

St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead

BE SAFE, BE A LEARNER, BE RESPECTFUL

Newsletter No.1/22

Friday 18 February 2022



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members

Welcome to 2022 and St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead

It is with immense pleasure that I welcome you to the 2022 academic year. It is especially pleasing to welcome the many students, parents and staff joining our community for the first time. I welcome you in a spirit of gratitude and thanks.

Gratitude and thanks to our loving God for the opportunity we have been given to gather "in community" to collaborate with, learn from, nurture, support and challenge each other in our shared process of education. Gratitude and thanks to parents for privileging us (the staff) with the awesome responsibility of partnering you in the care, education and formation of your adolescent children. Gratitude and thanks to the new members of the teacher support and teaching staff for affirming the good work of continuing staff members by seeking employment in our school and gifting us with a depth of professional knowledge and skill which will further enhance our rich professional capital and advantage the education of **OUR** students.

In this, the 58th year of Catholic schooling at St Mary's Gateshead, we gather to build on the legacy of the Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar, who established our community in 1964. They established not only a school, but a life-giving "spirit of community" centred on, inspired and nourished by God's love, as revealed in the human Jesus. Beginning in 1964, incredibly generous, caring and visionary women, the Sisters of St Joseph, embraced the role of servants, "in community", to establish the foundations and ignite a missionary flame which is enlivening, inspiring and welcoming of "new beginnings". A flame which is now enabling a very successful transition to a renewed vision of our school community as St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead, a Year 7-12 Catholic College.

The ongoing improvement in our Higher School Certificate (HSC) results since our first HSC class in 2019 has been highly commendable. Indeed, the results achieved by our 2021 HSC class were outstanding. In the words of Mr Gerard Mowbray, Director of Schools - **"They were very much the lighthouse results for our Diocese."** A summary has been prepared by Mrs Cathy O'Gorman, Assistant Principal (Learning and Teaching) for this Newsletter with a more comprehensive outline of our 2021 HSC and ROSA (Year 10) results to be prepared and issued at a later date.

The 2021 HSC results represent a triumph over adversity. Our students and teachers, supported by parents had to contend not only with the immense disruption and dislocation to studies caused by COVID-19 in 2020-2021, but also disruptions resulting from 5 years of continuous building (2016-2020), as part of the redevelopment of the College to accommodate the transition to Years 11 and 12.

A vital factor underpinning the achievements of our first three HSC classes has been our ongoing commitment to prioritising relationships and promoting the wellbeing of all community members and especially that of our students.

The resurgence of the new variant of the virus (Omicron) in late 2021/early 2022, once again, brings into sharp focus the need to continue this dual focus in 2022. In an article published in "The Conversation", in early 2020, Prof. Andy Hargraves, Research Professor in Education, at Boston College, stated the following:

“It’s now clear that without their teachers’ care and support, it is hard for many young people to stay well and focussed. Being well, we all appreciate, isn’t an alternative to being successful. It’s an essential pre-condition for achievement especially among our most vulnerable children.”

Caring for each other (parents/carers and teachers) and promoting the mental health and wellbeing of our young people, is a critical need at this time of massive upheaval in their lives and ours. Ours is a partnership in education and just as our students need their teachers’ care and support, they need it even more from you, their parents/carers, their first and primary educators.

It is ever so vital, in 2022, that we work together, in a spirit of love and care, to encourage our young people to “get up and go on” and support them in the process. To be called together in a community to educate our young people is an incredible gift. May **we** accept the challenge to honour the gift and with God’s grace and blessings, may **we** do it well.

Blessings

Larry Keating
Principal

STAFF COMMITMENT

As a staff, called to serve St Mary’s Catholic College community, we are committed to honouring our community’s core values and beliefs by ensuring that our College Community is:

- **A Christ-centred place. That is a place inspired by the reality of God’s love.** A place of compassion and care, a place of forgiveness, a reconciling and redemptive place, a positive place offering hope in the midst of a world given to despair and fear. A place nurturing gentleness of spirit through compassionate care and sensitivity and resilience through healthy challenge. Above all else a place where all community members experience care modelled on the compassionate heart of Jesus.
- **A place of inclusion and wholeness.** That is, a place recognising and affirming each individual in their uniqueness as images of a loving God; a place recognising, welcoming and esteeming difference and honouring each person in their wholeness and a place where there is absolute respect for the dignity and worth of each person.
- **A place of safety and respect.** That is, a disciplined place. A place where high standards and expectations are set and consistently enforced and where boundaries are set around students’ behaviour. A place where students are challenged to recognise that there is right and wrong and that their choices do have consequences.
- **A place that will make demands of students.** That is, a place recognising that healthy challenge is integral to the process of human formation and learning and that this demands that students must be challenged to not only give of their personal best, but strive to exceed it, as people, as learners and as members of a community.
- **A place of learning.** That is, a place where the educators are totally committed to living out a fundamental belief that **“every student can learn and every student has the right to learn”**; a place where teachers see themselves as learners and are committed to engaging in purposeful, shared (collaborative), motivating and authoritative learning and leadership at all levels of the organisation. A generative place nurturing a culture of continuous improvement in wellbeing, learning and leading.

Larry Keating
Principal

THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF PARENTS AND STAFF – SETTING AND CONSISTENTLY ENFORCING HIGH STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS

The staff are so very aware of the critical importance of setting high standards and expectations for our students in all dimensions of College life. ***Indeed, the College's excellent reputation has a basis in teachers and parents collaborating in setting and consistently enforcing high standards and expectations.*** The staff at St Mary's is totally committed to doing this. However, staff effectiveness depends on the support of parents/carers in your role as your children's first educators. **ALL** students have been issued with a School Diary which contains a clear Statement of Expectations and your support in regularly reinforcing them with your adolescent daughters and sons will benefit them significantly in their transition to responsible adulthood.

The research on student achievement is very clear. Parental engagement in supporting learning in the home is a most significant factor in student achievement. It is vital that the home be a nurturing place for the achievement of students. **Across all home variables, parents holding high aspirations and expectations for their children and encouraging and supporting them in their learning have the strongest positive impact on student achievement.**

Our obligation, as your children's teachers, is to work with you to ensure that the standards and expectations placed before your children are appropriately high and challenging, and then work with you and them to realize, and even surpass them. There is a clear expectation that students will do "their best" in every classroom and then strive to exceed it. Teachers at St. Mary's are committed to challenging students in this manner, and, with your support, we will have the shared experience and joy of witnessing them growing into the fullness of their being.

Larry Keating
Principal

Staffing Changes

The depth of professional capital possessed by the teacher support and teaching staff continues to be further enhanced with the following new appointments to staff:

▪ New Appointments to Permanent Teaching Staff for 2022

- Mrs Morag Aitchison - Creative Arts/LOTE Leader of Learning full time (from St Paul's Booragul)
- Ms Karenna Andrews - HSIE full time (from full time temporary)
- Ms Maria Griffen - English full time (from full time temporary)
- Mr Daniel Houston - HSIE full time (from Gosford Selective High School)
- Mr David Luschwitz - English/Religion full time (from All Saints Maitland)
- Mrs Michelle Van Vlimmeren - Learning Support full time (from full time temporary)
- Mr Paul McKay - Aboriginal Education Teacher (from full time temporary)
- Mrs Georgina Lindsay - Pedagogical Mentor and English full time (from Cardiff High School)
- Mr Andrew Smith - TAS (Timber) part time (from St Pius X College, Adamstown)
- Mrs Tarryn Wilson - HSIE full time (from part time temporary)
- Mr Clint Crispin - TAS Leader of Learning (from full time temporary)

▪ New Appointments to Temporary Teaching Staff for 2022

- Mr John Hepworth - Mathematics (1.00 FTE) from MacKillop Catholic College, Warnervale
- Mr Cameron Anderson - Mathematics (1.00 FTE) from Brisbane Boys High School
- Ms Rebecca Morrice - Science (Biology) (1.00 FTE) from Domremy College, Five Dock
- Ms Adele Weekes - Music (0.1 FTE) from Kurri Kurri High School
- Mr Peter Barnes - TAS (0.6 FTE) current temporary member of staff
- Mrs Rosemary Laughton - HSIE (0.2 FTE) current temporary member of staff
- Mrs Jacqui McInherny - PDHPE (0.4 FTE) current temporary member of staff
- Ms Isabella Quiqueree - Religion (1.00 FTE) current casual member of staff
- Mr Kyle Clarence - HSIE (1.0 FTE) from St Joseph's Aberdeen
- Ms Gemma Thorpe - Learning Support Assistant
- Mrs Wendy-Anne Quarmby - Acting Teacher Librarian (0.1FTE)

▪ **Returning from Leave and Secondment**

- Mr Timothy O'Neill – Learning Support Coordinator from beginning of Term 1
- Mrs Prue Owen – will return from parental leave beginning of Term 2
- Mrs Melanie Schultz – will return from parental leave beginning of Term 1

