



# Especean

Vol 31, No 29—19 September 2018



## Principal

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

### On Language

What we say and how we deliver what we say can be very powerful. Our language use is essential for our daily interactions and communication. Some of us use language very effectively and others struggle to make themselves clearly understood. Some people talk a great deal while others are more economical with their words. Teenage boys can appear to regress with their expressive language during adolescence, and utter not much more than primeval grunts. Some boys though are not so caveman-like and chitter and chatter away happily for hours. We are often taken in by those who are eloquent and can carve marvelous anecdotes into epic stories that have us hanging on every last syllable. A good orator is a treat for the ears. It is a skill that is able to be developed with good practice.

The written word is a very different medium to the spoken word. Speech patterns can offer finely detailed nuance with tone, register, accent and well-placed pauses for dramatic effect, whereas written text can offer the opportunity for words to be revisited and pored over; basking in the beauty of the sounds, sights and images they evoke. The ways in which we choose to use our words can say a great deal about us. Our ability to communicate well and use the language that we have in a cogent, coherent and articulate manner is a grand skill to possess. And, like all things, some people are more naturally able to manipulate and employ language in expert ways than others. Notwithstanding, it is our collective responsibility to develop in our students the ability to use language well.

There are about one million words in the English language. It may just have more words than most other languages. About 250 000 of these words are in contemporary use. Most people know and use about 10% of these 250 000 words. There are estimates that the majority of people then know between 20 000 and 30 000 words.

I am a bit of a word tragic. I love discovering new words and then putting them to good use in the weeks following my discovery. It is instructive for boys to hear new words and to expand their vocabulary. We also aim to develop in our students a love of language.

A staff member spoke to me last week about her concerns about the language she was overhearing on the playground as she made her way around the College grounds. She was alarmed at the poor language being used, with boys swearing frequently and loudly to each other. What was disappointing was that when she alerted a couple of boys to the fact that she had heard them, they seemed unperturbed by this fact. Now, we all know a bunch of swear words. I suspect that many parents also use these words from time to time. What we need to teach our boys is that there is a time, a place and an audience for our language use – regardless of what mode of language we are engaging. The time, place and audience will dictate what is appropriate and what is not appropriate. I also overheard a conversation recently where a couple of dads were saying they would not take their young children to the footy anymore because of the atrocious swearing that goes unchecked by individuals in the crowd. One dad I heard said that he had asked the blokes to “turn it down” only to receive an earful of abuse for his troubles. It appears that some people have no filter anymore, and no sense of what is appropriate in a public forum.

The school playground or the classroom, I would suggest is not the right place for poor language. What we accept in our own homes is the kind of language we will accept elsewhere. If our children get away with speaking inappropriately, to the wrong people (or within earshot of them) at the wrong time, represents poor judgement. Young people need to be circumspect and to know where, when and with whom they speak and in what manner.

A good friend of mine has always said “manners cost nothing.” I also don't think they have gone out of fashion. I have spoken to the boys about this in the past. It is not a bad idea to remind them of this occasionally. I would appreciate parents having a conversation with their sons about this.

I react when occasionally, a very small number of parents demand of me or my staff what will happen and by what time it will be done. When language is posed as a demand and not an invitation or a request, it takes on an adversarial twist. While we are here to work with and be of service to, we are not the servants of, families. Our aim is to partner with families in the education of their children. A little mutual respect goes a long way. The ways in which we approach communicating with each other whether verbally or in writing, is a mark of that respect. From time to time there *will* be disagreements, but our faith calls us to remember our humanity and thus the inherent dignity that must be afforded one to the other. I am proud to say that the vast majority of our interactions at our College are always polite, respectful and courteous. Long may this last. We are fortunate that our culture is one where our mutual love of our students; your children, is the binding force that unites us.

A group of adults is traveling to PNG on immersion in the holidays. We thought it would be nice to take up a few new guitars for the Vu Vu boys to play and to match the new drumkit we provided them with in July. If you would care to make a donation to this gift please contact either Gillian Daley or me in the coming days. The total cost of the guitars, strings, bags and the like will be about \$600.

