

# Especean

Vol 31, No 06 – 7 March 2018

## Principal

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

### On Competition

I recently made a remark at a parent information evening about encouraging healthy competition with boys. In some quarters competition has well and truly gone out of fashion. In its place we have instead often encouraged a sense of equality so that no-one feels left out. Heaven forbid if we create a sense of a 'winner' or a 'loser'. If we do not offer the opportunity for competition in children how will they ever learn how to try harder next time, do more work or practice in order to improve or that sometimes, someone else was simply the better competitor on the day?

I have never been a fan of a trophy or a ribbon for every child who competes. I know that many sports clubs on presentation day will do this – every member of every team regardless of the outcome at the end of the season will get a trophy for participating. I realise this may sound harsh, but that is simply not life! I do not subscribe to the "every child wins a prize" approach to life. If this were the case, then we would be reluctant to play snakes and ladders or monopoly with our children, lest we create winners and losers. In order for someone to win, someone else has to lose.

Boys thrive on healthy competition. It drives boys in their quest to be better than they were at whatever it is – be it as a member of a sports team, a competitor in a chess tournament or in an eisteddfod. Competition in and of itself is not a bad thing. What we do have to teach our boys is how to be gracious; both in victory as well as defeat. No one likes a gloater at the expense of someone else, and poor losers (those who lay blame elsewhere, or throw a tantrum) are not becoming. Winning well and losing with dignity are life skills that are important to learn. Sometimes we simply do not make the grade, the team, the top class or the representative squad. This does not mean that we are useless, a failure or not a worthy person. It simply means that the competition was such that we didn't make it *this time*. What missing out should inspire is a determination to have another go after having reflected on what we need to do to improve. Then hard work, technique and good coaching and learning come into play.



Schools have also fallen for the trap of avoiding competition in the classroom, just in case we might offend someone. Competition, when treated sensitively, is healthy. It is a preparation for life

beyond school. As adults, we have all experienced rejection in some form or another. It might have been a job we have applied for, a loan we have sought from the bank, or a trial for a team or an audition for a role. We have all missed out on something. It may be a romantic interest that has not been reciprocated. This can be really important to us at the time as well. How we bounce back from disappointment is key to who we are and it is a testament to our character. With children, our adult messages to them should include allowing them to feel disappointed, but then after some time, moving on and dealing with the disappointment so that it doesn't define them or make them reluctant to try again. Even with adolescents and young men, they should be allowed to feel the disappointment of not making the grade. It is ok to cry about it, but it is essential to let it go in due course and find another approach. Giving up is not healthy!

Class quizzes, exam results, receiving an HSC result and an ATAR, trying out for a team and a role in the College play are all competitive endeavours whether we like it or not. Our boys, I think, readily accept this fact. In addition, teaching boys to accept the adjudicator's/referee's/examiner's decision is also an important life lesson.

As a modestly successful learner, I enjoyed my school career. I did not struggle with my learning and had not experienced rejection until I was twenty years old. It was then that I failed at something that consciously mattered to me for the first time. In hindsight, I was unprepared for this. It would have been easy to project blame or become defensive. I had to learn how to bounce back and know that inherently this did not make me a failure as a person.

Notwithstanding, not everything has to be a competition. There are many occasions where competition is inappropriate and undesirable. Having the maturity to understand the difference between cooperation and competition (time and place, attitude and approach) is another important life skill to develop. Navigating adolescence involves the development of a healthy self-concept and self-belief but not at the expense of the dignity of others. I always advocate that preserving the dignity of the other, even in times of disagreement is what makes us gentlemen. That will never go out of fashion.

Congratulations to our public speakers on their fine performance last week which sees eight of our twelve boys moving through to the zone final. A great start boys!

### Condolences

Please pray for Jack (Year 12) and Luke Abraham (Year 9) and their family as they mourn the loss of their grandfather Tony Abraham. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

*Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.*

Craig Wattam  
Principal



## Junior School

This week I invited the Junior School students to reflect on last Sunday's Gospel – Jesus driving the money changers and merchants from the temple. It's a hard story, but I know our boys can engage with hard ideas if we encourage and expect them to.

What should we make of this story? When I was a boy I wondered whether Jesus had done wrong. Later, I thought it showed Jesus was a normal human and had a bit of a temper. Later still, I learned what a prophet is in the Jewish tradition – not someone who tells the future, but someone who calls out God-less behaviour and calls us back to right relationship with God – and I thought maybe Jesus was showing his role as prophet. Which is true? Is there another interpretation?

