



# Especean

Vol 31, No 35—14 November 2018

## Principal

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

As we very quickly move towards the end of the year I am conscious that so much goes on at our College that sometimes we lose sight of some of the detail. This week I provide some key updates on what we have been doing, what is currently happening and how we are planning for the continued improvement in our College in 2019 and beyond.

### Attendance

May I remind all parents that regular, excellent attendance at school is vitally important. While our overall attendance rates are very high, there are some individual cases where some boys seem to be excused from attending school each and every day. It is fundamental that if one does not attend school, then the learning is compromised. My expectation is that for the remaining weeks of the College school year, all boys will be in attendance every day. Classes are still actively engaged in learning and we already have an extensive holiday break over Christmas.

### Strategic and Annual Planning

Our College Strategic Plan was launched in 2016 and continues through to the end of 2020. We are faithfully implementing the detail of this plan through our Annual Plan. This plan is shared with the College Board and updates provided at every meeting of this group. We are in the process now of evaluating this year's plan and forging our priorities for 2019. These priorities emerge from our data collection – inclusive of results in testing (NAPLAN, HSC, internal assessment), survey data (including the comprehensive Year 12 Exit Survey), Renewal Report from EREA, and ensuring that our key goals from the Strategic Plan are met by the end of the plan's life. Some key goals for next year will include the continuation of a whole school approach to improvements in writing and to extend our understanding of, and approaches to, gifted education. This does not mean that we lose sight of the learning needs of the rest of our students. In fact, the opposite is the case. We are aiming to build our classroom differentiation practices so that all students are adequately and reasonably challenged in their learning. To that end, we will partner with the University of New South Wales in this endeavour.

This year we have completed the College Master Plan after considerable consultation with various stakeholder groups. We have now convened a committee to work towards the realisation of the first stage of an ambitious building program over the next decade – 15 years. This committee is called the Project Control Group and consists of a consultant who is an expert in School Building and Facility design, College Board and Executive Team members and parents. Our hope is to have an architect selected early in the new year to progress the building program.

At the present time, our staff have moved out of their staff study areas in the Hanrahan and Healey staffrooms. These very tired areas were a throw-back to the 1980s given their pale blue and cream kitchen-cupboard like desks and hutches! The areas have been gutted and are being refurbished. Hopefully, this will be completed by Christmas in time for a move back in to these respective areas in the New Year. I am hopeful that once finished, the staff will have a better place to live and work and this will be more in keeping with a modern workplace environment. I know that the staff is being very patient while the work is being carried out.

### Inspections in 2019

Next year, we are due for a full NESA inspection to renew our Registration and Accreditation as a school. This is a very onerous process of compliance and governance where every aspect of a school's operation is interrogated from buildings premises, to child protection, to attendance, to the curriculum program (including quality assessment, reporting, programming, evaluation and registers), to our whole approaches to providing a "safe and supportive" environment and the list goes on. In addition, we will have a full inspection of our school as a Teacher Accreditation Authority. This inspection looks at the policies and processes we have to recommend to NESA for our teachers to be both accredited and for the ongoing maintenance of their accreditation.

Also in 2019 we will undergo a School Renewal Process that is conducted by EREA. This process evaluates the degree to which we are faithful to the tradition of being an Edmund Rice school, and our fidelity to and implementation of the EREA Charter (and Touchstones).

With these three inspection regimes all falling next year – there will be no complaints from anyone working here that they have nothing to do!

### Did you know?

That all remaining Junior School classrooms were air conditioned during the first term of this year.

Many classrooms have been repainted and carpeted this year.

Our reimagined approach to High Achievers was a great celebration of our HSC Class of 2017. This will continue in 2019 for the class of 2018.

The Vera Wilson Study Centre was completely refurbished this year for our Year 12 boys.

The Year 12 boys have had the use of the old Senior Canteen and have made great use of the table tennis tables we purchased for them.

Many initiatives and ideas that we have implemented have come directly from the boys.