Please pray for Thomas Kearney (Year 12) and his family as they mourn the loss of his mother Ellen McGovern. Please also pray for Christian Saade (Year 8) and his family as they mourn the loss of his father Joseph Saade. We also pray for Michael Mileto (Year 9) and his family as they mourn the loss of his grandmother Caterina Iorfino. 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

### HOST FAMILY NEEDED

If you would like to host a student from Alice Springs for an extended period of time please contact Gillian Daley at [gillian.daley@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gillian.daley@spc.nsw.edu.au) We will offer assistance throughout the process and enable the best possible relationship going forward. Thank-you for considering this powerful opportunity.



## JUNIOR SCHOOL

At the EREA formation days I attended last week, we connected with colleagues from across the EREA network of schools in Sydney and the Central Coast. I really appreciated being able to mix with accountants, IT staff, lab assistants, and marketing people as well as teachers, who are all new (or newish) to the EREA world.

We reflected on the gifts and strengths we have to offer our own school communities, on the many gifts Edmund Rice brought into the world, and the great gift that Jesus was to the world. We learned about just a few of the other ministries in the Edmund Rice community, including the famous camps and the work of the Edmund Rice Centre focusing on awareness, advocacy and action. It truly is a very active and dedicated community we belong to, a great expression of God's mission here on earth.

**Ben Munday—Director of Junior School**

## JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Term 3 is quickly coming to an end and before we know it, we will be closing in on the end of the year. This has not stopped the boys in the Junior School putting their best foot forward and achieving some outstanding results in representing the College.

Congratulations to William Allen. William competed at the CIS Athletics Carnival, representing IPSHA in discus. William was able to improve his personal best distance with a throw of 26.53m. This put him in 4<sup>th</sup> place, narrowly missing third place by a mere 10cm. William has been competing well over the Athletics Season, extending his personal best at each of the carnivals.

There has been success for students in the water as well of late. Markus Parinetto and Anthony del Popolo recently competed in the School Sports Australia Diving Competition. Both boys came away with outstanding results. Marcus won Gold in the 12yrs springboard and the 12yrs knockout. He won Silver in the team synchronized diving and Bronze in the 5m platform. Anthony won Gold in the 10-12yrs synchronized diving, Silver in the 10-12yrs knockout and Bronze in the 10-12yrs springboard. These are amazing results and we wish the boys every success as they continue to pursue their sporting dreams.

A reminder that the Junior School Sports Presentation Dinner will be held on 30 November this year. There are still plenty of spots available, however they are filling up fast. To avoid disappointment, please get in early.

Sport photos have been taken today. Parents wishing to purchase photos will need to do so online. There will be further information sent out once the photos have been processed.

The summer sports season recommences at the beginning of term 4. Games will commence on the first weekend back and the boys will receive draws and training schedules shortly. There will be one training session for each team in week 10 of this term. Hopefully this will help to wipe the cobwebs away and help prepare the boys for the back end of the summer season.

**John Locke—Junior School Coordinator of Co-curricular**



## STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Each year, the College renews a Student Accident Insurance policy to cover any injuries to students whilst engaged in school related activities. This policy is negotiated by our insurance broker, Willis Australia Limited, and the current policy is placed with Catholic Church Insurance (CCI).

If your child suffers a significant injury that requires medical/hospital treatment, claim forms can now be downloaded direct from the parent portal on SOLE—<https://sole.spc.nsw.edu.au>

Also on SOLE is a claims procedure document as well as the policy wording including benefits payable (the College has the higher Standard Cover not Basic Cover). The completed claim form and any relevant attachments should be returned to the College as the school must verify that the accident occurred during a school related activity before sending the claim to Willis for processing.

Please note that the policy will not cover the cost of any medical service for which a Medicare benefit is payable. This is prohibited under Federal health legislation. Parents may also wish to review the benefits that are payable and make a decision if additional private insurance coverage is warranted. For example, dental treatment can be very expensive and the benefits for loss or damage to teeth may not cover expenses incurred.

