

St Columba's Catholic College, Springwood

The Dove

Term 4

Friday 16th December, 2016

Volume: 44 **No:** 20

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Upcoming Events:

Week Eleven

Mon 19 Dec 2016

Staff Development Day

Tue 20 Dec 2016

Staff Development Day

Thu 19 Jan 2017 to Wed 25 Jan 2017

 Call Back Week - Executive & Support Staff Return

Thu 26 Jan 2017

Australia Day (Public Holiday)

Term 1

Fri 27 Jan 2017

Staff Development Day

Week 1

Mon 30 Jan 2017

Year 7 Induction Day 1

Tue 31 Jan 2017

- Year 7 Induction Day 2
- Photo Day new students & Yr 7 (individual photos)

Wed 1 Feb 2017

Year 8 - 12 return

Thu 2 Feb 2017

Textbook Distribution Day

Week 2

Mon 6 Feb 2017

 Vaccinations - Yr 7 HPV (Dose 1) + dTpa

Wed 8 Feb 2017

- 8am HSC PDHPE Study Session
- 9:30 Year 7 Mass of Commitment
- 6pm Year 11 2017 Assessment Information Night

Fri 10 Feb 2017

- School Census Day
- 9:15am High Achiever's Awards Ceremony

"IT'S ALL ABOUT LEARNING
AND HAVING HIGH EXPECTATIONS
OF OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER"

Dear members of the St Columba's community

Congratulations to Year 12 2016 HSC students

I'm delighted to tell you that our Year 12 2016 HSC results are incredibly pleasing and indicate that our students are pursuing the vision and belief that, "everything we do is about learning and having high expectations of ourselves and each other."

We achieved:

70 Band 6s, 275 Band 5s, 276 Band 4s, 115 Band 3s, 15 Band 2s and 3 Band 1s.

Congratulations Year 12 and thank you.

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING



As 2016 draws to a close I would like to thank each and every member of our community for your commitment to our College and our mission as a dynamic place of faith and of learning.

Each day our journey here at St Columba's Catholic College is blessed with the excitement of learning and the preparation for many future stories still to be told.

As this Christmas season finds form in each of your hearts, I pray that our community will continue to be blessed and enriched with the gifts and talents that each person brings to this great College.

May God bless you always, and may his peace reign in your hearts and homes throughout this Christmas season.

Mr Paul Ryan Principal

From the Office

School Fees

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Principal, the Business Manager or me, 2016 fees are now overdue.

If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, I encourage you to contact me to discuss payment options. The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship.

The School Fee Collection process has commenced on outstanding accounts without prior arrangements in place.

School fees can be paid by Bpay, Postbillpay, Direct Debit, cash, EFTPOS or cheque.

Ms Roselee Vion Senior Finance Officer



Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District

HPRM: 16/12496

NSW School Vaccination Program 2017

All vaccines offered are FREE for Year 7 students.



Consent forms will be provided to you in 2017.

Students will not be vaccinated unless a completed and signed consent form is returned to the school.

> More information is available at: www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation





NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2017

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2017 the following vaccines will be offered FREE to Year 7 students:

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6
- dTpa vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus & pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single
- · Varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose;

Parent Information Kits that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home to parents/guardians at the beginning of 2017.

To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- · read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child's school as soon as

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that students who commence HPV vaccination in school clinics in Year 7 but do not complete the course during the school year may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8. Students who have any HPV doses at their GP will be advised to complete the course with their GP.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at: www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation.

- On the day of vaccination clinics, ensure that your child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.
- A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic either as a physical card.
- Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.



From the Uniform Shop

Dates open in January:

Monday 23rd 9am - 1pm only Tuesday 24th 9am - 1pm only Wednesday 25th 9am - 1pm only Monday 30th 8am - 2pmTuesday 31st 8am - 2pm

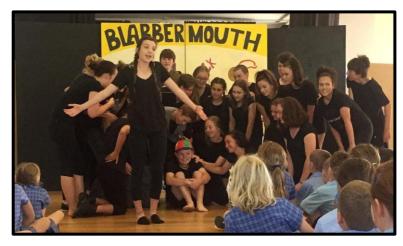
Mrs Pauline Buckley Uniform Shop Manager

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Student News

Year 9 Drama

On Thursday 1st December, Year 9
Drama classes went down to
St Thomas Aquinas Primary to
perform some Children's
Theatre. We devised and rehearsed
the production in class over a seven
week time period. Miss Fam and
Ms Noonan did a wonderful job
directing the two performances.
One was a play called,
"Blabbermouth" which is about the
school life of a child called
Rowena who can't speak. The other



performance was based on the book, "Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge". This book is about a young boy called Wilfred, helping his elderly friend Miss Nancy get her memories back.

