



MARCH 2021 | ISSUE 2

# HARP OF THE SPIRIT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and friends of the College,

As we approach the middle of the Great Fast this week, our students and staff will be commemorating the middle of the fast by giving each student a cupcake during roll call. The Student Leadership Team (SLT) and Christian Representative Council (CRC) will be distributing the cupcake to roll call classes this Wednesday morning.

The Great Fast reminds us of the significance of this important Church tradition and obligation for all its adherents. This 50-day period of spiritual preparation leads to the most important feast for all Christians- the feast of the Holy Resurrection. During this time, we have an opportunity to come closer to our God through fasting, prayer, penance, and other efforts of virtue.

It has been heart-warming witnessing many of our young boys and girls at St. Narsai College observing the Great Fast every day.

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The college has developed a new three- year Strategic Plan (2021-2023) that will guide school improvement initiatives through the implementation of three Strategic Directions covering student learning, teaching & learning and the school community.

Staff are already developing KLA based plans, called Faculty Improvement Plans (FIP's) and Year level plans, called Cohort Improvement Plans (CIP's) that they will use to systematically address all components of the strategic plan on an annual basis.

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Congratulations and well done to all students and staff for taking part in this year's Swimming Carnival that was held last Friday at the Prairiewood Leisure Centre. It was fantastic to see students competing in so many events and many others taking part in the fun activities. I would like to thank all staff and students for a very successful college event. A special thank you goes to Mr. Lazarou- College Co-curricular Co-ordinator for organising this important and successful school event.

## THE ISSUE:

- Message from the Deputy Principal
- LSU Faculty
- Mathematics Faculty
- TAS Faculty
- Note from the College

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The College has commenced enrolment interviews for Year 7 2022 for applications submitted last year and we are now accepting enrolment applications for Year 7 2023. Prospective parents can access enrollment application forms via our College website. Year 6 parents are asked to contact our College Office to set interview times and for any relevant inquiries.



## FROM PRINCIPAL CONT'D



The college was fortunate in 2020 to be allocated a \$10,000 grant from the Local Schools Community Fund to help us with the purchase and installation of a Library Security Gate. However, due to COVID-19 issues in 2020 the project was delayed and could not be completed that year. Luckily, as COVID-19 restriction eased earlier this year, it has been possible to install the security Gate for our library building. Members of the College community are now assured that books and other resources will be tracked and access to all library resources will be managed well to ensure availability of resources to students and staff in a fair and equitable way.

On behalf of St. Narsai College Community, I want to express my appreciation and thanks to the Australian Government's Department of Education, Skills and Employment and to the Honourable Chris Bowen MP for managing the distribution of these grants. I also would like to acknowledge our Teacher Librarian, Ms. Boulos for managing the whole project.

Mr. E. Dinkha  
Principal

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MRS M KHINA- CURRICULUM

Dear Parents, students and friends

As we enter into Week 7, all students are busy preparing for assessment tasks. Please consult with your child about any upcoming tasks and discuss the feedback received on tasks that have been completed and marked. Questions you may want to ask your child include: Did they achieve what they had expected? Were they prepared enough and how they can do better next time? It is encouraging to see many students utilising the library facilities and the availability of their teachers for assessment preparation.

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Interim reports will be distributed to all Years 7-11 students at the end of this term. You will be provided with information on how your child is progressing so far in 2021. If you would like to discuss your child's progress, please contact the College office staff via phone or email and they will arrange an appointment for you with the relevant Year Coordinator or class teacher.

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Years 11 and 12 Parent Teacher interviews will take place on Tuesday 30th March. Students in Year 12 will receive their Half Yearly Reports and Year 11 students will receive their interim reports. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teachers, discuss their progress and ways to further improve and achieve their full potential. More details will be sent to all parents of Years 11 and 12 students in the coming weeks.

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NAPLAN tests for years 7 and 9 students are coming up in May next term. In my last newsletter article, I recommended that students practise past NAPLAN papers either online or by using the NAPLAN books that are available to purchase from bookstores or newsagencies.

An additional and important way to improve literacy skills and for preparing for the tests is through reading widely. Students can borrow books from the school or local libraries. All students have access to our digital library collection available at <https://stnarsai.eplatform.co>. On this platform, students can access fiction and non-fiction books with over 3200 titles available in audio and eBook format. Students can also browse the books that are available for them to borrow, reserve and renew books as they need to. All students have been given their username and password to be able to access the collection. If you would like further details or your child has forgotten their access details, please email Mrs. Boulos at [library@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](mailto:library@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au).

Mrs. M. Khina  
Deputy Principal - Curriculum

## LSU Faculty

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 students. 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.

