

Especean

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Principal

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

I have had a number of conversations with people in the last couple of weeks about the power of storytelling. At our place we linger around the dining table and tell stories: stories about our day, we re-live favourite stories from the past (particularly the humorous ones), and we eagerly anticipate each other's new stories. Some stories we tell time and again because we just know they are reveled in by our audience. Being a listener, we come to know other people's stories and we enjoy the familiarity of them. We lead storied lives. It is this fact that makes storytelling innately human.

When we tell our stories, we relate our experiences, travels, joys, frustrations, and disappointments with each other in a free, often circuitous narrative. When stories are funny they have the power to delight us. Sad stories teach us how to empathise, show compassion, and expose our own vulnerabilities. Both telling and hearing stories tend to round us out as people; they give insights into us – whether as the composer or the responder. A good story offers us a new perspective. I wonder, whose stories do you listen to? Are there stories that need to be told but aren't given voice? If so, with whom would you like to share these stories? I guess we have to also ask how we allow those voices that have been silenced, an opportunity to be heard. I am reminded here of the hymn that starts out "Who will speak if we don't?" Sometimes, we have to tell other people's stories for them. The homeless, the voiceless, the refugee, and the outcast come to mind.

The timelessness of stories keeps us going to the movies, reading books and listening to live speakers, and high quality lyrics in the music we choose. Some stories are historical and some are hysterical. The sheer variety of stories available to us guarantees that we will never be short of a story. Sometimes we hear stories that are quite confronting because they reveal for us something about ourselves that makes us uncomfortable or they expose something that we would have preferred stay hidden. It is often the reason that a story will resonate with us, because it reinforces our own story – these stories serve to validate our lives. However, there is a caution here. We are prone to subconsciously reinforcing our biases and prejudices. The danger in only hearing one story provides a single account. And whose account is that exactly? Whether this be an ultra-conservative or a radical, we must be wary of what Chimamanda Adichie calls the "danger of the single story". She suggests that how impressionable and vulnerable we are in the face of a story, especially when we are children, which can lead us to only hearing one dominant story as we grow up. There are many stories, many views, and many characters that can help shape our lives. Profound stories, like the one of Jesus of Nazareth, has untold power to teach and guide. The Jesus story leads us out of complacency to a place where we must examine ourselves and the lives we are leading.

History is replete with the silencing of the storyteller. When we silence others we move to injustice and persecution. If we do not stand up for what is right, then what does our silence do? Those who have been invisible and silent; our indigenous brothers and sisters, those who seek a new home with us, women, and those on the margins, all have stories to tell. These stories should stir in us some



movement towards, not inaction about, their plight. If we do nothing, our silence serves to promote and make licit the status quo.

Our stories need to be told and heard. Storytelling is important but *storylistening* is all the more powerful at times. A campfire is a great storytelling place. Besides the fire, there are few distractions and one has a relatively captive audience. If storytelling and listening is not big at your place, try getting your son or daughter to kick-off proceedings. The story can be factual, fanciful, or fictional. Please encourage your boys to read stories. Real stories, in books, with lots of pages! Getting lost in a book takes me to another place. I lose sense of place, time, and myself. A good story will live on in my memory for a long time. It is a gift that keeps on giving long after the last page has been read. Some of the most important skills your child will leave school with include the power to read well, comprehend, infer, draw conclusions, and relate what he has read or heard into another context. If he can tell a good story he will also be a hit at a dinner party!

Old Boys' Lunch

On the topic of storytelling, there were many to be relived at the Old Boys' lunch last Friday. It was a pleasure to hear the stories of Old Boys who ranged from 18 to 86 years old. Old Boy John Brogden gave a rousing speech that reached every corner of the room and touched all of us for its humour, raw honesty, and candour. The fondness with which our Old Boys speak of their alma mater is both inspiring and touching. Although so much changes once people leave school, these Old Boys at least remember their time at St Patrick's as a place of opportunity, faith, and high-quality learning. I realise that not everyone's experience of school is a positive one, and I acknowledge that for some graduates, they would rather leave their school days behind.

