

From the Principal

Edwar Dinkha

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Two weeks ago, we welcomed back our students and their families to Term three and the start of Semester two of 2022. Since then, students are back in their classes or learning spaces engaged in learning and catching up with their friends and peers.

College staff have had time to review and analyse Semester One students' academic performance and decided to respond to the data to support students that are at risk of not making progress in their subjects. To this end, Year Co-ordinators have started contacting and interviewing parents of students whose Semester One academic performance was of concern. The aim of these interviews or phone calls is to develop individual academic actions plans that would assist students in making more progress in this semester and achieve to their potential.

I would like to emphasize here that parents have a critical role in helping their child implement their personal plan and work closely with teachers and staff to ensure that their child receives all support available and be able to make progress and achieve better academic outcomes this semester.

COVID-19

College staff are keeping an eye on the current upsurge in the number of positive COVID-19 diagnosis within the school community, local community and in Sydney.

To help protect our students and staff, we announced more than a week ago that we strongly encouraged all students and staff to wear face masks indoors. Additionally, we will continue to 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

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.

Moreover, our College Chaplain, Fr. Shamuel, Miss. Kako and Miss. David will accompany a group of students to St. Mary's Church for the Commemoration of St. Mary on the 15th of August.

Assyrian Martyrs Day

In a special ceremony this Friday, our staff Assyrian Martyrs and students will stop and join all Assyrians around the world to remember all Assyrian Martyrs and commemorate the Assyrian Memorial Day, 7th August- SHAWA B'TABAKH.

At St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College, we continue to honour our martyrs by offering special educational programs that supports our children to know their history better 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.

Alaha manyikhlon sahda Atoraye wyawilon sama go malkoota dshmaya. in this issue

Deputy Principal

KLA Report

Christian Studies English Science

Library Section

Sport Update

Trials HSC Examination

We wish our Year 12 students the best of luck as they commenced their Trials HSC Examination earlier this week 5, from Monday, 1st 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

Edwar Dinkha

Congratulations to our SNACC Basketball Team!

Congratulations to our first ever SNACC basketball team who won their first game of the season. We can't wait to see what results you produce the rest of the season, well done boys!



From the Deputy Principal (Staff and Student Wellbeing)

Mary Ismail

EVIN AGHASSI VISITS ST NARSAI COLLEGE

On Monday 25th July, we had the honour and pleasure of welcoming our respected international Assyrian singer Mr Evin Aghassi to our college. Staff and students listened to our legendary singer, dance and take photos to remember this wonderful opportunity and experience.











P&F KEBAB DAY FUNDRAISER

We thank our amazing P&F Committee for organising a very successful and delicious kebab day fundraiser. Thank you, also, to our wonderful college community for your support. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the P&F committee of 2022

President: Mr Apram Shlemon

Vice President: Mr Wilson Shimshon

Treasurer: Mr Bethuo Bethuo

Members: Mrs Nonya Yegore Gorgi, Mrs Helen Pouranvieh, Mrs Julie Korkees, Mrs Shamameh Zaia.

We welcome all parents/carers to support our college when an activity is on, please contact the College on 88181300 if you are interested in future P&F activities.



SCHOOL LOCKER LIVERPOOL CLOSED

School Locker are excited to announce a new Sydney superstore is coming soon. The Liverpool store has closed permanently at the end of July.

Parents/Carers are invited to shop for uniforms online instead of visiting the store. A wide range of sports equipment, musical instruments and footwear is also available for purchase on the School Locker website.

Use the QR code to find our school uniform online or go to https://theschoollocker.com.au/scho ols/st-narsai-assyrian-christian-coll ege

1. Click on the item you would like to purchase to view the item detail page.



2. Select your size option.

3. Choose your quantity and click the add to cart button.

4. Complete your purchase by clicking on the shopping bag icon to access the checkout.

COLLEGE MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19 CASES

As you may be aware, on the 19th of July 2022, the Premier of NSW announced changes to the

requirements in managing COVID-19, in particular strongly recommending masks be worn indoors and if outdoors, where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Please read the information outlined below regarding the college's updated and safe management of COVID-19 as mentioned in every letter sent to parents/carers regarding reported cases of COVID-19.

POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

There is NO CHANGE to the requirements if staff or students have tested positive to COVID-19. As per NSW Health advice and guidelines, a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 must:

• self-isolate for 7 days. If any symptoms are present after the 7-day isolation period, remain in • self-isolation until 24 hours after the symptoms have resolved;

- inform the school and;
- register the case in Service NSW.

Positive cases leave isolation at the conclusion (end) of 7 days only if no symptoms are present.

If a positive COVID 19 staff/student returns after their 7-day isolation with no symptoms, a mask is

recommended to be worn for an additional 3 days.

The College will continue to inform the community when there is a positive case in the school who

attended whilst infectious and provide NSW Health advice and guidance.

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS AND CLOSE CONTACTS

Household contacts and close contacts, no longer need to isolate for 7 days if they are symptom-free. However, household and close contacts must:

• notify the school. Parents are to call the school office on 88181300 and staff are to inform one of the Deputy Principals.

• conduct a daily RAHT and return a negative result each morning before attending school for 5

school days.

• wear a mask in all indoor settings and in outdoor settings where social distancing is not

possible for 7 days. NSW Health recommends wearing a mask for 10 days (unless exempt).

NEW REQUIREMENT FOR PARENTS/VISITORS

Any visitor to the school site who is a household/close contact is required to advise the school that they are a close contact before they come on site.

These visitors should conduct a daily RAHT and return a negative result before attending. They must also wear a mask indoors at all times.

The College will consider if the visit can be conducted virtually.

FEELING UNWELL?

It is important that staff/students do not attend school if they are unwell, even if they have tested negative for COVID-19.

Rapid antigen tests can produce false negative results and symptoms of other illnesses can also be similar to COVID-19, including flu, the common cold and stomach bugs.

NSW Health advice is that staff/students who are sick should always stay home to rest and recover and avoid putting members of the college community at risk of getting sick.

VAPING

The laws on supply and possession of nicotine vaping products changed at the beginning of October 2021. In brief, all Nicotine vaping products are now regulated under Therapeutic Goods Act 1989 as Schedule 4 (prescription only) medicines in the Poison Standard. Therefore, any student found to be vaping/in possession of a nicotine vape on school grounds will receive a long suspension with a view to expulsion for possession, supply or use of a suspected illegal substance (prescription drugs).

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 vape. 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 below:

https://9now.nine.com.au/a-current-affair/disposable-ecig arette-pods-cause-outcry-as-craze-takes-off-among-tee nagers-in-australian-schools/7b537973-c3a5-4962-ae67-89acf8069699

For more information for parents and carers please click.

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/tobacco/Pages/vaping-fact sheet-parents.aspx#:~:text=The%20nicotine%20in%20l%20va pe,weed%20killer%20and%20bug%20spray



Final Word

In the next few weeks, as Year 12 complete their trial HSC examinations, I wish our Year 12 students the best in their results.

I pray you are rewarded for your hard work, and we look forward to celebrating your achievements with you.

From the Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

Mary Khina

Subject Selection process for Years 9 and 11, 2023

The 2023 subject selection process commenced last week. It was great to see Year 10 students and their parents at last week's Information evening with the Year 8 session on Monday.

In Year 10 students will choose the HSC courses that they will study for the next two years. Although there are many pathways to university or college, choosing the right courses for the HSC can make it easier to get into university and succeed in their studies.

Year 8 will choose two elective subjects that they would like to study in addition to their mandatory subjects.

In deciding what subjects to choose, students have been encouraged to:

- 1. Identify their end goal
- 2. Consider abilities and interests
- 3. Explore career opportunities
- 4. Research study options

Some top tips for choosing HSC subjects provided by UAC (University Admission Centre), include:

• Think about where you want to go after Year 12 and link that to your choices now

• If you want an ATAR make sure you are eligible by completing at least 10 units of ATAR courses

• Choose HSC subjects that you're good at and interested in, and that will lay a foundation for your future plans. In particular, choose courses that will prepare you well for the areas of university study you're planning to pursue.

• Just about any combination of courses can lead to a good ATAR; it all depends on how well you do in all your courses in comparison to other students. The table below addresses a number of scaling 'myths'

• Check if the uni you want to go to, or the course you want to do, has prerequisites (these can include a high-level maths or English course) and assumed knowledge. To make good choices about what to study, work to the best of your ability and focus on your goals for life after school.