We have implemented many of the recommendations that came from the co-curricular survey and continue to look at ways to improve our co-curricular program.

Among our many proactive approaches to anti-bullying, we conduct anonymous surveys with every boy twice in each year.

We thoroughly analyse our performances in state wide and national testing to inform changes to pedagogical practices, curriculum options and teaching programs.

The partnership with ACU on the building of the new underground carpark will also feature a FIFA grade synthetic football pitch once complete as well as a hydraulic cricket pitch. Expected completion of the carpark will be in the first quarter of 2019.

Many of our staff are currently engaging in post-graduate degree study. The College assists by subsidising their study fees. Our Old Boy network continues to grow and attendance at Back to Breen Day is becoming a real highlight of the year with many reunions being organised around this day.

This year is our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Condolences

Please pray for Luke Abraham (Year 9) and his family as they mourn the loss of his grandmother Gwyneth Whitefield. Please also pray for Maria Cranston from the Uniform Shop and her family as they mourn the loss of her sister in law Sorelle Parisi. 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

Week 5 of Term 4 is a big week! By the time you receive this newsletter, we are more than halfway through Year 6 Camp. What an opportunity for learning, personal growth and friendship building this is! That being said, I will be grateful to sleep in my own bed and enjoy a few hugs from my daughters once we are all done at camp.

Also this week, another big milestone in the orientation of 2019's Year 5 students takes place. They will visit the College on Friday to do some assessments that enable us to tailor our teaching to their needs from day one of Term 1. We wish them all the best and keep them in our prayers.

A reminder to Year 5 parents—the Semester 2 Instrumental Concert will take place on **Thursday 22 November at 11.00am in the Duffy Music Centre**. Please come along and celebrate the great musical learning your children have achieved this semester!

**Ben Munday—Director of Junior School**

## JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

“Just play. Have fun. Enjoy the game.” **Michael Jordan**

The sun is beginning to set on another sporting year for the Junior School. Often at these times we start to reflect on what has passed and plan for the future. Whether you have won many games or been on the other side of the ledger, I hope that you have enjoyed yourselves, played hard and learnt a little about yourself and the others around you.

With two rounds left in the summer season, I would encourage all the boys playing and those spectating to take the time to sit back, play and enjoy the game.

Over the last weekend we had 2 outstanding individual performances in traditional Cricket. Congratulations to William Allen of the 5A Cricket team. William took 5 wickets for 11 runs off four overs. Twice he was one wicket away from a hat trick. In the Prep 1st XI, Jack Roberts scored an unbeaten 55 against Sydney Grammar, St Ives. Two outstanding efforts.

I also had the opportunity to watch the Prep Softball team over the weekend. I was very impressed by the boys' team work, skill and attitude to the game. It is no wonder that they are performing so well in games. What struck me the most though, was their sportsmanship and genuine concern for their opposition. On seeing one member of the opposition being struck twice by the not-so-soft, softball, the boys were happy to halt the game to make sure the boy was looked after. A great display of what sport is really all about and the College values on display. Well done boys, keep it up.

A reminder that tickets for the Junior School Sports Presentation Dinner are no longer available. Unfortunately, due to the quick turnaround from the season end to the dinner, there will be no concessions made for those who missed out. I am looking forward to what will be a great celebration of the boys' efforts this year.

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



## KOKODA TRACK MEMORIAL DAY

Last Saturday, Year 10 students from St Patrick's were invited to the Kokoda Track Memorial in Concord for the annual Kokoda Day Commemorative Service. The day was dedicated to the soldiers who gave their lives to keep the Japanese at bay during WWII.

The Kokoda campaign or most commonly known as the Kokoda Track was a critical component of the Pacific War during WWII. Conditions were treacherous and the Japanese had been expertly trained in jungle warfare, however the combined efforts of the Australian Army and the Fuzzie Wuzzie Angels forced the Japanese into a full scale retreat.

On the day, we heard from both Brigadier Susan Coyle and the Honourable Craig Laundry, who constantly emphasised the importance of remembering the Australians who gave their lives for us.

