Two are better than one . . . for if they fall, one will lift up the other. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

God, Source of Light, you call us from darkness to light, from indifference to love, from isolation to relationship. May our lives help increase your light within us and in our praying communities and call us all to Gospel action.

Sometimes, when we’re feeling a little down, we can be a tad hard on ourselves and fall into the trap of being quite self-critical. At these times it is easy to conclude that we don’t have much to offer, or that we don’t have any particularly spectacular skills or talents. Our apparent shortcomings can be magnified by what we see and hear in the media about those who appear (on first glance) to have it all: good looks, great jobs, lots of money, an abundance of friends and a life of influence and importance. These can serve to make us feel all the more “ordinary.” Most of us will never be famous and what we achieve in life will probably not be reported in the media or even trumpeted from local rooftops. This does not mean that we have led a life without purpose, direction or meaning. In fact, each and every one of us has gifts and skills that are important to others: to members of our family, to our loved ones and to those with whom we come into contact. These gifts are usually treasured among those who love us, but we often fail to recognise them in ourselves.

The Gospel reading on the weekend comes from Matthew, and is the passage on which our College motto is based. The reading nominates salt and light as being the key themes. Of course, salt was a valuable commodity, so being “the salt of the earth” as Jesus calls the disciples, and the “light of the world” are supremely important calls! Jesus doesn’t ask only for the brightest lights to be shared, but indeed for us to let our light shine for all, and so that we offer praise to our Father in heaven. Our light shines when we allow others to witness and benefit from what we have to offer. Our kindness, respect, hard work and gentle encouragement can be simple ways in which we can let our light shine.

God bestowed upon each one of us unique qualities and talents. We have an obligation to share these with the world, not for self-aggrandisement or public recognition, but because it will benefit others in some way. The Gospel message is one of sharing what we have with others; feeding and clothing the poor and liberating those who are oppressed. The young men here at St Patrick’s have much to offer the world. As they have done for some generations now, we encourage them to let their light shine anew, again and again. All of us have something to offer the world. Let us be generous in sharing it. Let’s not worry about whether or not we are the best, the first or the greatest, but what light we do have is readily shared as a gift for others to receive. It is hard to live without light, but it is all the more difficult and disappointing to know there’s light out there, but it has not been given the permission to shine.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal

KISS & DROP
A gentle reminder to parents: Please do not park in or across the driveways of our neighbours. Local residents need to be able to access their homes at all times. Thank you for considering our local neighbours and respecting their privacy and rights.

Welcome to the Music Ensemble Instrumental Tuition and Program for 2017.

The College Music Ensemble & Private Tuition Program commenced this week.
If your son would like to be part of one of the various ensembles that cover many styles and genres of music including; Concert Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band and Drumline please contact the Bandmaster.

Would your son like to learn a musical instrument? Now is the perfect time to start!
The College provides music tuition for a wide range of instruments (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion, Keyboard, Guitar, Voice, Music Technology and more). Many instruments are also available for a small hiring fee.

Please contact Mr Rose or visit the school website.

Derek Rose—Bandmaster
derek.rose@spc.nsw.edu.au or (Ext) 8705258
As we get into full swing for 2017 I am prompted to comment on the great way Years 5 and 6 have begun their year. The boys are showing wonderful promise that this will be a top year for the Junior School. Their manners and grooming in particular are worthy of note, but there is a positive attitude as well that will stand the group in good stead.

On Tuesday night, 21 February, we celebrate our Year 5 Welcome Mass in the College Chapel. The Mass is a great opportunity for us to celebrate the new College year, welcome our latest cohort to St Patrick’s and also commission our new Parents and Friends Executive. It is also a chance for our Year 5 parents to informally meet the teaching staff over a cup of tea or coffee at the supper. The Year 5 boys form the Choir for this Mass and will get the chance to give their first public rendition of the College Anthem. All Year 5 boys are required to attend this night in their full College summer uniform. The Mass commences at 7.30pm and we are asking all boys to meet in the Powell Pavilion at 7.00pm. It should be an excellent night.

