



Star of Peace

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Number 20

19th December, 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends,

Outstanding HSC results for our 2016 cohort. As I write this final newsletter we have just received our HSC results finishing in the top 150 schools and the 19th school in the State for Mathematics. Chris Kim made the All-Rounder List with an ATAR of 99.7, 52 students appeared on the Distinguished achievers list, achieving a Band 6 or a Band E4 in extension subjects, many of whom had 3 or 4 subjects listed. I am very proud of the outstanding results we have achieved this year. It is not all about band 6s. I have had many conversations with teachers about moving students from band 2 to a band 3 or from a band 4 to a band 5. I am very pleased to say that we had 60% of results in Bands 5 and 6 and only 11% in the lower 3 bands 1, 2 and 3 down from 22% last year. I congratulate the students for their hard work that has been justly rewarded and our teachers for their dedication and the many additional hours they have given in support. We are currently getting ATAR results in and will announce our High Achievers in the New Year.

This week we enjoyed our semester awards at the College Presentation Evening. It was a mild 38 degrees as we began our evening and I was pleased to see so many students and families in attendance to recognise the achievements of our students across our academic, sporting and cultural arenas. We were very privileged to have our special guest Mr Zaki Haidari join us. Zaki has lived the experience of being a refugee from Afghanistan. He escaped after his father and brother were killed in separate incidents because of their cultural heritage. He shared his personal story that was both moving and also a powerful reminder of how blessed we are to have basic human rights such as health care and education. Zaki talked of bringing his father's dream of his children being educated to fruition, last year he was named International student of the year for his achievements and his support for other refugees who have found a safe haven here in Australia.

I thank Mr Scanlon for his leadership and organisation. And the many staff and students involved in making the night such a success. I congratulate the many students that have excelled in their academic, sporting and cultural pursuits throughout 2016. Our annual video presentation was created by Jacob Taylor and Jordan Booth, they did a fantastic job, it is available on our Facebook page.

It has been a very busy couple of weeks particularly for Year 10. Our Year 10 Formation day was a great success. I thank Mrs Donaghy for her organisation. The Year 10 Harbour Cruise and the Picnic Day were both fantastic experiences. The students looked stylish and sophisticated on the Monday night. I thank Mr Belcher and Mr Hornby for their organisation leading up to and during the final weeks of Year 10.

Our Year 10 Careers Conference has been 12 months in the planning. Miss Lawrence has worked tirelessly to ensure that the best possible program was available and spent many hours chasing up people to run our job interview process. I thank Miss Lawrence for her enthusiasm and dedication, not only for this event but in working to promote Careers and assisting students right throughout the year.

This year we farewell the following staff: Mr Makram, Mr Blahut, Mr Woelfl, Miss Brennan, Ms Wooster and also Mr Gurney, Mrs Tran, Mr McFarland and Mrs Dumas who have left at different points throughout the year.

We also farewell temporary Staff members; Miss Georgaklis, Mr Birchall, Ms Raffoul, Mrs Westerbrink, Mr Connor, Mr Wilson, Ms Samarasinghe, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Millar and Mr McCarney.

Each of these teachers have made significant contributions to their students in their learning spaces, to a wide variety of extracurricular activities and to the rich Marist Culture here at the College. We wish them every happiness and success as they begin their new journeys.

Congratulations to the community on an outstanding and successful year. We look forward to an exciting 2017 with a theme of "Awakening Strong Minds and Gentle Hearts" recognising the 200th year of Marist Education.

Wishing each of you a very happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs Angela Hay
Principal

Business Manager

COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP 2017

The College Secondhand Uniform Shop will be open on Wednesdays from 9.00am to 2.30pm.

College backpacks, hats and sports bags can be purchased at anytime in the College Office and from January 2017 there will be an increase in the cost of the College backpack.

Backpack	\$60.00
College Hat	\$15.00
Sports Bag	\$15.00

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Please note that the College Office will close on Thursday, 15th December at 4.00pm and will re-open on Tuesday, 24th January 2017.

Mrs T. Ledesma
Business Manager

.... SEEKING MENTORS

Would you like to give something back to your community?