I asked the students to hold this story in their hearts this week and ask themselves: is there something they do, or see others do, that could be like the money changers in the temple? Is there something that has become normal, that when we stop to look at it, is actually far away from God? Lent is a time we are called to examine ourselves, and our school, and our society, and come back to God.

This we can only do if first we notice how we have turned away, in ways large and small. May we reflect with honest and open hearts this Lent.

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I am very much looking forward to the Junior School Family Dinner on Friday evening. I sincerely thank the P&F for putting on this event and hope it will be a great community building event as it has been for many years now.

**Ben Munday—Director of Junior School**

## Junior School Sport

Firstly a big congratulations to Oliver Stitt in the Year 5B traditional Cricket team who took a hat trick last weekend against Knox. Oliver took 3 for 4 off 1.5 overs. Another strong performance for the 5A traditional Cricket team who still remain undefeated Well done.

Well done also to the Prep A Basketball team for their hard fought 1 point win over Trinity. Congratulations to both the Tennis A and B teams who continue to impress both on and off the court winning all four rounds so far.

Well done to the Swimming Squad who went to Riverview last Friday with some excellent results. We placed first in 28 individual races. Swimmers of the meet were Nicholas Macher who won 5 individual first places and was a member of 2 successful relays, James Kelly – 4 individual first places and 2 successful relays and Jack Taylor – 3 individual first places and 2 successful relays.

Congratulations to Markus Parinetto who came 1st in U12's springboard and 2nd in platform and Anthony del Popolo who came 2nd in U11's platform. Both have made it through to represent IPSHA in Diving at the CIS Carnival later this month. Congratulations also to Nicholas Macher who won the U10's 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly and an automatic qualifier for the 200IM and will now compete at the CIS Carnival in 2 weeks. Well done also to Jack Taylor in the U11's 50m freestyle and butterfly and to James Kelly also in the U11's 50m freestyle and backstroke who have all made the IPSHA representative squad.

**Winter trials will take place on Monday 26 March and Monday 9 April during the day. Junior School will NOT be trialling on the weekends.**

**Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster**

## ROUND 1 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Last Friday night the CSDA Public Speaking Competition began and Round 1 had us at Patrician Brothers Fairfield. We entered 12 students from Year 7 through to Year 12. Our boys performed exceptionally well, all showcasing their ability to stand confidently in front of a crowd speaking about issues that they believe in. Eight of these boys made it through this knockout round and are now progressing to the Zone Final this Friday. We congratulate Shivaal Maharaj of Year 7, Patrick Alphonse and Oliver Meleca of Year 8, Lemuel Fernandez and Gianluca Pecora of Year 10 and Thomas Kearney, Daniel Tramonte and Justin Cordi of Year 12. We wish you all the best of luck in the Zone Final at Aquinas Catholic College Menai.

**Martha Zantis—MIC Public Speaking and Debating**

## BUSES

### Survey of Parents interested in a new bus route.

We are surveying whether there is enough demand to determine a new bus route for the families of boys who live in the areas of: Chester Hill; Sefton; Yagoona; Condell Park; Georges Hall; Bass Hill; Regents Park; Berala and surrounding areas.

If anyone is interested in expressing their interest and would take advantage of the bus service should it be approved, would you please email Melanie Mitry on [mmitry@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mmitry@optusnet.com.au) and she will contact you with information required.

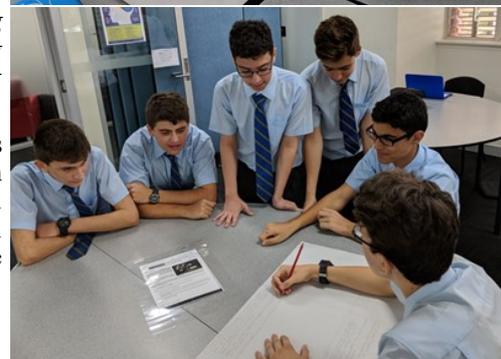
## INQUIRY LEARNING IN YEAR 9 & 10 GEOGRAPHY

Students in Year 9 Geography have been studying Sustainable Biomes in class looking specifically at the production of food and food security. In Mr Sciortino and Mrs Holding's classes, students had the opportunity over two lessons in Week 5 to experience the learning process slightly differently. Matthew Callus and Joshua Parison described the experience like this:

*It consisted of two classes joining together to learn more about agricultural issues and food production. They formed groups of 5-6 students and worked on researching 6 different agricultural and sustainability issues, writing summaries and answering a variety of inquiry questions. All the boys involved enjoyed this new type of learning method. Below are some photos of the event.*

Students in Ms Bellamy's, Ms Ho's and Mr Sciortino's Year 10 Geography classes have been investigating the local, national and global plastic waste issue in line with Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday 4 March. This case study fits with the Environmental Change and Management topic currently being examined in class. In doing so, all students have completed waste audits at the College and have worked in their respective classes to come up with strategies to reduce the amount of waste they produce.