On Thursday, 23 February, Year 5 will be attending their 2017 Belonging Day. The Belonging Day is designed to allow the boys an opportunity to help orient themselves to their new environment here at St Patrick’s. One of the keys to settling into a new and different school setting is the building of friendships and having the chance to get to know teachers in a relaxed atmosphere. The Belonging Day is a day of activities that are designed to help the boys think about themselves, their relationships and their God. Built into the day are many opportunities for free time where the boys get to meet other boys that may not necessarily be in their class. The end result is, hopefully, a more confident sense of self, a more outgoing attitude to the peer group in Year 5 and a deeper understanding of how the Edmund Rice tradition lives from day to day at the College. A letter will be sent home giving you full details of this day.

Later in Term One some other significant Junior School events to put into your planning are our Parent Teacher Interview nights which will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 28 February and 1 March and the Junior School Family Dinner on Friday night 10 March.

Thankyou for your support with the boys in these early days, it is much appreciated.

Jim Walters—Director of Junior School

Congratulations to all boys for the way you conducted yourself at trials. It has been an extremely busy week with lots of messages and information. It is really important that you read all correspondence that goes home, so that your son knows when he is training and where he will be playing on Saturdays. Please put the responsibility back onto your son to remember his training days and sports gear that is required. After week two, I don’t want students ringing home to bring any sports clothes or kits to the College. This week the boys started their training sessions in preparation for their first IPSHA game this Saturday and had swimming trials, ready for the Swimming Carnival next Friday. I wish all boys the best of luck for the first round on Saturday, especially the new Year 5 boys playing their first fixture for the College. I would like to stress that sportsmanship of all boys must be at the highest level and that all boys must turn up to fixtures at least 20 minutes prior to the game starting in the correct uniform.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster
**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2017 DATES**

Information regarding the 2017 programme is below. Additional information and all forms can be found at the rear of the Church OR by accessing the Sacramental Weebly site at: [http://sacramentsatsaintpaul.weebly.com/](http://sacramentsatsaintpaul.weebly.com/). Please complete forms and bring to the enrolment along with the required documentation as specified on the form.

Due to the length and timing of the programme it is important that candidates attend all classes.

**RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME**
- INFORMATION AND ENROLMENT WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 6 PM in the Parish Hall.
- CLASSES at 9 AM SUNDAYS- FEBRUARY 19, 26, MARCH 5, 12 in the Parish Hall and in the Church.
- Mass of your choice Sundays 8 or 10 AM

**SECOND RITE**
16 MARCH- 6 PM – THURSDAY NIGHT

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME**
- INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT WEDNESDAY 3 MAY, 6 PM in the Parish Hall.
- CLASSES at 9 AM SUNDAYS- MAY 7, 14, 21, 28, JUNE 4, 11 in the Parish Hall and in the Church.
- Mass of your choice Sundays 8 or 10 AM

CONFIRMATION MASS WITH BISHOP TERRY 18 JUNE 2 PM

Dates for the First Holy Communion are NOT confirmed, however, the Mass at this stage is scheduled for 17 September, please note this may change depending on the number of enrolments as it may be necessary to hold two Masses.

Inquiries to Kathryn at sacramentsspcdh@gmail.com or via the Weebly link above.

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**Our Learning Framework**

After 18 months of planning, consultation and refining, we are excited to launch the St Patrick’s College Learning Framework to our community. Staff and students have had a brief introduction to the document and copies were sent home with the eldest child in each family last Friday.

Our Learning Framework sets out clearly our ideas regarding the key principles – Relationships, Collaboration, Critical and Creative Thinking, Feedback and Reflection, and Growth Mindset - that underpin effective, life-long learning and provides guidelines for how we will realise this vision in our community. The Framework stands as a public statement of what we believe is essential in providing a holistic and meaningful education at St Patrick’s College. It will guide pastoral programs, classroom teaching and learning and teacher professional learning in the years to come.