We also heard from Adam Muratore who read a soldier tribute, alongside Logan Merchant and James Jabbour who laid a wreath of flowers on behalf of the College. The day was a reminder that, “They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.” *We Will Remember Them; Lest We Forget.*

**Josef Gittany (Year 10)**



## CURRICULUM

### The Brother McGlade Scholarship Examinations

On Thursday 15 November, about twenty Year 10 students will sit the Br McGlade Scholarship examinations administered by Academic Assessment Services.

The McGlade Scholarships are named in honour of Br James Athanasius McGlade and were conceived to mark his seventieth anniversary as a Christian Brother (1928-1998). The awarding of academic scholarships is just one of the many ways the College promotes a love of learning and academic excellence.

The examinations are a series of tests in abstract reasoning and problem solving, mathematics, reading comprehension and written expression. Holders of the Scholarship are characterised by the highest level of performance in these tests as well as excellent all-round academic achievement in school-based assessment and active participation in and contribution to a range of school-based activities.

**Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum**

## YEAR 7 JUSTICE AND SPIRITUALITY DAY RECAP

The Year 7 Justice and Spirituality Day centred on the theme of Refugees, Asylum Seekers and their experiences. The cohort heard from representatives from their justice partner, the House of Welcome, fasted for the day and participated in relationship building activities. Some experiences from the day are below:



*The purpose of the day was to walk in the shoes of refugees and asylum seekers. We fasted throughout the day and learnt that we should be grateful and how no human being is illegal. The activities included the gratitude board which allowed us to show what we were grateful for. In Art we made flowers and included a famous quote about human rights on a leaf. Abdul who last term worked in the IT department, talked about his story when he left his home country of Sierra Leone to come here as his country was no longer safe. **Martin Quach—Year 7 Ambassador***

*The main message I got from the House of Welcome is that if we put ourselves into the shoes of refugees, we would feel differently about them. I enjoyed theatre sports the most because it gave me an idea of what others go through while having some fun at the same time. Fasting made me feel hungry and allowed me to feel what others experience every day. **George Kazzi—Year 7 Ambassador***

*The boys were divided into randomised groups, giving them the opportunity to speak to people who they would usually not interact with. It was a great day for the boys to be more informed about the world they live in, as well as building relationships with each other. **Patrick Braithwaite—Year 11 Prefect***

## WORK & WELCOME PROGRAM

Many staff at the College continue to support the 'Work & Welcome' program, by contributing some of their weekly pay to a fund which pays for refugees and asylum seekers in Sydney to get some Australian work experience. Many of these people are highly qualified in their own countries but lack the experience here to help get them a job. This work experience is undertaken at the College in various areas of College life. This year we have been lucky to support, and in return be supported by, two asylum seekers in the IT department. Mr Abdul Kargbo from Sierra Leone spent 10 weeks with us and shared some of his experiences with Year 7 on their Justice & Spirituality Day (see the article in this newsletter for a photo). Currently we have Ms Atena Akbarpour who is from Iran working with IT. Both placements have brought the College a real gift which includes the sharing of stories and giving us some understanding of the unimaginable. If anybody in the community runs a business connected to IT and would have the chance to offer employment to either of these people I would welcome your call. As a community we will ensure we never stop supporting those who live on the margins through awareness, action and advocacy.

**Gillian Daley—Director of Identity**

## INCREASING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE AT SPC

More than 160 million drink containers litter the streets, beaches, parks and schools of NSW each year. In 2018, the Social Justice Action Group brought the NSW Return and Earn program to SPC with a collection area outside the Bangawarra Room. There will soon be three locations across the school where students, staff or parents can deposit their bottles and cans (uncrushed, with labels on). The initiative has the added bonus of earning points for their house that will contribute to the College Cup. We have also developed a petition for the Canteen at SPC, calling them to end their use of plastic cutlery & straws, and implement biodegradable options. (Sign it here, at <https://goo.gl/forms/mJHVxIYw6Jo2eUjZ2>).