Having said that, the lunch last week highlighted again for me the power of the Old Boys' network in keeping graduates connected with each other and importantly, knowing that an Old Boy of our College is only ever a phone call away. And, regardless of age, indeed that Old Boy invariably can turn into a new friend.

Condolences

Please pray for Alex Speranza (Year 12) and his family as they mourn the loss of his grandfather Mr John Borg aged 67. Please also pray for Vittoriano Ciaccia from the maintenance department as he mourns the loss of his mother Annita Speranza Ciaccia, aged 91, in Italy. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal



Junior School

Last week the Year 5 students spent a most enjoyable Friday working through Peer Support activities led by Year 10 student leaders. I wish to draw particular attention to the hard work and organisation of Mr Gaetano Castiglione, Year 10 Coordinator, for his generosity of time and spirit in preparing this day.

Peer Support programmes have a number of intentions and benefits for both the student leaders and the younger students. These include:

- Development of leadership and organisational skills in older students
- Establishment of inter-grade bonds between students
- Developing a sense of community and College spirit
- Weaving the threads of a 'safety net' that students can rely on for support when things go wrong

Together with Belonging Day, the Year 5 Welcome Mass and the Junior School Family Dinner, Peer Support is one part of an induction or 'welcome to St Patrick's' agenda. I would be very interested to hear opinions from families about this induction into the community. We always encourage our students to have a growth mindset and we take this approach with our own structures and processes too. What is great? What could be better? Please share your opinions with me at ben.munday@spc.nsw.edu.au.

Ben Munday—Director of Junior School



Junior School Sport

A big congratulations to all boys in the Junior School who participated in the X-Country/Fun Run last Thursday. On a warm day, there were some excellent individual runners and some boys who made a great effort for their house. Well done to Jacob and Nicholas, the Captains of Coghlan who held the trophy high after the final scores were tallied. Congratulations also to the Age Champions and runners up. 15 Boys have now been selected to represent the College at the IPSHA carnival on Saturday 7 April at The King's School.

Coghlan— 1st
 Hickey— 2nd
 Hanrahan— 3rd
 Rice— 4th
 Berg— 5th
 Crichton— 6th

Age Champions
 U10's—Nicholas Macher
 U11's—Alessandro Piccin
 U12's—Luke Costello

Runner Up's
 U10's—Angus Riley
 U11's—Jack Taylor
 U12's—Bailey Leighton

Well done to all boys on the way they finished the first half of the summer season. Apologies to the Year 6 Super 8 A's whose game had to be cancelled last week as the council prepared the grounds early for the winter season. Congratulations to the Prep A Cricket side which played the best game all year to beat Kings comfortably. The Prep B also had a strong victory as did the 5A traditional side which goes from strength to strength. Special mention goes to Logan Barry who took 5/15 off 3 overs. Well done to the Softball team which remains undefeated for the season and the K and L Basketball teams for their outstanding efforts this year.

We wish Nicholas, James, Jack, Anthony and Markus all the best for the upcoming Swimming and Diving Championships at Homebush this Thursday. Well done to Markus Parinetto who picked up 2 Silver medals and Anthony del Popolo who got a bronze medal on the weekend at the NSW Diving Championships. Both have now qualified for Nationals in 1m and 3m springboard (April holidays in Melbourne).

Well done also to both the Tennis A and B teams which remain undefeated. The boys are really playing well as individuals, but more importantly as a team, to secure the best results in Tennis for many years.

A reminder from your class parents that the NSW Government is helping kids get active with the new Active Kids programme. From 31 January 2018, parents, guardians and carers can apply for a \$100 voucher per calendar year for each student enrolled in school. The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities. The voucher can be used at any time during the calendar year it was issued.

It is a very simple process, facilitated by the Service NSW website. All you need is your child's name, DOB, name of school and Medicare card number and your voucher is emailed to you instantly. Please access the website for more information and links to the application process. <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids>

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster

CURRICULUM

2018 National Assessment Programme – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Parents would know that all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 from schools across Australia will sit the national tests in Literacy and Numeracy in May this year. The tests will ensure national consistency in benchmarking Literacy and Numeracy standards across all Australian educational jurisdictions.