**Greg Sciortino—Geography teacher**



Over the coming week or so, students of Years 10, 11 and 12 are confirming their respective entries with the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESAs) for the purpose of credentialing, ultimately leading to the award of the Higher School Certificate.

The students will check their personal details, all subjects currently undertaken as well as other details such as indigenous status and Australian citizenship. In addition, each Year 12 student will confirm his eligibility for an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). A few Year 12 students may choose not to receive an ATAR. It should also be noted that in signing the Confirmation of Entry form for the HSC, each Year 12 student is confirming he has read and understood the NESAs booklet, *Rules and Procedures for 2018 Higher School Certificate Candidates*, issued to the students last term and available on the NESAs website. Also, each Year 12 student is confirming he has completed the NESAs *All My Own Work* programme about good scholarship practices.

Years 10 and 11 Confirmation of Entry forms are signed, dated and returned during homeroom. They do not leave the College. All forms are then cross-checked for accuracy with both College and NESAs records. In the case of Year 12, each student will sign and date his form individually with Mrs Doonan.

Should parents or their sons have any questions or concerns regarding any of the details mentioned, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

*Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum*

## PARENT AND STUDENT WORKSHOPS

**Study Skills Years 7 – 9** Dr Prue Slater returns next week to conduct another engaging and interactive workshop for boys in Years 7, 8 and 9 and their parents. Her session is lively, practical and informative. We have provided her workshops for boys and their parents in previous years and the feedback has always been excellent. The workshop will be held on Thursday 15 March in the College gymnasium from 7.00pm until 8.45pm. Please see the flyer attached to the end of the Especean for further details. Register your attendance by [clicking this link](#). Parents and boys can access [Study Skills Handbook](#) resources on the website by entering our username (forsponly) and password (138results).

**HSC Minimum Standards – Online Tests for Year 10s** As parents and boys are aware, NESAs has recently removed the link between NAPLAN and pre-qualifying for the HSC Minimum Standards. This applies to students currently in Year 9 and below. Students currently in Year 10 who did not achieve Band 8 in Reading, Writing and/or Numeracy will need to sit online tests to demonstrate achievement of these standards. We will run a workshop on Reading, Numeracy and Writing for these students on Wednesday 21 March, Periods 2 and 3. That same evening from 7.00pm, we are offering an interactive workshop for the boys and their parents. More details will be sent via email to relevant families.

*Denise Lombardo—Director of Learning & Innovation*

## FATHER/SON EVENING FOR YEAR 11—“What kind of man will he be?”

All young men of Year 11 and their fathers/father figures are invited to attend an evening of reflection, sharing and fun. We will share a meal together and continue to develop our relationships in this positive environment. A good chance just to have time together.

**Date:** Tuesday 3 April 2018  
**Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
**Venue:** Waterford House (Merley Rd, Strathfield – next to the College Pool)  
**Attire:** Casual clothing

*Please RSVP by Tuesday 27 March.* Send an email to [gillian.daley@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gillian.daley@spc.nsw.edu.au) with Father/Son Evening as the subject. Please include in the email the name of both the father and the son plus a contact phone number and email address.

Numbers will be limited so get in quick. If you have any questions please send us an email or contact us at the College.

*Gillian Daley—Director of Identity*

&

*Tom Kirby—Year 11 Coordinator*

## McGLADE LIBRARY HOMEWORK CLUB RE-OPENS

I am pleased to advise parents and boys that the McGlade Library will be open and supervised from 3.30pm to 4.45pm Monday to Friday as of Monday 26 March. It is envisaged that the Homework Club will provide an environment that is quiet and supervised by staff members available to assist the boys with developing good study habits, techniques, timetables and the like.

Students will be expected to sign in and sign out at the commencement and conclusion of their homework session and are not compelled to stay for the full duration of the above-mentioned time. They should however make their parents aware as to what period of time they will be using this facility in order to arrange travel home. Those students availing themselves of this service are encouraged to bring some snacks and refreshments which can be consumed between 3.10pm and 3.30pm. Please note that the McGlade Library will be able to cater to a maximum of 60 boys any afternoon.

Clearly, there will be expectations placed on those attending these after school Homework Club sessions, not least of all; **students are not to use their** devices to play games and they are to remain on task and respect the privacy of others by working quietly.

The College is hopeful that a number of families will benefit from this initiative. Any queries in relation to this matter should be directed to me in the first instance.