Signing this petition and returning your drinking containers are very simple actions that you can take to permanently reduce the plastic footprint of the College community. However, we encourage all to reduce their consumption entirely by bringing their own metal/sustainable cutlery to school, filling up their reusable bottles at the hydration stations and using containers rather than plastics in the lunchbox.

We are also proud to announce that the fresh fruit and vegetables from the College's Sustainable Gardens will now be available for a gold coin donation outside the Chapel after Friday morning masses. This will start small but grow over time, so bring your own bag and get some veggies and herbs for the weekend.

**Edward Carrall—Sustainability Prefect**

# CLASS STRUCTURES 2019

The process of the placement of your son in his classes for 2019 has commenced. As you can appreciate, it is essential that as professionals we engage in rich and genuine discussion around the structure and composition of all classes to best meet the learning needs of your son at St Patrick's College. We have made some adjustments to our processes for 2019, building on feedback from staff, students and parents. Appropriate class placement is one aspect of our strategic intent to support all learners to realise their potential and provide greater breadth and depth in learning experiences. The following sets out class structures for 2019:

- In Year 5, all classes are mixed ability.
- In Year 6, there will be one extension class and five mixed ability classes.
- In Years 7 and 8, there will be one extension class per course for all subjects other than Art, Music and Technology Mandatory. English and Maths stand alone with class groupings determined for those subjects in isolation from others. There will be one extension class in the core group of Religion, Science, History, Geography and PDHPE (with Languages forming part of the core in Year 8). The remainder of classes will be mixed ability.
- In Years 9 and 10, there will be two extension classes in English. In Mathematics, the accelerated group is the extension group, with the remainder of students allocated to 5.1 – 5.3 pathways on the basis of assessment results and teacher professional judgement. There will be one extension class in the core group of Religion, Science, History, Geography and PDHPE. All other classes will be mixed ability.

Our Diverse Learning Coordinator, Mrs Janine Timillero, has been working with class teachers and coordinators to refine and improve our identification of students to ensure suitable placement in the extension classes. Extension classes will be carefully constructed using multiple measures of student aptitude and ability, including school-based and external assessments but also referencing characteristics of giftedness, classroom performance and teacher professional judgement. Where anomalies exist between various sources of data, students sit the Raven's Standard Progressive Matrices test to help guide our discernment regarding appropriate placement of students into extension classes. The extension classes will be taught in alignment with pedagogical approaches appropriate for gifted students, with compacting of the curriculum, acceleration, enrichment and greater depth and breadth in learning experiences.

The remainder of classes will be true mixed ability. Studies Coordinators, Year Coordinators and other specialists are also consulted after class list are drafted. We aim to balance learning needs, behaviours, skills and strengths across all mixed ability classes.

We have identified two pedagogical focus areas for teachers in 2019: gifted education and improving writing across the curriculum. We have a partnership with UNSW who will be working alongside our staff, students and parents to evaluate our current approaches to gifted education and to support our teachers in improving provision of learning experiences for our students. In addition, we will focus on improving writing across the curriculum and across the school.

**Denise Lombardo – Director of Learning and Innovation**

## YEAR 9 CAMP

During Week 3 of Term 4, Year 9 embarked on a journey to Camp Somerset as part of their Outdoor Education program, where boys spent four days camping in the Colo Valley. As this was our second year participating in the program, we were given the challenge of expanding our borders, travelling further and pushing harder to achieve our day to day goals. The main focus of our journey was to go kayaking along the Colo River and hike the various mountain ranges with our rucksacks which had everything that was to be used for the week. We all got a taste of what it was like to live without things that we value like our phones, beds and showers.

Camp Somerset involved a variety of activities that pushed the Year 9 students to their limits, including abseiling, milk crate stack, and high ropes. These activities allowed the Year 9 cohort to challenge themselves, create new friendships and rely on one another when doing team activities. Initiative was shown through our cooking skills as we made our own food from the ingredients and equipment provided to us. It was fun to get involved and was enjoyed by many boys who put their hand up to help. We also got a taste of sleeping outdoors as we slept in tents and not in our warm beds.