This year's NAPLAN tests will be carried out for all four Year groups on the following days:

- **Tuesday 15 May:** Language Conventions and Writing
- **Wednesday 16 May:** Reading
- **Thursday 17 May:** Numeracy

With six school weeks to the tests, parents and boys of Years 5, 7 and 9 are encouraged to visit the NAPLAN site at: <https://www.nap.edu.au/> Sample test items, marking criteria and marking guides are available as are past tests.

The NSW Education Standards Authority has advised that the genre for the 2018 writing test will not be disclosed prior to the test period. In 2018, as in previous years, the writing test will be a single common task for all students. Students will be required to respond to either a narrative or a persuasive prompt. Therefore, boys from Years 5, 7 and 9 ought to practice and familiarise themselves with both the persuasive and narrative styles of writing.

The boys should begin now to prepare for NAPLAN and parents are encouraged to work with their sons at home. The more practice items the boys do the better prepared and more confident they will feel during the NAPLAN test days.

Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum

FIGHT HUMAN SLAVERY AND HAVE A JOYFUL EASTER

Pope Francis said that “every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act.”



Thinking of buying Easter eggs? Use your money justly – please.

What Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI, in Coles and a wide selection at Haighs and OXFAM shops; Chocolatier also produces Fair Trade Easter chocolate.



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale

ACTION: If there is slavery-free chocolate in your supermarket buy it and commend the shop manager. Remember it must have one of these three symbols on the wrapper:

<https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter> for information and resources.

ETHICAL SHOPPING

As we approach Easter we are encouraged to source Fair Trade Easter Eggs to ensure the ethical treatment of labourers in producing these goods. It is also important for us to consider how we shop for our clothes. The following two links take a look at the issues related to ethical fashion and rate some of Australia's most popular clothing brands.

[Australian Fashion Report](#)
[Australian Ethical Fashion Guide](#)

As we consider this, let's also look at the everyday items we use including coffee and tea. Our luxuries and enjoyments should not be at the expense of the poor and vulnerable. Let's make everybody's Easter a pleasant experience.

EARTH HOUR SUPPORTED BY SPC

All Australians are asked to turn off their lights and electricity for an hour this Saturday 24 March from 8.30pm to help reduce our carbon footprint on the earth. This connects perfectly with our Lenten focus this year – a commitment to care for God's creation. We need to help reduce climate change which mostly affects the poor, especially our neighbours in the Pacific. Take the time as a family this weekend to live for an hour without the luxury of devices and power. Let us appreciate the beauty of the night sky untainted by the modern world as we remember the quote from St Francis of Assisi, “Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens, you have made them bright, precious and fair.”

Gillian Daley—Director of Identity



MARIE BASHIR PUBLIC SCHOOL - LEADERSHIP DAY 2018



On Tuesday 6 March, Marie Bashir Public School held their annual Leadership Day to which a number of Year 10 and 11 students were invited to be involved. Twelve of our Year 10 students willingly offered to assist with a team building activity where they were tasked to lead a team of primary school student leaders in a problem solving challenge. Using the materials provided, each team had to create a 'vehicle' which moved 3 metres with the assistance of a small fan. It was wonderful to see our Year 10 students work with and assist their younger peers ensuring all were included and actively participating.



Following this activity, the primary school leaders had the opportunity to listen to three of our Year 11 students speak – Iban Elhorga, Jeremy Ellis and Angelo Nicolas. Our passionate speakers presented on themes surrounding global citizenship, environmental concerns and charity. The students were authentic in their conviction yet knew how to engage their audience with questioning and humour.



I wish to thank all the students involved who represented St Patrick's College proudly and Mrs Erin Le (Deputy Principal, Marie Bashir Public School) for affording them this wonderful leadership opportunity.