## CO-CURRICULAR UNIFORM – TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

A reminder in relation to the attire worn by our boys making **their way home on Public Transport at the conclusion** of an afternoon's training session. As of February 2016, boys were permitted to wear the following College attire:

Full Summer or Winter College Uniform depending on the season as per current expectation

Or

The College Supporter's shirt, **College Crested Black shorts**, white socks and runners/sandshoes.

The College Tracksuit is optional yet highly recommended to be worn during the winter season.

These conditions also apply to those boys who travel to school by public transport to attend their **morning training sessions**. Boys have been informed of the consequences should they not adhere to the above-mentioned criteria.

*Steve Fochesato – Director of Co-curricular*

# Sports Draw - SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2018

## CRICKET (ISA Finals)

1st XI	v	St Stanislaus	10.00	St Stanislaus' No 1 Oval
2nd XI	v	All Saints Bathurst	10.00	Main Oval Scots (Bathurst)
16A	v	Scots	9.00	Hudson Park
15A	v	Epping District Blue	8.30	Somerville Oval
15B	v	Sydney Boys High	1.30	McKay 3
14A	v	West Epping	8.00	TBC
14B	v	Carlingford Waratah	8.00	TBC
13A	v	West Epping	8.00	TBC
13B	v	Barker D	12.00	Phillips Park 1
13 Black	v	Riverview	1.30	Riverview 2B
13Green	v	Shore D	9.00	Northbridge (S)
13 White	v	13 Blue (T20)	12.00	SPC 4
13 Red	v	13 Gold (T20)	12.00	Phillips Park 2

## BASEBALL

1st IX	v	Riverview	11.00	Major's Bay
2nd IX	v	Bye		
16A	v	Bye		
14A	v	Rosebank	11.00	Major's Bay

## BASKETBALL (ISA Finals)

17B	v	St Spyridon	1.30	Penrith Basketball Stadium 4
17 Black	v	Oakhill	2.30	Penrith Basketball Stadium 6
14C	v	St Paul's Grammar	10.30	Penrith Basketball Stadium 6
13A	v	Oakhill	9.30	Penrith Basketball Stadium 5
13B	v	St Pius	9.30	Penrith Basketball Stadium 6

## GOLF

Squad	v	Trinity	12.00	Monash
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### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR COACHING AND REFEREEING

Any parent or Old Boy who is interested in coaching a Football, Rugby or Tennis team this winter is asked to contact [anthony.calavassy@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:anthony.calavassy@spc.nsw.edu.au) to express their interest. Anyone qualified and interested in refereeing either Football or Rugby for the school is also asked to contact me.

### JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT WEEKLY DRAW SUMMER ROUND FIVE 10/03/2018

CRICKET	OPPOSITION	VENUE	TIME
TRAD 6A	Knox	Phillips Park	8.00am
TRAD 6B	Knox	SPC NO 4	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6A	St Aloysius	Phillips Park	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 6B	Shore	Northbridge E	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6C	St Aloysius	Phillips Park	8.00am
TRAD 5A	Cranbrook	Dangar	8.00am
TRAD 5B	Cranbrook	Dangar 2	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 5A	Grammar Edge	Rudd Park	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 5B	Grammar Edge	Rudd Park	8.00am

## BASKETBALL

TEAM A	Waverley	Auburn 1	9.00am
TEAM B	Waverley	Auburn 1	8.00am
TEAM C	Waverley	Auburn 2	9.00am
TEAM D	Waverley	Auburn 2	8.00am
TEAM E	Waverley	WCJS	10.30am
TEAM F	Waverley	WCJS	9.40am
TEAM G	Waverley	WCJS	8.50am
TEAM H	Waverley	WCJS	8.00am
TEAM I	Waverley	Auburn 3	9.00am
TEAM J	Waverley	Auburn 3	8.00am
TEAM K	Waverley	Birrell St Courts Snr School	8.50am
TEAM L	Waverley	Birrell St Courts Snr School	8.00am

## TENNIS

TEAM A	Redlands	SPC Courts	9.30am
TEAM B	St Aloysius	SPC Courts	8.00am

## SOFTBALL

TEAM Black	St Pius X	Oxford Falls	8.00am
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## VENUES:

Auburn Basketball Centre: Wyatt Park, Church St, Lidcombe  
 Cooke Park: Madeline St, Belfield  
 Breen & SPC Courts, No 3, No 4: Edgar St, Strathfield  
 Rudd Park: Clarence St, Belfield  
 Phillips Park: Nicholas St, Lidcombe  
 Northbridge E: 55 Sailor's Bay Rd, Northbridge  
 Dangar: Luka St, Rose Bay  
 WCJS Courts: Henrietta St, Waverley  
 Waverley Senior Courts: Birrell St Courts, Waverley  
 Oxford Falls: Cnr Dreadnought and Wakehurst Parkway, Oxford Falls.



