

Newsletter No.14/22

Tuesday 16 September 2022

## Principal's Message

### Year 12 2022 - Farewell and Thank You

Thank you for leading our community into a deeper appreciation of what it means to be committed to a life of love and service.

Community is the place of celebration, and next week we will gather to celebrate what and who we really are when we engage in rituals to farewell Year 12, 2022, at the conclusion of their 13 years of formal education.

On Tuesday evening, 20<sup>th</sup> September, members of Year 12 will gather with family members, staff members and guests to celebrate their Graduation Mass. On Wednesday morning, 21 September, 2022, they will gather again to celebrate their formal Graduation from our College. This will involve a Graduation Ceremony incorporating a Liturgy, Speeches and a presentation of Awards and Reports; a Year 12 "Special Assembly", morning tea and a "Clap-Out" by Year 7 to 11 Students and Staff.

A Eucharistic Celebration on Tuesday evening at 6.00pm in St Paul's Catholic Church, Gateshead, presided over by Fr Anthony Potts, PP, MacKillop Parish, is a most fitting farewell ritual. The word Eucharist means "giving thanks". As community members (parents, students and staff) we have so much to be truly thankful for.

It is a time to give thanks for the opportunity we have been given to become a Year 7-12 co-educational College and to be now preparing to celebrate the Graduation of our 4<sup>th</sup> HSC class.

It is a time to give thanks for the vision of the Sisters of St Joseph (Lochinvar) who toiled relentlessly and unstintingly to establish our community in 1964 and imbue it with a spirit of community – a spirit of love, justice, compassion, service, learning and hospitality. A spirit which defines St Mary's Gateshead as a Christ-centred place, a place where our mission is to give life to and receive life from others.

Through their 13 years of schooling, our Year 12 student have received life from so many good, caring and faith-filled people, especially from you their first educators – their parents, grandparents, and family members. Similarly, they have received life from their second educators, their teachers (Pre-School, Primary and Secondary), the teacher-support staff in their respective schools and their friends. In their 6 years of their Secondary education, and especially in the past 2 years of their senior studies, they have been so well supported, cared for and challenged to be the best versions of themselves, both as people and as learners. **Mrs Maryanne Murray**, their Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement, their classroom teachers, mentors and roll-call teachers have given outstanding service in this respect and our Year 12's need to be ever so thankful and grateful for this.

To grow as a responsible, caring adult, adolescents must have boundaries around their behaviour and must be presented with high standards and expectations which challenge them individually to be the best person and learner they can be. **If there is no challenge, there is no growth.** Our Year 12 students have been challenged and sincere and grateful thanks extend to parents/carers, family members and teachers for sharing in this process with patience, love ("tough love" when needed!) and empathy to form them as the fine young adults they are today.

Continued...

Belonging to a community should always be for becoming. Our Year 12 students are congratulated on the splendid way they have accepted the challenge to be formed as responsible, caring young adults, imbued with a Christian ethic, inspired by God's love, to be of service to community, humanity, and our natural world. They have been educated to know what it means to express love of God and love of neighbour in the messy reality of our world, and they are commended on the splendid way in which they have done so as the leaders of our community in 2022. They have fully embraced the formation and learning opportunities presented to them to be educated and grow into a deep appreciation of their humanity, creativity, spirituality, and intellectual and leadership capabilities.

Year 12 must now accept the challenge to become more than they currently are. One phase of their journey in life is coming to an end. They must now embrace a new consciousness, a new way of being in life. This will make demands of them. It will test their fidelity to the values system gained from a Catholic education. Please pray that they will have the courage to be true to Christ's values; to be motivated by hope borne of Christ's resurrection and to be steadfast in their commitment to pursuing a life of meaning and purpose through love and service.

Their presence has enriched our community. Please pray that they will enrich the lives of all who are touched by their presence in their post-school years.