Camp Somerset was an enjoyable experience for the Year 9 cohort as we learnt new things, learnt how to cook finally, created new relationships and helped us overcome our fears when doing the activities. From this experience, we have taken away the idea of being grateful for the many things we have in life, and we will look back on this experience with fond memories.

**Jared Samaan & Angelo Jayaseelan – Year 9**



# SPORTS FIXTURES — SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2018

## HEAD OF SECONDARY SPORT

Well done to a number of teams on their terrific results last Saturday. Special mention must go to the 1st IX Baseball team for their impressive 15-1 run win. I would encourage the College community to come and support the 1<sup>st</sup> IX Baseball this Friday night, the match commences at 8.30pm at Majors Bay Reserve and they take on rivals Rosebank College. A reminder that any students who attend the fixture are required to wear correct College uniform or supporters attire.

Congratulations are extended to Joshua Lee who earned himself the title of "Cricketer of the Week". Joshua scored a remarkable 165 (not out) playing for the 16A's against Sydney Grammar.

### Last round of fixtures for Term 4:

ISA Cricket and ISA Basketball—Saturday 1 December 2018

16A Cricket—Saturday 1 December 2018

NDJCA Cricket teams will play until Saturday 15 December 2018

RHBL Baseball teams play until Saturday 15 December 2018

**Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport**

## SWIMMING REPORT

On Friday 2 November, the Swimming Squad participated in their first carnival of the season at North Sydney Pool in the St Aloysius' Invitation carnival and it's fair to say the squad started the season off with a splash. Despite some rain and lightning, the squad persevered through the unpleasant conditions with approximately 60 boys achieving personal best times. A great achievement from the Squad and a testament to coach Callum McKenzie's program, who has been putting the boys through their paces to ensure we are ready for the year ahead. Unfortunately, the carnival was called off early due to lightning striking too close to the pool. Since that time St Aloysius has confirmed that the College placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall, a satisfying achievement for our first carnival.

Last Friday night the College hosted its annual Swimming Invitation carnival at Ryde Aquatic Centre. The boys swam exceptionally well, recording an outstanding 88 personal bests, although special mention should go to Matthew Svoboda who swam the optional 200m freestyle event despite being told there was no need to and then backing up right after that for his own age group's relay. Matthew displayed incredible determination and College spirit in doing this. Despite the boys' best efforts, we placed 4<sup>th</sup> yet again. The boys showed promise during the carnival and that is seen through the number of personal bests recorded on the night.

It has been an exciting start to the season with the upgrade of new training equipment and the introduction of new high quality performance Swimming trunks and swim caps for squad members and we now look like a unified squad representing the College.

We will continue to train hard for the remainder of this year and return in 2019 excited to compete at the annual Christian Brothers' Carnival and ISA Championships.

**Louis Melocco—Swimming Captain**

## YEAR 7 2019 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER AT 6PM ROBSON AUDITORIUM

Everything you need to know to get your son ready!

Everything you need to know to get yourself ready!

Please bring your questions.

### Staff attending

Current Year 7 Coordinator,

Year 7 Coordinator for 2019,

College Counsellor and Director of Junior School.

## SENIOR SPORT

### CRICKET

1st XI	v	Scots All Saints	10.00	Breen Oval
2nd XI	v	Stannies	10.00	St Stanislaus' No 1 Oval
3rd XI	v	Chevalier	10.00	Hudson Park
4th XI	v	St Joseph's	9.00	St Joseph's College A
16A	v	Sydney Grammar	9.00	Weigall 4
15A	v	Epping District	8.30	Upjohn Park
14 Black	v	Dundas United	8.00	Cox Park
14 Gold	v	Gladesville RSL	8.00	North Ryde RSL
13A	v	Epping District Red	8.00	Pidding Park
13B	v	Carlingford Waratah	8.00	Mason Park 2

