



HARP OF THE SPIRIT

From the Principal

Edwar Dinkha

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Three weeks ago, we welcomed students back to term 3 and the start of Semester Two 2024. All students are now well settled into their study routines- Year 12 are currently sitting their Trials HSC exams and Year 11 are working through the final term of the Preliminary HSC Year.

College staff have had time to review and analyse Semester One students' academic performance and are currently responding to the data to devise plans to help students improve their learning outcomes in semester two.

To this end, the college has organised a special Academic Intervention Workshop for parents of students who did not perform academically as well as they should have in semester one. As this is a very important workshop, I ask that all invited parents attend the workshop so that we can work in partnership with you- the parents to help your children/ our students to improve their learning outcomes in semester two.

I would like to emphasise here that parents have a critical role in helping their child/ children implement their personal plan of improvement and skills development. At a minimum, every student must set a side one - two hours every evening to complete school-based work at home. Parents are also welcome to work closely with teachers and staff to ensure that their child/ children receive all support available.

I must emphasise that we expect every student to do their best across all their subjects and that students who demonstrate lack of commitment to their studies will continue to be challenged by staff members.

Trial HSC Examination

We wish our Year 12 students the best of luck as they commenced their Trial HSC Examination earlier this week and pray that they achieve their best in their respective exams.

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus

The college commemorated the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ this Tuesday, which is one of the seven Holy feasts in the Assyrian Church of the East. This feast recalls the revelation of Christ's glory on Mount Tabor in the presence of three of His disciples: Peter, James, and John. Our College Chaplain, Fr. Shamuel, Miss. Kako and Miss. Hermiz accompanied a group of students to St. Hurmizd Cathedral for this special service.

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

Assyrian Martyrs Day

Last week and in a special college ceremony, our staff and students stopped and joined all Assyrians around the world to remember all Assyrian Martyrs and commemorated the Assyrian Martyrs' Day, 7th August- SHAWA B'TABAKH.

At St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College, we continue to honour our martyrs by offering special educational programs that help our students to know their Assyrian nation history better as they develop and strengthen their Assyrian cultural heritage and their Christian faith.

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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.

NAPLAN 2024 Principal's Message

This year's NAPLAN results are again a cause for celebration for our college community. Both Year 7 and Year 9 students have achieved significant results, topping the national average across the domains of Writing, Grammar and Punctuation, Spelling and Numeracy. These impressive results have come about as a consequence of concerted and consistent teaching and learning practices at the college.

We are delighted to see a large cohort of Years 7 & 9 students achieve within the two highest proficiency levels as this demonstrates the effectiveness of our approach to enhancing students' literacy and numeracy skills.

Congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 9 students and all college staff for a well-deserved accomplishment in this year's NAPLAN tests.

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

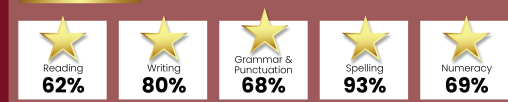
2024 NAPLAN Proficiency Levels

YEAR 7

'Strong' and 'Exceeding' (% of students)



YEAR 9



ST NARSAI ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE

YEAR 7



ST NARSAI ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE

YEAR 9



ST NARSAI ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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From the Deputy Principal (Pastoral Care)

Mary Ismail

Online Safety for every family

Short videos and easy-to-read advice sheets to help you talk with your children about online safety are available in English and Arabic on this link from the eSafety commission <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources/online-safety-for-every-family>

Join one of the eSafety Commission's free webinars for parents and carers. The live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences. Their 2024 webinars include a broad range of topics that will be delivered by expert education and training team. See what is available by visiting this link: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

Student Diaries

Every St Narsai student was issued a student diary in the beginning of the school year. Please ensure you are checking the diaries and signing them at the conclusion of every week. If your child has lost their diary – one must be purchased from the college office. The diary costs \$25.

Late to school issues and public buses

A handful of students continue to arrive late to school either due to them not using the public buses from the Tway Prarieewood or due to being dropped off late at school by a parent/guardian.

On a daily basis, approximately 20 to 30 students are left behind on the Prarieewood Tway station, as the last bus (8.04am) cannot accommodate the excessive number of students waiting for that bus.

This is a major safety and school attendance issue that must be easily solved.

