



HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the Principal



Dear Parents, Students and friends of the College,

In a college assembly two weeks ago, I invited students to Put God First in everything they do every day. I emphasised that in so doing, they would live a fulfilling and rewarding life. I reminded students that we needed to take responsibility for our daily actions inside and outside the school and that we must always be respectful, kind, and supportive of each other as members of the college community.

Students were prompted to reflect on their school journey this year and were encouraged to make more concerted effort to improve and make progress across their subjects as we near the end of Semester One assessments.

The College commemorated the Feast of the Holy Pentecost in a prayer led by our College Chaplain, Fr. Shamuel on Monday, 25th May. As you know, the Feast is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Easter and ten days after the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. The Feast is always celebrated on a Sunday.

I take this opportunity to thank Miss. J Kako and Fr. Shamuel for organising this commemoration at the College and pray the St. Narsai College family continue in its faith journey and continue to grow in Christ.

As stated in our last newsletter, the Year 7 2024 enrolment interviews are now being finalised with few places still available for 2024 school year. The Year 7 2025 (current Year 5 students) enrolment interviews will be commencing from the start of term 3. Parents wishing to enrol their children at the College for the 2025 Year 7 intake are asked to urgently complete and submit their enrolment applications to our office staff for processing. Respective parents will be notified of interview times before the end of this term.

The college has recently advertised the 2024 Scholarships and it is hoped that many deserving students would apply.

ISSUE 2 | TERM 2

In this issue

Deputy Principal
Wellbeing

Deputy Principal
Curriculum

KLA Report
Maths
TAS
PDHPE



ST NARSAI
ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

IN HIM WE GROW

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

The 2024 scholarship are open to internal and external year 7, 9 and 11 students who can meet the criteria of the scholarship. These scholarships applications will close on Monday 28 July 2023. Parents are encouraged to seek more information by visiting our college website or by contacting our School Office.

Thank You,

Edwar Dinkha

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

Dear Parents and Friends

Thank you to all students that have worked tirelessly during the last few weeks preparing for assessment tasks and exams. I encourage all students to discuss the feedback that they receive from their teachers with their parents. Details of student results will be in the semester one reports to parents.

Years 7-11 Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 28th June and Thursday 29th June from 3pm-6pm. Details on the booking process has been sent to all parents via SMS. Please contact the school office if you need the code resent to you.

Semester One Student Reports will be emailed to all parents of students in Years 7-11 prior to the interview. All parents are encouraged to make an appointment to discuss their child's progress and areas and ways for improvement.

To ensure the safety of all students, parents and teachers, please do not attend the interviews if you are feeling unwell or have flu like symptoms, please call the school to reschedule your interviews.

We look forward to seeing all parents at the interviews.

Holiday Tutorials

Teachers will be holding holiday tutorial sessions for various subjects, in particular for Year 12 students. A permission note will be sent home if your child has been offered tutorials. Please ask your child if they have received a note and encourage them to attend.

HSC Trial Examinations

Year 12 Trial Examinations will take place in Weeks 3 and 4 of Term 3, commencing on Monday 31st July and concluding on Friday 11th August. The exam timetable will be distributed to students next week. Students are encouraged to prioritise 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.

Deep Learning

As published in our previous newsletter, we are implementing the Deep Learning Framework in various KLAs within the College with the aim of unleashing the potential of all students to apply thinking in new situations and to change the world. The framework focuses on the 6 Competencies that will be developed in all students – Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communications, creativity and critical thinking. I am looking forward to sharing examples of the work that students are engaging in future newsletter editions.

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

Year 11 2023 Subject Selection

The subject selection process for Year 11 2023 will commence early Term 3. More details on the Subject Selection process and details of an information evening 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.

Mrs. Mary Khina

Deputy Principal – Curriculum / Teaching and Learning

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the Deputy Principal (Wellbeing)

Importance of Attendance

The college sends out attendance letters twice a term to inform parents of their child's attendance patterns. Students whose attendance falls below 95% will receive the letters whether attendance explained or unexplained.

