



Especean

Vol 31, No 02 – 7 February 2018

Principal

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

On Teachers and Teaching

Perhaps you may have caught the Australia Day address delivered by Cherrybrook High School Mathematics teacher Eddie Woo who was named Australia's local hero for 2018. As countless other teachers perhaps have felt since watching this, I was so energised and proud to call myself a teacher as Eddie spoke to the vocation that calls us and keeps us in teaching. Sadly however, about fifty percent of teachers call it quits in their first five years in the profession. By any means, that is a high attrition rate. Mr Woo's plea was for all members of the community to support, value and respect our schools and teachers. He calls for cultural and capital support to allow teachers to do their jobs.

We have all been to school, so we have some understanding and experience of what it is that teachers do. Unfortunately for those of us who have never taught, this understanding is only part of the story. As a school child, we can never really appreciate what goes on behind the scenes and like any career choice, there is much more to it than first meets the eye. The other important point to make is that our experience of teaching and teachers is nearly as old as we are. This means that it is by nature then a dated and historical view.

Ask any parent and they will tell you that children and young people are different today than they themselves were when they were kids. In the same way, the profession has had to change in line with the world in which we live. It is no longer enough to deliver content. We must become facilitators of thinking skills, problem solving, social skills training and we are responsible for developing sophisticated communicators in many forms. We must impart child protection knowledge, awareness of road safety, ICT skills, drug and sex education, civics and citizenship, and of course in a Catholic context, the primacy of faith formation and prayer life is a given. Our duty is to produce proud citizens, and as our College vision statement proclaims; to prepare faithful and inclusive men for a dynamic world. In my experience, all teachers take the privilege and responsibility of working with families to grow happy, whole, informed and intelligent young adults, extremely seriously. The teachers I have had the good fortune to work with are all dedicated to their vocation.

All teachers are degree trained and many, if not most, these days have degrees at Masters' level. As of this year, we are all registered and accredited and will be monitored on the professional learning we engage in over each five year period before our accreditation will be renewed. While teaching is a rewarding career in so many ways, it is also demanding. At St Patrick's College our staff all contribute to the co-curricular programme which sees them work on six days of the week. Our staff is generous and I know that parents readily acknowledge the "extra mile".



We aim to do the right thing on a daily basis. With more than sixteen hundred people on this site every day there will be times when our humanity comes in to play and we invariably get it wrong. This is part of the human condition. When more than 1400 of these people are students, then of course there are times when they will need to be guided and even corrected. This too is part of our role. Teaching is a human profession – it is a "people-centric" role. There is never an opportunity to have a quiet day at the back of the office because we are feeling a little off! Every hour there will be 30 eager faces lining up and rightly expecting us to be on top of our game. In light of Eddie Woo's Australia Day address, I would like to take this opportunity to give a "shout-out" to all teachers for what they do each and every day. I feel incredibly lucky to have chosen the career that I have. I often tell students that I do not regret for one minute the choices I have made in being an educator for more than 30 years. We need excellent teachers. There is a shortage of teachers in Mathematics, Science and Technology areas. There are few males entering primary school teaching. We have a collective responsibility as a nation to sell positive stories about teachers and teaching. After all, these young people will be making decisions for us in our dotage. I commend our teachers to you.



College Master Plan
We will be holding consultation sessions on our Draft College Master Plan in the coming weeks. During 2017 members of the College Board and College Executive together with architectural firm PMDL have developed a new Master Plan to meet the current and future needs of our College. The consultation session will be held on Thursday 22 February at 7.00pm in the Hall. I would ask interested parents to RSVP to my PA Agnes Dening via email: agnes.dening@spc.nsw.edu.au if you would like to attend. We do need to know firm numbers so that we can provide an additional session on the same day (at an earlier time) depending on the level of interest.