▪ **New Internal Appointments**

- Mr Andrew Burke - Administration Coordinator (3 Point) and Leadership Team Member
- Mr Gerard Cushan - Leader of Wellbeing (Year 10) Permanent
- Mrs Ruth McCrae - Leader of Wellbeing (Year 7) Temporary
- Mr Clint Crispin - Leader of Learning TAS (Permanent)
- Mrs Nicole Abell - From 0.6FTE to 1.00 FTE TAS (Permanent)
- Mrs Louise Henderson - Gifted Education Mentor and Student Pastoral Council co-leader
- Mrs Tarryn Wilson - WHS Coordinator
- Mrs Tania Eastcott - Leader of Learning Mathematics (Temporary)
- Mrs Louise Hatcher - Co-Leader Student Pastoral Council

▪ **Leaders of Wellbeing – 2022 Allocations**

- Year 7 - Mrs Ruth McCrae
- Year 8 - Ms Katrina Brennan
- Year 9 - Mr Daniel Beckett
- Year 10 - Mr Gerard Cushan
- Year 11 - Ms Sharon Smith
- Year 12 - Mrs Maryanne Murray

▪ **Job Share Arrangements (from commencement of Term 1, 2022)**

- Mrs Anna Matthews (Permanent) / Mrs Kate D'Arcy (Temporary) – continuing
- Mrs Katrina Piper (Permanent) / Mrs Amy Lavis (Permanent) – continuing
- Mrs Nikki Lorenz (Permanent) / Mrs Rosemary Laughton (Temporary) – new
- Mrs Melanie Schultz (Permanent) / Mrs Jacqui McInerny (Temporary) – new
- Mrs Prue Owen (Permanent) / TBA commencing Term 2 - new

Support Staff Changes – 2022

- **Mrs Melissa Watt** – Appointed to permanent Librarian Assistant position replacing **Mrs Amie Hallal** who has moved to Perth
- **Mrs Helen See, Mrs Lola Romanelli, Mrs Petty Sofianos and Mrs Linda Younger** will be reducing their hours of employment. Two positions (one full time and one part time) advertised to cover this change.
- **Ms Jodie Warburton and Mrs Stephanie Leard** have joined the Admin Support Staff Team. Jodie will be located in Student Services and Stephanie will be at Reception.

NEW STAFF 2022

Left to Right: Wendy-Anne Quarmby, Isabelle Quiqueree, Georgina Lindsay, Adele Weeks, Andy Smith, John Hepworth, Kyle Clarence, Daniel Houston, Cameron Anderson, David Luschwitz, Rebecca Morrice, Morag Aitchison



AN INVITATION TO YEAR 12 PARENTS & CARERS YEAR 12 INFORMATION WEBINAR MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 7PM

- Higher School Certificate (HSC) - Rules and Procedures
- Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)
- Careers Guidance and transitioning out of St Mary's Catholic College
- Key dates & 2022 planning
- Q & A Session

MINISTRY

Embrace

The new school year brings with it hope, joy, expectation for all of us, school staff, students, parents and care givers. New uniforms and shoes shine; new school exercise books with their blank pages hold the promise of engaging with new learning. The school itself is sparkling with freshly painted or refurbished areas. The new school year challenges us to put aside old habits that keep us from being our best. It also challenges us to become who we really are or want to be. We may want to become more resilient, more focused, more attentive, more mindful in order to be the best that we can be. We may want to be less anxious, less fearful of taking risks, less consumed by self-doubt, less focused on material possessions, less selfish. All of us are on a journey to growth: staff, students and parents alike. We journey together in truth and courage, to be of service as our College motto reminds us.

Dr Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann, was 2021 Senior Australian of the Year.

Miriam Rose is a great example of how to live a good life – she teaches and lives out values of deep compassion, deep connectedness, and deep understanding of our own humanity.

The wisdom and positive contribution Miriam Rose has made to help communities flourish centres on the Aboriginal concept of Dadirri.

Dadirri is a practice of deep listening and engagement with our environment and our relationships with our Creator and all created beings. This deep listening has at its core, teaching about:

- human wellbeing,
- understanding what it means to be human,
- connectedness with others and the world,
- a set of beliefs about the way we should live life,
- understanding where, how and with whom we belong, and
- understanding how we live a good life.

The practice of deep listening is crucial to human wellbeing and relationships. We can practice deep listening through:

- setting aside time for meditation and self-reflection every day,
- listening respectfully to others,
- pausing before commenting,
- being in the moment, and
- exploring how awe and wonder can connect us to each other and the natural world.

If you would like to learn more about practising Dadirri, visit the [Creative Spirits website](#).

A simple way to connect and be present:

- Reserve a space regularly for about five minutes in the morning or evening – go outside if you can. Simply sit, look at and listen to the earth and environment that surrounds you.
- Focus on something specific, such as a bird, a blade of grass, a clump of soil, cracked earth, a flower, bush or leaf, a cloud in the sky or a body of water – whatever you can see.
- You can also let something find you, be it a leaf, the sound of a bird, the feel of the breeze, the light on a tree trunk.
- Be still, silent and listen.
- Following quiet time, consider expressing in some way your experience of this quiet, still listening. You may wish to talk about the experience, write in a journal, write poetry, draw, paint or sing. A reminder that this needs to be held in balance – the key to Dadirri is in simply being, rather than in outcomes and activity.

Dadirri is also about prayer. Jesus tells us that the way to be attentive and listen deeply to God's word is through prayer. Before Jesus made the decision to go to the nearby villages to preach, He first went off to pray. It is through prayer that Jesus could hear what His Father was asking of Him. We, too, are called to spend time in daily prayer – we will then become aware of the opportunities to be 'Ready To Serve' the Lord.

DeAnna Addicoat
Ministry Coordinator

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – LEARNING & TEACHING

St Mary's Catholic College HSC 2021 Report

Congratulations to all staff and students on the wonderful results attained in only our third year of the Higher School Certificate at St Mary's. The excellent results reflect the commitment, resilience and dedication of our teachers and students during the past two years – a time that has challenged many.

The following results are testimony to the growth of the college as a place of quality education for all students and this third HSC cohort has affirmed the work that has been undertaken in the transition to a Year 7 – 12 college.

Summary of Results

We are pleased to share the following results:

- **25 x Band 6s** were achieved across multiple subjects including Biology, Drama, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced & Standard, Music, PDHPE, Society & Culture, Studies of Religion 1 Unit & 2 Unit and Visual Arts.
- **13 Students appeared on NESA's Distinguished Achievers List (21% of the HSC cohort)**

33770669	Adams, Elizabeth	15236	Mathematics Standard 2
33770669	Adams, Elizabeth	15380	Studies of Religion II
33770669	Adams, Elizabeth	15400	Visual Arts
33770693	Armit, Jacob	15250	Mathematics Extension 1
33770693	Armit, Jacob	15255	Mathematics Advanced
33770693	Armit, Jacob	15290	Music 1
33770693	Armit, Jacob	15370	Studies of Religion I
33770758	Bernasconi, Sarah	15090	Drama
33770758	Bernasconi, Sarah	15236	Mathematics Standard 2
33770758	Bernasconi, Sarah	15290	Music 1
33770758	Bernasconi, Sarah	15380	Studies of Religion II
33770766	Bickford, Ruby	15220	Legal Studies
33770766	Bickford, Ruby	15236	Mathematics Standard 2
33770766	Bickford, Ruby	15380	Studies of Religion II
33770790	Blundell, William	15290	Music 1
33770928	Carrigan, Talara	15320	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
33770928	Carrigan, Talara	15370	Studies of Religion I
33770987	D'Este, Riccardo	15290	Music 1
33771258	Hallford Jnr, John	15030	Biology
33771258	Hallford Jnr, John	15320	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
33771444	Hunt, Aidan	15400	Visual Arts
33771754	Milajew, Isabella	15370	Studies of Religion I
33771908	Ollerton, Jack	15400	Visual Arts
33772122	Swadling, Eden	15030	Biology
33772203	Walker, Brianna	15350	Society and Culture

90 x Band 5s were achieved and 121 students achieved a Band 4 in one or more subjects.

Diocesan Achievements:

Jacob ARMIT – Advanced Maths (Equal First in Diocese)

Ruby BICKFORD – Dance (First in Diocese)

Talara Carrigan – Studies of Religion 1 Unit (First in Diocese)

Eden SWADLING – English Standard (Equal First in Diocese)

ATAR Achievements

Jacob ARMIT	96.6
Ruby BICKFORD	94.35
Talara CARRIGAN	94.1
John HALLFORD JNR	93.4
Sarah BERNASCONI	92.6
Eden SWADLING	91.45
Elizabeth ADAMS	90.3
Isabella MILAJEW	88.2
Ailish SPENCER	85.55
Brianna WALKER	85.45
Will BLUNDELL	82.6

There is also significant growth in a number of subjects, across the three years of HSC Course results, and this analysis will be published mid-term following deeper analysis by our college staff.

Congratulations to all students and staff at the college, who have supported one another across the last three years, particularly the two years of the pandemic, as we continue to develop our senior school community. The dedication and commitment of students, mentors, teachers and support staff, to being the best we can be, is celebrated today.