Adriana Lazkin—Student Leadership Coordinator



HARMONY DAY

21 MARCH

Harmony Day is celebrated throughout Australia on 21 March. Since first held in 1999, Harmony Day has grown to become a significant annual day for Australians to come together and celebrate our nation's cultural diversity, based on the successful integration of migrants into our community. It is an opportunity for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. Multiculturalism is in Australia's national interest. It is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

Our cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths and is at the heart of who we are. An integrated multicultural Australia is an integral part of our nation's history and character. The message of respect and belonging goes beyond 21 March. The College's Student Leaders will be conducting activities and presentations over the coming weeks so the key messages can be lived by each of us, every day. Please click on this link to view summary video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hsSAYDJwLw&feature=youtu.be>

Justin Cordi—Student Welfare Prefect

GRAND FINAL SUCCESS

What a night was had at last Friday night's Public Speaking Grand Final. We had 4 speakers represent the College. All of our boys were outstanding with 3 boys scoring a place. We had Oliver Meleca place 3rd in the Year 7 division, Gianluca Pecora place 2nd in the Year 10 division, and Justin Cordi place 2nd in the Senior division. We congratulate all these boys as well as Thomas Kearney for reaching the Grand Final in a competition of over 700 students. Looking forward to the beginning of the Debating season that starts next term. Trials will be held before the end of term. Announcement of these details will be in the daily announcements.



Martha Zantis—MIC Public Speaking and Debating



LENTEN FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

SATURDAY 14 APRIL 2018
9.30AM TO 4.30PM

VENUE: BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS

WORKSHOP AND INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

FREE full day parenting program to help parents build trust, develop realistic expectations, improve communication with their teen/tween and foster safe independence.

FREE PARENTING EVENT + ALL CATERING PROVIDED

Presented by **Jacelyn Brewer - Psychologist**, former school counsellor and leading social commentator on healthy digital nutrition and the role of parents.

Parents can attend a full Engaging Adolescents program to learn about:

- Practical skills for having tricky conversations with teens.
- Adolescent brain development.
- Reasonable expectations.

Parents will gain a renewed sense of confidence about the role they can play in their teenagers' lives, without conversations morphing into arguments.

Includes tea and coffee, snacks, lunch and Engaging Adolescents workshops.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK www.eventbrite.com/e/engaging-adolescents-tickets-43910692062
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

BOTH EVENTS WILL BE HELD ON THE GROUNDS OF BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

46 QUEEN STREET, CROYDON - ENTRY ON THE DAY VIA CHILTERNHAM ROAD

FREE FUNDAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

A full day of free and fun activities and workshops for tween and teens up to 16 years old.

FREE EVENT - LUNCH AND DRINKS PROVIDED (BYO SNACK)

Presented by the Frank team - specialists in building skills in young people by delivering engaging, interesting and entertaining programs.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND THE PARENT WORKSHOP TO BOOK YOUR CHILD IN TO THE FUNDAY (AND VICE VERSA)!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

BOOK THE FUNDAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE youth@burwood.nsw.gov.au

Sports Draw - SATURDAY 24 MARCH 2018

Head of Secondary Sport

CRICKET (NDJCA Grand Finals)					
15A	v	Concord Briars	8.30	Somerville Oval	
13A	v	West Epping	8.30	Dundas Park (Curtis)	

SPC SPORT

NOW HAS ITS OWN APP

Download our awesome new app now and stay up to date with all the latest information!

Install the SPC Sport App on your smartphone or tablet now!

Follow these steps:

1. Download Team App from the Apple or Google Play app store.



2. Sign up to Team App. You will be sent an email to confirm your registration.

3. Log into the App and search for 'SPC Sport'.

4. Choose your applicable access group(s).

5. If you don't have a smartphone go to spsport.teamapp.com to sign up and view this App online.

Need help?

Contact: Sportsmaster



As the College commences the decommissioning of SOLE, St Patrick's College Sport will be using 'Team App' and the College website to publish all fixtures and training notifications to parents and boys in the future.

A simple to use App which can be downloaded to any Apple or Android device, the SPC Sport Team App has been trialled during the course of the summer Cricket season and had great success.

Please see details for how you can **download for free** and join the SPC Sport Team App.

Mouthguards

If you are yet to organise a mouthguard for the coming winter season, or will soon be in need of a new one, Dental Prosthetist and Old Boy of the College, Michael Ianniello, is offering a 15% discount off custom mouthguards to all SPC students.

Winter Sport

The first round of Winter Sport for the Senior school will occur on Saturday 7 April against Sydney Grammar (Rugby and Football). In order to be adequately prepared for this, secondary school trials will commence on Wednesday 21 March. Winter Sport Trial schedules can be viewed on the sports notice boards, Team App or the College website under the Senior School Fixtures tab.

