



Especean

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Principal

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

During the last two weekends I have had the privilege of attending two College events, both of which made me so proud of our community. The first was the Blue, Black and Gold Dinner. The work of the P and F Executive and especially of Jamey Poyaoan our President and Jacqui Barton, made for a sensational evening and fundraising event. Not only was the company, food and entertainment tremendous, but a significant amount of money was raised to directly benefit the boys. We will organise now for more classrooms in the College to be air-conditioned thanks to the generous donations of families at the College. I am grateful for the work of a small band of P and F helpers who made the evening possible.

On Saturday evening I had the good fortune to attend the College Production of "Stories in the Dark". I offer an enormous congratulations to our drama teacher and Director of the production Ms Bec Duff on the excellent quality of the performance. Congratulations to all the staff in the Production Team and especially to the boys both on the stage and behind the scenes. If you did not come to see this production, you certainly missed out! Offering the opportunity for boys to develop their abilities in performance, teamwork and creative self-expression are such important skills to attain. Being involved in theatre offers all of this and more. I thank all of the staff in particular who gave of their time to make this possible for the boys and girls from our local schools.

This Friday we will celebrate Founder's Day. Although the official feast day for Edmund Rice is 5 May, at St Patrick's it is tradition that we celebrate on the Friday before the June long weekend. I would hope that our boys take some time to consider that our celebration day is not just an excuse for a party but for us to also consider through prayer and liturgy as well by example the legacy that Edmund Rice has left us. We continually tell the story of Edmund Rice's life so that his work and life might well be an inspiration for us to examine our own lives in the light of the Gospel message.

Blessed Edmund Rice was born in Callan in County Kilkenny, Ireland in 1762 on a property called Westcourt. Our Junior School boys of course will recognise that name as our newest Junior School building is named after this property. He became a successful merchant and following the death of his wife Mary, he considered for some time his vocation to religious life. Seeing a group of poor boys in Waterford he was moved to charitable work and to establishing a makeshift school. Edmund knew that education was the key out of poverty and to independence. Rice then gathered some other young men who also had the desire to commence a community and to teach these boys.

Blessed Edmund used his influence and no doubt some of his wealth to establish an order of Brothers who were devoted to the plight of the poor. These early congregations had more than their fair share of trouble and heartache, but their firm commitment ultimately triumphed, and the work spread into other parts of Ireland. Of course, from there the community of Brothers increased and as we all know spread to most continents of the earth. The work of the Christian Brothers, like many religious orders, requires selflessness, a higher calling and a desire to work for the common good. The Brothers established schools all over Australia, commencing in Melbourne and then moving on to each state. There are more than 35, 000 young people now being educated in Australia in an Edmund Rice educational institution.

Although we have few Brothers still working in Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) schools these days, the legacy they have left the laity and our communities is still one to celebrate loudly. If it were not for the work of the Brothers, our College would not exist today. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to them, and in turn back to Edmund Rice who saw a need and was moved to action. He did so because of his firm belief in the message of Jesus as told in the Gospel story. We also rejoice in the knowledge that there are Edmund Rice schools offering a similar education with the same value set in every major centre in Australia.

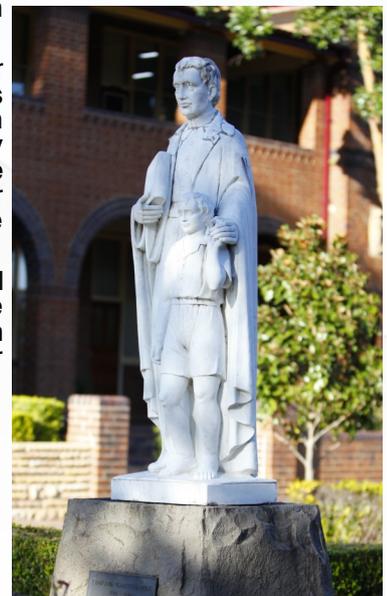
Our boys are offered a unique opportunity: to become more like Jesus every day in their words and actions and to seek to emulate the example of Edmund Rice by the good works they do. The gift of the charisma of the Christian Brothers and of EREA to us is an inspiration. Our job is to put these opportunities in their way! As I have said on many occasions, we can be rightly proud of our graduates because they seek to work for the common good and they actively seek to give back to the next generation. Sharing their talents, their time and their wealth is the mark of our graduates in Catholic education. The former is often more costly than merely putting one's hand in a wallet.