Some Good News

I was visited on Friday morning last week by a former student and his grandmother. His grandmother has had a long association with the College with her own two sons also being Old Boys. Grandma has sent her two sons to the College and then her grandsons. She also spent many years helping out in various capacities in the College. They visited because the Old Boy's grandmother insisted that like his father and uncle, his first pay packet in its entirety is donated back to the College. He came in with an envelope with his first week's pay – to give back to the College. What a beautiful family gesture – both symbolically and materially.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal



Junior School

Beginning in my new role at St Patrick's College, particularly following in the formidable footsteps of Mr Walters, I have had much to learn. There are the obvious things, like where on campus each place is that I have to be, and who the person I am talking to is. There are less tangible things for me to learn too, like what is it that gives this place its renowned spirit? I'm slowly making headway into these less obvious areas.

Learning these things is not necessarily easy, but I am confident that I will be able to do it. I know it will take time, and that is okay, but I know that I will get there. I have this confidence because of what is known as a 'growth mindset'. A person with a 'fixed mindset' might say, "it's too hard, there's too much I don't know, I'll never get there". A person with a growth mindset understands that at any age, our brains are physiologically capable of rewiring and, therefore, LEARNING!

As I stood before the Junior School students on Monday morning, I chose developing a growth mindset as the area from our Learning Framework to emphasise this week. I encourage you to have a chat with your boys about what they are aiming to improve at this week – and how they will know they are improving. Also, please encourage them to share their goal with their teacher!

God bless,

Ben Munday—Director of Junior School



Junior School Sport

Firstly, a big thank you to all students for a tremendous start to the year. Congratulations to all boys who were successful in obtaining a place in one of the sporting teams this summer and commiserations to the boys who have missed out. There will still be plenty of opportunities this term with Swimming and X-Country and throughout the year to participate in the co-curricular programme. In an ideal world, I would love to have all 365 boys participating for the College but we simply don't have enough schools to play against. I thank all parents and especially the boys for their understanding in this matter. The training schedule for all teams will be on the College website at the end of the week. The first competitive round starts this Saturday 10 February and I ask that all boys are in the correct uniform and representing the College with pride. We all play sport to win, but sometimes we will come up against bigger, stronger and more skilful opposition. Win, lose or draw we ALWAYS have impeccable manners and show outstanding sportsmanship. Good luck to all teams, especially the Year 5 boys who are representing the College for the first time.

All boys have trialled for Swimming and will be competing in next week's (Tuesday 13 February) Swimming Carnival at Auburn Aquatic Centre. All parents are welcome to attend, parking is limited and entry to the venue will be \$3.70.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster

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. Council and Police are monitoring this area.

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 park in the No Parking area and do not stop in the No Stopping area.
- ◆ 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 Street or Merley Road during the above times.

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

SPC COMMUNITY IMMERSION TO PNG

The College will offer an immersion experience in 2018 to all family and friends of the College who are 18 years or older and no longer at school. This includes Old Boys.

It will take place in the October school holidays for 7 days and will cost approx. \$2,500 - \$3,000. There will only be 12 places made available. It will be a life changing and unique experience.

Please email gillian.daley@spc.nsw.edu.au with your expression of interest by Friday 16 February. A decision will be made on this date to go ahead or not. Thank-you.

LENT AT SPC

Next Wednesday, 14 February, is Ash Wednesday marking the commencement of Lent, a time of fasting, prayer and almsgiving in preparation for the resurrection of Jesus. All students and staff will participate in a liturgy and receive the ashes to symbolise our pursuit to 'turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel'. Throughout Lent there will be various opportunities for prayer and as a community we continue to commit ourselves to the raising of funds for those most in need. This Lent we place a greater emphasis on giving without expecting anything in return, demonstrating an authentic generosity of the heart. A few dollars a week or more into the collection can make a big difference! As per our custom at the College **no meat will be sold** at the canteen on Ash Wednesday and every Friday in Lent. This is just one tangible expression of our fasting and commitment to make God the centre of our lives. We pray that this Lent we grow closer to our creator and prepare well for the peak of our Christian faith at Easter.

Gillian Daley—Director of Identity

CURRICULUM

Elective Subject Changes for Years 9 and 11

Achieving academic success begins with the selection of courses suited to each student's capabilities and interests. The College recognises this fact. That is why an extensive process of subject selection is put in place each year where both parents and their sons of Years 8 and 10 are given information sessions, prospectuses and the opportunity to discuss and research their choices for Years 9 and 11 respectively.