If unexplained, then further action is taken by the school to ensure a student's attendance improves. Please refer to the Attendance Procedure on page 18 of the student diary for more information.

It is well known that participating in school every day gives teenagers the best chance of achieving their goals. A student's level of school attendance is a major influence on their achievement.



How can you assist:

- Speak with your teen about the importance of attending every day.
- Set a regular evening and morning routine.
- If possible make appointments out of school hours.
- Avoid taking your teenager away for holidays during the school term.

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

- If your teen seems anxious about going to school, talk to them to find out why.

It is always good to speak to your child about the importance of going to school everyday. Not only does it show that you value education, but it the educational aspirations are strong predictors of educational outcomes. Talk to your teen about their goals and the role schooling will have in achieving them. Your teen may not be aware of the impact that missing school can have in the long term.

Help your teen maintain good attendance habits - Having an established evening and morning routine can provide structure to ensure assignments are completed and your teenager arrives at school on time. Occasionally, your teen may need to stay home from school—they might be sick, or there might be personal or serious family matters you have to attend to (such as a funeral). While these kinds of events are unavoidable, other events such as shopping trips, holidays, visiting family and friends, or appointments can be scheduled out of school hours.

Late to School Procedures

Being early or punctual to school is important for every student. Children who are regularly late can never recover certain essential parts of their school day such as settling down to get ready to learn, important announcements, checking of diaries etc.



You may think that your child is only missing a few minutes in the morning but a student who is 10 minutes late every day, will miss over 30 hours of teaching during the year. That's a large number of teaching hours that cannot be replaced.

Hence why we re-introduced late to school detention. All parents and students have been informed that any child who attends school late school/roll call three times will receive an afternoon detention. If another afternoon detention is given, parents will be called in for a parent interview.

Spend time with your teen - Time with your child really counts!

The Australian Government's Learning Potential website produced an article regarding the importance of spending time with your teen found at:

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/articles/time-with-your-teen-make-it-count>

Your teenager benefits so much when you spend time with them. Even with busy schedules, you can turn a little bit of time together into a learning experience for your teen. They suggest trying these 5 tips to get more out of your time with your teen.

1. *Seize the moment!*

You and your teen probably have busy lives, so make the most of little moments when you can connect - for example, in the car, at the dinner table, or even while doing housework! By chatting about what's happening at school, their friends and the family, and how they're feeling, you're strengthening your teen's self-esteem and conversation skills.

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

2. Make it count

When talking with your teen, try not to jump in, criticise or 'fix' things – just really listen and try to understand what they are saying to you. Show your teenager you are interested in what they are saying by asking questions – What do they think? How do they feel? Show that you're listening by making eye contact, repeating what they've said, and smiling when appropriate.

3. One-on-one time

Creating space in your schedule for dedicated time with your teen really benefits their learning and wellbeing. It doesn't have to be complicated – you could spend this time going for a walk together, helping them with their study management, or just chatting about their day (and yours!).

4. Be in the moment

During that dedicated one-on-one time with your teen, be in the moment. Give them your full attention and avoid distractions such as checking your phone or social media. It's good role modelling for how you expect them to behave when talking to you and other adults!

5. Praise and encourage

Praise your teenager for the things they learn and achieve – and for their effort too. This will help with their self-esteem and confidence. Try using 'descriptive praise' – telling your teen exactly what it is that you like about what they have done. For example, 'You studied really hard for that maths test. Well done.' Praising effort can encourage your teen to try hard in the future and helps them to see themselves as learners who can master new things.

Parent Information Sessions

The College will be holding parent information sessions on various topics of interest. Please complete this survey to target information to your needs as parents/carers. Also choose the time that you most prefer to attend such information sessions.

<https://forms.office.com/r/KL0qejgHlu> survey closes Wednesday 13th June 2023.

Celebrating Refugee Week 18th June – 24th June 2023

Australia celebrates Refugee Week to promote greater awareness of refugees, the issues they face, and the contributions refugees are making to the Australian community.

The key aims of Refugee Week are:

- To celebrate the ways in which people from refugee backgrounds enrich our communities and culture.
- To educate the public about who refugees are and why they have come to Australia, and to understand the many challenges they face in doing so.