Cathy O’Gorman

Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WELLBEING

COVID Safe Practices

As the health and wellbeing of our students and staff are our highest priority, SMCCG has adopted the layered approach to COVID-smart measures, recommended by NSW Health, to help to minimise transmissions at school. These measures are summarised as follows:

- Rapid antigen test (RAT) kits have been provided to all families to help monitor your child’s health and minimise transmission of COVID-19 across our school.
- The wearing of surgical/K95 masks indoors is mandatory for all staff and students. Replacement masks are available at student services.
- Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can enter College grounds.
- Continued use of enhanced cleaning, hand sanitisation, good air flow and ventilation in learning spaces and physical distancing practices are in place.
- Students will be kept in their year groups before school, during break times and in bus bay. Staggered playground and canteen access rosters will also be in place to minimise the spread of COVID-19 across cohorts.

Details are as follows:

Year 7: Grand staircase & Astroturf
 Year 8: Eastern quadrangle
 Year 9: Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)
 Year 10: Central quadrangle and covered seating area
 Year 11: Café and breezeway
 Year 12: Senior common room and courtyard

Wet Weather Locations

Year 7: Grand Staircase & southern building upper balcony
 Year 8: Library & northern building upper balcony
 Year 9: Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)
 Year 10: Covered seating area, 119-122 & southern building lower veranda
 Year 11: Café and breezeway & northern building lower balcony
 Year 12: L5, L6, senior common room and courtyard

Access to Facilities Roster

Week A	Library	BBall Court	Oval
Monday	9	8	7
Tuesday	10	9	8
Wednesday	11	10	9
Thursday	12	11	10
Friday	7	12	11
Week B	Library	Bball Court	Oval
Monday	10	9	7
Tuesday	11	12	8
Wednesday	12	7	9
Thursday	7	8	10
Friday	8	11	12
LUNCH [6 min]	Canteen [M/W/T]	Canteen [T]	Canteen [F]
Year 7	11:34	11:20	11:55
Year 8	11:42	11:28	12:03
Year 9	11:48	11:34	12:09
Year 10	11:54	11:40	12:15
Year 11	12:00	11:46	12:21
Year 12	12:06	11:52	12:27

RECESS [3 min]	Canteen [M/W/T]	Canteen [T]	Canteen [F]
Year 7	1:31	1:38	10:18
Year 8	1:35	1:42	10:22
Year 9	1:38	1:45	10:25
Year 10	1:41	1:48	10:28
Year 11	1:44	1:51	10:31
Year 12	1:47	1:54	10:34

If we are informed of a positive case within our school we will advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms. Communication will be via Compass.

Mr Benjamin Frize
Assistant Principal - Wellbeing

eSafety parent guide

to digital technologies and mental health



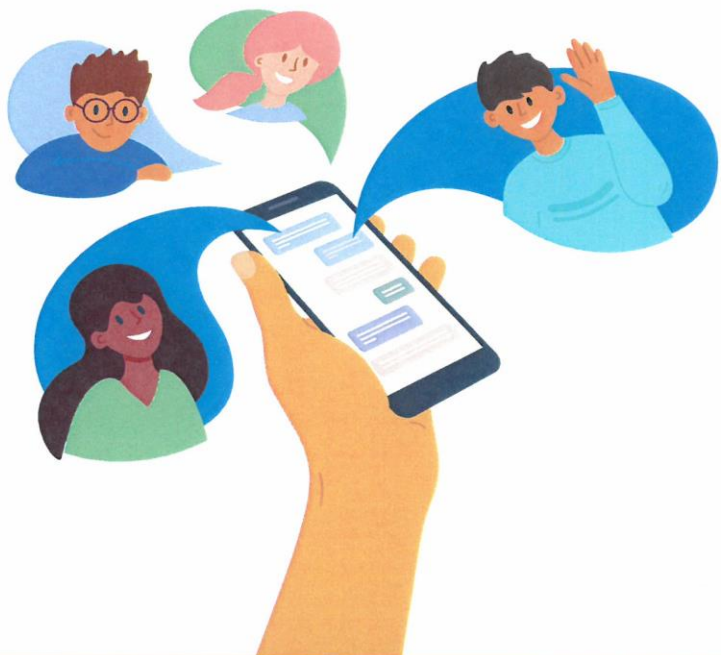
Join the **eSafety Commissioner's** expert education and training team for a **FREE** live webinar on **Tuesday 8 March from 7.30-8.30pm**

This Term 1 webinar will provide parents and carers with strategies to help young people and their mental health when they are online.

8 March 7.30 to 8.30pm

The webinar will cover:

- what do to about accidental exposure to content about suicide, self-harm or eating disorders
- using games, apps and social media to support mental wellbeing
- the pros and cons of digital mental health platforms
- strategies for young people to support friends online.



Register now: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6726877427764036623>

LEADER OF WELLBEING – YEAR 7

Year 7 2022 – First Days

Well done to our Year 7 students, who have begun their school year at St Mary's so well! We are all very proud of you!

Ruth McCrae

Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing



PARKING IN, ENTERING AND LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please note the following important information:

- The vehicular entrance to the College from the Pacific Highway is one way only. All vehicles using this entry must exit the campus via Alvestor Close at the rear of the College or by driving underneath the new Administration building through the car park back onto the Pacific Highway
- Open from 6:45am – 9:15am and from 3:20pm – 5:00pm Monday to Friday. For access outside these times please telephone the College (4944 4800).
- A “kiss and ride” section is established on the internal road between the Josephite Centre (Hall) and main buildings of the College
- The “kiss and ride” sections are **not** parking areas and are **only to be used to drop off and collect students**.

When entering the campus, please be aware that student safety is our priority. Please observe the above procedures, reduce your speed, and take every precaution to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Please be aware of the pedestrian crossing on the service road between the College to the Roger Kennedy Centre and demountable classrooms.

Finally, please do not park in St Paul's Primary School car park, the right hand side of Alvestor Close as you exit College grounds, or across our neighbours' driveways. Your cooperation is appreciated.

DAILY HOMEWORK AND USE OF SCHOOL DIARY

Students are soon to be issued with their school diary. Parents, please review this document with your child and impress on them the importance of using it, each day, to record their homework. Please regularly monitor that this is happening. In addition, please emphasise to your child that the daily completion of homework is **MANDATORY** for all students. More will be said about this requirement in a subsequent Newsletter.

ENFORCING UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

It is a requirement of attendance at our school that students wear the full school uniform and wear it correctly, at all times. When a student is not in uniform, she/he is expected to have a note of explanation. The note must be shown to their roll-call teacher. It must be signed by you, as parent/guardian, dated and indicate why and for how long your child will be out of uniform.

If a student does not have a note of explanation, then she/he will be placed on detention at lunchtime and issued with a “Uniform Infringement Notice” to take home, to be signed by a parent/carers and returned to the relevant Leader of Student Wellbeing the next day. We ask for your support by acknowledging receipt of the notice and doing all that you can to ensure that the situation is rectified promptly. **In situations of financial hardship and where a prompt response is difficult, appropriate support will be provided once the school is made aware of the situation.**

You are reminded that there must be no ‘mixing and matching’ of new uniform items. **We trust in your total support for the efforts of the staff in gaining students complete compliance with uniform requirements.**

ST. MARY'S NAVY SOFT SHELL JACKETS

Has your child mislaid their jacket? We have numerous jackets at Student Services with no names in them. Please have your child see Mrs Younger, Mrs Velich or Mrs Warburton to claim their jacket.

2022 SCHOOL FEES, ACCOUNTS AND CONCESSIONS

A detailed schedule of 2022 School Fees is now available from the General or Finance Office.

Families seeking a concession on fees **MUST** contact the School Finance Officers – Mrs Helen See and Mrs April Bisegna – to make an appointment to meet with Mr Keating to agree on the concession.

PLEASE NOTE, ALL 2021 CONCESSIONS ON FEES HAVE TO BE RE-NEGOTIATED FOR 2022

Should you require a concession, **please** contact the Finance Office as soon as possible – 4944 4804 (Helen or April – Finance Officers).

STUDENTS WHO ARE UNWELL

St Mary's has a duty of care to all students while they are on College grounds. Please remind your child that if they feel unwell, they must notify their teacher in the first instance. The teacher will write them a note of authorisation to leave class and go to sickbay. **They must not call you directly to request they be collected.** Your child will be triaged at Sick Bay and you will be notified by a member of Student Services if your child needs to be collected from the College. Thank you for your support in this matter.

UNIFORM SHOP

PLEASE NOTE – UNIFORM SHOP TRADING DAYS. The Uniform Shop will be **open each Tuesday and Wednesday from 8.30am to 10.30am** and each Thursday from **12.45pm to 3.30pm**. For information during trading hours please call 0435 954372 Kylie, the Uniform Shop Manager will assist you.

STUDENT ID CARD

School photo day occurred last Thursday with catch up day scheduled for **Tuesday 22 February**. Each student will have their photo taken regardless of whether they will be purchasing photos or not. This photo will then be used to create a Student ID Card which is used for borrowing from the Library and receiving books from Book-hire and for access to the photocopiers. Current Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 students - please keep your old ID card until your new one is distributed in the event you may need them.

