



Especean

HEADMASTER

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another"
Proverbs 27:17

Right up until this very last week of the school year, there have been so many wonderful events that define us as a truly authentic caring community. Last week we had students and parents positively engaged in the Year 6 into Secondary School transition program which enables us to capitalise on the advantage of being a Year 5 – 12 school. We also had the Year 7 Festival of Carols & Readings, where the singing led by our Choir would be the envy of schools that specialise in music. We then had the Junior School Sports Dinner last Friday night, where in addition to acknowledging the success of our Champion teams and individual students within each team, we raised thousands of dollars for Chetanayala in India. In addition, we had the Year 10 Justice Partnership Day, Year 7 Vaccinations, and our normal Saturday co-curricular program in which, amongst our success, was the continued winning streak of our Opens Cricket teams. This week we have our showcase event of the year, Speech Night, as well as another Year 10 Reflection Day, the Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass, presentation of the Christmas hampers, an end of year Assembly, a continuing co-curricular program and much more. This snapshot of a fortnight at St Patrick's illustrates how we live by our Strategic Plan Mission which states '*Inspired by the Gospel and Edmund Rice, St Patrick's College liberates the whole person and educates for resilient and spirited men who are challenged to serve.*' In continuing to work together and welcoming new ideas and perspectives, we'll continue to work towards achieving our Strategic Plan Vision of '*Preparing faithful and inclusive men for a dynamic world*'

This final Especean of the year records staff who have worked with us and will be leaving at the end of the year. On behalf of the College, I thank each of the departing members of staff for their contribution to the College and wish them well in the future.

Permanent staff leaving at the end of 2016: **Bernadette Bassil** (Family reasons), **Joe Bilmon** (St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill), **Jerome Capistrano** (Holy Cross College, Ryde – Promotional position), **Emanuel Comino** (St Ignatius, Riverview), **Max Malkin** (Central Coast), **Anthony Neville** (Knox Grammar), **Maryanne Sozou** (Domremy College, Five Dock – Executive promotional position), **Waleed Younan** (St Aloysius).

Temporary Staff leaving at the end of 2016: **Melanie Crawford**, **Luke-Barry Donnellan**, **Mary Milson**, **Kyle Newbury**, **Jenelle Pearce**, **Aziza Sarkis**.

Fittingly to mark the end of my extended family association with this great College, my father passed away minutes after I gave a farewell speech at last week-end's end of year EREA dinner in Melbourne in which outgoing Principals were farewelled. Knowing that my Dad was gravely unwell, I dedicated my speech to him after recounting the story of my father, Graham, and his only brother, Bill, association with the College. These two men who were the only children in their family each had six boys and one girl in which all the boys attended St Patrick's and

Vol 29, No 37 – 30 November 2016

the two girls attended Santa Sabina. I then went on to teach at Santa Sabina and have been happily married to an ex-student of Santa Sabina for the last 26 years. In adding to my parents 25 consecutive years of having boys at the College, my brother Grant had his two boys attend the College over a 10 year period and I've been honoured to be in leadership positions here for an additional 12 years over two stints.

I love the College and most of all I love the students who are at the heart of all we do. I will attempt to do justice in concisely but sincerely thanking all those who contribute to this inclusive faith-filled authentic Edmund Rice Community. However, I must extend a special thank you to our magnificent staff who dedicate their lives to the boys. Particular thanks to the Executive who I call the 'Dream Team'. Acting Deputy Headmaster, Michael Cutrupi, has been my work partner, friend and co-leader and the College has prospered by his leadership. Good luck to our incoming Principal, Craig Wattam, who is the ideal leader to take the College to the next level, and Damian Chase as the incoming Deputy Headmaster who has already proven himself to be a man of great character, quality and drive.

I wish you all the success in the future, I pray for your good health and happiness and I look forward to joining my fellow Old Boys at future College events, particularly on the sidelines at some Saturday co-curricular fixtures.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever

John Murphy
Acting Headmaster

St Patrick's College Strathfield Annual Speech Night & Prize-Giving

Thursday, 1 December 2016

Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre, Homebush

Attendance in College summer uniform is compulsory for every student.

Please be seated by 7.00pm for 7.15pm start.

SPEECH NIGHT PARKING & ROAD CLOSURES

Parking at Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre Homebush for Speech Night will be available in the P3 parking area only.

The cost will be \$5.00 per hour, with a maximum cost of \$25.00. The parking station available to the College is indicated with an arrow on the map.