Myth	Fact	
Some courses are always 'scaled up' therefore I should study those.	The way a course is scaled depends entirely on the average academic performance of all the students doing that course that year - and it can change from year to year. For most courses, your acaled mark will be	
Some courses are always 'scaled down' therefore I should avoid those.	lower than your HSC mark. To get the best possible position and maximise your scaled marks, select the courses you'll do best in.	
I need to study "hard" subjects to get high scaled marks.	'Hard' is a subjective term. Everyone has different strengths and interests. Students who achieve an ATAR of 99.95 study a large variety of subjects.	
Advanced to get a better ATAR.	It's very difficult to predict which course will lead to a higher scaled mark. Your scaled mark depends on the average scademic ability of the students studying that course and your position in the course. When considering which maths course to study, remember that some university courses have prerequisites or assumed knowledge of Mathematics Advanced. It's important to choose the level of maths that best suits your plans for further study.	

Students in Year 8 are encouraged to choose the elective subjects that they enjoy.

Scaling Myths

Students are encouraged to consult with:

- Their class teachers and KLA Coordinators
- Careers Advisor Miss Yousif
- Year Coordinator

- Other students that are currently studying the subjects of interest

- Their parents

Other useful resources:

Steps to Uni for Year 10 Students

https://www.uac.edu.au/future-appli cants/year-10-students

What is VET and what are the benefits?:

https://education.nsw.gov.au/skills-n sw/students-and-job-seekers/what-i s-vet-and-what-are-the-benefits

JobJump

https://www.jobjump.com.au/

JobOutlook:

https://joboutlook.gov.au/

Year 12 Trial HSC Exams

I wish all Year 12 students the best of luck as they commenced their trial HSC exams on Monday. For most students, this is the last assessment task for their courses before the final HSC exams. I also wish all students completing their practical projects all the best as they complete a major component of their coursework in the coming weeks.

Year 11 2023 Subjection Selection Process

Subject Information Sessions for Year 10 students

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Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July
periods 3 and 4
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Information Evening for Year 10 Parents and Students

Tuesday 26th July, 6pm

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Student interviews
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Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd August

Online Subject Selection site opens for students at 4.30pm Thursday 4th August Students will receive their logic details during the interviews

Online subject selection site closes Monday 81 August, 5pm

Year 9 2023 Subject Selection Process

Information Evening for Year 8 Parents and Students

Monday 1st August, 6pm

Students receive handbook and subject selection login details

Online Subject Selection site opens for students at 4.30pm Friday 5th August

Online subject selection site closes Monday 8th August, 5pm

Half- Yearly Reports

All Years 7-11 Half Yearly reports were emailed to parents at the end of term 2. Please contact our office on 8818 1300 or info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au if you have not received your child's report.

Year coordinators are currently making contact with parents whose child did not perform as expected in semester one. This is in addition to the parent-teacher interviews that were held last term. If a meeting has been requested with you, please attend these interviews to ensure that we can work together to meet the needs of all our students. The year coordinators will be discussing ways that your child can progress further in semester two and beyond.

From the Christian Studies Department

Jessica Kako, Christian Studies Coordinator

"Let Mary's soul be 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."

Dear St. Narsai Parents/ Guardians and students,

The St. Narsai staff and students have been busy throughout term two and three shining the light of Christ in various setting; from in the classroom to the wider community.

St. Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal

At the start of June, the Student Leadership Team (SLT) launched the Annual Winter Appeal. The St Narsai community came together and ensured those less fortunate would stay warm this winter by donating winter items to the St. Vincent De Paul Society. We would like to thank staff, students, parents and guardians for their ongoing generosity and support.





Senior Sermon-Guest Speaker

Senior students were lucky to meet the first chaplain the College had when it was established, Reverend Father Genard Lazar (parish priest of Mar Addai Church, Turlock California). During their senior sermon, they had the opportunity to hear his wise words as he gave them advise on practising the teachings of their faith.

He also spent time answering the question on everyone's mind, 'Why is my faith the right one?' and gave students in depth comparisons of all religions, explaining to the students how they can provide an answer when posed with this question.

The Fast of St. Mary

This Monday 1/8/22 marked the start of the fast of St Mary. This fast goes for 2 weeks (Monday 1/8 till Monday 15/8) and it is a time to spiritually revive and become closer to Christ.