COMPASS

St Mary's uses the "Compass" Administration/Wellbeing system. Log-in details for parents/carers were emailed earlier this week. If you have not received your message and your Compass account is still inactive, please contact the College and we will arrange for another email to be sent to you. Please see below notes for your information:

- Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the information contained in Compass by accessing the "Parent Portal – Compass: User Guide" from the College website.
- Parents/carers will have the capability through Compass to reset their password in the event they have forgotten it or want to change it. If you have any difficulties, please contact the Front Office.
- Only residential parents/carers have access to the Compass Parent Portal. **You also require separate email addresses for separate Compass accounts** – an email address shared between two people is regarded as a Compass security breach and will not allow access to the account.

Continued

- **Updating Compass Details**

New users when logging on to Compass are given the opportunity to update their details. It has been noted that some parents have updated their mobile phone number by taking out the gaps within the phone number. This is not required. The system requires phone numbers to be in this format, ie. XXXX XXX XXX.

- **Reminder! PLEASE ONLY EXPLAIN WHOLE DAY ABSENCES – PLEASE DO NOT REPORT PARTIAL ABSENCES through the Compass App. Reporting partial absences may cause inconsistencies with your child's attendance.**
- SMS's are sent to parents of students who are absent at 9.40am each weekday morning. You will receive a text message if your child was not present during roll call and/or Period 1. ***Please phone the school to explain your child's absence if you receive a text. Please do not respond by text, the Compass system does not accept them.***
- If you notify the College beforehand that your child is going to arrive late, you will still receive an SMS. The arrival time of a student will not be amended in Compass prior to them reporting to the Student Services on arrival in the event there is an inconsistency of arrival times.
- On occasion you may be sent a text message even though your child is in attendance at school, this may be because they have arrived late and have not signed in at Student Services. ***Please kindly remind your child that they must report to Student Services if they arrive late to school (8.50am or later) so that their attendance is recorded, otherwise they may continue to be marked as absent.*** In the event you receive a communication from the school inadvertently, please call the Front Office (4944 4800) and this will be investigated.
- In line with Government legislation, please ensure your child's absence is explained within 7 days of the absence date otherwise the absence is recorded as unexplained and will remain unexplained even if a note is later received.

Qkr! APP

In this newsletter you will find the instructions for Qkr! This easy to use phone app gives you the flexibility to place orders for Canteen or pay for excursions directly from your phone. It also reduces the need for your child to bring cash to school.

Please remember to amend your child's year group on the Qkr! app to aid the timely collection of their order.

If you require further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact either Helen or April in the Finance Office.

FINANCE NEWS

Fee Statements were emailed on Tuesday 8 February. **These Statements have been issued prior to the annual 2022 school fees being invoiced.**

School fees were expected to be finalised by 30 November 2021, unless an **agreed payment arrangement was established with the Principal.**

- Any school fees that are outstanding, without an agreed payment arrangement with Principal, will be actioned per the Diocesan Fee Collection Policy.
- For those families experiencing financial hardship it is not too late to contact the school office to arrange an appointment with the Principal or Finance Office, to discuss payment options.
- For those families showing a credit balance on their statement, these credits will be applied when 2022 School Fees are generated.
- Payments can be made via BPay, direct debit or credit card (over the phone with our Finance ladies, Helen and April).

For fee payers wishing to establish a new direct debit or adjust their existing direct debit, please phone our Finance Office on 4944 4800.

Thank You – Helen & April (Finance Office)

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

In 2012, the Government introduced new non-attendance requirements in all NSW schools. The following information was provided for parents at that time and is again provided as a reminder of the attendance responsibilities to be addressed by parents and students:

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

As parents, you are responsible for:

- **Enrolling** your children of compulsory school age (6-17 years of age) in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling;
- **Ensuring** that your children attend school regularly;
- **Explaining** to the school the reasons for absences of your children and doing so ***within seven (7) days***
- **Taking** measures to resolve attendance issues involving your children

Non-attendance requirements were introduced in all NSW schools in 2012 and the NSW Board of Studies and the Catholic School system are very strict on the application of these new requirements. All schools have revised their attendance monitoring procedures and it is vital that all families become familiar with and know how to apply for and provide explanations on all occasions when your children are absent from school, late in arriving at school or have to leave early from school.

Please note and comply with the following:

- All absences from school **MUST** be explained within **7 days otherwise it will remain as an UNEXPLAINED absence**
- Sport **is compulsory** and absences from sport will be strictly monitored
- Late arrival at school or early departure from school **requires a note of explanation signed and dated by parents**
- If your family holiday is during school time you **MUST** inform the school Principal in advance and request a Certificate of Extended leave. (You are encouraged **NOT** to withdraw your children from school for family holidays). The Certificate of Extended Leave is authorised by the Principal and you will be required to carry a signed copy during the entirety of the leave period.
- ***Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance.*** The Principal of the school has the right to question parents' or carers' requests for their child to be absent from school. Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness. If Principals don't consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

EARLY LEAVER PASS

If your child requires to leave school early on a regular basis, they will be issued with an “**Early Leaver Pass**”. To request a pass, please send a letter of request to the Principal via Reception. The request must be signed by a parent/carers and clearly state the day(s) and times(s) when the early release is required.

STUDENTS LATE ARRIVAL OR LEAVING EARLY

If students arrive after roll call has commenced, **they must present to Student Services to sign in**. A note is required to explain lateness.

If a student is required to leave early, Parents/Carers are to provide a permission note to their child which is presented at Student Services prior to them leaving. Due to current COVID protocols parents/carers cannot attend Student Services, please meet your child in the Kiss and Ride zone and call the College to notify us that you are there. Your child will then be sent down to meet you.

VOLUNTEER'S WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

At St Mary's we value greatly the contribution our volunteers make to our community. Without your assistance we would not be able to adequately operate the canteen or support a number of sporting and cultural events. Recent changes require every school volunteer to obtain a Working with Children Check Clearance (WWCC). There is no charge for this service as a volunteer. To assist you, the process is outlined below:

Process
1. Go online and complete the application form https://wwccheck.cyp.nsw.gov.au/applicants/application
2. Submit application and print summary document. You will receive an application receipt by email.
3. Take relevant proof of identity documents to Roads and Maritime Services (Service NSW) https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-working-children-check
4. Your Working With Children clearance and number will be mailed to you (this can take a couple of days)
5. You will need to complete the Volunteer Handbook from the Front Office. On completion this is handed into the College Administration for processing. At this time we will also need to sight 4 original documents for ID purposes. The forms within the handbook will then be forwarded to the CSO Child Protection Unit to validate and to enable a Police Check to be performed – this can take up to five working days (but as long as 4 weeks depending on waiting times for the Police Check) and must be finalised and cleared before any volunteer work is carried out at the College.

For more information:

<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check>

We apologise for the inconvenience that this process may cause however, if you have any difficulties with this process, please contact the College.

DISABILITY PROVISIONS

Disability Provisions applications for HSC exams are now open. Any student considering applying for these provisions please see **Mr Tim O'Neill** to discuss their eligibility. The closing date for applications is the last day of Term 1. Please note that SMCC does not make decisions about applications. The NSW Government Education Standards Authority (NESA) make determinations based on evidence supplied in applications.

BUS ROUTES

Families are requested to check the Newcastle Transport Website to reacquaint yourselves with relevant bus routes:

2022 Bus Route Instructions

- In Chrome (not Internet Explorer), type in "Newcastle Buses plan your trip" (if you scroll down this page and type in the school name, it downloads a map and a PDF bus stop list – only limited stops are displayed)

OR:

- Under the Plan your trip tab click on Trip Planner
- Type in pick up point – ie St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead
- Destination – eg. Swansea (or vice versa depending on AM or PM)
- Click on Leaving now and type in the approximate leaving time eg. 15:00
- Click on Refine
- Click on School Bus
- Click on Fewest Changes
- You should now have a list of school bus numbers (make note of these numbers as when you leave this page you can't get back to it without following the previous 6 steps)
- Under the Plan tab - Click on Routes and Timetables
- Type in the bus number – here you can print out pdf timetables

Finally, please ensure that your child has a Student Opal card and they are reminded to Tap On and Tap Off. The data collated from the use of Opal Cards is the primary determiner in having additional services put on our network. **Should your child attend a school excursion where an Opal card is required, they are not to use their Student Bus Travel card. They must obtain a separate Opal card for these journeys (together with the concession card if 16 or over).**

BUS PASS CONCESSION CARDS FOR STUDENTS 16 YEARS AND OVER

Students 16 years of age or older require a concession card in order to obtain a concession fare on public transport. If your child requires a concession card, please see Mrs Velich or Mrs Younger in Student Services.