The below link will direct you to Sydney Olympic Park road closures.
http://www.sopa.nsw.gov.au/for_business/parking_event_parking



NORMAL START TIME— FRIDAY, 2 DECEMBER

All boys across Years 5 to 11 will commence classes as normal at 8.35am on Friday, 2 December. Weekly Mass in the College Chapel will also commence as normal on Friday morning before school.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

As we approach the end of another year it is worth thinking back on the enormous amount that has occurred over that time. Our Year 5 boys, who seem to have just arrived, have come a very long way over the year and have settled into the life of the College so well, whilst our Year 6 boys have come to the brink of their new adventure in High School. The year, in particular the last term, has gone by unbelievably quickly because of the great speed with which we conduct business in schools these days. Our big school events – Welcome Mass, Year 5/6 Family Dinner, Grandparents Day, Dad's Breakfast, Sports Dinner, Fundraising Day – were no doubt highlights of the year, but it is the daily routine of classwork, the co curriculum and the boys' time together with their friends on the playground which is the constant heart of the Junior School. It has been a productive, dynamic, busy year.



I would like to thank all of the Junior School staff for their wonderful efforts once more this year. They have been, and will continue to be, a great team. As well, I would like to acknowledge the extremely high level of support we receive from the parent body. The boys are lucky to have such committed, caring parents and families. Thank you one and all.

Jim Walters—Director of Junior School

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

A really big thank you to all the parents, staff and coaches for attending the Junior School Sports Dinner last Friday night. I hope that everybody had a good time. I would really like to thank all the parents who donated prizes for our raffle. We raised over \$5000 on the night for Chetanalaya thanks mainly to the excellent prizes that were up for grabs. Congratulations to all the award winners, especially Hayden and Spencer Ling who were chosen as joint Sportsman of the Year in 2016.

I hope all boys and parents have a safe, restful break and an enjoyable Christmas with family and loved ones.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportmaster



Year 7 Science and Philosophy Day



Year 7 students investigating the Science of the Brain.

Last week a group of Year 7 students participated in a Science and Philosophy extension day titled: '*The Brain and the Mind: What do we know?*' Students worked in groups for the first part of the day and participated in two workshops. The first workshop was on the Science of the Brain in which students constructed a brain out of playdoh, dissected a sheep's brain to view the different components of the brain and took part in experiments to determine how fast the human brain can adapt to changes. The second workshop was a Philosophy session which looked at the difference between the brain and the mind and what would be classified as a mind and not a mind, which sparked some interesting arguments. Students also looked at the ideas philosophers have grappled with over time as they try to understand the complexities of the mind.

In the final session of the day the students were asked to look at the implications of a disease which affects the way our brain and mind function, Alzheimer's Disease. They looked into the implications for people dealing with this disease and the medical profession, who is trying to understand and aid with the treatment of this disease.

The students' involvement and response to the day was outstanding with comments including:
'The day really expanded my knowledge of the brain and the mind.' Luke Vaccher
'This experience made me realise the true importance of the brain in my daily life' Patrick Tandiono
'The day opened my mind to new ideas about human brain activity.' Jack Manuel
'The highlight of the day was the philosophy activities that taught me how much people know, but how much more we don't know.' James Herberstein

Thank you to Mrs Chander and the students involved for what was a day that extended the thinking of the students and one in which they definitely rose to the challenge.

Janine Timillero—Diverse Learning Coordinator



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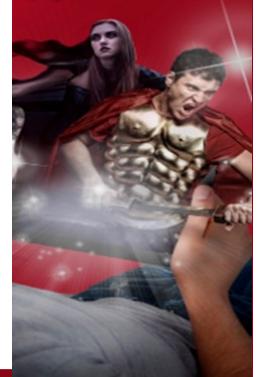
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Years 7 to 10 Semester 2 Reports

On the evening of Tuesday 6 December, the Semester 2 Report on students of Years 7 to 10 will be available online to parents via the Parent Portal on *SOLE*. It is important to note that only parent accounts will be able to access the reports. Parents who have forgotten their passwords can complete the “forgot password” link on the *SOLE* login page.

It is worth noting a few key features of the report include:

- a percentage *Course Mark* and *Course Average* for each course studied, based on cumulative assessment over the Semester in accordance with the schedule of tasks and weights issued by the College;
- an A, B, C, D or E *Overall Achievement* grade referenced to the *Common Grade Scale* as defined by the New South Wales Board of Studies;
- a *Grade Distribution* in terms of the number of students awarded each A to E grade in a course;
- achievement in a number of learning outcomes expressed by a descriptor: *Excellent, Good, Satisfactory, Elementary or Limited*. Each descriptor relates to clearly defined standards of performance referenced to the *Common Grade Scale*.
- achievement in a number of class work practices, such as conduct and application.

The Course Mark represents the alignment of the raw cumulative assessment result to a standard 0 to 100 performance scale common across all subjects. Thus, a mark reported of say 75 in one subject has parity with that same mark in another subject. Additionally, the grade reported on that mark is the same across all subjects or courses and therefore in this case, a mark of 75 would fall into a Grade B range.