### BASEBALL

1st IX	v	Rosebank - Friday Night	8.15pm	Major's Bay Reserve 1
16s	v	Five Dock	11.00	Major's Bay Reserve 1
14s	v	Westboomers	11.00	Glover St 1

### BASKETBALL

1st V	v	Central Coast Grammar	10.00	CCGS Gym (RLC) 1
17A	v	Central Coast Grammar	11.30	CCGS Gym (RLC) 1
17B	v	St Pius	1.00	Oxford Falls Gym 2
17C	v	Oakhill Green	1.00	Oakhill Gym (CSC) 2
17D	v	Oakhill White	12.00	SPC Gym
17 Black	v	Redlands C	1.00	SPC Gym
15A	v	Central Coast Grammar	10.00	CCGS Gym (RLC) 2
15B	v	St Pius	12.00	Oxford Falls Gym 2
15C	v	Chevalier	10.00	Moss Vale Stadium 2
15D	v	Oakhill White	11.00	SPC Gym
14A	v	Central Coast Grammar	9.00	CCGS Gym (RLC) 2
14B	v	St Pius	12.15	Oxford Falls Gym 3
14C	v	Chevalier	9.00	Moss Vale Stadium 2
14D	v	Oakhill White	10.00	SPC Gym
14 Black	v	Oxley B	10.00	Auburn 2
13A	v	Central Coast Grammar	9.00	CCGS Gym (RLC) 1
13B	v	St Pius	11.15	Oxford Falls Gym 3
13C	v	St Augustine's	11.00	Nth Beaches ISC 6
13D	v	Oakhill White	9.00	SPC Gym
13 Black	v	Blue Mountains Grammar	11.00	BMGS Ct 2
13 Gold	v	Oakhill Green	9.00	Benildus Hall (Oakhill)

## JUNIOR SPORT

### BASKETBALL

Prep A	v	Scots	Prep Court 1	10.30am
Prep B	v	Scots	Prep Court 1	9.40am
Prep C	v	Scots	Prep Court 1	8.50am
Prep D	v	Scots	Prep Court 1	8.00am
Prep E	v	Scots	Prep Court 2	11.15am
Prep F	v	Scots	Prep Court 2	10.30am
Prep G	v	Scots	Auburn 1	9.00am
Prep H	v	Scots	Auburn 1	8.00am
Prep I	v	Scots	Auburn 2	9.00am
Prep J	v	Scots	Auburn 2	8.00am
Prep K	v	Scots	Auburn 3	9.00am
Prep L	v	Scots	Auburn 3	8.00am

### CRICKET

Prep 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Riverview	Riverview 5	8.00am
Prep 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Riverview	Riverview 6	8.00am
6A Super 8	v		BYE	
6B Super 8	v	Newington Wyv	Rudd 3	8.00am
6C Super 8	v		BYE	
5A	v	Knox	Ireland Field	8.00am
5B	v	Knox	Yeldham Field	8.00am
5A Super 8	v	Tudor House	Rudd Park 3	9.30am
5B Super 8	v	Tudor House	Phillips Park 2	9.30am

### SOFTBALL

Prep A	v	Grammar St Ives	Top Field	8.00am
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### TENNIS

Tennis A	v	Scots	SPC Courts	8.00am
Tennis B	v	Scots D	SPC Courts	9.30am

## JUNIOR SPORT VENUES

**Auburn Basketball Centre:** Wyatt Park, Church St, Lidcombe

**Phillips Park 1 & 2:** Nicholas St, Auburn

**SPC Courts:** Edgar St, Strathfield

**Rudd Park:** Cnr Clarence & Varidel St, Belfield

**Scots Prep Ct 1 & 2:** Mansion Rd, Bellevue Hill

**Ireland & Yeldham Field:** Cnr Cleveland St & Billyard Ave, Wahroonga

**Top Field:** Mona Vale Rd, St Ives

**Riverview 5 & 6:** Tambourine Bay Rd, Riverview

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.