**Pianoforte
Studio**

Piano lessons for students of all ages

Warners Bay studio

\$25 / 30 minute lesson

For more details please contact Rebecca on
0408775780 or
pianoforte@westnet.com.au

<https://www.pianofortestudio.org/>

RELIGIOUS STUDIES FACULTY

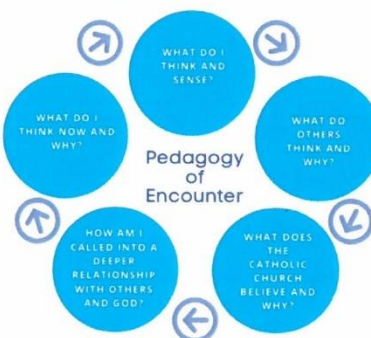
ENCOUNTERING THE MYSTERY OF GOD

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE
DIOCESAN NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM

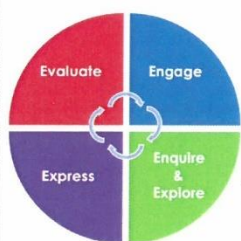
PEDAGOGY OF ENCOUNTER

The Pedagogy of Encounter is about encountering the mystery of God through the mystery of everyday life.

Students are invited to depth their own views on matters being studied and to engage with the perspectives of others and of the Catholic Church.



STAGE 2-5 INQUIRY MODEL

**Engage**

An invitation and challenge to a richer understanding of one's own and others' worldview.

Enquire & Explore

A deepening of understanding of the content area through critical inquiry.

Express

A personal response in relation to the area of content.

Evaluate

Reflective responses that apply their understanding as part of their worldview.

STAGE FIVE THEME

Faith and Life

A focus on living a Christian life that is intended to be a relationship and a partnership with God as He impacts people through every aspect of our lives.

MODULES

GOD FAITH AND RELIGION	FAITH AND SCIENCE
How can we understand the mystery of God through faith?	How can faith and science work together for the Common Good?
CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME	FAITH IN COMMUNITY
How does God call us to be stewards of the environment?	How can we live in solidarity and community?
LIVING JUSTLY	
How can we bring about God's Kingdom of justice and peace?	

ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

Our English Faculty is excited about 2022 and ready to build strong relationships with our students so we can support them in finding growth in English.

This year we will continue our commitment to nurturing individual achievement and the literacy skills of all students through our English Curriculum. Year 7-10's learning will be guided by ongoing formal assessment – every learning activity matters to achievement. Additionally, they will regularly participate in DEAR and VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation) learning activities whilst learning the content of the English syllabus.

In term 1, we will be exploring:

Year 7: 'Project Language' – building appreciation and understanding of how words are used to shape precise messages in texts. This will include a close focus on mood and tone.

Year 8: 'Communicating through Visuals' – connecting to previous learning and strengthening understanding of how messages are communicated through images, icons and symbols, layout, colours, and words.

Year 9: 'To Fear or not to Fear' – understanding the purpose and features of the horror genre through the exploration of horror texts (PG versions) and building the capacity to replicate these features and stylistic devices in students' own imaginative writing. Students will then reflect on this learning and form their own opinion of whether it was a valuable learning experience and focus on writing a series of persuasive texts that communicate their ideas.

Year 10: 'Macbeth and the Machiavelli' – Students will explore the Shakespearean play, *Macbeth*, whilst also considering the character archetype of the Machiavelli. Students will explore language style and patterns, strengthening their ability to communicate clear ideas in their own compositions.

Current Year 7 class placements in English are temporary. Informed by ongoing formative assessment of student's skills and knowledge in English lessons over the first 4 weeks of this term, English teachers will form permanent class groupings that will be implemented in Week 5. Please note, these will not be graded classes.

Tracy Carpenter
Leader of Learning – English

MATHS FACULTY NEWS

Straight back to business here! Our amazing Year 8 Maths students working on their new topic Data in Mathematics

Alicia Lang
Mathematics Teacher



STEM opportunity for Girls

Find the Secret Key to STEM fun!

This year the UN's theme for International Women's Day (IWD) is: **Changing Climates: Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow.**

Celebrate IWD with the Girls Day Out in STEM (GDOS) Sustainability CryptoQuest. What is that you may ask? We're combining cryptography + solving sustainability problems for this event. Girls, let's improve our cryptography skills, be ready to change the world and make it a better place. 😊

Higher order thinking and analysis are essential talents looking to the future, so let's get those skills in place and be ready to save the planet. There are 6 exciting cryptography challenges for girls aged 10-14 and their supporters geared towards a sustainable today. Solve them and you can help save the planet - oh and WIN some cool prizes too! It will run for a week from March 6th to March 13th.

All of us have the power to make changes within our tiny universe and in our own way. Be the hero in your own world, let's get sustainable 💚💚💚

Register now for **The GDOS Sustainability CryptoQuest!** Get the secret code and off you go!

Link to Register: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2022-girls-day-out-in-stem-event-the-gdos-sustainability-cryptoquest-registration-256501782737?fbclid=IwAR2nfTHnBgEo_imWRYMGcbCMUFLP8ukpU0O_l88eMtZXqvzuVxellrPxVVE

- **Register:** Get access to the **SECRET** code to decipher the crypto sustainability challenges. 🔍
- **Organise:** Arrange time during the week to complete the daily challenges. There are surprises and delights for each challenge in addition to the activity and some fun facts. ✅
- **Change the World Activities:** Do the quests and solve the challenges. 🌐
- **Share:** your challenges online with secret encrypted messages that only other participants can read!!! How secret secret is that! 🤫🤫🤫
- **Poll:** Vote to have your say in the best ways to save the planet. 🗳️
- **Win:** All those registered will be in the draw to win fabulous prizes! Participants who finish all 6 challenges will be entered into the final draw for a chance to win the **GRAND PRIZE** from our friends at Telstra which is a Samsung Galaxy Tablet S7 plus 5G 256GB valued at about \$2000. 🎁🎁🎁

Sign up to get access to the SECRET code that will be revealed on Sunday, March 6th at 9:00am AEST when the FUN begins!!!



You have one whole week from March 6-13, 2022 📅 to do the 6 sustainability cryptography challenges during which your participation is needed in helping to save the world. You can be a winner each and every day during the quest and go on to be your own sustainability hero long after our quest has come to an end. 🦸

After each challenge, let us know what you thought by posting to our socials and of course, vote in the poll to have your say! Let your voice be heard. 🗳️

The GDOS Sustainability CryptoQuest

Be part of something big, big, big for International Women's Day (IWD) this year - let's have some serious fun, be our own heroes and help to save the planet. Can it get better than that?? Get access to the SECRET code on Sunday, March 6, 2022!

Any girl can join in the fun. You just need your parent's permission to register 🧑🏫💻

How do I participate?

Step 1

Register online for the event 🧑🏫🧑🏫🧑🏫🧑🏫. Make sure you have your parent's permission.

Step 2

After registration you will receive a confirmation with the password 🗝️ You will need the password to access the code on the reveal date, **Sunday, March 6th.**

Step 3

Use your password on March 6th at 9:00am AEST, when you will gain access to the secret code. Then your 1st challenge begins 🤖 Let's get working on those solutions and helping to save our planet!!!! 🌍

Oh, and have your mobile phone 📱 nearby to take lots of selfies or videos – send them in to win awesome prizes (with your parent's permission of course). Be in the draw for some great goodies and MORE!!

Step 4

During **the week of March 6-13** share your challenge results with Girls Day Out in STEM (GDOS) and the STEM community. Enjoy learning more about how Jenna, a Google Cryptographer, used her STEM knowledge to create the 6 challenges. Let's see those pics of how you are all changing the world, one small step at a time.

Step 5

Now that you've completed the challenges, photographed them, celebrated being your own hero and helped in saving the world – you get to VOTE in the SUSTAINABILITY POLL. Let your voice be heard 🗳

Step 6


Be in the draw for some great prizes 🎁 Register NOW!



Link to Register: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2022-girls-day-out-in-stem-event-the-gdos-sustainability-cryptoquest-registration-256501782737?fbclid=IwAR2nfTHnBgEo_jmWRYMGcbCMUFLP8ukpU0O_l88eMtZXqzuVxellrPxVVE

LIBRARY MATTERS

ACCESS

eBooks & Audiobooks



- Use Google search: Type in **Soraapp** and when the following hit appears open the link.

- Click on **"I have a set up code"** at the bottom of the page.
Enter the code = **cenetau** and click on **Get Started**
- Select **ACEN Member collection** as your library in the dropdown.
Click on **Sign in using ACEN Member Collection**
- Sign in using your MN login details.
- When the POP-UP **"Add a Sora Short Cut"** appears, click on **ADD**.
- When a POP-UP asks you to **"Install the app."** please **ACCEPT**. The SORAapp will now appear on your taskbar for easy access to Sora eBooks.

- Begin searching the SORA for an ebook or audio book to borrow.
- Please see Mrs Dunn in the Library if you need any help installing or using the app.



Landcare News

St Mary's Catholic College has a registered Landcare site running alongside the back oval. Each year we plant a 1000 native trees, shrubs and grasses into the area and over 15 years we have rehabilitated this area into a beautiful creek habitat.