It is important to note that the Overall Achievement Grades and the Grade Distribution provide two kinds of information about the academic progress of students. The Overall Achievement Grade gives an indication of academic performance relative to the achievement of course outcomes referenced to nationally defined standards and benchmarks. The Grade Distribution gives an indication of that performance compared with other students in the Year undertaking the course.

The College will provide an opportunity for parents to discuss the Semester 2 Report with class teachers on Thursday 8 December, between 9.00am to 11.00am. These interviews are optional. Parents are asked to login via the Parent Portal on *SOLE* and click the Parent/Teacher login button as per the usual process. This facility will be open from 3.00pm, Monday 5 December and close 11.00am, Wednesday 7 December. A generated timetable will be available from 2.00pm on this day and parents will be able to login again to view their interview timetable. These optional interviews are for the Semester 2 Report only and will not be an appropriate forum for parents to discuss next year’s classes with individual class teachers.

Mr Walters will email parents regarding the details of Junior School Interview procedures.

Following the Years 9 and 10 Assessment Blocks over the past couple of weeks, examination scripts will be returned to students during the remaining timetabled classes. The final opportunity to collect outstanding scripts will occur during the Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews on Thursday 8 December. Leftovers will go in recycling bins and will not be held over after this day.

The issuing of these reports is an important time for parents to constructively assess academic progress over Semester 2 and for their son’s to make the necessary commitment and adjustments for the new scholastic year, with the view of making realistic and progressive improvements over time.

Year 12-2017 HSC Preparations

I would like to encourage all students in Year 11 to use the upcoming holidays wisely for valuable 2017 HSC preparation. It is certainly important to have a balance and we would want students to combine family time, relaxation time with some HSC revision and forward preparation time.

I wish all parents and students a joyful and peaceful Christmas, a Happy New Year and a safe return to first Term in 2017.

Andrew Brennan—Acting Director of Curriculum



Debating State Championship

On Friday, 18 November the Year 9 Debating Team competed in the Catholic Schools Debating NSW State Championships held at Edmund Rice College, Wollongong. We had already celebrated their victory in the Sydney Metropolitan Championship earlier in the year. The State Championship is between the best Sydney school and the best school from Regional NSW. The SPC team (Edward Carrall, Christopher Farag and Luke Malacco) debated against Hennessy Catholic College, Young. The boys put in an impressive performance, but unfortunately were runners up on this occasion. Well done boys.

Adam Leslie—Assistant English Coordinator

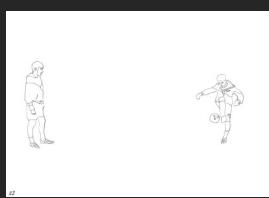
Year 9 and 10 Visual Arts

Term 4 has been an extremely busy one for Ms. Crawford’s Years 9 and 10 Visual Arts students. They have studied the art of animation and the process of rotoscoping.

Student’s artworks can be viewed on the class blog:

<https://crawfordvisualarts.wordpress.com/>

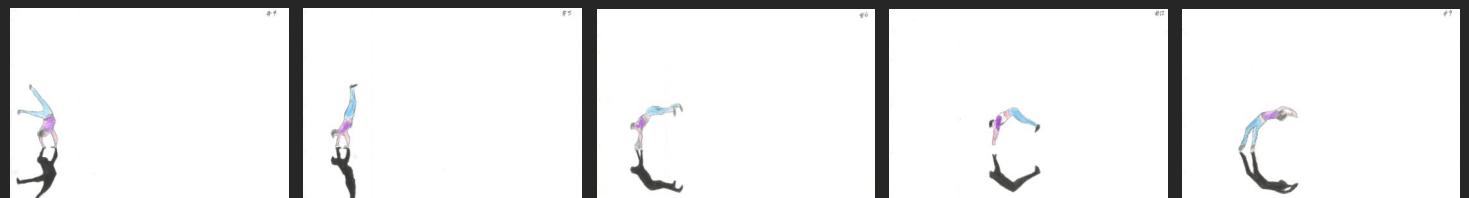
“The unit of rotoscoping has been very different as well as enjoyable. Compared to other practical units, the use of technology was an essential element that was required for the entire art-making process. Rotoscoping is an animation technique where multiple frames are created and then put together to form an animated film, or in our case an animated image - GIF (Graphic Interchange Format).



Our first step was to locate or video a short clip of a person doing an empowering or motivating action such as a goal shoot or a series of flips. We then took screenshots of each frame. The more frames, the smoother the final result would be. Using tracing paper we sketched each screenshot off our computer screen. The final step was to scan each sheet onto a device and using Adobe Photoshop, run each image in chronological order on repeat to save as the final GIF.