Blessings

**Larry Keating**  
**Principal**

## **Death of Sr Marie Craddock, rsj**

**Member of Staff: 1964-1966**

On Wednesday 31 August, 2022, the death occurred of Sr Marie Therese Craddock, rsj,. Sr Marie was one of 6 Sisters of St Joseph, who established our community at Gateshead in 1964. Members of Sister Marie's family, friends and former teaching colleagues and students, gathered in St Joseph's Convent Chapel, Lochinvar, to celebrate Sr Marie's life. It was an honour to represent our community, along with Mrs DeAnna Addicoat, Ministry Coordinator.

We were privileged to hear heartfelt accounts of Sr Marie's unwavering fidelity to her calling as a Sister of St Joseph; her commitment to the role of educator and the most generous and caring manner in which she exercised her incisive intellect, superior literacy skills, leadership and musical talents for the good and care of others and the communities she was called to serve.

Please keep the Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar, and Sr Marie's family and friends in your prayers as they mourn the passing of a cherished and deeply respected sister, family member and friend.

May she rest in peace.

# Year 12 2022 Graduation Mass

at

**St Paul's Catholic College Gateshead**  
**Tuesday 20 September 2022 – 6.00pm**

## Year 12 2022 Graduation and Awards Ceremony

and

## Morning Tea

at

**St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead**  
**Wednesday 21 October – 9.30am**

*"Ready to Serve"*



### MINISTRY – The Story of the Stoles

Today, I'd like to write to you about the Graduation Stoles that are bestowed on our Year 12 as they move onto their next stage of life. The word "stole" is taken from the Latin, which in turn is translated from the Greek. It means "robe".

For our graduating students it symbolises the completion of 13 years of education. So, our Year 12 2021, even though they leave to continue their journey of life, will always be members of the St. St Mary's Community and go into their future "Ready to Serve".

These Graduation Stoles that they take as a memento, are already serving the children who live in the Mukuru slum on the edge of Nairobi, Kenya. The purchase of these stoles funds the schooling, uniform and provision of a meal of a child for 12 months. The meal would be the only food that they will have that day. St Mary's has a commitment that our Graduation Class help disadvantaged children to be blessed with an education.



It would be worthwhile to share what I witnessed in the Mukuru slums. The African slums are nothing that we can imagine in Australia. Mukuru is 10km away from the Nairobi town centre. The slum was initially used as a dump, thus the name Mukuru which means 'garbage site'. The first thing that I experienced was the horrible sickly smell. Human waste is along each side of the pathway and seeps into the homes that are made of wood, metal, tree branches, cardboard, plastic and anything that will provide shelter. Open sewers run alongside the local schools. There is no such thing as a garbage collection, so the polluting rubbish is everywhere. Disease and poverty are rife. The average life expectancy is 30 years.

Like many slums in developing countries, Mukuru has to face many challenges including crime, drug abuse, prostitution and many other problems of subsistence. The people that I met in Mukuru showed immense courage and hope, self-pride and faith. They are meeting challenges and seeking improvement in their community.

Mukuru slum is home to about 700 000 people. The families there exist in one tiny, corrugated iron shack about 3m x 3m, generally with no flooring. Very few homes have electricity. Water is from a communal tap shared between hundreds and even thousands of others. There are some toilets, these are also communal. All these citizens have to pay the Government rent which is US \$12-25 per month depending on the position of the dwelling. There are some Government schools.

From the Christian perspective, the Catholic Church partly sponsors Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School while the Australian Christian Brothers under Br Frank O'Shea cfc, run the Ruben Centre where I spent most of my time. The Christian Brothers also have a Special School for disabled children. The Holy Ghost Fathers have some projects according to the needs of the people. The people have formed a group called the Mukuru Promotion Centre which seeks to better conditions to develop Education, Health and Social Development and Rehabilitation within the Mukuru community.