Our Landcare students learn about regeneration and practical ways to care for our local environment. We also care for 4 beehives, bee hotels, a vegetable garden and recycling initiatives. It is a great opportunity for students to reconnect with nature – a wonderful outside learning environment! We run two Landcare days per term.

Any student wishing to be involved in our school Environmental Initiatives is invited to participate in our Landcare Days. The first Landcare Day is Wednesday 2nd March. Permission notes will be made available closer to this date.

Parents and friends may also like to participate in this Landcare day, or assist by providing expert knowledge. Please don't hesitate to contact Katrina Piper or Maryanne Murray (49 444 800) if you would like to help us to work on our environmental initiatives.

Together we can make a positive difference to improve our natural environment.

<p><u>Term 1</u></p> <p>Wednesday 2nd March (Week 6B) Clean Up Australia Day</p> <p> Wednesday 30th March (Week 10B)</p>	<p><u>Term 2</u></p> <p> Thursday 19th May (Week 5A) World Bee Day – Flower Planting</p> <p> Wednesday 29th June (Week 10B)</p>
<p><u>Term 3</u></p> <p> Thursday 28th July (Week 2B) National Tree Day</p> <p> Tuesday 20th September (Week 10B)</p>	<p><u>Term 4</u></p> <p>Wednesday 26th October (Week 3A)</p> <p>Tuesday 13th December (Week 9A)</p>



On behalf of the Environmental Team
Katrina Piper
 On behalf of the Environmental Team

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Having run over 5000 study skills seminars over the past twenty years, Dr Prue Salter has been asked many questions about study skills. Below are the top 5 questions parents ask.



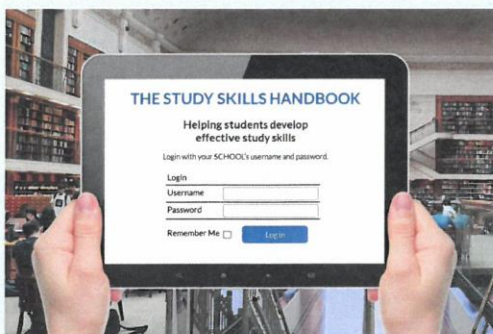
1. HOW MUCH LEARNING SHOULD STUDENTS BE DOING EACH NIGHT?

Different schools will have different expectations, but the general guidelines are that junior students should be doing around 1 hour of self-learning most nights, seniors between 2-3 hours most nights.



2. BUT WHAT IF STUDENTS SAY THEY HAVE NO HOMEWORK?

In Primary school, students are used to just doing the work their teacher specifically tells them to do. Many students do not realise that things should be different in secondary school; there are actually two types of learning students should be doing. The first is compulsory work such as homework, assignments, and preparing for tests. The second type of work is independent learning work. If students have no homework that night, they are expected to undertake some independent learning in secondary school. This could be reviewing what they have learnt that week, making a mind map, reading ahead, researching an area of interest, making study notes or reviewing difficult concepts.



www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Help students develop great study skills.



3. CAN YOU LISTEN TO MUSIC WHILE STUDYING?

The general rule is that if students are undertaking learning that is not difficult, it is OK to listen to music. It makes them feel relaxed, makes them feel like the time is going quicker. However, if they are doing work that requires intense concentration or memorisation, it is best to switch the music off (or else have slower music with no vocals such as classical musical) as otherwise it will take them much longer to absorb and learn the information.



4. IS IT OK TO FOR STUDENTS TO DO WORK WITH DEVICES OR IN FRONT OF THE TV?

Unless students are doing something mindless like sticking things on a poster or colouring in, it is best not to do work in front of any devices such as phones or TV. Instead, students should do their home learning in an environment that is as distraction-free as possible. It works well if students do their learning in distinct blocks of time and remove all distractions during those blocks. Some students find they have the self-discipline to manage technological distractions, others need a helping hand – such as their phone in a different room for the half-hour period where they are focusing on schoolwork.



5. HOW DO I STOP MY STUDENT GETTING DISTRACTED WHEN WORKING ON THE COMPUTER?

Have a discussion with students about doing schoolwork in focused blocks of time so that they can really enjoy their time away from the books (or computer). If students find it challenging to be disciplined, they can also look at self-blocking software such as Self Control (MAC) and Cold Turkey (PC). If students are still struggling, parental management programs such as Family Zone allow families to block particular sites at particular times.

username: stmarys

password: 106results

Canteen News

- The Canteen roster now has a dedicated Facebook page. The Facebook is a closed group page, the name is St Mary's Catholic College Canteen Volunteers. Please search and request to join.
- Please remember to alter your child's year on Qkr! This helps us to get your child's order to them more quickly.

CANTEEN PRICE LIST 2022 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 2022

SANDWICHES

Buttered	\$1.20
Vegemite	\$1.60
Egg	\$3.30
Egg & Lettuce	\$3.70
Cheese	\$3.00
Cheese & Tomato	\$3.50
Ham	\$4.40
Ham & Pickle	\$4.70
Ham & Cheese	\$4.80
Ham, Cheese, Pineapple	\$5.30
Ham, Cheese, Tomato	\$5.30
Tomato	\$1.90
Salad Works	\$4.00
Chicken	\$4.00
Chicken/Ham & Salad	\$5.80
Gourmet Turkey/Ham Salad	\$7.30
Tuna	\$3.30
Full Salad Roll	\$5.80

ROLLS Add \$1.00

SALAD PACKS (Order in Winter)

Vegetarian	\$4.00
Chick/Ham/Tuna/Turkey Salad	\$5.50
Gourmet Vegetarian (Small)	\$6.50
Gourmet Meat/Tuna Sal (Small)	\$7.50
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$5.50
Greek Salad	\$6.50

WRAPS

Chilli Chicken & Salad	\$7.00
Half Chilli & Salad Wrap	\$4.00
Roasted Chicken & Sal	\$7.00
Half Chicken Salad Wrap	\$4.00
Ham and Salad	\$7.00
Half Ham Salad Wrap	\$4.00
Full Salad (no Half)	\$4.00
Chicken Mayo Lettuce	\$7.00
½ Chick Mayo Lettuce	\$4.00

HOT FOOD

Plain Pies	\$4.00
Cheese Pies	\$4.50
Cheese and Bacon Pies	\$4.50
Curry Pie	\$4.50
Sausage Rolls	\$3.00
Cheese and Bacon Sausage Roll	\$3.50
Party Pies	\$2.00
SAUCE (EXTRA)	30c
½ Chicken BBQ Wrap	\$2.60
Vegetarian Spring Rolls (4)	\$2.00
Chicken Goujons (8)	\$4.50
Hot Pizza Rolls	\$2.80

(Cabanossi/Hawaiian)

Updated 14/02/2022

[Type here]

HOT FOOD continued

Chicken Burgers - <i>crumbed</i> or	\$5.00
- <i>flame grilled</i>	\$5.00
Chicken Schnitzel Burger	\$6.50
Crumbed Fish Burger	\$5.00
Caesar Schnitzel Burger	\$6.50
Hawaiian Schnitzel Burger	\$6.50
Cheeseburger (Beef)	\$5.00
Colossal Burger (Beef)	\$6.50
Hot Cheese/ Cheese Bacon Rolls	\$2.50
Spinach & Fetta Triangle	\$4.50
Hot Dogs	\$2.00
Potato Wedges	\$4.50
Italian Sausage Rolls	\$2.00
Fish Fingers	\$2.00
Cheesy Mac	\$4.00

DRINKS

Water 600ml	\$2.00
Water 750ml	\$2.80
Milk Flavoured Large	\$3.00
Milk Flavoured Small	\$2.00
Aloe Chill	\$2.70
Small Juice	\$2.70
Juice Bombs small	\$2.20
Juice Bombs large	\$3.50
Up and Go	\$2.20
Lipton Iced Tea	\$3.70
Poppers	\$1.50
Waterfords Mineral Water	\$3.20
Iced REAL Flavoured Milk	\$3.50

FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FREE OF CHARGE

LUNCH/RECESS ORDERS MUST BE ORDERED BEFORE SCHOOL FROM THE CANTEEN or ONLINE WITH Qkr! BEFORE 8.50am

*****WINTER SPECIALS Terms 2+3*****

Meatball Sub	\$4.50
Soup (Homemade)	\$5.00
Add bread roll	\$6.00
Hot Chicken Gravy Roll	\$4.50

*****SUMMER SPECIALS Terms 1+4*****

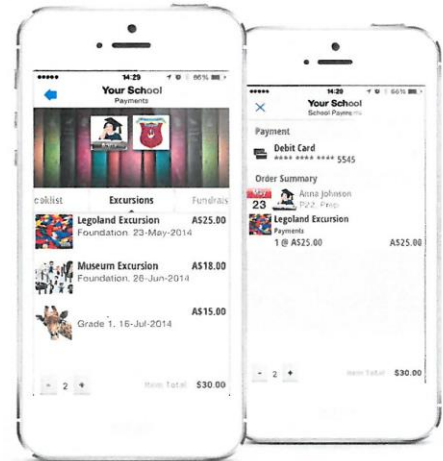
Large Fruit Salad	\$4.50
Small Fruit Tub	\$3.50

For quicker, hassle-free canteen and school payments, try *Qkr!* today



Introducing *Qkr!* (pronounced 'quicker') by MasterCard: the easy-to-use phone app that gives you the flexibility to place orders at a time and place that suits you. *Qkr!*:

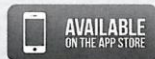
- Saves you time by letting you order and pay for school items directly from your phone;
- Reduces the need for your child to bring cash to school;
- Reduces the time school staff spend on administrative tasks



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Scan the QR code or search for our school name. Our school will also appear in "Locations Nearby" if you are within 4kms of the school

Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing your school menu, you will be prompted to register your child. This allows you to make school orders on their behalf.