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta's Post School Options Team is looking for suitable employers who can offer one-on-one mentoring in the workplace for secondary students. We are seeking people employed in small businesses who would like to give something back to their community and join this valuable and worthwhile program, on a voluntary basis.

The volunteer mentor, hosts the student in the workplace for one day per week for 2 school terms (May to September, excluding school holidays). The mentor is both a personal and professional role model for the student. All mentors are provided with complimentary mentor training and receive a TAFE Certificate of Attainment 'Mentoring in the Community' for their participation.

Employers can be from any industry, as an individual in a trade area – clerical, administration, hairdressing and beauty or connected to a major employer for example, Bunnings. Or Woolworths etc.

Please consider this call for assistance so that this program can continue to supply a valuable service to students in our Catholic communities. If you would be interested in becoming a mentor or finding out more information, please contact:

Leoni Jeavons-Fellows
Leading Teacher Post School Options
(0424 750 583)



YEAR 10 FORMATION DAY

On Friday the 2nd of December, students from Year 10 participated in Formation Day. Students were divided into sixteen groups for the three sessions. Two presenters from the Parramatta Diocese introduced the students to the issue of refugees in detention centres, particularly young children. Students were supplied with a stimulus, created by a detained child, and had to answer questions relating the stimulus to Catholic Social Teachings and International laws such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Each group then presented their answers to the rest of the year. In the second session, groups were divided again based on a random draw and were tasked to re-enact differences between labouring refugees and the common Australian. It allowed students to identify the wealth that they have, and encouraged them to appreciate the items that they have. Furthermore, students were encouraged to be smart when buying products, so that they do not waste materials. In the final session, students were asked to devise an idea that would positively affect either the local or international community. Each fantastic idea put forth was justified and discussed by other groups and the presenters.

Finally I would like to thank the presenters for hosting the day, and for the teachers, particularly Mrs Donaghy, for organising and co-ordinating the day.

Eric Saba
10 Edwin



Presentation Evening



The first Marist Brothers arrived in Australia on the 'Star of Peace' on 21st February, 1872. On the 8th April, 1872, school commenced at St Patrick's. Our Newsletter is named, 'Star of Peace', as it too, hopefully, brings peace and good news to our community.



2017 Diocesan School Fees

21 November 2016

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the 2017 Diocesan school fees schedule which includes a modest 3.0% increase on the fees from 2016. Every effort has been made to keep the fee increase to a minimum and I am pleased to report that the increase is **less than** the 3.3% education CPI increase for the same period.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 3.0% increase to ensure we have consistency across our Diocese. School-based fees cover the costs of important things such as technology and school administration.

I appreciate that from time to time, some families might experience financial challenges. With this in mind, I take this opportunity to remind you that confidential fee support is available through

- discounts for families with multiple siblings in our schools
- flexible payment plans
- hardship concession policies for families in need
- the Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- the Byawalla Co-contribution Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Tuition Fees - 2017

The 2017 diocesan tuition fees are outlined below:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4th+ children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,131	\$849	\$567
	Years 1 – 6	\$1,461	\$1,095	\$732
	Years 7 – 8	\$2,028	\$1,521	\$1,014
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$2,250	\$1,689	\$1,125
	Years 11 – 12	\$2,874	\$2,157	\$1,437

The 2017 term rate for each of the first three terms is outlined below:

TERM FEES	Charged in Terms 1, 2 & 3	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$377	\$283	\$189
	Years 1 – 6	\$487	\$365	\$244
	Years 7 – 8	\$676	\$507	\$338
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$750	\$563	\$375
	Years 11 – 12	\$958	\$719	\$479

Diocesan Building Levy - 2017

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas, and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. This levy has replaced the various building levies that parents previously paid to school building funds (managed by either parishes or schools). **The levy for 2017 is \$756 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$252 payable in Terms 1, 2 and 3.**

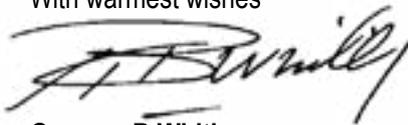
Annual Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents - 2017

The Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents for 2017 is **\$1,869 per student, payable in three equal instalments of \$623 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.** The fee applies to new students on the following visa numbers: 173, 401, 402, 411, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 442, 456, 457, 459, 462, 476, 485, 497, 580, 600, 601, 651, 675, 676, 679, 685, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged this fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a *per family* basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.

