



JUNE 2021 | ISSUE 6

# HARP OF THE SPIRIT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Dear Parents, Students and Friends of St. Narsai's College**

The College has been collaborating with an external provider to upgrade its website and I am pleased to report that we are getting close to launching the new website soon. This new website will be more user friendly and informative to all members of the college community. In the meantime, parents can now have easy access to several important college policies via the current college website. These include, Anti-Bullying Policy, Parent Code of Conduct, Student Behaviour Support Policy, Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures, Child Safe Policy and Child Protection Policy.

Moreover, we have also published on the college's website, the 2020 School Annual Report, which provides detailed information about the college's activities and operations in 2020.

I invite all parents to familiarise themselves with these policies and read through the 2020 SNACC School Annual Report.

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This year, we have managed to open the library every morning from 7:50 to enable students to take advantage of relevant resources. Supervising teachers continue to make themselves available to support all students before school. Similarly, due to the generosity and dedication of teachers, we have also been able to maintain our two days a week Study Club after school. I ask that parents encourage their children to take advantage of these valuable resources as often as possible.

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As term two ends this week, I want to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful students, staff and parents for a productive semester one, where we achieved so much together. Throughout these two terms, students were able to experience education in the way it should be- free from limitations and constraints. Students attended many excursions and incursions, competed in so many events that included Mock Trials, Chess Competition, and various Sporting Competitions at many levels.



Over the last few weeks, many students sat half-yearly examinations and others submitted their semester one final assignments and projects for their respective subjects. The data gathered after marking these assessments will be used by teachers to complete Semester One Reports. These reports will be distributed on Monday, 12th July during the Parent-Teacher interviews from 11am to 4pm. Many parents have already made interview booking and I urge other parents to do the same to secure a suitable interview time with their child's subject teachers.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONT'D

It was only fitting that our college community celebrated Holy Mass last Thursday to farewell this term in the hope for a brighter semester two. A big thank you to Fr. Ramen Youkhanis for conducting his first liturgical service at the College. I would also like to acknowledge our College Chaplain, Fr. Shamuel for his ongoing support and service to our community throughout this semester.

I pray that you have a wonderful and well-deserved restful school break. We all need a physical rest, but more importantly we need mental rest.

I leave you with the Bible verse below, where our Lord, Jesus Christ has promised that if we rely on Him, He will give us relief from our burdens.

[Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.](#)

[Matthew 11:28](#)

Thank you and God bless,

Edwar Dinkha



## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MRS M KHINA- CURRICULUM

### **Dear Parents and Friends**

As we enter the last week of term, I wish all students an enjoyable and restful break from routine over the next two weeks. Students have had a busy term of learning this term and should be proud of their efforts. It has been another busy term of learning achievement, Cross Country, Athletics Carnival, NAPLAN exams and sporting team competitions amongst other school events and extracurricular activities.

### **COVID-19 Precautionary Measures**

In light of the current COVID outbreak, masks are required in public spaces, indoors and on public transport. To maintain the health and safety of all students, we continue to maintain precautionary measures including:

-Hand sanitisers are available to all students

-All visitors to the site must continue to sign in

-Students that are unwell are asked to remain at home. If students appear with flu like symptoms, parents will be contacted, and a medical clearance is required on the students return to school.

-Students and staff are encouraged to wear face masks in indoor settings

-Students will be reminded to wear a face mask as they board the bus as mandated by NSW Health

### **Pupil Free Days**

The College will have Pupil Free Days on Friday 25th June 2021 and Monday 12th July 2021.

Students return to school for Term 3 on Tuesday 13th July 2021.

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

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday 12th July being held from 11am to 4pm.

Semester One Student Reports will be distributed on this day. The day is a pupil free day and students are not required to be at school unless accompanied by their parent/guardian for an interview.

The interviews will be held in a COVID – safe environment. All parents must register for appointments prior to the date. Please book your appointments by clicking this link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code?z=ccyzuw> . The booking code was sent in an SMS to all parents. Please contact the school office if you need the code resent to you.

On the day, parents will be required to sign in using the QR code on entry to the school. If you are feeling unwell, please call the school to reschedule your interviews.

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CONT'D

### **HSC Trial Examinations**

Year 12 Trial Examinations will commence on Monday 26th July and conclude on Monday 9th August. All students will return to normal classes on Tuesday 10th August. Students have been given a timetable of exams and should be prioritising their studies based on the timetable. 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. Parents are encouraged to speak to their child about their study timetable leading up to the exams.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Parents are reminded that all students must attend school everyday. If you're 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.

### **Chewing gum**

Parents and 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.