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

- To foster empathy and understanding and in doing so, encourage a safe and welcoming environment for people seeking safety in Australia.
- To enable communities and individuals to take positive action and stand in solidarity with people seeking asylum and displaced people in Australia and around the world.

To the college community who came here as refugees - Welcome to Australia and especially to St Narsai Assyrian Christian College.



Mary Ismail

Deputy Principal- Wellbeing

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the Mathematics Department

Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

The Mathematics Faculty extends a warm welcome as we embark on another rewarding term, where the realm of mathematics knows no bounds and numbers possess infinite possibilities.

Numeracy Autumn Challenge

Students were given the opportunity to sharpen their mathematical skills while embracing the beauty of the autumn season during the school holidays. This challenge encouraged learners of Years 7 – 10 to delve into a wide array of numerical activities and puzzles that promote critical thinking, problem solving and a deep understanding of mathematical concepts. From exploring patterns to calculating ratios, students engaged in interactive online tasks that enhanced their numeracy abilities and helped foster a love for mathematics.

These seasonal challenges not only encourage friendly competition against students across the difference grades, but also provide them with the opportunity to enhance their numerical thinking and application. I take this opportunity to congratulate the students that received the most points in their respective year groups.

Year 7	Year 8
Matti Goka	Ninous Qaqos
Elijah Badal	Andrian Al Ramoo
Ata Giorges	Gloria Narse
Year 9	Year 10
Tonee Barabo	Jonathan Toma
Lillian Youkhanna	Julian Yousef
Sarah Kina	Milad Al Bakos



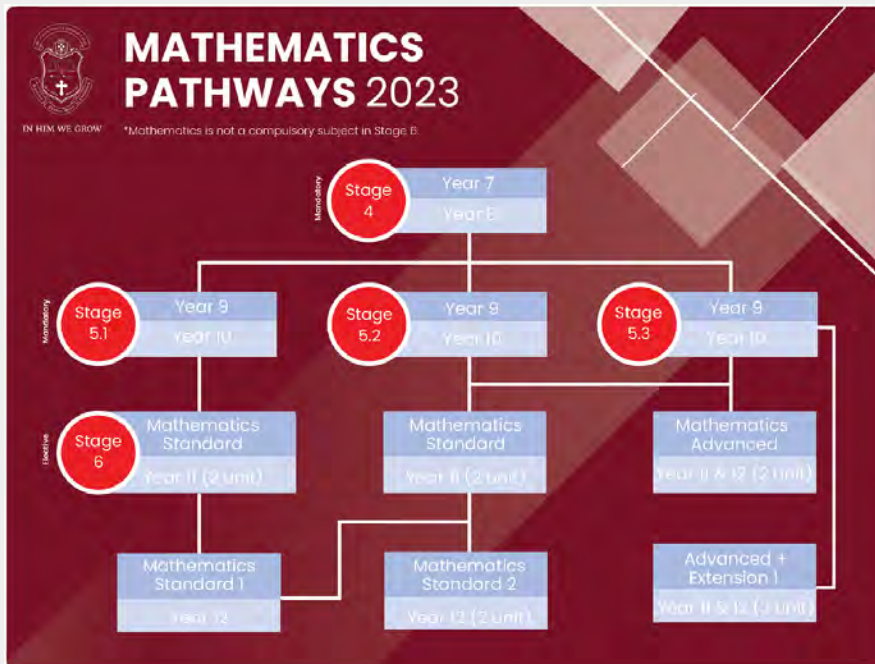
Year 10 Stage 6 Tutorials

To prioritise the academic success of our students, the mathematics faculty has taken the initiative to arrange tutorials specifically designed for Year 10 students who are interested in pursuing Stage 6 Mathematics. These courses demand a high level of rigor and necessitate a solid grasp of the mathematical skills and content covered in Stages 4 and 5. Hence, a decision has been made to assess student understanding, skills, application, and overall performance in Stage 5 Mathematics when determining eligibility for Stage 6 Mathematics enrolment.