During the next two weeks we will have a prayer table at the front office, where students have the opportunity to write any prayer requests they have for anyone in particular.

Prayer offerings will be made on their behalf by Reverend Father Shamuel. May your fast be accepted and your prayers, through the intercession of St Mary, be heard.





ACERO fundraiser

Last Tuesday, the College started its annual ACERO fundraiser. All funds raised will be helping the families in need living in the Middle East and in desperate need of basic essentials.

We wish to bring some hope, love and much needed necessities to our fellow brothers and sisters during these challenging times. Our aim is to raise \$3000 and so far, in less than a week we have raise \$623.20. We thank the families who have donated so far and encourage all students to bring in a small donation to help our brothers and sister in the Middle East.

Upcoming Events

Please make note of the following events St. Narsai students will be partaking in through this term:

Term 3			
Week	Date	Initiative	Year group involved
3	Vlonday 1/8	Morning Roll Call Praver Service with Rev. Father Shamuel	Year 3 and 8
	Monday 8/8	Feast of the Transliguration- Recess Prayer Service	Whole School
4	Tuesday 9/8	Whole School Litur, ical Service (Paza Gadisha)	Whole school
5	Monday 15/8	The commemoration of St Mary, Recess Prayer Service and 10 students representing the College at St Mary's Parish	Who e School
ä	Tursday 13/9	Feast of the Holy Cross Recess Prayer Service	Whole School
10	Monday 19/9	Yes: 12 Raza Qadishe at St Mary's Parish	Year 12



From the Science Department

Ornilla Shamon, Science Coordinator

Dear parents/guardians,

Last term was a very exciting one for the Science faculty! The term started with the visit of the patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, His Holiness Mar Awa III.

Senior and junior Science students demonstrated their learning in the classroom by performing different experiments and highlighting their links to our everyday lives.

Senior Chemistry students explained the applications of dry ice, the uses of acetone in recycling and the production of fireworks through the display of the flame test.

Year 7 students conducted a variety of experiments, ranging from elephant toothpaste to the formation of electricity using the Van De Graaf generator.

The faculty was both honoured and grateful for the opportunity to be graced by His Holiness' presence, which not only allowed us to showcase the remarkable facilities on offer, but also the knowledge and skills our students have cultivated in Science.





Later in the term, we were also fortunate enough to have our future scientists from our sister school, St. Hurmizd, join us for a day as a St. Narsai student.

Year 5 students were able to experience Science in all its glory, led by Mr. Brian Parker.

Experiments explored the notions of combustion and exothermic reactions alike.

Students received their Bunsen burner licenses, burned magnesium, investigated flour explosions and witnessed propane bubbles. Their excitement and enthusiasm was particularly evident and we look forward to welcoming them as St. Narsai students in the near future!



This current term promises to be a fruitful and exciting one for Science. Students across all grades have commenced their new units for the term where they will undertake various activities that align with the concepts being taught in each respective year group.

As part of their syllabus, Year 11 Biology students will be attending an excursion to conduct field work at Narabeen Rock Platform. This ultimately supports their studies of ecosystems as they delve into the complex relationships that exist within and between different ecological communities.

As part of Science week, stage 4 students have been invited to a live stream with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki as a Q&A on Science and its importance in our lives today. During Science week, a lunch-time STEM competition will be running for all interested students, with winners awarded gift vouchers to encourage and fuel their bright, aspiring minds. Alongside this, a general guiz will offer students the chance to identify different equipment, scientists and branches of Science. We encourage all students to participate when the opportunity arises.

We hope to see a growth in passion and excitement for Science across the school as we continue providing opportunities for students to excel and familiarise themselves with the impact of Science on the world we live in today.

From the English Department

Amy Kurver, English Coordinator

Throughout Term 1, Year 8 English studied a Unit of work titled, 'Representations of Refugees', which focused on the refugee journey as told through nonfiction, documentary film, picture book, and media texts. Students were exposed to a variety of refugee stories in different forms of text and analysed how language is used to convey the refugee experience.

Students engaged in teaching and learning activities that were purposefully designed to encourage students to voice their opinions over a very controversial topic that is extremely relevant to them and their context. Students achieved this by responding to several tasks that prompted them to explore their opinions and express themselves in a variety of media, such as spoken, printed, visual and mixed-media texts.