The choices made last year formed the basis of the 2018 College timetable. Therefore as a consequence, change of elective subjects in the new academic year is not automatic and limited by timetable constraints, staffing and class numbers. Many requests to change may not be possible.

Boys in Years 9 and 11 wishing to change elective subjects need to see Mr Cutrupi from Monday 19 February through to Wednesday 21 February inclusive to collect a subject change application form. After Wednesday 21 February no more application forms will be issued.

Completed subject change forms, including a parent signature, must be returned to Mr Cutrupi by no later than 3.30pm Friday 23 February. After that, applications will close and those received will be ignored.

For Year 11, depending on the nature of the requested subject change, a parent and son interview with Mr Cutrupi may be required to approve an application.

Again it is important to note that after Friday 23 February no further changes will be ordinarily considered, except for Year 11 Preliminary course level changes in English and Mathematics. In consolidating a programme of study for Year 12 in 2019, discontinuation of subjects to a minimum of 10 units cannot occur until the commencement of the HSC course in fourth term of Year 11.

Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum

EREA LEADERSHIP CAMP HOLIDAYS

During the holidays from 17 to 20 January, I had the opportunity to participate in the EREA 2018 Student Leader's Conference which was held at the Edmund Rice Centre Amberley in the outskirts of Melbourne. The aim of the conference was to prepare the young leaders of EREA schools across Australia with the tools necessary to leave a lasting legacy, something that we could be proud of, once we have left our respective schools. The conference introduced the idea of developing your own charter, a plan to help guide our leadership journey over the coming three terms ending with a goal based around one of the four touchstones. For myself, I had the goal of each Year group becoming closer together and supporting one another achieving the touchstone of Inclusive Community. Each leader also delved deeper into the religious aspects of leadership as well as the papal encyclical "*Laudato Si*" striving to bring about a focus on sustainability, something that St Pat's continually does, such as the opening of the St Francis of Assisi garden and the introduction of reusable stainless steel water bottles. I would like to thank Mr Chase and Dr Wattam for giving me the opportunity to attend the conference and improve upon my leadership skills to help me become a better leader within the College community.

Harrison Armour (Year 12 Student)

UNIFORM SHOP

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to you and your sons to the Uniform Shop. It has been a great, but extremely busy start to the year and we would like to thank you for your patience and courtesy when the queues have been lengthy.

When phoning to place an order, it would be helpful and appreciated if you call prior to Recess (11.00am) and Lunch (1.25pm) so that we will be able to have your order ready when your son arrives to collect the goods. Please ensure that you leave your name and contact phone number, so that we are able to contact you if needed.

Many thanks for your cooperation,

Teresa Briglia—Uniform Shop Manager

PASTORAL CARE

Dear Parents,

I would like to inform you that Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand are hosting an upcoming **ParentWise Course Term one** which will run from 5.30pm to 7.30pm, Wednesday 21 February until Wednesday 28 March 2018, for six weeks in Marrickville. The course flyer is available from me at the College.

The ParentWise parenting programme is for parents and carers of young people aged between 12-17 years. This is a free 6-week programme that explores issues such as adolescent brain development, normal adolescent behaviours, parenting styles, dealing with challenges in parenting adolescents, communication, positive discipline, and self-care for parents and carers. The ParentWise philosophy is that a strong relationship between the parent/carer and their child is the most protective factor for the adolescent in these exciting years. Parents and carers are encouraged and supported to see themselves as the experts in their families as issues and strategies are explored. ParentWise offers a solid parenting framework, based on strong and enduring research in the fields of attachment, relationships, and neuroscience.

The course is limited to 15 parents and there is a registration process. For more information please contact ParentWise on 8571 7800 or email reception@goodshp.org.au.

Regards,

Robert Simpson—Director of Wellbeing

ParentWise

Strengthening
your relationship
with your teenager

FREE parenting course

ParentWise is a six-week parenting course for parents and carers of 12-17 year olds.

The program supports parents to better communicate and strengthen their relationships with adolescents.