So when we gather for Mass on Friday of this week to celebrate Founder's Day we will proudly pray, reflect and sing. We will listen to the Scriptures and we will remember the life and work of Blessed Edmund Rice who was so moved to make a difference by seeing an obvious, glaring need. We will have fun and we will continue to promote the tradition of our great College. In so doing, we actively participate in the making of history.

Happy Founder's Day.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal



Dear Parents, Given that we will celebrate Founder's Day this Friday, followed by the Queen's birthday public holiday on Monday and the Staff Spirituality Day on Tuesday, for **next week only** the Especean will be delivered to your Inbox on **Thursday 13 June**.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

This year, unlike last, I have some idea of what to expect on Founder's Day – and you'd better believe I am looking forward to it this time around! In my first year at the College, I heard people talk about Founder's Day and it was very clear that it was a big day, and an important occasion. Until I had experienced it though, I didn't really understand how or why it is so important to the students, staff and Old Boys. Identity, community and belonging are so important at St Patrick's; I came to understand that on Founder's Day these things are not only celebrated, they are continually formed and passed on to the next group of boys. I am excited that our Year 5 students will have their first taste of this on Friday.

Last week two groups of Junior School boys attended the annual Da Vinci Decathlon at Knox Grammar. I want to congratulate all the boys who, after a rigorous trialing process, were selected on the team and represented the Junior School with pride and enthusiasm. The Year 6 team members to be commended on their second place finish in poetry – a great achievement. I offer a big thank you to Ms D'Onofrio and Ms Davidson for taking the boys, and to Mrs Mazoudier and Mrs Gibson for trialing and preparing the boys.

Ben Munday—Director of Junior School

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

This week sees the Junior School without any Saturday sporting fixtures due to the long weekend. Training has been reduced this week to one session for all Junior School Winter teams as well. The aim of this is to take advantage of the mid-season break and allow coaches, players and parents an opportunity to rest.

In this day and age, we are constantly available. Technology and our use/dependence on it has made it this way. There is always something to do, someone to talk to or a job to be done. If we find ourselves with a little free time, we often think 'what have I forgotten' or feel guilty about not doing something and refer to ourselves as being lazy. In most cases we have forgotten the importance of rest.

In sport, we train hard and long in order to make small gains. At the top end, you may train for an entire year or two, just to gain a tiny fraction of improvement. It is not until we allow our body to rest, recover from the training that we are able to notice the fruits of our labour. The sporting world has been very aware of the importance of rest for a long time. Leading into major competitions most coaches taper (reduce) the load of their athletes' training to allow for recovery so an optimum performance can be achieved.

This long weekend, I encourage all of you to rest. Not only your bodies, but your mind as well. Turn away from technology, power down yourself and enjoy activities that help you recharge your batteries, calm your mind and allow you to be present in the moment.

Take care and rest well.

John Locke—Junior School Coordinator of Co-curricular

FOUNDER'S DAY—FRIDAY 7 JUNE

This Friday marks the celebration of Founder's Day. We take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of the following:

- Compulsory attendance by all boys in full **College uniform** is expected. Boys who are absent on the day will be required to obtain a medical certificate and present it to their homeroom teacher on their first day back.
- **Boys** are required to attend school at the **normal time** and they will be **dismissed at 2.00pm**. Younger boys will be escorted to Strathfield Station by members of the College's Student Leadership Team.
- **Boys will not be required to bring bags/belongings to school on this day.** The exception to this may be competitors in the annual Waterford Mile who can store any clothes in their lockers.
- Boys will be expected to attend the **Founder's Day Mass, Concert, BBQ Lunch and Waterford Mile**.
- Canteen facilities will operate during Recess with all menu items being available.
- A **BBQ lunch** will be provided for all boys following the Founder's Day Concert.