Consequently, students learned the importance and effect of emotive, persuasive, figurative and descriptive language that uses sensory imagery, rhetorical questions, visual placement, factual information. Students also learned that visual literacy can be as powerful as words.

Further to this, students developed care, compassion, empathy, hope and respect that aligned with the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East's perspectives.



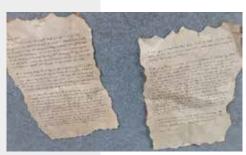
Lastly, students demonstrated their learning through a creative writing formative assessment task, where they selected a refugee image and used it as a stimulus to plan, draft, compose and edit a creative text that told the story of a moment in time of the life of a refugee.

Students included an example of emotive language, a rhetorical question, figurative language, factual information and sensory imagery in their creative writing text and using TEE (topic, example, effect) sentences, students analysed the effect of such literary techniques.

Students also wrote a reflection on the overall message or purpose of their creative writing text and how they used language techniques to achieve the message or purpose. In addition to this, Year 8 selective stream students dyed paper to look aged that they then used to write letters to a loved about their experiences as a refugee.



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Ten ways to keep your children on track to succeed in high school.

- 1. Attend all school information evenings and parent-teacher meetings
- 2. Be well informed about the college & visit our website regularly
- 3. Support home study expectations
- 4. Inspect your child's workbooks on a regular basis
- 5. Send your child to school ready to learn
- 6. Teach organizational skills
- 7. Offer help with studying and revising at home
- 8. Know the Student Behaviour Support and Anti-Bullying Policies
- 9. Take attendance seriously
- 10. Make time to talk about school with your child





AUGUST 2022 | VOL. 9 SNACC LEARNING HUB

St Narsai Assyrian Christian College Library News

CBCA BOOK WEEK 2022

Each year since 1945 the CBCA has brought children and books together across Australia through CBCA Book Week. During this time schools and public libraries spend one incredible week of celebrating books and Australian children's authors and illustrators. TAKE A LOOK AT THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

> CBCA Book Week 2022 - 1-2

THEME: DREAMING WITH EYES OPEN... DATES: AUGUST 20-26 ARTWORK: JASMINE SEYMOUR #CBCA2022 #DREAMINGWITHEYESOPEN

For further <u>information or support</u> or to provide <u>ideas and feedback</u>, please contact us at **library@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au**



A REMINDER THAT STUDENTS CAN ACCESS EBOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS 24/7 ON OUR **EPLATFORM**

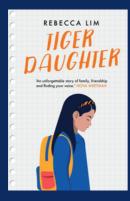
HTTPS://STNARSAI.EPLATFORM.CO/





"When you lose yourself in a book the hours grow wings and fly."

CHLOE THURLOW



We will be celebrating Book Week 2022 at SNACC with a range of activities in the library during the breaks in Week 6. Keep your eye out for notices on Teams for more details on activities and how to participate next week!

BOOK OF THE YEAR: OLDER READERS

Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers in their secondary years of schooling. Ages 13-18 years deal with particularly challenging themes including violence and suicide



The Boy from the Mish THE BOY Gary Lonesborough Allen & Unwin THE MISI SBN: 9781760525880

ad more...





Garth Nix Allen & Unwin SBN: 9781760878818

read more_



IIGER

DAUGHIER

Sugar Town Queens Malla Nunn Allen & Unwin ISBN: 9781760526832

read more...

Tiger Daughter

ISBN: 9781760877644

Rebecca Lim

read more...

Allen & Unwin

THE YEAR: YOUNGER READERS

fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers from the middle to upper pr of the titles in this category may only be suitable for readers who are in the upper primary years as they contain mature themes, including violence. Parental guidance is





A Glasshouse of Stars

Shirley Marr

Penguin Random He

ISBN: 9781760899547

The Detective's Guide to

Ocean Travel Nicki Greenberg Affirm Press ISBN: 9781922400673



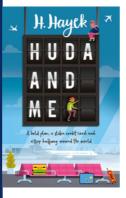
Huda and Me H. Havek Allen & Unwin SBN: 9781760526023



Maryam Master ill. Astred Hicks Pan Macmillan Austr SBN: 9781760983512



Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief Katrina Nannestad HarperCollins Publishere ISBN: 9780733341465



Check out these shortlisted books in our library!