Teams of teachers and student leaders will work in the coming weeks to develop implementation plans to ensure each principle is embedded in practices across the College. Additional information, resources and examples will be added to our website at various points across the year. Please take some time to read through the document with your sons. Thank you to all in the community who have contributed to the development of the document.

*Denise Lombardo—Director of Learning and Innovation*

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**EREA Captains Conference**

During the recent summer holidays, I was lucky enough to attend a three night Edmund Rice Education Australia Captain’s Conference, held in Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney, along with another 40 EREA school leaders from all over Australia. We took part in sessions that surrounded “Everyday Leadership”, EREA for Change and Sustainability, as well as skyping other Edmund Rice schools from England, Northern Ireland and Canada. We were even afforded the opportunity to listen to Dr. Wayne Tinsey speak to us about leadership and his idea that “If serving is below you, then leadership is above you”.

The conference allowed me to learn a lot about leadership, whilst also allowing me to connect and build relationships with the other leaders, sharing various ideas about leadership, whilst thoroughly enjoying ourselves. It has made me realise the wider Edmund Rice Community that extends beyond SPC.

Thanks must go to Principal Dr. Wattam, Mr. Chase, Mr. Simpson, as well as Miss Lazkin for attending the conference and making it a memorable and enjoyable experience.

*Matthew Harrington—College Captain*
During the holidays both Ryan and Jack Littlechild sailed with great success in a number of regattas. Ryan competed in Sail Melbourne and Sail Sydney, winning both regattas in the Optimist class. He also competed in the National Championships in Adelaide where he finished 7th. Not to be outdone, Jack travelled to Adelaide as part of the NSW sailing team to compete in the Laser 4.7 National Championships and Youth National Championships placing 1st in both events. Jack has now qualified for both the European Championships in Spain and World Championships in Belgium. Well done! Mitchell Kearsley—Head of European Secondary Sport

**Sports Draw - SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2017**

**BASEBALL**

| 1st XI | v | St Andrew's | 10.00 | Breen Oval |
| 2nd XI | v | Blue Mountains 1st XI | 10.00 | SPC 2 |
| 3rd XI | v | Chevalier 2nd XI | 10.00 | Hudson Park |
| 16A | v | Sydney Boys High | 1.30 | Moore Park West 1 |
| 16B | v | Holy Cross | 8.00 | Upjohn Park |
| 15A | v | BYE |
| 16A | v | Dustbin United | 8.30 | Strathfield Park 1 |
| 14B | v | Eagles Bulls Red | 8.30 | Doyle Park 2 |
| 14C | v | Knox C | 1.30 | Mason Park 2 |
| 13A | v | West Ryde Blue | 8.30 | Mason Park 2 |
| 13B | v | North Ryde RSL | 8.00 | North Ryde RSL |

**CRICKET**

| 1st XI | v | St Andrew's | 10.00 | Breen Oval |
| 2nd XI | v | Blue Mountains 1st XI | 10.00 | SPC 2 |
| 3rd XI | v | Chevalier 2nd XI | 10.00 | Hudson Park |
| 16A | v | Sydney Boys High | 1.30 | Moore Park West 1 |
| 16B | v | Holy Cross | 8.00 | Upjohn Park |
| 15A | v | BYE |
| 16A | v | Dustbin United | 8.30 | Strathfield Park 1 |
| 14B | v | Eagles Bulls Red | 8.30 | Doyle Park 2 |
| 14C | v | Knox C | 1.30 | Mason Park 2 |
| 13A | v | West Ryde Blue | 8.30 | Mason Park 2 |
| 13B | v | North Ryde RSL | 8.00 | North Ryde RSL |

**SAILING**

- Sail Melbourne and Sail Sydney, winning both regattas in the Optimist class.
- Competed in the National Championships in Adelaide, finishing 7th.
- Not to be outdone, sailed to Adelaide as part of the NSW sailing team to compete in the Laser 4.7 National Championships and Youth National Championships, placing 1st in both events.
- Has now qualified for both the European Championships in Spain and World Championships in Belgium.