## Head of Secondary Sport

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the 17B, 17 Black, 14C, 13A and 13B Basketball sides who have progressed through to this week's Basketball Finals at Penrith Stadium. We also extend our congratulations to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Cricket sides on their comprehensive semi-final wins last Saturday. Both Cricket teams will now travel to Bathurst this weekend for the Grand Finals. Good luck to all those involved!

The College wishes to acknowledge the recent achievements of Se-Bom Lee and Finn O'Connor who competed in the 2018 Hancock Prospecting Australian Swimming Trials held on the Gold Coast last week. This meet sees the nation's best swimmers compete to gain selection in the Australian Swim Team to participate at the Commonwealth Games later next month. A special mention must be made of Se-Bom who was the youngest competitor to make the 400m Individual Medley Final, in which he placed 7<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to both Se-Bom and Finn on their tremendous achievements in the pool.

### Winter Sport Trials

Winter sport trials for Rugby, Football and Tennis commence on Wednesday 21 March. Due to the unavailability of council grounds during this time and the Easter break, we will be running trial sessions on Saturday 24 March, in addition to the midweek afternoon sessions. A schedule for trials will be released shortly.

We are aware that some boys will still be engaged in Cricket and Baseball finals at this time – these boys are advised that their summer co-curricular activities take precedence over their winter commitments until the end of their summer season.

### Cross Country Season

I wish to inform all those who will be involved with Cross Country as a co-curricular this year of the improvements and restructure of the upcoming season. Fortunately St Patrick's College has been welcomed to compete in the GPS/CAS Cross Country Season for 2018.

Students who have nominated to only compete in Cross Country as a co-curricular and no other winter sport will have the opportunity to run in a series of competitive meets on the Saturdays during Term Two. These meets will be of great value for our runners as preparation in the lead up to the ISA Championship on Wednesday 30 May. A note will be sent home shortly to those students who nominated Cross Country as a co-curricular. Should you have any further questions in regards to the new Cross Country season please contact the MIC, Michael Di Paola.

In last week's Especean article I congratulated those students who gained selection in ISA Summer Sport Representative Teams. I wish to apologise and extend my congratulations to Harry Brooks for making the ISA Cricket side.

*Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport*

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH, ASHBURY

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 20 MAY 2018—10.00AM

Online registrations are open from Tuesday 13 March and will close Friday 13 April 2018. No further registrations will be accepted after this date.

Please email: Mel—[melrathbone.mr@gmail.com](mailto:melrathbone.mr@gmail.com) or  
 Rosanne—[errichiello2@bigpond.com](mailto:errichiello2@bigpond.com)  
 for an Information Package with enrolment details.

FIXTURES AND GROUND LOCATIONS are published live online (includes cancellations):

Go to <http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/co-curricular/sporting/> or visit the College website and select Sports Fixtures on the Quick Links menu

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

St Patrick's College Strathfield presents an opportunity not to be missed:

# TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

PARENT AND STUDENT STUDY SKILLS EVENING

with Dr Prue Salter

**TO: PARENTS & STUDENTS OF YEAR 7**

(and Years 8 and 9 who missed out last year or would like a refresher)

*Would you like to know the study skills  
secrets to success in high school?*

**YEAR 7 PARENT/STUDENT  
'STUDY SKILLS' EVENING**

**Thursday 15th March 2018, 7-8.40pm  
St Patrick's College Strathfield Hall**

(Note: please arrive 5-10 min prior to collect the family handout.)

Parent/Guardian(s) and students should **attend together** as the session is very interactive, the session will not be of full value unless both the students and a parent attend.

Both students and parents also need to **bring along a pen** (and one highlighter for the family) and the school diary.

The main areas that will be covered are:

- Managing homework and assignments effectively by efficient time management.
- Learning to be more organised for school and at home.
- Working and studying effectively in high school.



An interactive evening for parents and students outlines tools and techniques for students to achieve their personal academic best.

Dr Prue Salter is the founder of ELES ([www.enhanced-learning.net](http://www.enhanced-learning.net)) and an expert in the area of study skills. She has conducted over 4000 study skills seminars across Australia and Asia, has written 20 study skills resource kits for schools and is the creator of the online and interactive study skills website used by more than 120000 students ([www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)).

Prue's PhD explores whole-school integrated approaches to developing students' self-regulated learning skills.

