

Especean

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Principal

Two are better than one . . . for if they fall, one will lift up the other.

(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of St Patrick's College,

In this weekend's Gospel reading from Matthew (18: 15-20), Jesus provides salutary advice about how we might deal with conflict. It is inevitable that in life there will be situations in which we have disagreements with others. Who hasn't had an altercation with their sibling, their partner, or a work colleague? Human relationships can sometimes test even the most patient of people. By our nature, and as part of the human condition, we sometimes "get it wrong". It is difficult to admit our shortcomings, and it is even more difficult at times to acknowledge this and then to seek forgiveness.

The principles on which many workplace grievance policies and procedures are based can be readily found in this Gospel passage. Jesus invites us, in the first instance, to take up our concern with the person closest to the action: the brother who has sinned against us. The use of the word brother here implies some sense of closeness or intimacy. In other words, if someone whom we know and love does wrong by us, then seek to resolve the problem directly with that person. If this fails, then try again, but take another person or two with you. This will provide clarity, and a degree of objectivity perhaps. The crux of these visitations, is that one seeks to resolve conflict, not exacerbate it. If we are a member of the 'assembly' or community, (or what later became known as "Church"), then we are privileged members of that special community. We are bound to try to resolve our conflicts. Our pride sometimes stands in our way and prevents us from giving some ground. I often try and say to myself "how important is it?"

The Gospel passage essentially provides a lineal journey from sin, to repentance, and hopefully forgiveness. However, a sobering warning is also present: if one does not listen even to the community, then the sinner is to be treated as an outsider, and possibly, expelled from the group. Our aim is to seek to reach consensus or agreement. This can be only be reached if we are

prepared to bend, to forgive and to some extent, compromise. When we gather as two or three in Jesus' name, then He will be present among us. This is a comforting and affirmative end to the passage.

When boys have conflicts at school

we try to get them to sort it out with each other in the first instance, and engage in a restorative conversation. Sometimes, they also "get it wrong" in terms of their behaviour at the College, or when representing the College. As children and adolescents we encourage them to examine their behaviour (and their conscience) and to seek to do better next time. It is important that they are held accountable and this can involve some form of punishment or revocation of privileges. Just like parenting, in schools we have consequences for inappropriate words and actions. If we do not enact these consequences then we do our boys no favours because we are not consistent. As far as I know, young men in particular like to know where the boundaries lie, and ultimately, accept and understand fair play. Part of our combined education as parents and teachers is to encourage self-regulation in our boys.

We have a number of members of our College community who are suffering from serious health conditions and we also have quite a few families who have lost loved ones this year. Might I suggest that in our prayers this week we consider praying for all of those who are ill, or who are grieving; that they receive comfort, grace and the love of our Lord.

Baby News

Congratulations to Miriam Gascoigne and her husband Stephen on the birth of Joshua Ignatius. Born on Monday 4 September weighing 2.9kg and 50cm in length. Joshua's siblings Xavier and Amelia are absolutely besotted with him!

Congratulations also to Derek and Lauren Rose on the birth of Jasper Thomas Rose. Born on Sunday 10 September weighing 3.77kg, little brother for Hugo.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Waffam
Principal



There are limited places available in 2018 into Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 from Catholic families seeking enrolment at St Patrick's College. Initial enquiries should be directed to the Enrolment Secretary.

Email address is enrolment.secretary@spc.nsw.edu.au or (02) 9763 1000, option 1 for Enrolment.

Junior School

The Pastoral Care theme of “Doing the little things right” for the last fortnight has certainly given boys an opportunity to examine their attitude, application and overall participation inside and outside of the classroom here in the Junior School. What makes a successful and happy school environment is largely to do with its contributors. The students work diligently in both self-improvement as well as improvement as a collective. As educators we endeavour to encourage this in our teaching and our daily interactions with our students. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 *Two are better than one . . . for if they fall, one will lift up the other* speaks to this very notion. Our community thrives because we are able to share our many gifts, talents, knowledge and skills. What we want for all our students is for them to know of the multitude of learning opportunities they have in their education and to be fully engaged within the community itself.

In Week 6 of next term, Year 6 will be travelling to the Sport and Recreation campsite at Broken Bay for their Annual Camp. The dates of the camp are November 13 – 16. The day following the camp, Friday 17 November is a non-school day for our Year 6 boys. A letter giving full details of the camp will go home shortly. Medical and Information forms are filled out online and sent directly to Sport and Rec at Broken Bay. Details of how to fill in these forms is included in the letter going home to you. We are all looking forward to a successful camp in 2017.

