

# Especean

Vol 30, No 01 – 1 February 2017

## Principal

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of St Patrick's College,  
For those returning to St Patrick's College in 2017 I hope that it will be a wonderfully positive and enriching year for your sons and for the community at large. For those who are new to our College this year, especially the Year 5 boys who commence their learning journey with us, I offer a warm welcome to this great College. I know that new staff and students alike will soon be made to feel like they really belong here. In my first weeks at St Patrick's I have been overwhelmed by how ready people are to introduce themselves, offer a word of welcome and to extend the hand of friendship. It is a testament to the culture of a school when these things occur naturally and authentically.

This is a time of some change at St Patrick's. My arrival signals a change in the principalship and with John Murphy moving on to a principal's position in the Maitland-Newcastle diocese, I welcome Mr. Damian Chase as the incoming Deputy Principal. I will do my utmost as incoming Principal to ensure that the vital traditions, history and positive culture of St Patrick's are maintained and enhanced. There are so many people who have left such a legacy from their time here. And there is so much hope for the future in the young men that together with their parents and extended families, we work with on a daily basis, that I can't be anything other than proud and privileged to lead this community. Of course, this is not the province of the principal alone – schools are far too complex and diverse for this to be either desirable or possible. There are many people who contribute to College leadership: staff, parents, Old Boys, College Board members, and importantly, the boys themselves. My prayer as we commence this year of faith and learning is for all members of the St Patrick's community; that we work together for the benefit of the young men in our care.

There are a number of new staff who have commenced this year. We welcome them to the College. I know that they will soon feel at home. This week is a busy one with all students commencing, an information evening for Year 12 parents, and the co-curricular program recommencing in full swing. Our first Friday Mass will be celebrated on 3 February in the College Chapel at 8.15am.

In amongst all the excitement of a new school year, we pause to remember and pray for some of our families in our College community who have lost loved ones during the Christmas period:

Joshua Yip has just commenced in Year 5 with us. His grandmother Margaret Moran died suddenly on Sunday. Our prayers are extended to Joshua and his mum Lyndell and dad Glenn.

Mr. Des McNamara died on 26 December 2016. His sons Desmond (1990), Matthew (1991), Stephen (1994), Peter

(2000) and John (2004) are all Old Boys of the College. Louis Morrison is Mr. McNamara's grandson who is from the class of 2015. His wife, Elizabeth, was the recipient of the Luceat Award in 2015 for *her loyal, faithful and outstanding service to the College and the wider community for over 34 years*. We pray for Elizabeth and all of the McNamara family.

Mrs. Margaret Pisani also died during the holidays. She was the much-loved grandmother of Julian and Daniel Failla of Year 10. We pray for the Failla family.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Thank you again for the welcome to St Patrick's College. I look forward to meeting parents and friends of the College in the coming weeks and months. Please come and introduce yourself to me as you see me around the College.

*Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever*



Craig Wattam  
Principal

ALL are welcome to our first Friday morning Mass for 2017! 8.15am in the College Chapel.

Come and join in this great celebration of faith and community.



## \$ School Fees

Term 1 tuition fees will be mailed out by 3 February 2017. The due date is 3 March 2017. If you have any concerns please contact Finance @ 8705-9246

## Junior School

Welcome to the new school year one and all. I would like to particularly welcome our new Year 5 boys and their parents to the St Patrick's College community. I am sure that your time with us will be busy, challenging and rewarding and I am looking forward to working with you throughout this and future years.

The boys are settling in well to the new year, in particular our new Year 5 boys who, of course, whilst still adjusting to the new and different environment and routines of SPC are showing very promising signs. The boys were outstanding on their first day here last Friday, completing a long test with no complaints and showing enthusiasm for their new school. Well done Year 5.

All boys have received their text books and have also received their diaries. It would be worthwhile for our Year 5 parents to take some time, if possible, to sit down with your son and go through the diary together. This would be a good way for both of you to get a feel for the organisation of the upcoming year and become a little more familiar with the way the College runs.

As many of our boys will be travelling to school on public transport for the first time over the first few weeks, it is important to provide your son with all the information he requires about bus numbers, pick up and drop off points, train timetables etc, particularly given the changes that were made to bus numbers. It is wise to have this information written down for him to carry on his person somewhere, to help him feel more at ease. A reminder too that school special buses do not run after training. If the boys are traveling to Strathfield station after training they need to catch the public bus that leaves from Francis St. These buses leave at 4.15pm and 4.45pm.

If you are picking your son up from the Kiss and Ride please remember that you cannot park in this area during the Kiss and Ride hours. It is only for picking up and dropping off. Please move to the head of the queue and wait briefly. If your son is not there you are required to move off, do a lap of the block and join the end of the queue. In the Kiss and Ride the only place boys can be picked up is on Edgar St outside the Junior School buildings. No boy is allowed to be picked up in any other area around the school precinct.