ParentWise is facilitated by experienced adolescent and family workers.

ParentWise provides you with

- Strategies to connect with your adolescent based on their stage of development
- The skills to identify and set appropriate limits and boundaries
- Knowledge and understanding of various parenting styles
- Tools to effectively communicate with your adolescent
- The opportunity to share experiences and ideas with other parents

Registration is essential

To make an enquiry call 8571 7800 or email reception@goodshp.org.au

What parents say about ParentWise

"ParentWise helped me feel more confident in my choices as a parent."

"I now have a better understanding why my teenager acts and feels the way they do."

Program details

WHEN

Wednesday evenings, 5:30 – 7:30pm
One session per week for six weeks, from 21 February to 28 March, 2018
Light refreshments provided

WHERE

Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
440 Marrickville Road, Marrickville

 Good Shepherd
Australia New Zealand

440 Marrickville Rd, Marrickville NSW 2204
02 8571 7800
reception@goodshp.org.au
www.goodshp.org.au

Sports Draw - SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2018

CRICKET

1st XI	v	Central Coast Grammar	10.00	Breen Oval
2nd XI	v	St Pius	10.00	Oxford Falls
3rd XI	v	Oxley College	10.00	Oxley College
16A	v	Kings	1.30	TKS Old Boys
15A	v	Epping Distric Red	8.30	Meadowbank Park 10
15B	v	Barker College	9.00	SPC 2
14A	v	Epping Distric	8.00	Meadowbank Park 8
14B	v	Oakhill	8.00	Ujohn Park 2
13A	v	Bye		
13B	v	Shore (30 Overs)	9.00	Northbridge C
13 White	v	Shoe (30 Overs)	8.30	Phillips 3
13 Gold	v	Shore (30 Overs)	1.00	Phillips 3
13 Black	v	13 Red (T20)	12.00	SPC 4
13 Green	v	13 Blue (T20)	10.00	Phillips 2

BASEBALL

1st IX	v	Greenway	8.30	Majors Bay
2nd IX	v	Rosebank (Friday Night)	6.00pm	Majors Bay
16A	v	Riverview	11.00	Riverview
14A	v	Five Dock	11.00	Timbrell

BASKETBALL

1st V	v	Chevalier College	10.00	Moss Vale Stadium 1
17A	v	Chevalier College	9.00	Moss Vale Stadium 1
17B	v	St Andrews Cathedral	1.00	SPC Gym
17C	v	St Paul's College	9.30	St Paul's Gym 1
17D	v	St Pius	11.00	Auburn 2
17Black	v	SCECGS Redlands	9.00	SPC Gym
15A	v	Chevalier College	11.00	Moss Vale Stadium 2
15B	v	St Andrew's Cathedral	12.00	SPC Gym
15C	v	St Paul's College	10.30	St Paul's Gym 2
15D	v	St Pius	11.00	Auburn 1
14A	v	Chevalier College	10.00	Moss Vale Stadium 2
14B	v	St Andrew's Cathedral	11.00	SPC Gym
14C	v	St Paul's College	8.30	St Paul's Gym 1
14D	v	St Pius	10.00	Auburn 2
14 Black	v	Blue Mountains Grammar	11.30	BMGS Ct 1
13A	v	Chevalier College	9.00	Moss Vale Stadium 2
13B	v	St Andrews Cathedral	10.00	SPC Gym
13C	v	St Paul's College	8.30	St Paul's Gym 2
13D	v	St Pius	10.00	Auburn 1
13 Black	v	Central Coast Grammar	12.00	CCGS Gym (RLC) 2
13 Gold	v	Oxley College	9.00	Oxley College Ct 2

GOLF

Squad	v	Riverview Blue	1.00	Avondale Gold Club
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JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT WEEKLY DRAW SUMMER ROUND ONE 10/02/2018