Performing for the children at St Thomas was a truly marvellous experience. Seeing the children's faces was priceless as they laughed and smiled at the jokes, which were expertly crafted into the play to bring humour to an already great performance. Performing in front of a live audience was a brilliant experience to have. I thank St Thomas for their hospitality and willingness to help us and let us have the privilege of performing at their wonderful school. The 45 students involved did an all-round amazing job!

Marcus Casha ~ Year 9





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Het Justly, Love Tenderly and Walk Humbly with our Jod

Year 9 English Westmead Visit

On Wednesday 7th December, 20 of our Year 9 English students took the picture books they had written and illustrated, to Westmead Children's Hospital.

Here is a letter of thanks we received.

Email: www.stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au

"I would like to thank your lovely staff and students for coming and visiting us last week. The books your students presented to us were especially amazing and it was wonderful to see them present their work so proudly and with great humour, empathy and respect. The high standard of their work was exciting to be witness to, and as an art teacher, the illustrations and bindings of the books particularly piqued my interest." Rebekah Palmer



> Web: http://www.stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au/

The Australian School of the Year 2016

St Columba's students in Years 8-10 Japanese classes had the opportunity to participate in the Australia – Japan Relations Essay Contest in August this year.

The contest is conducted by the Consulate-General of Japan, Sydney. The aim of the contest is to encourage students to develop a better understanding of Australia-Japan relations among Australian secondary school students. It is a very competitive and prestigious completion.

St Columba's was awarded the "Australian School of The Year 2016" Award due to the highest percentage of high quality essays written by our students. The following students' essays were short listed as excellent essays.

Year 8: Mollie Bauerhuit, Amelia Harding, Alan Raphael, Grace Sato, Sarah Sharp, Bryce Wye

Year 9: Rebecca Fawkes, Kyle McPherson, Samantha Samojlowicz, Samuel Stanford

Year 10: Abbey Buckle, Max Cole, Chloe Humphrys, Imogen Kelly

Congratulations to all these students whose terrific work contributed to our college winning the "2016 Australian School of the Year Award".

The following students deserve special mention as they were awarded special prizes by the Consulate-General of Japan for their outstanding essays.

Bryce Wye (Year 8) and Samuel Stanford (Year 9) received a "Highly Commended" Award. Sarah Sharp (Year 8) and Max Cole (Y10) received an "Outstanding" Award.

Max was very close to the first prize which was a free trip to Japan!

These students and their parents were invited to attend an award ceremony at the Consul-General's official residence in

Sydney on the 8th December accompanied by our College Principal, Mr Ryan and myself. These students represented themselves and our college exceptionally. We were honoured to attend such an honorable ceremony. I would like to thank Mr Ryan for his time attending the ceremony with us and his ongoing support.

St Columba's congratulates these students on their brilliant achievement and all the students who participated in this



From left: Sarah Sharp, Samuel Stanford, Consul-General of Japan, Mr Keizo Takewaka, Mr Ryan, Max Cole and Bryce Wye

contest for their great effort and excellent work.

Mrs Shizue Sato Leader of Learning, LOTE

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Update on Ryan Hackney's cricketing

On Thursday 15th December, 2016, Ryan Hackney was named in the Team of the Championships after having an extremely successful tournament in Adelaide during the week.

He made 595 runs which would have broken a 21-year old record (he was the second highest runs scorer. The highest runs of 650 was scored by Victorian, Will Pucovski).

Ryan was runner up as Player of the Tournament on 22 votes. Will Pucovski received 24 votes.

We think that this is pretty special considering that Ryan is only 17 and most of the other boys in the tournament are 18.

Below is the link to the announcement of the Team of Championships by Cricket Australia.

http://www.nationalchamps.com.au/pageitem.aspx?id=137707&id2=1&eID=17240&entityID=17240



Careers

FAQ about the ATAR

Are all my courses included in the calculation of the ATAR?

No. Only courses developed by BOSTES – for which there are formal examinations that yield graded assessments – can be included in the calculation of your ATAR. These are called ATAR courses. If you have more than 10 units of ATAR courses, your ATAR will be calculated using your best two scaled units of English and the best eight scaled units from your remaining units. No more than two units of <u>Category B</u> courses can be included.