Golf

The final round of the Independent Schools Golf competition was played two Saturdays ago at Monash Country Club. Coming in to the final round St Patrick's were five points behind Riverview and one point behind St Joseph's College. Whilst SPC was not able to gain the title, the team did finish runners up, and they did not walk away empty handed after being awarded The St Ignatius St Patricks trophy. It was a great effort by the team, and I would like to sincerely congratulate Travis Elmir, Alexandros Yallouridis, Liam Vane-Tempest and Arthur Barakat on their efforts in representing the College with such sportsmanship at a highly skilful and mentally tough sport.

ISA Swimming

Last Wednesday, the SPC Swim Squad competed in the annual Independent Sporting Association (ISA) Swimming Carnival at SOPAC. Notable highlights from the day include an incredible 17 personal bests recorded with other individual achievements including:

- Finn O'Connor setting a new College record in the U17 50m Breaststroke
- Se-Bom Lee 1st in the U17 50m Backstroke and 2nd in 100m Freestyle
- Tomas Kapocius 1st in U16 Backstroke, 2nd 100m Freestyle, 3rd 50m Freestyle, 3rd in 50m Breaststroke
- Christopher Gatto 2nd U14 50m Freestyle, 2nd 50m Breaststroke, 2nd 50m Backstroke
- The Senior Medley Relay team consisting of Se-Bom Lee, Finn O'Connor, William Taylor and Louis Melocco and came 1st in a nail-biting finish 0.12 seconds ahead of rivals Oakhill.

Overall results saw St Patrick's placed 4th in the Aggregate Shield. All of our squad must be congratulated for their efforts throughout the season both at training and in their participation at all Carnivals. It has certainly been a great effort.

Good Luck

This weekend we will see the following Cricket sides contest Grand Finals in the NDJCA competitions. Good luck to the 13A Cricket side coached by Mr T. Mackie and the 15A Cricket side coached by Mr J. Newman. Commiseration to Mr M. O'Halloran and the 14A Cricket side who unfortunately lost their semi-final last weekend.

House and Age Athletics Championships

The 83rd Annual Athletics House and Age Championships took place at the Sydney International Athletic Centre, Homebush yesterday. A very big congratulations to the Crichton House for 'defying the odds' and winning the carnival by merely 12 points over last year's victors Hickey.

The Senior students were outstanding, with the Year 12 students leading the way with their House spirit and amazing costumes. Particular mention must go to the six House Prefects and the College Captain and Vice-captains for their efforts on the day.

Congratulations to all the Age Champions.

Final results are as follows:

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

1 st	Crichton	956 Points
2 nd	Hickey	944 Points
3 rd	Rice	776 Points
4 th	Hanrahan	646 Points
5 th	Berg	620 Points
6 th	Coghlan	580 Points

COLLEGE AGE CHAMPION

Opens		16 Years	
1 st	Mark Nawaqanitawase (Hickey)	1 st	Darcy Bourke (Coghlan)
2 nd	Leon Frangi (Rice)	2 nd	Andrew Aller (Rice)
3 rd	Joshua Carrozza (Coghlan) Roger Berbari Jr (Hickey) Luke Touma (Rice)	3 rd	Joshua Kite (Crichton)
15 Years		14 Years	
1 st	Austin Ball (Crichton)	1 st	Spencer Ling (Hickey)
2 nd	Antony Eussen (Crichton)	2 nd	Glennuto Putro (Hickey)
3 rd	Gian Rigoli (Crichton)	3 rd	Hayden Ling (Hickey)
13 Years		12 Years	
1 st	Jonathan Meaker (Berg)	1 st	Domenico Battaglia (Hickey)
2 nd	Lorenzo Bilotta (Crichton)	2 nd	Marco Garigliano (Hickey)
3 rd	Lachlan Barton (Berg)	3 rd	Marc Boumassif (Hanrahan) Blake Wilson (Berg) Luka Petelevitch (Hickey)

Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport

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.

Steve Fochesato—Director of Co-curricular

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.