I look forward to meeting our new boys and parents and renewing ties with our "old" ones. I am sure 2017 will be a wonderful year for us all.

*Jim Walters—Director of Junior School*

## Junior School Sport

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new Year 5 students and parents to the College. I hope all families had a safe and relaxing holiday.

All trials and grading will take place during this week at school. Saturdays grading will only take place if required. Boys will find out their teams by Friday ready for training the following week. Training will start next Monday for most teams. Uniforms can be purchased from the uniform shop once your child has been selected into a team.

Congratulations to Christian Tanti and Joseph Hatem our National Futsal Champions! Both boys were selected to play in the NSW team that won the Australian Futsal Association National Championships played in Sydney in January, 2017.

*Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster*

## LOST PROPERTY

It is expected that **all students' belongings/clothing, etc MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED** appropriately e.g. Joshua Smith NOT Joshua.

As we are now a BYOD College, with so many devices, it is imperative that **all items are labelled**. Students will be notified **via their Homeroom teacher to**

**collect lost labelled items from the College Reception**. All items that are not labelled and have been in Lost Property for a significant time will be removed at the conclusion of the Term and they will go to a designated charity.

The College **cannot be responsible for any lost property especially for unlabelled items**.

## Kiss & Drop Procedure

To ensure the safety of members of our community and in consideration of our neighbours, all parents are asked to comply with the following request when dropping off and picking up students before and after school. Between the hours of **8.00am and 4.00pm** the only place where students can be picked up and/or dropped off is along the Edgar Street '**Kiss & Drop**' area on the western end of the Junior School Westcourt Library.

### Kiss & Ride zones provide:

- ◆ Drivers the opportunity to stop their vehicle within close proximity to the College gates on the corner of Fraser & Edgar Street.
- ◆ Students the opportunity to enter the school premises without having to cross roads or driveways.

### For the safety of all drivers, passengers and pedestrians please:

- ◆ Approach the "Kiss & Ride" zone from Shortland Avenue, up Fraser Street and then around the bend to the end of the 'Kiss & Drop' zone on Edgar Street.
- ◆ Do not 'double park' or stand your vehicle in this zone from 8.00am – 9.30am and 2.30pm – 4.00pm.
- ◆ Enter or disembark from the vehicle as close as possible to the top of the zone. Entering and disembarking from vehicles along Fraser Street is not to occur in order to best enhance traffic flow.
- ◆ Ensure that the driver does not alight from the vehicle while in the zone.
- ◆ Ensure that passengers enter and disembark from the vehicle via the KERB side door, preferably the rear door. Items should not be collected from the boot.
- ◆ In the afternoon if your son is not there you are required to move off, do a lap of the block and join the end of the queue.
- ◆ No student is to be dropped off on Fraser St or Merley Rd during above times.

**Please note:** Parents driving to the College are asked not to park in Hydebrae St (the street that runs perpendicular to Francis St).



## 2016 HSC Results

Last year one hundred and seventy four Year 12 students sat the HSC. The College also had fourteen Year 11 students accelerated in HSC Mathematics. There were many highlights and outstanding results attained by the class of 2016. The following summary illustrates just a few:

- College Dux for 2016 is Dominic Spicer who received an ATAR of 99.25. Christian Sassin is Proxime Accessit with an ATAR of 98.75 and George Srouer placed third with an ATAR of 98.55.
- Sixty eight students made the Distinguished Achievers List one hundred and fifty three times, having attained marks of 90% or more in various courses.
- Dominic Spicer was placed on the State's All-Rounders List, having placed on the Distinguished Achievers List for courses totalling 10 or more units:
- Three students made the Top Achievers List – Patrick Calavassy, 7<sup>th</sup> Construction Exam  
Luke Salamone, 5<sup>th</sup> Italian Extension  
Christian Sassin, 7<sup>th</sup> Studies of Religion II
- More than forty students attained an ATAR of 90+. Many students achieved a high ATAR and made the meritorious Distinguished Achievers List in a number of courses. For example: Joseph Bejjani, ATAR 96.2; Patrick Bragato, ATAR 95.55; Jordan Brewer, ATAR 95.1; Mark Challita, ATAR 96.95; Nicholas Fazio, ATAR 98.3; Joseph Francis, ATAR 96.45; William James, ATAR 97.15; Nicholas Kairouz, ATAR 96.4; Simon Moore, 96.55; Brayden Saad, ATAR 97.35; Luke Saric, ATAR 97.4; Ryan Yango, ATAR 96.1.
- In 29 out of 31 (93.5%) courses examined, the College examination average was above that of the State examination average. Thirteen courses had a school vs State variation greater than five. For example, courses with a College candidature greater or equal to five and a school vs State variation greater than five include:
  - Biology 6.38 above State average
  - Business Studies 9.2 above State average
  - Design and Technology 10.8 above State average
  - Geography 9.1 above State average
  - Industrial Technology 15.43 above State average
  - Information Processes and Technology 7.73 above State average
  - Legal Studies 8.18 above State average
  - Mathematics General 9.13 above State average
  - Mathematics 2 unit 6.54 above State average
  - Modern History 7.68 above State average
  - PDHPE 8.99 above State average
  - Senior Science 7.51 above State average
  - Studies of Religion 2 9.98 above State average
  - Construction Examination 6.51 above State average
- Eight courses had no students below Band 4: Ancient History, Design and Technology, English Advanced, Industrial Technology, Music, Visual Arts, Italian Continuers, Construction.
- In addition, two extension courses had no students below Band E3: English Extension and Italian Extension.
- There were twenty courses where the percentage of students with a mark of 90% or above, i.e., Band 6 or E4, was greater than that of the State. Many courses were significantly greater. For example, in Biology 16.66 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 8.72% for the state: in Business Studies 27.76 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 8.81% for the state: in Design and Technology 50 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 12.5% for the state: in Geography 19.04 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 8.35% for the state: in Industrial Technology 33.3% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 7.2% for the state: in Information Processes & Technology 16.66 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 8.6% for the state: in Legal Studies 26.31% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 12.07% for the state: in Mathematics General 9.73% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 5.31% for the state: in Mathematics 2 Unit 29.09% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 23.13% for the state: in Modern History 22.22% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 9.33% for the state: in PDHPE 23.72% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 11.1% for the state: in 1 Unit Studies of Religion 18.69% of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 13.48% for the state: in 2 Unit Studies of Religion 29.72 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 9.2% for the state: in Italian Beginners 18.18 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 14.5% for the state: in Italian Continuers 27.27 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 21.24% for the state: in Construction 8.33 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 0.92% for the state: in English Extension 55.5 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 35.31% for the state: in Italian Extension 100 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 40.35% for the state: in History Extension 33.3 % of the College candidates attained a Band 6 compared to 21.54% for the state:

Bearing in mind that the College is an academically non-selective comprehensive boy's school the 2016 HSC results are most impressive.

## 2017 Assessment Information

Parents and boys should note that the assessment handbooks and calendars for 2017 are being compiled by the Studies Coordinators. When completed, the 2017 assessment information will be updated to CANVAS and students informed.

*Andrew Brennan—Acting Director of Curriculum*

## Pastoral Care

With the commencement of the school year it is with great pleasure that I warmly welcome both new and returning students, and their parents/carers, to the College. It has been particularly pleasing to see the standard of the boys' grooming and wearing of the uniform, despite the hot weather. Furthermore, it has been fantastic to observe how the overwhelming majority of students have quickly settled back into the classroom.

I take this opportunity to remind students of the expectations relating to travel on public transport (p.23 College Diary). Students should always use their Opal Card; they should refrain from noisy and disruptive behaviour that may impact on the general public or driver. There will be significant consequences issued for students who are found to be persistently disrupting the travel of others.

The Homeroom teachers, Year Coordinators and I are looking forward to working with you during the course of the year as we continue to assist in your son's growth, both pastorally and academically. If at any stage you have concerns, please feel free to contact your son's Homeroom teacher in the first instance, their Year Coordinator or myself.

The Pastoral Care Team wishes your family the very best for a productive and memorable 2017.

*Robert Simpson- Director of Pastoral Care*

## Sports Draw - SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2017

CRICKET			
1st XI	v	Oakhill	10.00 Breen Oval
2nd XI	v	St Gregory's	10.00 SPC 2
3rd XI	v	Oxley	10.00 Oxley College
16A	v	Newington	9.00 Hudson Park
16B	v	Oakhill	8.00 Sommerville Oval
15A	v	Holy Cross	8.00 Meadowbank Park 10
15B	v	Oakhill	8.30 Curtis Oval
14A	v	Dundas United	8.30 Strathfield Park 1
14B	v	Epping Bulls Red	8.30 Doyle Park 2
14C	v	Newington D	1.00 Strathfield Park 1
13A	v	West Ryde Blue	8.30 Mason Park 2
13B	v	Oakhill College	8.00 Brush Farm

BASEBALL			
1st IX	v	Concord	8.30 Major's Bay Reserve 3
16 Blue	v	Westboomers	8.30 Glover St 1
16 Black	v	Riverview	11.00 Riverview 1B
14 Blue	v	Macquarie	11.00 Pioneer Park
14 Black	v	Thornleigh	11.00 Major's Bay Reserve 1