### **Year 11 2022 Subject Selection**

The subject selection process for Year 11 2022 will commence in Week 2 next term, with an information session for all Year 10 students and their parents. More details on the Subject Selection process will be sent to parents in Week 1 of Term 3. In the meantime, I encourage parents to discuss with their child the subjects that they are considering on studying.

### **Minimum Standards tests for Years 10, 11 and 12 students**

All students in NSW will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive their HSC. The HSC minimum standard is part of an effort to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes for students.

The HSC minimum standard is a way of supporting and ensuring students have a functional level of literacy and numeracy. The HSC minimum standard is set at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework which outlines the functional skills used in everyday life, for work and further study. This framework provides detailed information on the three areas in which the students will be tested: Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CONT'D

All students must sit the minimum standards tests. The student must achieve a level 3 in each test. This aligns with level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) which is considered the level required to function in everyday life, for work and further study.

To achieve their HSC , all students must sit the HSC minimum standard online tests in reading, writing and numeracy. Each of the three tests are of 45 minutes duration. The writing test consists of a response of up to 500 words to one written or visual prompt, and the other two are 45 multiple choice questions.

Students have 4 attempts at each test throughout the year. Once they meet the minimum standard, they are not required to sit the test again. We will schedule the test sessions in each term to allow students the maximum attempts that they need per year.

To prepare for the tests, students can complete the online practice tests at school using their Schools Online account as many times as is practicable. Once the HSC minimum standard is achieved in all three areas, a student is eligible to receive the HSC. Having students attend school punctually and ready to sit the test will be very much appreciated by the team of staff involved.

Students can access their minimum standard test results through their Schools Online account. They can also print a minimum standard report that clearly shows the level (1-4) that they achieved in the test. Level 3 is the minimum standard.

Further information is available on the NAPLAN Online brochure, by visiting [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au) or contacting me at the College.

Best Wishes for a happy and safe holiday.

Mrs Mary Khina - Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

## CAPA FACULTY

### What have the Creative and Performing Arts department been up to in Term 2?

#### Year 7 Seletive Stream Music

This term in Yr 7G Music has been taught and assessed on their piano skills, we were assessed on two songs of your choice, one with left hand and the other with your right. We were taught with the Piano booklets our teacher gave us and it help with progress. Near the end of the term we knew all of the keys and how to play a variety of songs. After learning piano, we started reviewing Instruments of The Orchestra, we learned all the different families and instruments that go in the four families. We listened to the recordings of instruments played in an orchestra and wrote the family, pitch and tone colour beside them. We were also taught about treble and base clef and the notes that go onto the ledger lines depending on the clefs. We were then later assessed on the instruments of the orchestra and other topics we have studied this semester in our half yearly exam. Overall 7G music has enjoyed the practical lessons, as well as the theory lessons and understood the different topics that were taught and assessed this term.



#### Rosie Elya 7G



#### Year 9 music

This term in music, we have learnt various musical structures (sections) that are found within songs and pieces of music. We have specifically focused on verse chorus, which makes up the structure of many pop songs. The class has been preparing personal performance pieces to help strengthen our understanding of the Pop musical genre and apply the Concepts of Music into our performance. Throughout the term, our class has done various practical activities in conjunction with the analysis of multiple pop songs to help get the best mark possible.

Joseph Daniel - Yr 9 Music

## CAPA FACULTY CONT'D

### Year 10 Music

This term in Year 10 Music we have been learning about Popular music and the Concepts of Music. We have been developing our performance skills by working to play in small bands and also trying to perform on different instruments we wouldn't normally play as our main instrument. For our half yearly exam we focused on Aural skills and identifying particular sounds that were played to us.



### Year 11 Music

This term in Year 11 Music, our class has been learning about Small Ensembles, which are small groups of musicians playing a piece together. Through this topic we have further developed a thorough understanding of what a small ensemble is, how the instruments in each ensemble work to complement each other, and have used these features to analyse the piece, using the Concepts of Music to do so. The other component to our assessment task of this term was a composition, which is a small song that each person in our class has written, played, and produced with their partner. Working in small groups for our composition has enabled us to expand our knowledge of how small ensembles work, assisting us in completing our other task.

### Debbie Sarhad - Yr 11 Music



## CAPA FACULTY CONT'D

## Year 12 Music

This Term in Yr 12 Music, I have grown and strengthened both my practical, aural and composition skills since the last term of HSC Music. This Term we were introduced to our assignment which consisted of both a performance piece as well as a composition. I decided that my piece was going to be Kiss the rain by Yiruma for the performance part of my assignment. Through the term i would set an assigned day to practise my piece these days being thursday friday saturday sunday and monday for atleast one hour or more if i needed more to finish off. As for the composition part of the assignment i would use school time to work out how to lay out my song on the piano. Additionally, i would have the teachers in class aid me in composition such ass google music labs which helped me set out my main melody for my composition. i had also worked on my log book throughout the term based on how i was going with my composition. Moreover, in class we would practise our aural skills once a week in preparation for HSC and trials. Overall throughout this term i have completed many pieces and parts of HSC music in order to assist me in my overall HSC and trials.