There are 6 public buses leaving Prarieewood Tway every morning exclusively coming to St Narsai College and 6 returning in the afternoon. They are only for our students. The bus timetable for the morning buses is: **7:29am, 7:36am, 7:41am, 7:48am 7:54am and 8:04am.**

Therefore, I strongly request that

If you drive your child to the Tway, please have them there by 7:29am and wait for them to get onto the bus at that time.

If your child makes their own way to the bus, please have them be at the Tway before 7:45am so they can use one of the first 3 buses.

If your child uses an adjoining/connecting bus service, view the timetable for an earlier bus if possible.

The last public bus, the 8.04am will be for students with connecting bus from suburbs further away. All other students must use the buses before this time.

Please note, the **school gates close at 8.25am**. Any student that is not inside the gate at this time is deemed 'late to school'. The student will sign-in late and will not be permitted to enter their timetabled classroom. All late students will be supervised by a staff member up until period 2 of the day.

We understand that due to daily roadworks, there maybe heavy traffic in the morning – therefore we kindly ask that you accommodate the traffic by leaving your house earlier than your usual time.



THE IMPORTANCE OF
PUNCTUALITY FOR YOUR
CHILD AT SCHOOL

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Assyrian Martyrs Day

On Sunday 4th August, it was an honour to have our Year 11 students Aniela Dankha and Novell Daoud representing St Narsai College at the Assyrian Martyrs Commemoration wreath laying and prayer ceremony by the Assyrian National Council - Australia.

Also on Sunday 4th August, St Narsai College was well represented in the evening's Assyrian Martyr's Day commemoration by the Assyrian National Council - Australia and The Young Assyrians. The opening prayer was recited by our college chaplain Father Shamuel and poems were presented by Rabi Anwar Atto and Year 8 student Ashour Abdal.



On Monday 5th August, students and staff of St Narsai commemorated Assyrian Martyr's Day through a prayer service dedicated to our Assyrian martyrs, lessons given in Pastoral Care, and a whole school assembly.



Afternoon Detentions

Afternoon detentions are held every Wednesday afternoon from 2.50 to 3.50pm.

If a student is issued with an afternoon detention, they must serve it on the date required (as written in the 'Afternoon Detention' slip). If the student does not attend, and other arrangements have not been made by the parents, the student will be issued a second afternoon detention with a warning of suspension.

If a student has been issued 3 afternoon detentions (3 consecutive weeks) or does not attend the second afternoon detention, the student also risks being suspended.

Final Word

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.

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From the Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

Mary Khina

Deputy Principal Article

Welcome back to Semester Two. I pray that all students had a restful and enjoyable break with their families and are refreshed and ready for the second half of the 2024 school year.

This will be a very busy term, particularly for our HSC students who will be completing their Trial HSC exams and preparing for their last term at the College.

Half- Yearly Reports

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

We will be contacting parents of students who did not meet their full potential in Semester One to discuss strategies for improvement. Parents will be contacted to attend a special workshop. Further details will be provided next week.

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. We pray that they achieve their best. I remind them of the Bible verse that we have on all our exams – "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" – Philippians 4:13.

Within this newsletter is an article on the Top Ten tips for parents. Please read and use these strategies as you support your child with their upcoming exams.

Further resources for parents are available at <https://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au/inside/for-parents.php>

Your child has the username and password for this site. If you would like to request these, please email the school office.

Congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Achievers

Student reports for the 2024 NAPLAN tests were sent home with students in Week 1 of this Term. Well done to all the students that completed the tests. We achieved some exceptional results and I look forward to sharing these with the community in coming weeks.

We are incredibly proud of our students who excelled in the 2024 NAPLAN tests.

To our Year 7 and Year 9 achievers, you have set a fantastic example for your peers and have shown what can be accomplished with determination and effort. Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have truly paid off.

To celebrate their outstanding achievements, our high-achieving students were invited to a special Morning Tea.

Teachers have already started to analyse the student data and modify their practices to ensure that students are supported in their literacy and numeracy skills. Students are encouraged to continue working on their literacy and numeracy skills using the lessons set in Education Perfect and in their classes.

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Deep Learning

All our teachers are working on Deepening their lessons using the following competencies and dispositions:



We are also working on learning partnerships with students applying the knowledge and skills in different situations.

This work will be showcased by our teachers in their KLA reports throughout newsletters to follow.