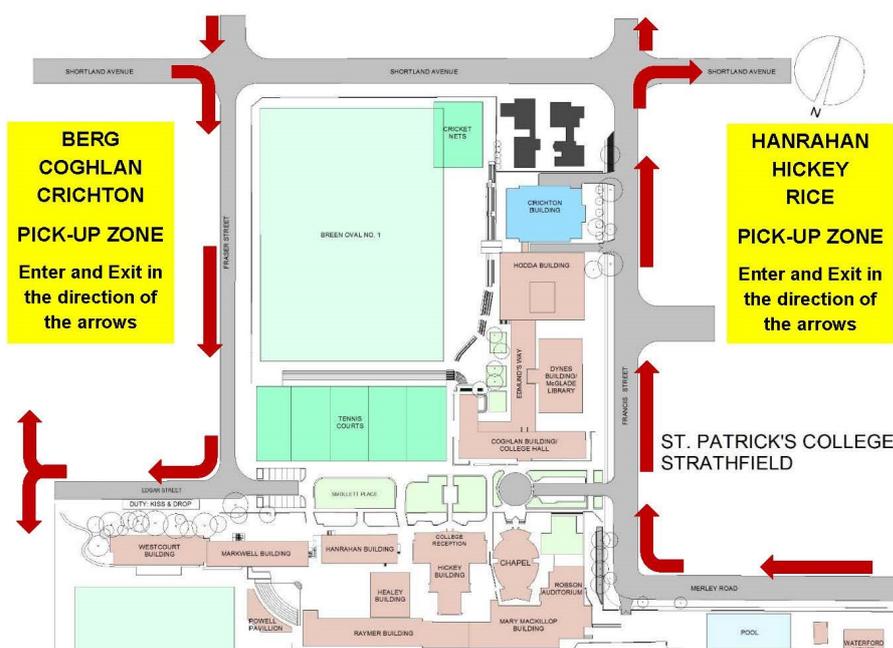
Parents are advised of the following arrangements for the collection of students from the College at 2.00pm on Founder's Day.

- **Berg, Coghlan & Crichton** — Normal Kiss & Drop collection area on Fraser Street.

- **Hanrahan, Hickey & Rice** — The school bus zone on Francis Street. Parents should approach from Merley Road.

Parents should note that they **MUST not park in the 407 bus zone as it will still be operating**. A reminder that students will also be escorted to Strathfield Station by members of the College's Student Leadership Team.

Robert Simpson—Director of Wellbeing



CURRICULUM

Checking HSC Details via *Students Online*

Year 12 boys and their parents are reminded that NESA's *Students Online* facility is the students' personal source for information about their HSC. It is imperative that every HSC student logs on to *Students Online* to check their personal details to ensure their name, courses, address, email and phone number are correct.

Change of address, email and phone number may be made in the personal details section of *Students Online* however, boys and parents are reminded that the College must also be informed of such changes. Changes to personal details are made via the College Enrolment Secretary Mrs Rogers, and course changes via the Director of Curriculum, Mr Cutrupi.

Year 12 boys ought to note their personal HSC timetable is now available on *Students Online*, their assessment ranks will be available from Tuesday 12 November to Monday 2 December 2019, and their HSC results will be released on Tuesday 17 December 2019.

Michael Cutrupi—Director of Curriculum

MUSICAL MATTERS—YEAR 5 INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT THURSDAY 20 JUNE

All parents of students in 5 Black, 5 Blue and 5 Gold are invited to attend the Semester 1 Year 5 Instrumental Parents Concert at 11.00am in the College Gymnasium.

Derek Rose—Bandmaster

AUSTRALIAN BRAIN BEE CHALLENGE: NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

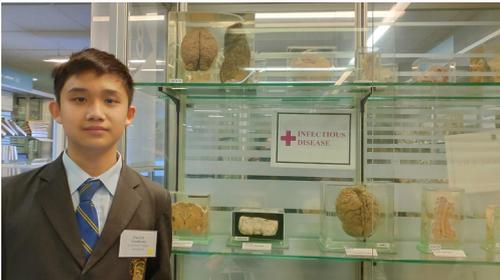
The Australian Brain Bee Challenge (ABBC) is a competition for high school students in Year 10 to learn about the brain and its functions, learn about neuroscience research, find out about careers in neuroscience and to dispel misconceptions about neurological and mental illnesses. Year 10 students sat for round 1 of the competition in March. I was able to qualify for round 2 and was invited to participate in the NSW state finals.