Dan Fields—Acting Director of Junior School

Junior School Sport

This Friday, the Junior School boys will have their co-curricular photos taken. It is a very busy day with over 60 photos being taken. It is extremely important that all boys remember their correct uniform for each photo. For all squad photos boys will be in their tracksuit pants and black supporter’s shirt. Otherwise it is exactly what they wear on a Saturday for the game (minus shin pads, head gear etc) If your son does not have the correct uniform the photo will be taken without him.

Good luck to Lorenzo Bilotta, Cooper Edwards, Samuel Avvenevole and Patrick Harris who will be competing in the CIS Athletics Championship at Homebush today.

Junior School Sports Dinner Information

With over 450 people already attending it is important to book your tables to avoid disappointment. Each person attending will need to purchase a ticket (\$27.50) which includes dinner and dessert.

In terms of the meal, a roast dinner will be served to all guests together with a variety of salads and vegetables. However, families are reminded to BYO drinks, glasses and light snack foods such as chips and dips, **no nuts please.**

Please let Mr Andrews know if you have any dietary requirements. Every effort will be made to cater for these requests.

Finally, all students are to wear their full summer school uniform with the exception of the blue College cap. I would also like to remind all parents and boys that although this is a social night, to be enjoyed in the company of friends, please remember that there are a number of presentations, awards and formal times throughout the evening. Therefore be aware that we expect complete silence whenever someone is talking on the microphone.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster

CONFIRMING THE COLLEGE’S LOST PROPERTY PROCEDURES

Labelled Items

When “labelled” items are brought into Reception (Lost Property) the student concerned is emailed to notify them that Reception (Lost Property) is in receipt of their property and they are asked to collect the item as soon as possible. The item is then tagged and dated.



Unlabelled items

Unlabelled items are kept at Reception (Lost Property) for a term.

At the end of the term, if they are not claimed they are then sent to the Uniform Shop to be resold as “Second Hand” items.

Thank you, College Reception

CO-CURRICULAR SURVEY

The College is currently reviewing its Co-curricular Programme and to that end approximately a third of the student and parent cohort along with the entire College teaching staff will be invited to respond to a survey. The information you provide will assist with the future direction of the programme while maintaining areas of strength and addressing those that require further development. Relevant staff, students and parents will be emailed a link on Friday of this week so they can access the survey.

Steve Fochesato—Director of Co-curricular

PASTORAL CARE

A reminder that the College staff and students will be participating in the annual **R U OK? Day** tomorrow. The aim of the day is to increase awareness of individuals who may be struggling with mental health concerns, encouraging and empowering everyone to ask “are you ok?” of anyone struggling with life. Students will be able to support the day and the **R U OK?** organisation by wearing a wristband that will be offered to them in exchange for a gold coin donation during homeroom.

Robert Simpson—Director of Pastoral Care

College Cup 2016/2017

Friday saw a close to the 2016/2017 College Cup with Coghlan taking out the Cup, 200 points above 2nd place. Congratulations must go to Coghlan for finally breaking the Hickey trifecta. For the most part, the competition was very close with Rice, Berg and Coghlan each holding first place at various times throughout the year. Hickey did manage to make their way up from 4th place to 2nd and Crichton can proudly say they have not come in last place two years in a row now. Coghlan takes the Cup for the second time, the first being in 2013. All Coghlan students should be proud of their collective efforts in achieving this outcome. College Cup points were awarded over a variety of aspects of school life including involvement and achievement in co-curricular, academic feats and school spirit being rewarded. Congratulations must go to Coghlan Prefect Alexander Vellar and Junior School House Captain Cooper Edwards and Vice-Captain Simon Barzan along with all of the dedicated House Prefects and Captains. They all need to be commended for their initiative, enthusiasm and leadership over the past year. Thank you to all students for their continued participation in all College Cup related events and good luck for the coming 2017/2018 College Cup. With voting for prefects taking place this week, the challenge will be set for another House to take the lead and with how the Cup went this year, all bets are off.

Romina Fisicaro—College Cup Coordinator

Final Placements:

- 1st: Coghlan on 3170 points
- 2nd: Hickey on 2969 points
- 3rd: Berg on 2789 points
- 4th: Rice on 2775 points
- 5th: Crichton on 2565 points
- 6th: Hanrahan on 2523 points



Back row: Alexander Skinner, Alexander Vellar, Jarrod McCrystal, Mitchell Dunne, Oscar Schmidt-Uili, Samuel Cullen
Front row: Lorenzo Bilotta, Noah Kite, Cooper Edwards, Simon Barzan, Archer Gray, Riley Merchant, James Stewart, Marco Garigliano, Blake Wilson, Dominic Taffa, Jaden Samaan, Noah Doran

SENIOR SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENINGS

Parents and boys are reminded that the Senior School Winter Sports Presentation Evenings will be held at the following times in Week 9:

Secondary Football Presentation Evening - 7.15pm – Gymnasium - Wednesday 13 September

Secondary Tennis Presentation Evening - 7.15pm – Hall - Wednesday 13 September

Secondary Rugby Presentation Evening - 7.15pm – Gymnasium - Thursday 14 September

Full attendance by students involved with these activities is a clear expectation. Any request for leave should be forwarded to Mr Fochesato.