**TEAMS**

- **Team A**: Knox Prep Courts 1 | 10.30am
- **Team B**: Knox Prep Courts 1 | 9.40am
- **Team C**: Knox Prep Courts 1 | 8.50am
- **Team D**: Knox Prep Courts 1 | 8.00am
- **Team E**: Knox Prep Courts 2 | 8.50am
- **Team F**: Knox Prep Courts 2 | 8.00am
- **Team G**: Knox Auburn 1 | 9.00am
- **Team H**: Knox Auburn 1 | 8.50am
- **Team I**: Knox Auburn 2 | 9.00am
- **Team J**: Knox Auburn 2 | 8.00am
- **Team K**: Knox Auburn 3 | 8.00am
- **Team L**: Knox Auburn 3 | 8.00am

**VENUES**

- Auburn Basketball Centre: Wyatt Park, Church St, Lidcombe
- College Park: Madeline St, Belfield
- SPC Courts, No 3, No 4: Edgar St, Strathfield
- Rudd Park: Cnr Clarence & Varidel Sts, Belfield
- Berryside 3 & 4 – Underwood Rd, Homebush
- Queens Park – Darley Rd, Waverley
- Knox Prep Courts – Billary Avenue or Cleveland Street Wahroonga (walk through school).
- Ireland and Yeldham Fields – Cnr Cleveland St & Billary Ave, Wahroonga
- Northbridge E - Sailor’s Bay Rd, Northbridge,
- Christison Park South – Old South Head Rd, Vaucluse
- Price 1 – Pennant Hills Rd, Parramatta, - Inside the Kings School

**Sports Carnival**

The Secondary House and Age Championships will take place next **Friday, 17 February** at Sydney Olympic Park. A letter with all Carnival details will be emailed home to parents. This is always a wonderful day and a great opportunity for boys to earn their Houses points towards the College Cup. We would encourage all boys to participate fully in this opportunity.

**Commitment to Sport**

When a boy signs up for a sport he makes a binding commitment to that sport for the duration of the season. Parents and boys would understand well that teams, coaches and opposition are organised well in advance and St Patrick’s has a commitment to other schools. Any requests for leave from Saturday sport should be directed to me or Mr Chochesa in the first instance. Boys are not to inform their coaches that they simply will not be there without having asked permission.

**Congratulations**

The 1st XI Cricket picked up where they left off last year with a convincing victory against Oakhill on Breen Oval. The 2nd XI and 3rd XI also continued their winning ways beating Chevalier’s 1st XI and Oxley’s 2nd XI respectively.

The highlight of the weekend, however, came during the 1st XI Cricket match. Bowling was tight yet the Oakhill batsmen were standing firm until Harry Manenti produced a magical over, capturing a double hat-trick – 4 wickets in 4 balls! This is a very rare occurrence and fantastic achievement for Harry, especially considering he already had a hat-trick to his name this season! Well done!

Last weekend saw some of the best Baseball we have recorded in some time, with 4 of the 5 teams recording victories. This included tight one run wins to the 1st IX and 14 Black teams, showing their composure under pressure! In Baseball, the 13A, 14A and 17A Basketball sides all recorded impressive victories in the Division 1 ISA competition.

During the holidays both Ryan and Jack Littlechild sailed with great success in a number of regattas. Ryan competed in Sail Melbourne and Sail Sydney, winning both regattas in the Optimist class. He also competed in the National Championships in Adelaide where he finished 7th. Not to be outdone, Jack travelled to Adelaide as part of the NSW sailing team to compete in the Laser 4.7 National Championships and Youth National Championships placing 1st in both events. Jack has now qualified for both the European Championships in Spain and World Championships in Belgium. Well done! Mitchell Kearsley—Head of Secondary Sport

**FIXTURES AND GROUND LOCATIONS**

All fixtures are subject to weather conditions and changes may occur. The latest information can be found on the College website or by contacting the Sports Office.

**WET WEATHER UPDATES**: call 02 963 1000 and follow the prompts, or visit the College website and select Sports Fixtures on the Quick Links menu.

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Co-Curricular information can be found at: [www.spc.nsw.edu.au/co_curriculum](http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/co_curriculum)