- Marina Shamon - Yr 12 Music





## CAPA FACULTY CONT'D

### Visual Arts

#### Stage 4 Visual Arts

Students in Year 8 Visual Arts have been studying the different movements in art history and presented their research Infront of their class. For their practical work, students have been practicing realistic drawing. Year 8 have been applying realism into their drawings by incorporating shading with facial features such as eyes, noses, and mouths to which they will each individually create a self-portrait.



#### Stage 6 Visual Arts

In this term, we had to explore social issues that dominate the world and how these issues are responded to by artists such as Marcel Duchamp and Jackson Pollock to explore 'conceptual strength'. We were also required to write an essay on analysing the significance of an artist's choice and use of forms, materials and techniques to communicate meaning. After all we demonstrated our print making skills using Lino printing that express one of the world issues.

- Diyana Dankha- Year 11 Visual Arts



### CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS:

The CAPA department are urging parents to take advantage of the Kids Creative Voucher offered by the NSW Government, where parents can redeem a \$100 voucher, per school aged child, between 4 - 18 years, to purchase tools to allow their children to be creative at home, to go towards private music lessons, private art lessons, drama lessons, anything Creative and Performing Arts based!

Please visit <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-creative-kids-voucher> to apply for your children's creative vouchers.



Mrs. Gabriele

Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator

## HSIE FACULTY

Dear family and friends of the college community,

It has been a busy and fruitful semester in the HSIE department as we have engaged students in various learning experiences both within and outside the classroom environment.

### ANZAC Day

We started the term by commemorating ANZAC Day with a special assembly. It included wreath laying and a minute silence to show our respects and remember those who have died and given up their lives for our freedom this day.



## HSIE FACULTY CONT'D

### Year 7 HSIE Selective Stream- by Jonas Odicho

This term in HSIE, 7G has learnt a lot about liveability, and how different perceptions and factors can differ positively, or negatively about the liveability of an area. So to build on not only our knowledge, but also on our creativity, this term's extension task was to create a city! The city could either be created as a physical diorama, or on Minecraft- a sandbox video game designed for the creativity of its players. Each student was given a scenario, which would ultimately set the main idea of the city. Nevertheless, the city was a fun, creative idea to stimulate our knowledge and creativity.

### Year 8 HSIE- by Karlos Kefarkes

HSIE consists of two subjects; History & Geography. In the past two terms of year 8 we have studied History. I have learnt about the past societies and periods such as Medieval Europe, Modern times AD c.1500, Medieval times AD 500-AD c.1500, Ancient times 3000 BC-AD c.500 & Prehistory before 3000 BC. We have focused on The Black Death and completed many source analysis'. A source analysis is structured through 'TOMAC' which stands for (Type, Origin, Motive, Audience, & Content). This gave us an in-depth analysis of many primary and secondary sources from that time.



### Year 11 Business Studies- by Mariam Yousif

Throughout this semester, business studies has demonstrated that we are not simply educated, but that the skills we learn will be utilised later in life, particularly through the 4 main business functions of operations, human resources, finance, and marketing. Whether it's converting inputs to outputs or producing a balance sheet, we've gained a lot of knowledge in these areas. Students efficiently learned how to evaluate the effectiveness of product and promotion utilising key aspects such as quality and packaging by completing in-class essays and reports. As a result, students can recollect the various types of marketplaces and their benefits with ease. This knowledge is useful to a wide range of occupations, not just commerce, making this course valuable to all students.



### Year 12 Trials

I also take this opportunity to wish all Year 12 students the best of luck in their upcoming Trial exams next term. I pray you have the strength and courage to face all your exams with confidence and determination. I am grateful of all faculty members who have ensured all students have their skills and knowledge to tackle these exams.

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing holiday in advance.

God bless,  
Miss Sandy Nona,  
HSIE Coordinator



Dear parents, guardians and carers,

**Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)**

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The Learning Support Unit at St Narsai Assyrian Christina College will be collecting this data in the next few weeks. The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the Australian Government's Privacy Policy (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>). Further information about the NCCD can be found on the NCCD Portal (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Ninva Yakou  
Learning Support Co-ordinator

**PARENT  
TEACHER  
INTERVIEWS**

**Monday 12/07/2021**



**Resumes Tuesday 13/7/2021**