I stress that parents are encouraged to carefully read the policy and the details about what is, and is not covered. The College cannot advise you about matters to do with your own medical insurance.

The College also pays a subscription each year to Ambulance Service NSW which will cover the cost of any ambulance transport to a hospital. If you are invoiced for such a service, please forward the unpaid invoice to the College's Finance Department.

**Richie Chacon—Assistant Director of Business Services**

## YOUR CHANCE TO HEAL THE EARTH

For many years members of the College have been involved in recycling products that we have often thought are unrecyclable through the organisation, *Terracycle*. We are now opening up this programme to the whole of the SPC Community. In a big blue box next to the Hickey Building, closest to the Chapel, everybody is welcome to place the following items so they can be recycled into various products—used toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, empty food squeeze packs, beauty product packaging (see the images below). This is just one small way all of us can contribute to a cleaner and greener earth, preventing so much of our everyday family waste going to landfill. We trust everybody will get on board and respect the collection bins and we look forward to the collection growing as we get on board to do our bit. If you have any questions feel free to ask.

**Gillian Daley**  
Director of Identity

&

**Matthew Herro**  
Justice, Peace & Sustainability Co-ordinator



# CURRICULUM

## Year 11 Changes to Programme of Study for Year 12-2019 HSC

This week I will address Year 11 regarding possible changes to their senior programme of study prior to commencing the HSC course next term. Parents and their sons are reminded of the following points:

- All HSC students at St Patrick's College must undertake a minimum of 10 units of study
- The total number of units undertaken must include mandatory course units in Religion and in English. Most students will have 11 units of study for the 2019 HSC as most will undertake 1 unit Studies of Religion or 1 unit Catholic Studies.
- The 1 unit courses in Photography, Video & Digital Imaging and Sport Lifestyle & Recreation will discontinue. Students will automatically pick up study periods.
- Depending on their programme of study, students may: drop a 2 unit subject (except English); drop a course or level within a subject, i.e., drop Mathematics Extension, drop English Extension, change from English Advanced to English Standard, change from Mathematics to Mathematics Standard, change from 2 unit Studies of Religion to 1 unit Studies of Religion, change from 1 unit Studies of Religion to 1 unit Catholic Studies.
- A few students will be invited by the College to undertake additional HSC extension courses in English, Italian, History, Mathematics or Music. Enrolment in these courses is by invitation only and is based on demonstrable academic excellence in related courses.

## Year 12-2019 HSC Assessment Assembly and Parent Information Evening

As per the College Calendar and Diary, on Monday 15 October, Year 11 will have a special assembly where very important information about the 2019 Higher School Certificate course and assessment will be addressed.

The students will receive the *HSC Assessment Handbook*, which includes the College's HSC Assessment Policy and a set of HSC assessment schedules for each subject. An HSC Assessment Tasks Calendar for fourth term will also be issued. These documents will also be posted on the *Canvas* Year 11 page in the first week of next term.

It is expected that all students thoroughly familiarise themselves with this information in order to plan and prepare for the rigours and demands of the HSC year ahead. I would also urge parents to read this information with their sons.

In addition, an information evening for parents of Year 11 will be held on Tuesday 16 October commencing at 7.00pm in the College Hall.

**Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum**

## THE 2018 PIERRE DE COUBERTIN AWARD

The Pierre de Coubertin Awards provide our youth with an opportunity to share the true spirit of Olympism. The award programme is named after Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympics. The Baron believed international competitions between amateur athletes would promote friendly relationships between people from different countries and this has proven to be most evident in many, if not all of the modern day Olympiads.

The Pierre de Coubertin Award is designed to recognise students who demonstrate attributes that are consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic movement through participation in a variety of sporting activities. The Award aims to emphasise participation and good sporting behaviour.

Congratulations are extended to this year's recipient, **Francesco Carbo**. Francesco has represented the College in Athletics, Rugby, Cricket and Baseball during his time at St Patrick's. Francesco is a shining example of one who consistently works hard on improving his skills in a quiet and diligent manner, whilst at the same time always demonstrating excellent sportsmanship. He has been an excellent role model for our younger students and is a most worthy recipient.