CRICKET	OPPOSITION	VENUE	TIME
TRAD 6A	Cranbrook	Cooke Park	8.00am
TRAD 6B	Cranbrook	SPC NO 4	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6A	Grammar St Ives	Cowper 1	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 6B	Trinity	Phillips Park	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6C	BYE	BYE	BYE
TRAD 5A	Scots	Christison Park 1 South	8.00am
TRAD 5B	Scots	Christison Park 2 Middle	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 5A	Newington	Johnson North	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 5B	Newington	Johnson South	9.30am
BASKETBALL			
TEAM A	Knox	Knox Prep 2	10.30am
TEAM B	Knox	Knox Prep 2	9.40am
TEAM C	Knox	Knox Prep 2	8.50am
TEAM D	Knox	Knox Prep 2	8.00am
TEAM E	Knox	Knox Prep 1	10.30am
TEAM F	Knox	Knox Prep 1	9.40am
TEAM G	Knox	Auburn 1	9.00am
TEAM H	Knox	Auburn 1	8.00am
TEAM I	Knox	Auburn 2	9.00am
TEAM J	Knox	Auburn 2	8.00am
TEAM K	Newington Wyvern	Auburn 3	9.00am
TEAM L	Newington Wyvern	Auburn 3	8.00am
TENNIS			
TEAM A	Riverview	SPC Courts	8.00am
TEAM B	Shore	Northbridge	7.30am
SOFTBALL			
TEAM Black	Grammar St Ives	Top Field	8.00am



Head of Secondary Sport

Pink Stumps Day

The College will be hosting a 'Pink Stumps Day' on Breen Oval on Saturday 17 February, 2018. This is in support of the McGrath Foundation, which raises money to place McGrath Breast Care Nurses in communities across Australia as well as to increase awareness in young people.



The day will consist of:

- ◆ 1st XI fixture on Breen Oval and a 3rd XI fixture on SPC 2 with a 'pink flavour'
- ◆ Raffle/Guessing Competition
- ◆ BBQ and Drinks
- ◆ High catch challenge on Breen Oval (lunch break)

I would encourage all members of the College community to endeavour to get down to Breen Oval in two weekend's time in support of this cause.

To further support the event you can donate at <https://pinkstumpsday2018.gofundraise.com.au/page/AndrewSimone>

Swimming News

Firstly, I would like welcome Mrs Jane Tzakos to her new role as Swimming MIC for the remainder of this season. As a long standing member of the College community I have little doubt that she will do a fantastic job in managing the squad.

The Secondary House and Age Swimming Championships will take place on Friday 16 February at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. A letter with all the Carnival details will be emailed home to parents soon. This is always a wonderful day and a great opportunity for boys to earn points for the College Cup. I would encourage all boys to participate fully in their respective Houses in pursuit of the College Cup.

Congratulations

Congratulation to Tomas Kapocius of Year 11 who competed at the Australian National Open Water Swimming Championships which were held in Adelaide over the last weekend of the school holidays. Tomas won the boys 16 years 7.5km race on Australia Day. He then somehow rested, recovered and competed in the boys 16 years 5km event the next day where he won a bronze medal. Swimming Australia recognised Tomas' talent and invited him to attend the Swimming Australia 2018 Open Water Swimming Development Camp.

We also extended our congratulations to Dylan Parks of Year 7 who won silver at the 2018 Tasmania State Rock Climbing Titles last weekend. A courageous effort from Dylan who is one of the youngest and smallest in his category and is still in the recovery stage of a 'hip injury' suffered during the summer break. We wish Dylan all the best at the NSW State Titles in two weeks time, as he attempts to qualify for Nationals in May.

Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport

VENUES:

Auburn Basketball Centre: Wyatt Park, Church St, Lidcombe
 Cooke Park: Madeline St, Belfield
 SPC Courts, No 3, No 4: Edgar St, Strathfield
 Phillips Park: Nicholas St, Lidcombe
 Cowper 1 & Top Field: Cnr Ayres Rd and Mona Vale Rd, St Ives
 Johnson North and South: Stanmore Rd, Stanmore (inside Newington Senior School)
 Christison Park South: Old South Head Rd, Vaucluse
 Northbridge: TBA
 Knox Prep: Prep Courts are located within the Prep Campus – 1 Billyard Ave, Wahroonga.
 (Walk all the way to the back of the school.)