أعراض البرد او الإنفلونزا.
-  **إبقى في المنزل** اذا كنت مريضاً.

health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus Arabic

REQUEST FROM TRANSPORT NSW

Transport NSW has requested that schools remind all students who are using public transport to "Tap On" and "Tap Off" with their Opal cards. This will help maintain accurate records of student use of transport across the system which is vital at the present time.



Download the St Narsai App NOW!

For more information regarding the App contact the College on (02) 8818 1300.

Your new school app is here

[Download Now](#)



[GET IT ON Google Play](#)

[Download on the App Store](#)

Important Dates

Wed 4th August AND Thurs 5th August – Years 7-11 Report Distribution and Parent Teacher Interviews

17th-31st Aug – Year 12 Trial Examinations

Year 11 2021 Subject Selection information (online) - From Thursday 30th July

Year 9 2021 Subject Selection Information (online) – from Monday 7th September

Thursday 24th September - Last day for Term 3 for students

Friday 25th September – Pupil Free Day