In terms of parking, the College requests that no one parks their car in Hydebrae Street (which runs at ninety degrees from Francis Street and the Senior Library) at any time. Its narrowness makes resident parking difficult and non-resident parking can present a safety risk by preventing the access of emergency vehicles. **The College tennis courts will be available for some on-site parking on a 'first come, first served' basis. Entrance to the tennis courts is from the driveway in Fraser Street and motorists are asked to park their vehicle next to another vehicle in a close fashion so that we can make available the greatest possible number of parking spaces.**

SENIOR SCHOOL WINTER SPORT PHOTOS

Parents are advised that their sons will be informed of the Photo timetable for the College Winter Sports activities via their Homeroom Noticeboards. Photos will be taken in the College Hall on **Thursday 14 September**.

I would kindly ask that parents ensure that their son's Winter Sports gear is clean and in good condition for the photos. Details relating to the purchasing of photos on-line will be forwarded to parents via the Especean in the near future.

Steve Fochesato—Director of Co-curricular

NAPLAN

2017 National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results

NAPLAN results provide the College with valuable information about each student's literacy and numeracy skills and about Literacy and Numeracy profiles of our students as a whole. This is one of many data sources that help to inform our approaches to teaching and learning. In particular, teachers of English, Mathematics and Diverse Learning will use the NAPLAN results to target and support teaching and learning needs and to monitor student development over time. Studies Coordinators and teachers from other key learning areas will use the NAPLAN results to adjust their teaching and programmes, with a particular view to examining the sub-skill areas of NAPLAN that require additional focus.

The 2017 NAPLAN results reveal areas of strength across all aspects of Literacy and Numeracy achievement that indicate solid growth in skills for most of our students, yet also set out some areas of challenge as we aim to ensure strong foundations in core skills as foundations for future learning.

The following tables show the band distribution in each of the assessed aspects of Reading, Writing and overall Numeracy for this year's NAPLAN. (The figures for the components may not add to 100 due to rounding.) A common 10 band scale is used to report literacy and numeracy achievement across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Year 5 results are reported from Bands 3 to 8 with Band 4 representing the national minimum standard for this cohort. Year 7 results are reported from Bands 4 to 9 with Band 5 representing the minimum standard and Year 9 results are reported from Bands 5 to 10, with Band 6 representing the minimum standard.

From this year, Year 9 achievement at Band 8 or higher in Reading, Writing and Numeracy pre-qualifies a student for the new HSC Minimum Standard. In 2016 across the state, 23% of students in Year 9 achieved a Band 8 in all subjects, as did 35.5% of students in independent schools. At St Patrick's College this year, 50% of our Year 9 students achieved Band 8 in all three areas, a strong result.

YEAR 5 2017		Band 3 %	Band 4 (min std)%	Band 5 %	Band 6 %	Band 7 %	Band 8 %
Reading	SPC	0.0	3.8	18.7	22.5	33.5	21.4
	State	4.5	12.7	17.0	26.1	21.3	18.4
Writing	SPC	0.0	2.7	26.9	41.2	19.8	9.3
	State	6.5	9.3	36.0	30.0	12.8	5.3
Numeracy	SPC	0.0	0.0	11.6	29.8	34.3	24.3
	State	3.0	11.6	23.6	29.3	19.1	13.4

YEAR 7 2017		Band 4 %	Band 5 (min std)%	Band 6 %	Band 7 %	Band 8 %	Band 9 %
Reading	SPC	0.0	1.1	18.5	31.5	31.5	17.4
	State	5.2	11.1	23.5	29.6	18.8	11.8
Writing	SPC	1.1	10.9	29.9	22.3	28.3	7.6
	State	8.7	21.1	27.3	21.6	15.9	5.4
Numeracy	SPC	0.5	1.6	8.2	26.1	29.3	34.2
	State	2.4	11.6	22.2	29.0	17.8	17.1

YEAR 9 2017		Band 5 %	Band 6 (min std)%	Band 7 %	Band 8 %	Band 9 %	Band 10 %
Reading	SPC	0.0	9.1	14.3	34.9	30.9	10.9
	State	5.6	14.9	21.1	33.7	17.1	7.6
Writing	SPC	4.0	11.9	25.0	35.2	11.9	11.9
	State	16.1	18.7	20.0	27.2	10.7	7.3
Numeracy	SPC	0.0	2.3	13.1	33.7	35.4	15.4
	State	1.0	14.6	25.9	28.7	17.7	12.1

Overall the above results are very pleasing. We are well above state average in the top two bands in all areas, and well below state average in the bottom two bands.