On Thursday 30 May, I was fortunate enough to attend the state finals of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge located at the University of New South Wales, where approximately 80 students from 20 schools competed. Whilst the purpose of the day was to see who would represent NSW in the



National Brain Bee Challenge, multiple workshops, tours and lectures made the experience extremely rewarding. The day commenced with a hand-written test with topics ranging from neural diseases and treatments to sensory processing in the brain. This was followed by a series of lectures from professors detailing upcoming research and how they pursued a career in neuroscience. The workshops on the day involved experiments on how you could trick your brain's senses and was preceded by a tour of the Museum of Human Disease. I gained a lot from this experience as I was able to gain a deeper insight and understanding of the human brain. I encourage all Year 9 students to take up this opportunity next year.

Patrick Tandiono (Year 10 Student)



INDIGENOUS SERVICEMEN & SERVICEWOMEN COMMEMORATION

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to celebrate shared histories and achievements with our indigenous brothers and sisters. It teaches us how we can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. At St Patrick's we celebrated Reconciliation Week through our Reconciliation Round of competition and daily reflections on the sorry statement during homeroom which promoted further discussion on related topics. In our homeroom, Mr O'Donoghue gave us an insight into the meaning and significance of the Uluru Statement.

On top of this, Declan Moore, Joshua Hamilton and I had the privilege of attending the NSW Indigenous Servicemen and Servicewomen Commemoration Ceremony last Friday. This was held at the Pool of Reflection at the ANZAC memorial in Hyde Park. We were included in a traditional smoking ceremony and listened to service men and women recount their experiences.

It was quite an eye-opening experience, as the service and sacrifice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women has often been overlooked despite there being a strong Indigenous presence in every major conflict in Australia's history.

The ceremony took us back to our time at St Josephs in Alice Springs, and gave us an opportunity to build upon our understanding and appreciation of the Aboriginal culture and some of the challenges which they face.

St Patrick's College continues to have a strong, ongoing, commitment to Reconciliation.

Patrick Watson (Year 12 Student)



SUPPORTER'S DUTY

A reminder that **Years 7 and 11** have been designated supporter's duty on **Saturday 22 June**. All boys are to report to the Powell Pavilion between 1.00 and 1.15pm to have their names marked off. Once this has been completed, boys will move to SPC No. 3 to support the College 1st XI and await further instructions. Boys will be dismissed at the conclusion of the 1st XV game, approximate time is 4.50pm.

NO FIXTURES — SATURDAY 8 JUNE 2019

HEAD OF SECONDARY SPORT

ISA Cross Country Championships

The St Patrick's Cross Country Squad competed last week in the ISA Championships at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre at Horsley Park. There were a number of strong performances from the team which saw the following results:

Junior Shield	2nd Place
Intermediate Shield	2nd Place
Senior Shield	4th Place
Aggregate Shield	2nd Place

Well done to those boys who received Championship medals on the day:

Bailey Leighton—	1 st Place U13s
Jonathan Meaker—	1 st Place U14s
Declan Moore—	1 st Place Opens
Oliver Xuereb—	2 nd Place U15

Along with those four boys, congratulations are also extended to Alexander Micallef, Gian Rigoli, Harry Richardson and Luke Costello who finished in the Top 10 and were therefore selected to represent the ISA at the upcoming CIS Cross Country Carnival.

A big thank you must also go to Mr Angelatos, Ms Haley and Old Boys Tyler Cotter and Luke Touma for the hard work they put into training and preparing the squad for this season. Well done to all.

ISA Touch Football

Congratulations to Christian Frangi of Year 12 and Benjamin Criss of Year 10 who will be representing the College in the near future after gaining selection in the ISA Touch Football representative sides.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and safe long weekend.

Anthony Calavassy—Head of Secondary Sport



'STORIES IN THE DARK' HIGHLIGHTS



Teaching someone to drive
can be a **happy** experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE:
6.30 – 8.30 pm
Monday
17 June 2019

VENUE:
Ironbark Room
Strathfield Library
Rochester St
Homebush

BOOK NOW ON:
9748 9605

Helping learner drivers
become safe drivers



FIXTURES AND GROUND LOCATIONS are published live online (includes cancellations): Click on <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.