What happens if I do not 'satisfactorily complete' a course?

If you do not <u>satisfactorily complete</u> a course, that course will not count towards meeting your ATAR requirements. If the course is a 2-unit course with an associated extension course in which you are enrolled, the extension course will not count either.

Receiving a mark for a course on your Record of Achievement issued by BOSTES is an indication that you have satisfactorily completed that course.

How many units of maths can be included in the calculation of the ATAR?

Up to four units of calculus-based maths can be included in the ATAR calculation. If you study HSC Mathematics Extension 1 you should be aware that it has a different weighting (in terms of units) depending on whether you take Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 2.

What patterns of study are taken by students who achieve an ATAR of 99.95?

While most students who achieve an ATAR of 99.95 take at least one extension subject, there are many different patterns of study observed every year. Students present anywhere from 10 to 15 units, some accumulating over two years and some over three years.

In recent years some candidates have achieved an ATAR of 99.95 studying English as a Second Language. Further, some students in the 99.95 group did not study mathematics at all; instead, their study patterns typically consisted of HSC English Extension 1 and languages or HSC English Extension 1, Modern and/or Ancient History and subjects like Business Studies or Studies of Religion II. Remember, students should select subjects in which they are interested and which prepare them for their future careers.

If a course has a high percentage of students in Band 6, does this affect the scaled marks for that course?

No. Performance bands and scaled marks relate to two distinct processes. BOSTES uses raw HSC marks to align performance bands and calculate HSC marks, while UAC uses the same raw HSC marks to undertake the scaling process and calculate the ATAR. Therefore, performance bands and scaled marks cannot affect each other.

Which courses get a good ATAR?

Just about any combination of courses can lead to a good ATAR; it all depends on how well a student has done in all their courses in comparison to other students.

Don't choose courses based on what you believe are the likely effects of scaling. Your choices should be based on your interests, demonstrated abilities and the value of courses for future career plans.

Can I get a better ATAR by studying more units?

No. You cannot assume that simply by studying more units your ATAR will be increased. While students who study more units tend to gain higher ATARs, there are a number of reasons why, such as each student's interest, motivation, effort and time management.

Can my ATAR be recalculated?

There are some instances in which your ATAR might be recalculated:

- if BOSTES provides amended HSC results to UAC
- if you complete additional courses
- if you repeat courses you have already completed.

If your ATAR is recalculated, you'll receive a new ATAR Advice Notice.

Institutions use your latest ATAR for selection purposes. This could be better or worse than a previous ATAR.

What happens if I already have an ATAR and then add a new ATAR course the following year?

Your aggregate will be recalculated using the new course and your previous courses. Your aggregate may increase or stay the same but it will not decrease. However, since you are being compared with a different age cohort, your ATAR may increase, stay the same or even decrease.

Are schools notified of ATARs?

No. UAC does not release ATAR information to schools. ATARs are released only to the individual student and the institutions to which that student has applied.

.... SEEKING MENTORS

Would you like to give something back to your community?

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta's Post School Options Team is looking for suitable employers who can offer one-on-one mentoring in the workplace for secondary students. We are seeking people employed in small businesses who would like to give something back to their community and join this valuable and worthwhile program, on a voluntary basis.

The volunteer mentor hosts the student in the workplace for one day per week for 2 school terms (May to September, excluding school holidays). The mentor is both a personal and professional role model for the student. All mentors are provided with complimentary mentor training and receive a TAFE Certificate of Attainment 'Mentoring in the Community' for their participation.

Employers can be from any industry, as an individual in a trade area – clerical, administration, hairdressing and beauty or connected to a major employer for example, Bunnings or Woolworths etc.

Please consider this call for assistance so that this program can continue to supply a valuable service to students in our Catholic communities. If you would be interested in becoming a mentor or finding out more information, please contact:

Leoni Jeavons-Fellows, Leading Teacher Post School Options on 0424 750 583.