There is much more I can tell you about the immersion experience in which I was privileged to participate. The stoles that we use were originally made in the Ruben Centre by Mukuru. I am happy that St Mary's Year 12 are able to help a child survive for a year in circumstances that are poor and needy.

The life of the Christian is to love.

To love is to serve,

To serve is to love.

BE

Ready to Serve.

**DeAnna Addicoat**  
**Ministry Coordinator**






## Assistant Principal – Learning & Teaching

### Year 11 Changes to Pattern of Study, Reports and Interviews

In Week 7 of this term an assembly for Year 11 students was held in relation to **changing patterns of study for HSC**. As students are completing their final tasks in their Year 11 Courses they are encouraged to discuss their progress with their teachers and to assess where changes to their pattern of study may be beneficial to them as they move into Year 12. I have spoken to students recently about the importance of not rushing their decision to “drop” a subject or change levels too early, encouraging students to think about maintaining all courses for the first term of Year 12 Course work (Term 4 2022). Students and their parents/carers will have the opportunity to meet with teachers in Week 4 Term 4 and this may be a good time to seek advice regarding any changes to courses. **There is no urgency to make a rushed decision.**

Students may also choose to pick up an additional unit of study at this point – **Mathematics Extension 2, English Extension 2 or Extension History**. To commence studying in one of these subjects, an interview must take place between the students and myself, and approval is required from both the subject teacher and relevant Leader of Learning. Please encourage your child to have this conversation as soon as possible if they are thinking of taking on an additional unit in these areas. Classes in these new subjects will commence next term, running offline – at a time arranged between students and teacher.

The process to make changes to a pattern of study, once Year 11 Courses are complete, is as follows:

1. Students discuss any changes with relevant subject teacher.
2. Students and Parent/Carer complete a 2022/2023 HSC Subject Change Form. See link:  
 [HSC Course Changes Form.doc](#)
3. Signatures of parents/carers, teachers and Leaders of Learning are required.
4. Subject Changes will not all be finalised until at least Week 1 of Term 4. Students cannot change patterns of study until all requests have been addressed, ATAR pathways are checked and then changes are made to the student's timetable on Compass.
5. Once the change appears on the student's Compass timetable, they may commence in the new class.

### Year 11 Reports, Awards and Interviews

Student, Parent and Teacher Interviews have been scheduled for Week 3 Term 4. This time has been put aside for students and parents to follow up on Year 11 Course Reports as well as plan with teachers their future directions and goals for Year 12 studies. This time provides an opportunity for teachers to “feed forward” – establishing expectations for students as they move into their final HSC year. Details regarding the interviews will be conveyed next term, at the time of End of Course Reports being published via Compass. All students are encouraged to attend the interviews – allowing them to set realistic and aspirational goals for the next twelve months.

Year 11 Awards will be held on the same day as the Interviews, commencing at 2pm at the College. Further details to follow.

<b>Week 2 Wednesday 19 October 2022</b>	Year 11 Reports Published Student, Parent, Teacher Interview Bookings OPEN
<b>Week 3 Monday 24 October 2022</b>	Year 11 End of Course Awards 2pm Venue: TBC Student, Parent & Teacher Interviews After School 3.30pm – 6.30pm Bookings via Compass

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email [cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au) if you require additional information.

**Year 10 (Year 11 2023) Subject Selections**

I am currently still conducting interviews with students as we continue to finalise subject selections for 2023. In terms of the process, we are now working through Distance Education applications for students studying courses not offered at St Mary's. Ms Finlay also continues to work through eVET, SBAT and other applications. Final confirmation of subjects and details regarding the Senior Interview process will occur in Term Four, once we have finalised all patterns of study for our students. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to email if you have any concerns or questions.