Scan QR code provided by your school

If within 4kms of the school, you can select from "Locations Nearby"

Or search for our school name



Now you're ready to order and pay for meals and other items...

CANTEEN ROSTER 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Ama Ursino *	Michelle Ponman	Karen Schneider	Lisa Gray	Lisa Jones
	*	*		
Jessica Regan*		Carolyn Urquhart	Maree Browning	Melanie Foster
			*	*
		Natsuko Druery		
		*		
7 Feb T1	8 Feb	9 Feb ND	10 Feb	11 Feb LJ
7 Mar	8 Mar KT	9 Mar CU	10 Mar	11 Mar
4 Apr	5 Apr	6 Apr ND	7 Apr	8 Apr
2 May T2	3 May TR	4 May ND	5 May	6 May LJ
30 May	31 May KT	1 Jun CU	2 Jun	3 Jun
27 Jun	28 Jun TR	29 Jun ND	30 Jun	1 Jul
25 Jul T3	26 Jul TR	27 Jul ND	28 Jul	29 Jul LJ
22 Aug	23 Aug KT	24 Aug CU	25 Aug	26 Aug
19 Sep	20 Sep TR	21 Sep ND	22 Sep	23 Sep
17 Oct T4 No JR	18 Oct TR	19 Oct ND	20 Oct	21 Oct LJ
14 Nov No JR	15 Nov KT	16 Nov CU	17 Nov	18 Nov
12 Dec	13 Dec TR	14 Dec ND	15 Dec	16 Dec
9 Jan	10 Jan	11 Jan	12 Jan	13 Jan
6 Feb 2023	7 Feb 2023	8 Feb 2023	9 Feb 2023	10 Feb 2023
Penny Howard	Deb Wilson	Jazmine Adams	Haley Matthews	Selina McKay *
			*	
		Jenny Whitby *	Michelle Barnett	Krystyna Kelly *
			Fiona Blanch	
			Amy Hogan	
			Karen Godbee	
14 Feb 2022 T1	15 Feb 2022	16 Feb 2022	17 Feb 2022	18 Feb 2022
14 Mar	15 Mar	16 Mar	17 Mar MB+	18 Mar
11 Apr	12 Apr	13 Apr	14 Apr	15 Apr
9 May T2	10 May	11 May	12 May	13 May
6 Jun	7 Jun	8 Jun	9 Jun MB+	10 Jun
4 Jul	5 Jul	6 Jul	7 Jul	8 Jul
1 Aug T3	2 Aug	3 Aug	4 Aug	5 Aug
29 Aug	30 Aug	31 Aug	1 Sep MB+	2 Sep
26 Sep	27 Sep	28 Sep	29 Sep	30 Sep
24 Oct T4	25 Oct	26 Oct	27 Oct	28 Oct
21 Nov	22 Nov	23 Nov	24 Nov MB+	25 Nov
19 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	22 Dec	23 Dec
16 Jan/13Feb23	17Jan/14 Feb 23	18Jan/15 Feb 23	19 Jan /16 Feb 23	20Jan/17Feb 23

Red - Public Holiday Blue - School Holidays/ Pupil Free Days (Green or Purple indicates once or twice per term). Name in black all dates in the line. Please text or call Deb 0400 161 301 if you are going to be away. Roster reminder on Facebook page, St Mary's Catholic College Canteen Volunteers Update 21/01/2022 Version4 Chris 0414 574 980 Deb 0400 161 301 PTO

CANTEEN ROSTER 2022

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Ama Ursino *	Deanne Freebody	Kim Graham	Melyssa Plush	Brooke Sievert *
		Daniela Gambatto	Jacqui McIntyre *	Joanne Harrison
		*		
			Tina Kelly	
24 Jan 2022	25 Jan 2022	26 Jan 2022	27 Jan 2022	28 Jan 2022 T1
21 Feb	22 Feb	23 Feb	24 Feb TK	25 Feb
21 Mar	22 Mar	23 Mar	24 Mar	25 Mar
18 Apr	19 Apr	20 Apr	21 Apr	22 Apr
16 May T2	17 May	18 May	19 May TK	20 May
13 Jun	14 Jun	15 Jun	16 Jun	17 Jun
11 Jul	12 Jul	13 Jul	14 Jul	15 Jul
8 Aug T3	9 Aug	10 Aug	11 Aug TK	12 Aug
5 Sep	6 Sep	7 Sep	8 Sep	9 Sep
3 Oct	4 Oct	5 Oct	6 Oct	7 Oct
31 Oct T4	1 Nov	2 Nov	3 Nov TK	4 Nov
28 Nov	29 Nov	30 Nov	1 Dec	2 Dec
26 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	29 Dec	30 Dec
23 Jan 23 / 20 Feb 23	24 Jan 23 / 21 Feb 23	25 Jan 23 / 22 Feb 23	26 Jan 23 / 23 Feb 23	27 Jan 23 / 24 Feb 23
Leah Scott *	Joanne Givens	Alaine Kowalski	Julie Pannowitz	Rebecca Barnes
Penny Howard		Jazmine Adams	Angela Pierchorowicz	Samantha Pryke
				*
31 Jan 2022 T1	1 Feb 2022	2 Feb 2022	3 Feb 2022	4 Feb 2022
28 Feb	1 Mar	2 Mar	3 Mar	4 Mar
28 Mar	29 Mar	30 Mar	31 Mar	1 Apr
25 Apr T2	26 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	29 Apr
23 May	24 May	25 May	26 May	27 May
20 Jun	21 Jun	22 Jun	23 Jun	24 Jun
18 Jul T3	19 Jul	20 Jul	21 Jul	22 Jul
15 Aug	16 Aug	17 Aug	18 Aug	19 Aug
12 Sep	13 Sep	14 Sep	15 Sep	16 Sep
10 Oct T4	11 Oct	12 Oct	13 Oct	14 Oct
7 Nov	8 Nov	9 Nov	10 Nov	11 Nov
5 Dec	6 Dec	7 Dec	8 Dec	9 Dec
2 Jan 23	3 Jan 23	4 Jan 23	5 Jan 23	6 Jan 23
30 Jan 23 / 27 Feb 23	31 Jan 2023	1 Feb 2023	2 Feb 2023	3 Feb 2023

Red - Public Holiday Blue - School Holidays/ Pupil Free Days (Green or Purple indicates once or twice per term). Name in black all dates in the line. Please text or call Deb 0400 161 301 if you are going to be away. Roster reminder on Facebook page, St Mary's Catholic College Canteen Volunteers Update 21/01/2022 Version4 Chris 0414 574 980 Deb 0400 161 301 PTO

NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

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 2020 the following vaccines will be offered:

YEARS	VACCINE	NUMBER OF DOSES
Year 7	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	2-doses at least 6 months apart
	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine	Single dose
Years 10	Meningococcal ACWY vaccine	Single dose

The scheduled dates for the 2021 immunisations are as follows:

Year 7 **Wednesday 23 February 2022 and Wednesday 7 September**
Year 10 **Wednesday 4 May 2022**

Parent Information Kits that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home via Year 7 students on Monday 14 February 2022. Year 10 consent forms will be sent out nearer to the date of their vaccination. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/carers 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
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Please note that, to improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses during Year 7 or 8 (for HPV and dTpa vaccination) and during Year 10 or 11 (for Meningococcal ACWY vaccination).

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

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic either as a physical card or a text message sent to the mobile number recorded on the consent form. Details about vaccinations given at school will also be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to support complete vaccination histories.

UNIFORM

Information can be located on Compass regarding Uniform requirements for 2022. This information can also be found on the College website - http://www.gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au/st_mary_s_uniform_information.html

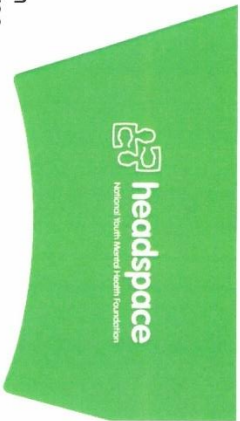
The information provided is especially pertinent to students currently in Year 9 who will be transitioning to Year 10 and to any child who will be newly enrolled in 2022. Current Year 9 2021 parents are kindly requested to note that students will require blazer and trousers for formal occasions during Term 1 2022 and throughout the year.