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

Fortnightly tutorials have already commenced for students who intend to study Stage 6 Mathematics. These sessions will involve a comprehensive review of the essential content required for each chosen Stage 6 course. Before making subject selections, Year 10 students will be required to take an entry exam to assess their proficiency in the requisite skills and content.

Additionally, students in Years 7 to 9 are strongly encouraged to contemplate their mathematical path earlier in their high school journey. The placement in mathematics, as depicted in the image provided, will also play a role in determining the most suitable Stage 6 course, if any, that a student can opt to undertake.



Term 2 Assessments

Preparing for exams and diligently completing assignments hold immense significance in the educational journey of students. These play a vital role in not only assessing one's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter but also in cultivating important skills and habits for lifelong success. Exam preparation allows students to consolidate their learning, review key concepts, and identify areas that require further attention.

Additionally, completing assignments fosters discipline, time management, and the development of research and presentation skills. It enables students to demonstrate their application of the subject, enhances their ability to communicate ideas effectively

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

and nurtures a sense of responsibility and accountability. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage students to reflect on the assessments they have completed this term and to establish personal goals for the latter half of the year in order to enhance their academic achievements.

I would also like to remind students that the mathematics staff is readily available every morning in the library, helping those who may require additional support with their mathematics studies. We strongly encourage students to take advantage of this valuable resource and seek help whenever needed.

As we continue to offer various opportunities for students to challenge themselves and witness the practical applications of Mathematics and Numeracy in their surroundings, our goal is to witness a notable increase in enthusiasm and passion for the subject throughout the school.

Miss Adwena David

Mathematics Co-ordinator

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the TAS Department

Year 11 Design and Technology and Industrial Technology attended the Powerhouse Museum NESAs SHAPE Exhibition and Seminar to help them develop their knowledge and thought process for their major projects in their HSC year.



Robina Yonan

Technology and Applied Studies Teacher

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the PDHPE Department

The PDHPE faculty has had a very busy term 2. We have been focusing on various aspects of health such as nutrition and healthy eating as well as developing students skills in practical activities such as athletics and invasion games.

On Friday 26th June all staff and students participated in the schools annual athletics carnival. It was a very enjoyable and successful day for the college. All students were actively involved in the athletics running and field events as well as novelty events such as volleyball. It was lovely to see all of our students having fun and participating in physical activity. Congratulations to the Nineveh house for winning the overall point's competition for the day.

The PE faculty will be hard at work this term working on students half yearly reports and we look forward to speaking and interacting with the students parents and caregivers during interview time later in the term.

Mrs Victoria Tatian

PDHPE Coordinator

HARP OF THE SPIRIT

Notices

Car Park Safety

Please do not double-park alongside other vehicles or block vehicles that are already parked as this is a safety concern.

We also ask that you encourage your children to cross at the crossing when coming to your car, and not walk across the car park as this also risks their safety.

Offsite Parking

Please note, the parking outside of the school gates is council area and has "no Stopping" signs visible. Please do not park there as you risk receiving a fine. We advise all parents to possibly delay picking their child up by 10 minutes, to ease traffic and to avoid parking in no stopping zones.

LOWES Uniform

Unfortunately, LOWES Wetherill Park has not yet received our uniform. We understand this is a very frustrating situation. However, LOWES are doing their best to get the stock into the store asap. The previous uniform providers have not supported the change and have held the previous stock. LOWES has made new orders for uniform and await their arrival.

To counteract the inconvenience, from the beginning of this year St Narai College has permitted students to purchase generic clothing, that is, clothes of a similar colour to our uniform without the logo. Although that is not the ideal situation, however, we are doing what works best for the college community.

We thank LOWES staff and management for supporting our parents and we look forward to a long and constructive working relationship with LOWES.

Pupil Free Days for Terms 2 and 3

- The College will have Pupil Free Days on Friday 30th June 2023 and Monday 17th July 2023.
- Students return to school for Term 3 on Tuesday 18th July 2023.
- Term 3 will conclude for students on Thursday 21st September 2023.