## Staff vs Year 12's Basketball Match Highlights



# SPORTS FIXTURES — SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2018

## HEAD OF SECONDARY SPORT

### Good Luck

After many stellar performances last Tuesday at the ISA Athletics Championships, a number of boys will be competing in next Tuesday's NSWCIS Athletics Championships at SOPAC. We wish the following students all the best for their respective: Austin Ball, Lorenzo Bilotta, Darcy Bourke, Alexander del Popolo, Cooper Edwards, Antony Eussen, Marcus Frigo, Marco Garigliano, Joshua Kite, Jonathan Meaker, Declan Moore, Emmanuel Putro, Samuel Sattout, James Stewart and Luke Touma.

### Team App

In an effort to improve communication between the College and families in regards to sport, may I remind parents and students to download for free the SPC Sport Team App. This will provide you with all sports training schedules, weekly fixtures details, season draws, weekly MIC reports and notifications regarding training updates and cancellations.

End of Season Reports for Rugby, Football and Tennis will published via Team App and available to view under the "Newsletter" tab by Friday this week. If you wish to download and keep a copy, this can be done through signing into your Team App account via computer. <https://www.teamapp.com/>

**Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport**

## CO-CURRICULAR TRAINING AND FIXTURES/PERFORMANCES—EXPECTATIONS

As we approach the commencement of the summer season, I would like to take this opportunity to remind staff, parents and students of the following protocol should a boy be absent from his training session or Saturday fixture.

- Boys intending to miss a training session or game due to a Doctor's appointment should present a note to the coach or MIC or Head of Sport prior to the training session. Under no circumstance should he ask a team mate to pass on a message.
- Requests for leave from a Saturday fixture ought to be directed to me in the first instance or Mr Calavassy or Mr Fox or Mr Locke (Junior School).
- Boys who are absent from the training and/or fixture must present their coach or MIC or Sportsmaster with a satisfactory written explanation from home by the end of lunch time on their first day back at school after their absence.
- Failure to comply with these expectations will result in punishments being issued ranging from infringement notices with consequences through to weekend detentions.

In order to ensure that there is a sense of equity in relation to students not attending Presentation Evenings, training sessions, weekend fixtures, etc, I would kindly ask parents to clearly outline the reasons behind their son's absence. The term "Family Commitments" covers a range of scenario's and as such does not assist with the process. Your understanding and support in this matter is appreciated.

## 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:

<b>Secondary Rugby Presentation Evening</b> —	7.15pm—Gymnasium	Wednesday 19 September
<b>Secondary Tennis Presentation Evening</b> —	7.15pm—Hall	Wednesday 19 September
<b>Secondary Football Presentation Evening</b> —	7.15pm—Gymnasium	Thursday 20 September

Attendance by all 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.**

**Steve Fochesato—Director of Co-curricular**

## STOP IT OR COP IT



From 17 September 2018, demerit points for using mobile phones illegally while driving have increased from 4 to 5. During holiday periods, the offence will attract 10 demerit points.

Fines will remain \$337 (\$448 in school zone).

The tougher approach to mobile phone usage comes as the road toll continues to rise. Between 2012-2017, 175 crashes involving mobile phone usage resulted in 9 deaths and 50 serious injuries.

In the last financial year, 40,000 people were fined for illegal use of mobile phones.

Find out more by clicking link below:

<http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/mobilephones/know-the-rules.html>

CRICKET				
15A	v	Hunters Hill Pirates	8.00	Meadowbank Park
14 Black	v	West Epping	8.00	TBC
14 Gold	v	Carlingford Waratah	8.00	Doyle 2
13A	v	West Epping	8.00	Brush Farm
13B	v	RHHP Jack Sparrows	8.00	Meadowbank Park
BASEBALL				
1st IX	v	Macquarie	8.30	Waterloo Park
16s	v	Kissing Point	11.00	Major's Bay Reserve 1
14s	v	Stealers	8.30	Golden Jubilee

**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!

Available on the

GET IT ON

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](https://www.teamapp.com) to sign up and view this App online.

Need help?  
Contact: Sportsmaster

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