Thank you for your continuing support of Catholic education. Please be assured that we will continue to provide exciting learning experiences for them within our Catholic faith environment.

With warmest wishes



Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Parramatta of Diocese

DUNDAS UNITED

Play with Us

Dundas offers both opportunities to play Soccer and Netball.

All ages groups are welcome in this friendly community atmosphere.

Online registrations are welcome and links can be found on our website:

www.durc.com.au

In person registration will be:
Sunday, 29th January 2017

Get involved and volunteer on the committee!

We have a number of positions available, including:

- On the Executive Committee
- Sports Committees
- Canteen Manager/Assistant Manager





A GREAT PLACE TO PLAY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



2017 - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2017 SEASON!

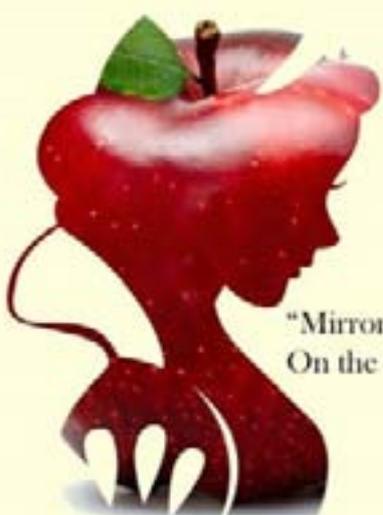


BOYS, GIRLS, MUMS & DADS ALL WELCOME

www.roseleafootballclub.com

 Join us on facebook at Roselea-Football-club

Snow White
a pantomime



"Mirror, mirror
On the wall..."



Hobroyd Musical & Dramatic Society Inc.

H.M.D.S. Inc presents...

Snow White
a pantomime

January 2017

Friday 13 - 7pm
Saturday 14 - 11am and 4pm
Friday 20 - 7pm
Saturday 21 - 11am and 4pm

St Stephens Church Hall
Cnr Monitor Road &
Merrylands Road - Merrylands

All tickets \$10!

Tickets available at the door

www.HMDS.org.au



Play Netball for Comets in 2017

Register online NOW

NEW players turning 7yrs and up in 2017
Saturday games at Brush Farm for 7-10yrs,
And Meadowbank Park for 11yrs and up!
Uniform Hire included in registration!

www.cometsnetball.com.au

Call Susan Brownlow: 0409 041 487

secretary@cometsnetball.com.au

Support our students, **Ashley Roberts** and **Brianna Webster** who will be performing in the Packemin production of 'Cats'. They'll be sharing the stage with Simon Pryce (the Red Wiggle!!!) as well as over 100 other young performers from all over Sydney.



January 13-28, 2017

Tickets from \$39.25

On sale now from Ticketek

[Book CATS Tickets Here](#)

THE COOLEST CATS ARE COMING!

Following their huge productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* and *Back to the 80's*, Packemin Youth Productions are returning to the Concourse this January for a production of *CATS* like you have never seen before!

CATS tells the story of a tribe of cats called the Jellicles and the night they make what is known as "The Jellicle Choice" and decide which cat will ascend to the Heavyside Layer and come back to a new life.

Composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, and based on *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* by T. S. Eliot, *CATS* is currently the 4th longest running musical on the West End and Broadway and features the iconic musical theatre song "Memory".

Packemin Youth Productions prides itself in providing opportunities for the best young performers in Sydney aged 20 years and under. *CATS* features over 100 young performers, with a senior cast (the Cats) and three alternating junior casts (the Kittens), with Special Guest Star Simon Pryce (The Wiggles, The Phantom Of The Opera) as Old Deuteronomy / Bustopher Jones.

Immerse yourself in life as a Jellicle Cat and let Packemins' Youth take you and your family on a cat-tastic journey!

Produced by: Packemin Productions, Neil Gooding

Direction by: Craig Stewart,

Musical Direction by: Jayne Hamilton

Choreography by: Sophie Gospodarczyk