The Learning Support Unit will be conducting meetings with parents to discuss their child's Individualised Learning Plan for 2021 inclusive of details of the support we provide. 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 college counsellor, Year Co-ordinator and the students themselves. Collaboration has proven to be extremely successful to support students in their learning.

Assessment time has begun in Term 1 and students have received their adjusted tasks. Some exams have taken place, where Learning Support staff have continued to provide provisions for each student in their care. This includes providing readers, writers, small group supervision, rest breaks and extra time. Provisions allow learners the adequate processing time that will enable them to access the information and effectively respond to exam questions. Students have been working hard at school and home with plenty of revision and we encourage parents to continue supporting their children to becoming independent learners.

The Gifted and Talented team have been split into two groups this term so far; the Year 10 GATs students are participating in the Mock Trials, a state-wide competition organised by the NSW Law Society. This is the first ever time St Narsai has participated in the Mock Trials and the students are eager to begin! The first round will take place in the following week and we all look forward to it. The students in Years 7-9 are currently analyzing their grades from the previous year and putting together a list of their strengths and weaknesses in order to improve for 2021. These students revised their exam and assessment marks and set goals that target the areas they seek to develop. In this way, students will become more independent and take real ownership of their learning.

Finally, as the Learning Support Co-ordinator, I would personally like to thank Mrs Abeer Haddad, Mrs Nora Dawod, Mrs Anna Andry, Mrs Lina Francis and Ms Lynn Middlebrook for their hard work, dedication and commitment to our students. They continue to support each learner, with care, compassion and patience. They have put together a Wild Minds Wall of Fame in the Learning Support room that is covered with student work samples, in acknowledgement of their assessment achievements this year. In addition, it is my pleasure to welcome three new staff members to our team, who have hit the ground running and already been so heavily involved in our students' learning. Please join me in welcoming and thanking Mrs Grace Isaac, Mrs Fayruz Sebo and Mrs Ishtar Yousef. We've got the biggest team in our school and are deeply dedicated to supporting our students in 2021 and beyond.

We look forward to seeing parents in the future, and in maintaining our collaborative efforts with the whole school community. God bless.

Ninva Yakou  
Learning and Support Co-ordinator



## Mathematics Faculty

Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

It has been an exciting and busy start to 2021. I would like to officially welcome our new staff member, Mitchell Dowling, that has joined our mathematics faculty. Mitchell, 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 NAPLAN Numeracy

Our Year 7 and 9 learners have been working with their teachers to prepare them for the upcoming NAPLAN Numeracy tests. 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.



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 2021. 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 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Number Test 2	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Algebra Test 1	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Geometry Test 1	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Geometry Test 2	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Measurement Test 1	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Measurement Test 2	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021
Statistics and Probability Test 1	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Statistics and Probability Test 2	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Short Trial Exam 1	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021
Short Trial Exam 2	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Full Trial Exam	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2021

Year 9 Schedule	
Exam	Due Date
Number Test 1	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Number Test 2	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Algebra Test 1 & Algebra Test 2	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Geometry Test 1	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Geometry Test 2	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Measurement Test 1	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Measurement Test 2	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021
Statistics and Probability Test 1	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Statistics and Probability Test 2	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Short Trial Exam 1	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021
Short Trial Exam 2	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Full Trial Exam	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2021

## Mathematics Faculty Cont'd

### Year 7 and 8 Numeracy Ninjas

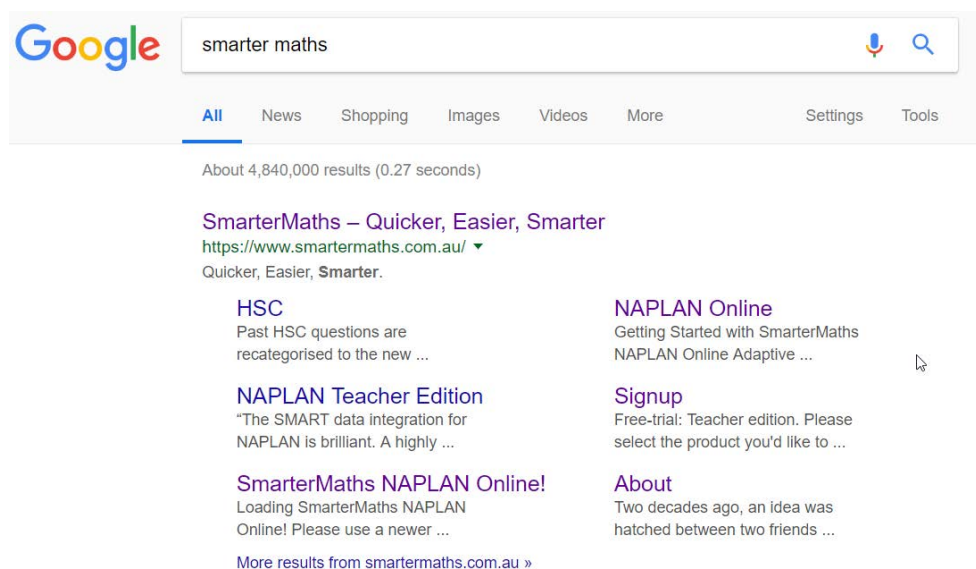
Our Year 7 and 8 learners start their Tuesday and Wednesday mornings with a little numeracy to get their mathematics thinking caps on. During roll call learners have commenced the Numeracy Ninja program, a set of daily short mathematics drills in basic number and computation.