The Uniform shop holiday trading hours are published on the final page of this Newsletter. If you have any uniform queries, please contact Kylie, Uniform Shop Manager on 0435 954 372.

From the commencement of 2022, black polishable leather school shoes will only be accepted. Black "Vans" or "Converse" branded shoes (or similar) will not be permitted.

upcoming sessions

Parents, Carers, and Community Members in Hunter New England are invited to attend a free mental health education session in Term 1.



Communicating with my young person - Inverell

Date: 7/2/2022
Time: 7:00pm – 8:15pm AEDT
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3i5Gru>



Communicating with my young person - Maitland

Date: 15/2/2022
Time: 7:00pm – 8:15pm AEDT
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3K6T7lu>



Helping my young person during COVID

Date: 17/2/2022
Time: 6:30pm – 7:45pm AEDT
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3nGv8P>



Communicating with my young person

Date: 9/3/2022
Time: 12pm – 1:15pm AEDT
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3noWGIC>



Helping my young person during COVID

Date: 31/3/2022
Time: 6:30pm – 7:45pm AEDT
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3K7YBTf>



headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

feb chats

Led by clinicians, these chats bring young people, friends and family together and explore topics that are important to the community.

Finding or creating your safe happy place

[Tuesday 1 February 7-8pm AEDT](#)

Supporting young people with gender identity

[Thursday 10 February 7-8pm AEDT](#)

Healthy relationships with peers and friends

[Sunday 20 February 7-8pm AEDT](#)

Starting Uni or TAFE

[Wednesday 23 February 7-8pm AEDT](#)

Check out and register for the chats by scanning the QR code below.





Altering the stories of body image

Do you or someone you know struggle with body image? Would you like to learn ways to challenge these stereotypes?

Every Tuesday 1st of March - 5th of April. 4pm - 6pm.

The group is a six-week closed group program.

Where - headspace Maitland

Connect: headspace@maitlandhsn.arts.org.au



Bookings are essential. Scan the QR code and join the waitlist to be contacted by our Centre.



headspace Maitland Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health



Tuning in to Teens

A free six week program that provides an opportunity for parents and carers in the Hunter to build their skills in supporting young people through out their teenage years.

**Every Thursday
24th of February - 31st of March
5:30pm - 7:30pm**

Where: Online

Tuning in to Teens helps participants learn how to:

- Communicate more effectively with your teen.
- Help your teen to manage those difficult emotions.
- Manage behavioural issues with your teen.
- Teaches your teen how to deal with conflict more effectively.
- How to help your teen to develop emotional intelligence

Registrations are essential. Scan the QR code and join the waitlist to be contacted by our Centre.



Connect: headspace@maitlandhsn.arts.org.au

headspace Maitland Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

EXAMPLES OF APPEALING THINGS A YOUNG PERSON CAN GAMBLE ON



E-Sports



Next McFlurry Flavour



Loot Boxes



Sport



Gaming Skins



Instant Scratch Cards



TV Shows



WWE



Toy machines



Triple J Hottest 100



Movies



Lotto



Private Betting with Family & Friends



Horses



Social Casino Games



First song in Superbowl halftime show



Risks Associated with Gambling

Low levels of gambling might seem safe for a young person but gambling in childhood increases the risk of gambling problems in adulthood. Young people who gamble are at greater risk of other harmful behaviour:

- Anti-social behaviour
- School truancy or poorer achievement
- Smoking, binge drinking or drug use
- Higher rates of depression and anxiety
- Loss of friendships with non-gambling peers

Why a young person may not ask for help

- They may not realise help is available
- They may not believe they have a problem
- They feel there's a stigma attached to seeking support
- They may be afraid there will be a black mark against their name
- They are worried about other people finding out - including their family
- They may not feel comfortable asking for help directly

Ways to Limit Exposure to Gambling

- Install a filter on computers, tablets and phones to block gambling websites
- Encourage them to have interests that don't involve digital devices and consider limiting screen time
- Encourage the use of computers, phones and tablets in family areas of the home, so that they can be monitored more closely
- Have a discussion about gambling
- Be a good role model

How to talk about Gambling with Young People

Pick the right time, if they are engrossed in something it is probably not the right time, when the time is right cover a few basics such as:

- Talking about sport and making sure they know that sport and gambling don't have to go together
- Help them understand that gambling companies are in business to make money from customers and chances of winning are limited
- Discuss things that influence attitudes to gambling and how technology has made it easier to gamble
- Point out gambling is risky and discuss the consequences like not have money to spend

About GambleAware Hunter New England

GambleAware Hunter New England is here to support people to be gamble aware with information on how to gamble safely, plus free confidential support for anyone affected by gambling.

For more information or to make an appointment, contact us on:
Phone 1800 497 065 or email gambleaware@catholiccare.org.au

GAMBLEAWARE
Hunter New England

Headspace

To coincide with the return of the 2022 school year, new sessions are commencing in February for parents and carers of young people to attend a free mental health education session hosted by the Headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation.

The sessions aim to:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health definitions.
- Enhance your conversational approach to mental health and well-being.
- Build skills and strategies to support young people, including transition to work and study.
- Build awareness of local, state and national supports available to young people.
- Increase your knowledge and understanding of the mental health challenges facing young people today.
- Introduce you to some of the skills and strategies to encourage and support help-seeking

There are six online webinars for Parents, Carers, and Community Members being held across the Swansea electorate on:

Central Coast LHD

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| • 28/02/2022 | Helping my young person during COVID | Registration: https://bit.ly/33DQAVC |
| • 14/03/2022 | Communicating with my young person | Registration: https://bit.ly/3Fpz5VV |
| • 28/03/2022 | Helping my young person during COVID | Registration: https://bit.ly/3I1YPt |

Hunter New England LHD

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| • 17/02/2022 | Helping my young person during COVID | Registration: https://bit.ly/3rhGv8P |
| • 09/03/2022 | Communicating with my young person | Registration: https://bit.ly/3noWGjC |
| • 31/03/2022 | Helping my young person during COVID | Registration: https://bit.ly/3K7YBTf |

SAVE THE DATE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

TUESDAY 8 MARCH

Stay tuned for more information



PRIDE Mass

FOR LGBTIQ PEOPLE, THEIR FAMILIES,
FRIENDS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS

FRIDAY 04th MARCH 2022
6.00PM

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH,
16 Tighes Tce, Tighes Hill

For more information contact: LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au

Term 1 Calendar 2022

Week 4 (B Week)	
Fri 18 Feb	Newsletter 01/22
Week 5 (A Week)	
Mon 21 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 12 Parents/Carers Information Webinar – 7pm (Webinar link to follow) Hospitality Incursion
Tues 22 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year Assemblies Photo Day Catch-Ups & Year 12 Official Photo Parent Engagement Meeting (PEG) - TBC
Wed 23 February	Year 7 Immunisations & Selected Year 8 Catch Up Immunisations
Fri 25 February	Year 11 Biology Fieldtrip
Week 6 (B Week)	
Mon 28 February	2022 Swimming Carnival – Lambton Pool (TBC)
Tues 1 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year Assemblies Staff Professional Development 3.00pm-4.30pm – Classes cease at 2.40pm Year 7 2023 Information Evening (TBC) Year 11 & 12 TAFE Hospitality Dinner
Wed 2 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landcare Ash Wednesday Liturgy
Fri 4 March	Newsletter 02/22
Week 7 (A Week)	
Tues 8 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dio Swimming Carnival International Women's Day Breakfast College Assembly (on-line)
Week 8 (B Week)	
Tues 15 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Joseph's Feast Day Year Assemblies
Thurs 17 March	St Patrick's Day
Fri 18 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 12 Aboriginal Bush Medicine and Land Use excursion (TBC) Newsletter 03/22
Week 9 (A Week)	
Tues 22 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Assembly (on-line) Staff Professional Development 3.00pm-4.30pm – Classes cease at 2.40pm
Fri 25 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feast of the Annunciation (College Feast Day) Celebrations (TBC) Year 7 to 10 Parent-Student-Teacher Interview Bookings open (TBC) Year 7 to 11 Interim Reports published (TBC)
Week 10 (B Week)	
Mon 28 March	Science & Engineering Challenge Day (TBC)
Tues 29 March	Year Assemblies
Wed 30 March	Landcare
Thurs 31 March	Year 7 to 10 Parent-Student-Teacher interviews 2.30pm-6.30pm (TBC)
Fri 1 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter 04/22 Year 7 to 10 Parent-Student-Teacher interviews 8.00am-2.45pm Pupil Free Day for Year 7 to 10 Students; Year 11 and 12 attend class as usual
Week 11 (A Week)	
Tues 5 April	College Assembly (on-line)
Thurs 7 April	Easter Liturgy
Fri 8 April	Last Day of Term 1 (Term 2 commences Tuesday 26 April)

Easter 2022

Thursday 14 April	Holy Thursday
Friday 15 April	Good Friday
Sunday 17 April	Easter Monday

Please note the TBC dates – this is due to evolving COVID protocols. Arrangements will be continually updated on this page.