BASKETBALL			
1st V	v	St Stanislaus'	1.00 SPC Gym
Open B	v	St Pius X C	2.00 Oxford Falls Gym 1
17A	v	St Stanislaus'	12.00 SPC Gym
17B	v	St Pius X C	1.00 Oxford Falls Gym 1
17C	v	Chavalier B	10.00 Auburn 2
17D	v	St Andrew's B	9.00 Noel Martin (Syd Uni) 1
15A	v	St Stanislaus'	11.00 SPC Gym
15B	v	St Pius X C	1.00 Oxford Falls Gym 2
15C	v	Chavalier B	12.00 Auburn 1
15D	v	St Andrew's B	8.00 Noel Martin (Syd Uni) 1
15Black	v	BYE	
14A	v	St Stanislaus'	12.00 Auburn 2
14B	v	St Pius X C	9.00 Oxford Falls Gym 1
14C	v	Chavalier B	11.00 Auburn 1
14D	v	St Andrew's B	10.00 Noel Martin (Syd Uni) 1
14 Black	v	St Andrew's C	10.00 Noel Martin (Syd Uni) 2
13A	v	St Stanislaus'	11.00 Auburn 2
13B	v	St Pius X C	9.00 Oxford Falls Gym 2
13C	v	Chavalier B	10.00 Auburn 1
13D	v	St Andrew's B	9.00 Noel Martin (Syd Uni) 2
13 Black	v	St Spyridon B	10.00 SPC Gym
13 Gold	v	Redlands D	8.00 Nth Beaches ISC 4



### Term 1

Welcome back to the second half of summer sport. Term 1 will see the end of the summer season, the ISA Swimming Carnival, both Secondary House Swimming and Athletics Carnivals and finally the commencement of the Football, Rugby and Tennis winter sports. Students and parents are required to regularly check the information published in the Especean, website and the daily announcements to make sure they understand the details of all these events.

A special welcome to the new Year 7 students, some of whom will play their first game of Senior sport in the coming weeks for their Homeroom Cricket team. Crichton Cup Cricket is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in College sport in a fun yet competitive environment. For those not playing Cricket, winter trials will commence towards the end of March. Parents of Year 7 students are to note that training finishes at 4.55pm in the secondary school.

### Uniform and attendance

All boys should be well aware of where their team is playing each week and be correctly attired for their match. Boys attending fixtures in support are also reminded to wear their supporter's shirt and College shorts/tracksuit.

Any request for leave from training or games should be directed to Mr Fochesato or me in writing in advance.

### Wet Weather

A reminder:

1. The wet weather line is updated as soon as information is received; however please do not call this line before 7.00am on a Saturday as it cannot be updated while someone is listening to the message.

2. The weekly fixtures are also updated at this time – these can be accessed via the College website. In addition, messages on twitter are sent relaying information about changes or cancellations - @SPCSeniorSport.

*Mitchell Kearsley—Head of Secondary Sport*



## South American Football Tour – Meeting and Trials

Parents and boys are advised that Trials have been scheduled to take place on SPC No. 3 on **Sunday 12 and 19 February from 8.30am to 10.00am**. Boys are asked to bring their boots, shin pads, black shorts and a plain jersey or T-shirt. Given the warm temperatures, it is imperative that boys also bring sunscreen and sufficient water/refreshments. Boys are to meet in the Powell Pavilion at 8.30am.

The trials will be preceded by an information evening that is scheduled to take place in the **Robson Auditorium on Wednesday 8 February commencing at 6.00pm**. It is envisaged that the meeting will take approximately an hour. Please note that all boys trialling for the Tour Squad along with at least one of their parents must be in attendance.

Finally, an opportunity still exists for parents to register their interest if they would like their son/s to be considered for the above-mentioned tour scheduled to take place from 29 June to 15 July 2017. Please forward your expression of interest to me at [steven.fochesato@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:steven.fochesato@spc.nsw.edu.au) by **Tuesday 7 February**. Further information will be forwarded to those parents upon receipt of their correspondence.

*Steve Fochesato – Director of Co-curricular*

**FIXTURES ARE PUBLISHED LIVE ONLINE** (includes cancellations):

Go to <http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/wp/co-curriculum/junior-school/junior-sport-fixtures/> or <http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/wp/co-curriculum/senior-school/secondary-sport-fixtures/>

**GROUND LOCATIONS:** <http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/wp/co-curriculum/ground-locations/>

**WET WEATHER UPDATES:** call 02 9763 1000 and follow the prompts; Twitter at <http://twitter.com/SPCSeniorSport>; or on the Fixtures Pages above.