**Photo: Learners completing their Numeracy Ninjas during Roll Call**

### Smarter Maths

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



## Mathematics Faculty Cont'd

2. Click "LOGIN – LOGIN NAPLAN Online".



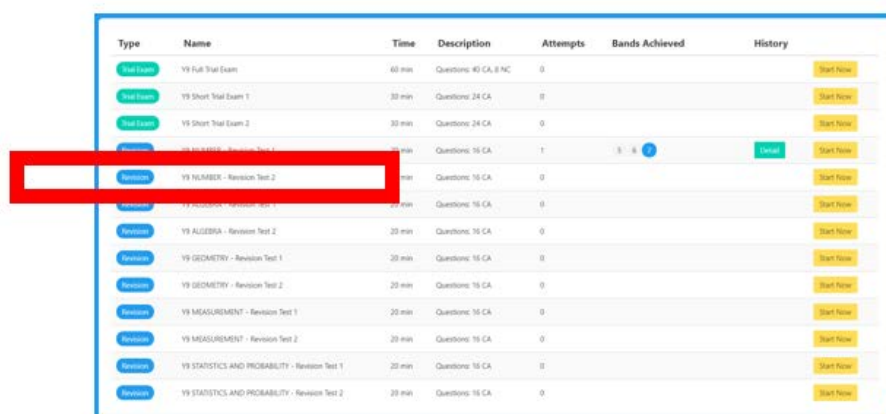
3. Click login on the corner of the page.



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".

## Mathematics Faculty Cont'd

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
Test Exam	Y9 Full Trial Exam	60 min	Questions: 40 CA, 8 MC	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Test Exam	Y9 Short Trial Exam 1	30 min	Questions: 24 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Test Exam	Y9 Short Trial Exam 2	30 min	Questions: 24 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 NUMBERS - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	1	1 2	<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 NUMBERS - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 ALGEBRA - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 ALGEBRA - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 GEOMETRY - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 GEOMETRY - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 MEASUREMENT - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 MEASUREMENT - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY - Revision Test 1	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>
Revision	Y9 STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY - Revision Test 2	20 min	Questions: 16 CA	0		<a href="#">Start Now</a>

As the year progresses we hope to see more intervention implemented in Mathematics as well as more opportunities for our learners to engage in mathematics outside the classroom.

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

Miss Adwena David  
Mathematics Co-ordinator



## TAS Faculty

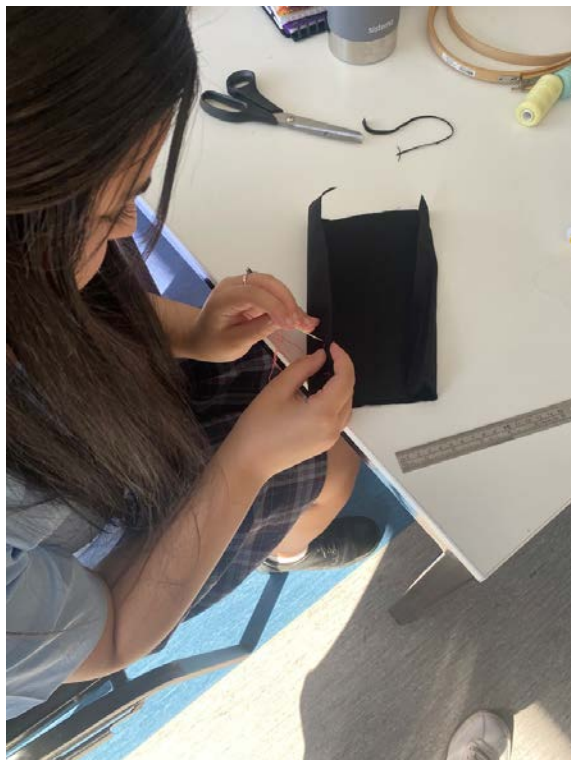
2021 has seen the TAS classrooms come alive with excitement, creativity, innovative thinking and memorable moments for both students and staff. Our students have challenged themselves and taken risks with their learning to enable them to achieve their personal best. This year we welcomed Mrs Koryael to the Department, joining Miss Yonan, Mr Morrison, Mrs Amanoel, Mr Youkhanis and Mrs Moushi to form a wonderfully diverse and experienced TAS faculty.