It was a new and wonderful process that was very exciting to experiment. Ms Crawford specialises in art of this category that involves a heavy element of technology. It was great for her to share some of her knowledge and skill with the class through this unit. Art is more than drawing or painting; processes such as rotoscoping are more relevant to the world today and hand-drawn rotoscoping in particular displays an amazing crossover between traditional and modern art-making processes.”

Joshua Samaha – Year 10 Student



SPORTS DRAW - SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER 2016

Cricket				
16A	v	Newington	11.00	Buchanan Oval
16B	v	Concord Briars	8.00	Upjohn Park
15A	v	West Ryde	8.00	Meadowbank Park 10
15B	v	Carlingford	8.30	Dundas Park
14A	v	Epping YMCA	8.30	Strathfield Park 1
14B	v	BYE		
14C	v	Newington	8.15	Johnson Oval 2
13A	v	Epping YMCA	8.30	Ron Payne Park
13B	v	Carlingford	8.00	Mason Park 2

Baseball				
1st IX	v	Greenway	11.00	Major's Bay Reserve 3
16 Blue	v	SPC 16Black - FRI NIGHT	6.00pm	Major's Bay Reserve 3
16 Black	v	SPC 16Blue - FRI NIGHT	6.00pm	Major's Bay Reserve 3
14 Blue	v	Five Dock	11.00	Major's Bay Reserve 1
14 Black	v	Rosebank	8.30	Major's Bay Reserve 1

Basketball				
1st V	v	St Joseph's	12.00	SPC Gym
Touring Dev Team	v	St Joseph's	11.00	SPC Gym

SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER 2016

Cricket				
16B	v	SPC 15A	8.00	Sommerville Oval
15A	v	SPC 16B	8.00	Sommerville Oval
15B	v	Carlingford	8.30	Dundas Park
14A	v	Epping YMCA	8.30	Strathfield Park 1
14B	v	BYE		
13A	v	Epping YMCA	8.30	Ron Payne Park
13B	v	Concord Briars	8.00	Mason Park 2

Baseball				
1st IX	v	Riverview - FRI NIGHT	6.00pm	Major's Bay Reserve 3
16 Blue	v	Stealers	11.00	Golden Jubilee 9
16 Black	v	Cancelled		
14 Blue	v	Kissing Point	10.45	Auluba Park 2
14 Black	v	Five Dock	11.00	Timbrell Park

SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER 2016

Baseball				
1st IX	v	Macquarie	8.30	Waterloo Park
16 Blue	v	Thornleigh	11.00	TBA
16 Black	v	Cancelled		
14 Blue	v	Cancelled		
14 Black	v	North Ryde	11.00	Magdala Park

UNIFORM SHOP

Trading Hours over the School Holidays

Last day of trading for 2016 – Thursday, 1 December

Re-opens

Thursday	19/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Friday	20/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Monday	23/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Tuesday	24/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Wednesday	25/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Thursday	26/01/17:	CLOSED
Friday	27/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm
Monday	30/01/17:	8.00 am to 2:00 pm

Closed Australia Day Holiday
 Thursday, 26/01/2017

Normal Trading commences from Tuesday, 31 January 2017 with NEW HOURS

Monday:	CLOSED
Tuesday:	8.00 am to 12:00 pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Saturday: (except Term 3)	9.00 am to 12.00 noon

During Trading Hours Phone: 8705 9240

Your son can make a purchase from the Uniform Shop, however, parents will need to phone the Shop prior to his arrival to provide credit card details. You do not need to phone ahead if your son is paying by cash. Please note purchases cannot be placed on family accounts.

Revised 14/10/2016



Thanks

With the year drawing to a close and the first half of the summer season nearly completed I would like to take the opportunity to thank the students for their conduct in 2016. The school spirit, sportsmanship and excellent attitude demonstrated by these young men has been outstanding and they have been a credit to their parents, coaches and the College. With the ISA being the diverse association that it is, the reality of the competition is that we often find our lower graded teams in the same division as smaller school's higher graded teams. This can make life very difficult for some teams but again, I commend the boys for their enthusiasm and commitment despite the odds not always being in their favour. However, we have also seen some great success when the odds are against us, our 3rd and 2nd XI Cricket sides finding victories over other schools' 1st XI sides is a prime example. I am very much looking forward to the second half of the season in the new year.

Thank you also to parents for their support over the last year – we are blessed to have many supportive parents without whom sport would not be the same. Staff members and outside coaches also deserve considerable recognition for their leadership and expertise throughout the year.

Mitchell Kearsley—Head of Secondary Sport



Register Online: campwallaby.com.au
(click on Upcoming Camps)

WHOOPING COUGH INFORMATION

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents.

Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health.

For more information on whooping cough vaccination please see [vaccination during pregnancy](#).

Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055.

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/whoopingcough/Pages/Information-for-childcare-and-schools.aspx>

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.