Dr John Taccori Careers Advisor

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

	Pre-Christmas	Reconciliation	Christmas Eve Tues 24 th Dec.	Christmas Day Wed 25 th Dec.
OLOW Emu Plains		Individual: Mon 19/12 @ 7.30pm	VIGIL 6.00PM MIDNIGHT MASS 12am Midnight	CHRISTMAS MORNING 8.00am 9.30am
St Finbar's Glenbrook	Carols in the Park Fri 16 Dec @ 8pm Spectacular Annual Christmas Concert Sun 18 Dec @ 7.30pm	2 nd Rite Mon 19/12 @ 7.30pm at OLOW Emu Plains Reconciliation Fri 23/12 10.30am	FAMILY VIGIL 7.00 PM MIDNIGHT MASS 12am Midnight	CHRISTMAS MORNING 8.30 am only
St Thomas' Springwood	Community Garden Picnic Sat 17 Dec @ 4pm Carols in the Church Mon 19 Dec @ 7.30pm	2nd Rite Wed 21/12 @ 7pm	FAMILY MASS 6.00 PM VIGIL MASS 8.00pm	CHRISTMAS MORNING 9.45am only
OLON Lawson	-	2nd Rite Tue 20/12 @ 7pm	CHILDREN'S MASS 6.00 PM FAMILY VIGIL 8.00pm	CHRISTMAS MORNING 8.30am only
Mary MacKillop Wentworth Falls, Katoomba, Leura	ST CANICE'S Christmas Carols Saturday 19th 6.30pm	ST FRANCIS XAVIER Wed 21 st @ 10.30am ST BONAVENTURE'S See St Canice'S ST CANICE'S Mon 19 th Dec @ 9am Fri 23 rd Dec @ 12.30pm Sat 24 th Dec @ 9am 2 nd Rite Tue 20 th Dec @ 7.30pm	ST CANICES FAMILY VIGIL 6.00PM VESPERS 9.00PM	CHRISTMAS MORNING ST FRANCIS XAVIER 8am ST CANICES 10am ST BONAVENTURE'S 11.30am
Sacred Heart Blackheath	-	-	CHRISTMAS VIGIL 6.00 PM	CHRISTMAS MORNING BLACKHEATH 9.30am (carols commence at 9am) MT VICTORIA 7.00am

Community News

Free 2 day workshop for parents & carers of school-aged students on the autism spectrum!

Parramatta 21 & 22 Feb 2017

Register your place:

positivepartnerships.com.au





Venue: Mercure Hotel Parramatt 106 Hassall Street Rosehill NSW 2142

Catering:

Vhen: Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 February 2017 9.15 am – 3.00 pm (Registration from 8.30 am)

> Morning tea and lunch is provided. Please advise any dietary requirements upon registration.

registration.

Register Online: <u>positivepartnerships.com.au</u> Registrations open 8 December 2016 and close one business day prior to the workshop. Register early as places are limited!

s? If you are not able to register online please call the Positive Partnerships Infoline: 1300 881 971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Austran package and is delivered by Australia. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Department of Chicardian and Trainie views of the Australian Government or the Department of







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Email: www.stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au

Web: http://www.stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au/



This is an opportunity to allow the children to spark their imagination and feed their curiosity. Children communicate more easily with a puppet on their hand, giving them confidence to express their ideas and feelings. They will learn how to use and operate a variety of fabulous and magical puppets and have great fun as they try out them all out.

Super Hero Academy Wednesday 18th Jan (9.00am - 2.00pm)

Does a superhero live inside your imagination? Unleash the power within!

Run, jump, flyl A super energetic workshop aimed at building confidence, self-esteem and a healthy body! Dress up in capes and masks and design your own superhero! Create your character, complete with a catch cry and super powers. Get physical and find your inner hero through creative improvisation and interactive games! Children take home their own super hero cape, mask and make their own arm cuffs and power pack to take

It Wasn't Me! I Didn't Do It! (9-16 yrs) Thursday 19th Jan (2:30 pm-7:00 pm

This is one for the older students! Have you ever been framed for something you didn't do or tried to get out of something you didn't do or tried to get out of something you didn't he students will develop the storyline from life experience and imagination, exploring times they may or may not have committed the "crime" or been framed for something they had no part in.

Lights Camera Action: - Design a Garbage Bag Costume! (2 days)

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th Jan (9.30am - 2.30pm) Make your own shadow puppets and watch them come to life!

What sort of characters will you create? In this integrated craft and performance workshop, the children will discover techniques on how to breathe personality into their cartoon creations.

They also take home a puppet theatre to make!

Tooth Fairy School Friday 27th Jan (9:30am-2:30pm)

In this workshop the children go to will go to Tooth Fairy School and learn how to become a real tooth fairy. We will learn how to fly, how to sneak without waking sleeping children and how to care for lost teeth as well as how to care for the teeth we still have. All children will take home their very own Tooth Fairy Rainbow Skirt to keep as well as making their very own tooth fairy box and wand.

www.kidscanact.com.au Mob. 0414 475 158