There is always an air of excitement in our Year 7 and 8 Technology classes. The students will this year experience a diverse range of interesting units, closely working through the design process to produce their folio and end product. They have enjoyed developing their practical skills in the areas of: Healthy Snack foods, LED Lamps, Aprons with bags and Speaker amplifiers, they will experience different projects over the year using different technologies each term. The learners will work both independently and collaboratively in the classroom to brainstorm their ideas and evaluate their processes to produce a final product. We hope parents will enjoy seeing the many creations that have been planned and produced when they bring their projects home.

Students throughout their chosen elective courses in stage 5 and 6 will enjoy a vast range of learning tasks that will provide them the opportunity to further develop their skill set and their understanding in the different topic areas being studied. Students will be involved in decorating birthday cakes for a child's party, developing their own food product, designing a sweet or savoury breakfast bowl that reflects current food trends, constructing an ottoman stool, a bedside table or a lovely cushion for their room. Students have learnt how to program a robot with the task requiring them to make their robot dance to selected music, designed their own apps and program arduino's. These tasks will challenge students in their thinking and required them to problem solve through the stages of the design process.

The TAS Faculty will continue to work collaboratively to provide opportunities for students to engage in innovative and creative learning experiences.

Mrs D Zivkovic  
TAS Coordinator



## College Event

St Narsai students represented our College at the CSSA Zone Swimming Carnival.

The students were Dominic Pouranvieh, Natasha Pouranvieh, James Yegore Gorgi, Michaelangelo Stephan and Joseph Daniel.

Our students performed fantastically! Placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in most of their races. This means that some will represent our Zone at the State CSSA carnival.

Specifically, Dominic won all his races and even broke a CSSA record.





# Note to Parents and Gaurdians



## Collection Notice for parents/guardians

### 2021 Student Residential Address and Other Information

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) would like to advise you that a request has been made for your child's school to provide residential address and other information as required under the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (Cth).

The school is required to provide the department with the following information about each student at the school:

- Names and residential addresses of students' parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- Student residential address (excluding student names)
- Whether the student is a primary or secondary student (education level)
- Whether the student is boarding or a day student (boarding status).

Your child's school generates a **unique and unidentifiable** record number for each student record. The number is **only** used by the school for this collection. It is **not allowed to be used for any other purpose**. The number indicates to the department that each record provided is for one student.

#### Purpose of the collection

The Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection (the Collection) informs Australian Government school education policy and helps ensure funding for non-government schools is based on need.

The information collected will be used to inform school funding calculations. It is combined with data held by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to calculate a non-government school community's anticipated capacity to contribute to the costs of schooling.

From 2020, a new measure of capacity to contribute, the Direct Measure of Income (DMI), was introduced. The DMI is based on the median income of parents or guardians of students at a non-government school using data collected through the Collection. More information about the DMI can be found at <https://www.education.gov.au/what-direct-measure-income>.

#### Use and disclosure of personal information

Your **personal information is protected by law** under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with Privacy Act and the *Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.

Your personal information provided to the department through the Collection may be:

- disclosed to the ABS for the purposes of capacity to contribute calculations and analysis as a part of the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). Further information about MADIP can be found on the [MADIP page](#) on the ABS website.
- disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department may from time to time, carry out an audit of a school's submission to the Collection. The contracted auditor compares the school's submission with the student enrolment information held by the school and will not use the information for any other purpose
- disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology support services to the department
- used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law.

The department does not intend to disclose your personal information to any overseas recipients.

The department's privacy policy can be found at [www.dese.gov.au](http://www.dese.gov.au) and includes information on:

- how individuals can access and seek correction of the personal information held by the department;
- how complaints about potential breaches or breaches of the Privacy Act can be made;
- how the department will deal with these complaints.

The department commissioned an independent privacy impact assessment (PIA). The PIA assesses the flows of information under the Collection, compliance with the Privacy Act and measures in place to safeguard the personal information being collected. The report is being updated, and will be available in 2021 on the [SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page](#). The current version is available at <https://docs.education.gov.au/node/51436>.

#### What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the requested details to the department; however, you may wish to ensure that your school has the most up-to-date and correct details for your family.

#### Contacts for further information

Your school can provide additional information about the Collection process.

Alternatively, please visit the [SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page](#).



The College Library is open:

- Every morning from 7.50am
- Every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon until 4pm

Teachers are available in the library to assist students with homework and assessment tasks.