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From the Mathematics Department

Adwena David, Mathematics Coordinator

Dear family and friends of St Narsai school community.

It has been a busy and productive semester in the Mathematics Department, with students engaging in a range of learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

Students participated in the NAPLAN online tests, sat their half-yearly examinations, and took part in various internal and external initiatives. We are very proud of our students for their excellent progress and achievements. As we continue through the term, let us celebrate the beauty of mathematics and the boundless potential it holds for every one of our students.

Excellence in Numeracy

Our commitment to excellence in numeracy is unwavering, and it brings us immense pride to announce that our school has once again achieved results that surpass the national average in this year's Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN Numeracy examinations. This accomplishment is a testament to the dedication of our students, the expertise of our educators, and the supportive environment we've cultivated here at St. Narsai.

We believe in equipping our students with not only mathematical knowledge but also the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will serve them well in their academic journey and beyond.



This outstanding achievement reinforces our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of numeracy, ensuring that our students are well-prepared for the challenges of the future.

I take this opportunity to congratulate our exceptional Year 7 and 9 students who have not just met but exceeded expectations in the domain of numeracy. Your dedication and hard work have truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of your accomplishments.

Furthermore, it's inspiring to acknowledge the many students who have achieved a 'strong' level of proficiency in numeracy. Your commitment to excellence serves as a shining example to your peers and showcases the remarkable potential within our school community. Keep up the fantastic work as you continue to excel in your numeracy journey!

Numeracy Autumn Challenge

During the school holidays, students had the chance to refine their math skills while immersing themselves in the splendour of winter.

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This initiative motivated learners in Years 7–9 to explore a diverse range of numerical challenges and puzzles, promoting critical thinking, problem-solving, and a profound grasp of mathematical principles.

From unravelling patterns to computing ratios, students participated in dynamic online activities that reinforced their numerical proficiency and nurtured a passion for math.

This initiative not only fostered friendly competition among students across various grades but also empowered them to sharpen their analytical and applicative skills. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the students who excelled and earned the highest scores in their respective year levels.

I would also like to commend the year 7 students who, while not placing at the top of their respective cohorts, demonstrated excellence and tenacity in participating and enhancing their mathematical skills.

Design for Deep Learning (DDL)

In the college's second year of implementing Design for Deep Learning (DDL), the mathematics faculty explored diverse methods to enhance teaching and learning by engaging in collaborative inquiry. Year 8 mathematics students were introduced to the 6 C's of DDL, with a particular focus on Communication. To prioritise better communication in mathematics, Year 8 students took on the role of teachers, preparing mini lessons for their peers.

As we continue to integrate the competencies of DDL across all mathematics classes, we strive to help our students become better communicators, critical thinkers, and active citizens with a deep understanding and appreciation for mathematics.

I want to congratulate the Year 8 students who stepped out of their comfort zones and participated with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and grow.



From the PDHPE Department

Victoria Tatian, PDHPE Coordinator

The PDHPE faculty has had a fantastic start to term 3. Our focus has been on various health aspects, including resilience, positive mental health, road safety, and protective health behaviours.

Students will be drawing on their practical skills, with year 9 running their own sporting event within their class and year 10 engaging in movement efficiency in throwing events.

Year 11

Our year 11 students are sitting their preliminary examinations this term and will commence their year 12 studies in term 4 this year. We look forward to some amazing preliminary results.

Year 12 Recap

Week 1 this term, our year 12 CAFS students engaged in a masterclass with Kelly Bell who wrote the year 12 CAFS textbook. This was extremely beneficial in preparation for their upcoming trials and HSC exams.

This week our year 12 PDHPE and CAFS students have begun their trial examinations. We wish them the very best of luck in these exams and pray they do exceptionally well. Furthermore, we wish year 12 much success as they prepare for their HSC examinations next term and graduate from the college.



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From the TAS Department

Dragana Zivkovic, TAS Coordinator

Over this term, year 8 Technology Mandatory students are learning about how sound is amplified, their design task is to work with timber and develop their manufacturing skills to construct a sound amplifier. They will document the procedure and design process in a design portfolio.

Students will develop their practical skills such as sketching, drawing, measuring, marking, cutting, joining, drilling, sanding and finishing. Year 8 classes are working extremely hard to complete these projects, displaying fantastic skills within the workshop.