Highlights this year include the Reading and Numeracy results for Years 5, 7 and 9. We are above state average in all years in Writing, but the gap is somewhat narrower and indicates a need for a renewed focus across all subject areas. Similarly, Grammar and Punctuation results, whilst generally strong in comparison to state, are not what we would like and therefore an area for us to address in our teaching and learning. A continued challenge for us, as in all schools, is to ensure our lessons and assessments are engaging and provoke students' interest and curiosity. This is essential if we are to maintain growth in students' skills into and beyond Year 9.

Given that the College is a comprehensive boy's school, the 2017 NAPLAN results are quite strong. We will continue to communicate with our parents regarding further analysis of results and implications for teaching and learning. In addition, we will maintain clear communication with parents of the Year 9 students who did not reach Band 8 to ensure we work with you and your sons to improve their skills and ensure their success in passing the online tests next year.

Denise Lombardo—Director of Learning and Innovation

Sports Draw - SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2017



BASEBALL				
1st IX	v	Rosebank	8.30	Major's Bay Reserve 3
2nd IX	v	Greenway	11.00	Major's Bay Reserve 3
16A	v	Macquarie	10.45	Waterloo Park
14A	v	Rosebank	8.30	Major's Bay Reserve 1

CRICKET				
15A	v	TBA		
15B	v	TBA		
14A	v	TBA		
14B	v	TBA		
13A	v	TBA		
13B	v	TBA		

BASKETBALL				
1st V	v	Waverley	10.00	SPC Gym
17A	v	Waverley	9.00	SPC Gym

Summer Season

Following a rigorous trial period, the summer sport season officially gets underway this coming weekend with Junior Cricket and Baseball sides commencing their NDJCA and RHBL competitions respectively. Although not all students and parents will agree with selection decisions made during trials, I cannot emphasise enough that the trial process is a fair, transparent and effective way of grading sometimes nearly one hundred players into the appropriate team. Of course, promotion and demotion throughout the season will continue as appropriate. As was the case last year, the 16A Cricket side will fill a gap in the GPS competition, rather than take part in the Northern Districts club competition. This should provide some tough competition for the boys and, with the majority of games played on turf wickets, provide a good lead into ISA Cricket next season.

16A Cricket, ISA Cricket and all Basketball will also commence next term, with ISA Round 1 being Saturday 21 October.

Congratulations

Edward Newton recently competed in the Swimming NSW 10-12yrs State Short Course Swimming Championships. In what was his most successful meet to date, he won a bronze medal in the 12yrs 400m freestyle. Well done!

ISA Athletics

Congratulations to the Athletics squad on their amazing individual and squad success last Tuesday at the ISA Championships. Many boys achieved significant personal best times, heights and distances on the day, helping the squad bring home the Senior and Aggregate shields and be crowned ISA Champions! Final placings in each shield are below:

- Junior Shield – 3rd
- Intermediate Shield – 2nd
- Senior Shield – 1st
- Aggregate Shield – 1st

Well done to Mr Di Paola, coaches and athletes on this significant achievement.

The following boys placed first in their ISA Championship event:

12 Years

- Jonathan Meaker – 800m
- Bronson Schmidt-Uili – High Jump
- Lachlan Barton – Discus
- Javelin

13 Years

- Alexander del Popolo – Discus
- Javelin

14 Years

- Antony Eussen – Shot Put
- Javelin

15 Years

- Darcy Bourke – 800m

16 Years

- Ethan Schmidt-Uili – High Jump

17 Years

- Oscar Schmidt-Uili – High Jump
- Long Jump (ISA record)
- Triple Jump (ISA record)
- Christopher Ius – 100m
- 200m

18 Years

- Mark Nawaqanitawase – Shot Put

Mitchell Kearsley—Head of Secondary Sport



HSC MASS - Please join us for a Special Mass at St Martha's Church for all 2017 HSC students to be held at 6.00pm on Sunday 1 October. Following Mass, pizza will be served in the Parish Hall. Everyone is warmly welcome to attend. Let us keep the students and their families in our prayers during this time of HSC preparation.