**Year 8 (Year 9 2023) Additional Courses of Study Subject Selections**

Year 9 2023 Subject Lines have now been determined and conversations with Year 8 students, for those who have not been able to secure one or more of their main preferences, are currently taking place, with time and attention being paid to the students' needs during this process. As students and parents were made aware at the start of the process, we are able to cater for most students' requests but there are some courses that have not been sustained due to small numbers. Where this has occurred, students have an opportunity to meet and discuss other options. It is anticipated that confirmation of subjects allocated to students will be sent home, if not by the end of term, then before the end of Week 1 Term 4. I thank you for your patience at this time as we work towards a good outcome for all involved.

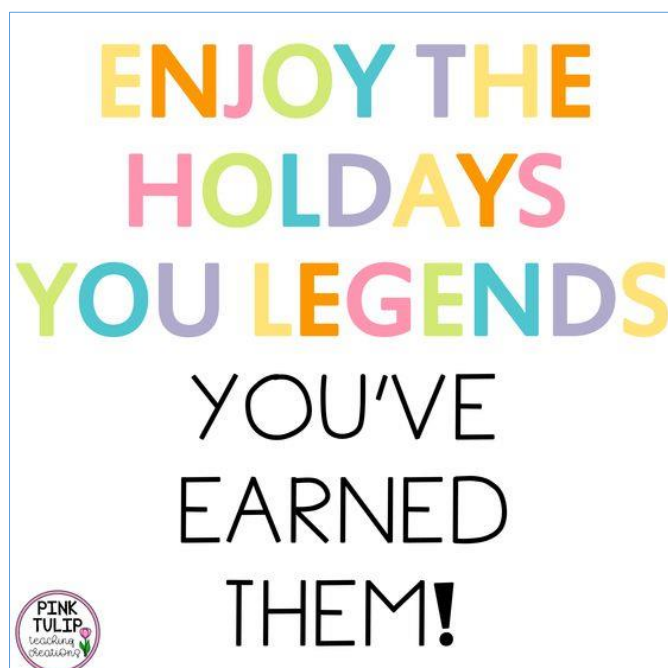
**Year 11 Drama – Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde STC Excursion**

Year 11 Drama students, Isobel and Bronte, enjoyed some time in Sydney recently, attending the Sydney Theatre Company's performance of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde at The Roslyn Packer Theatre, Walsh Bay. Travelling down after school we had time to "tread the boards" of Pier 4/5, home to the STC, and other Arts Companies such as Bangarra Dance, Sydney Dance Company and Australian Theatre for Young People. There is something very special about introducing young people to a new "world" and I couldn't think of two more delightful human beings than Bronte and Isobel to share this experience with.

The production itself, a multi-disciplinary performance, blending film and live performance ("Cine-drama") was brilliantly executed and the production has met with excellent reviews. The experience capped off a fantastic year for Bronte and Isobel, who have studied the elements of drama, design and production throughout the year.

**Cathy O'Gorman**

**Assistant Principal – Learning & Teaching and Drama Teacher**



## Assistant Principal – Wellbeing & Engagement

In 2021 we asked parents and carers to participate in a survey conducted by Tell Them From Me®. (TTFM). The survey data provided us with valuable feedback on what our students think about their faith, school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

The information gathered from this survey helps our school community to be better informed about what we are doing well, where we need to focus more attention and how we can sharpen our planning to ensure we achieve improved outcomes for our students. This year, we are seeking your help and participation to improve on our parent/carer response rate from 2021.

As parents and carers of students in our school, we deeply value your feedback and encourage you to partner with us and complete this survey. The information we gather is critical to us and allows us to hear directly from you and gain insight into what you think is important about the work we do, how we communicate with you and where you think we need to improve.

What we learned:

- Staff believe St Mary's Catholic College fosters a culture of learning that is collaborative, inclusive and disciplined.
- Students believe St Mary's Catholic College is a place that values relationships and to which they attach a strong sense of belonging.
- Parents believe that the College is a caring place with effective and purposeful leadership.

What we did:

- Continued engagement of staff in professional learning focused on embedding effective pedagogy within lessons of longer length.
- Implementation of Learning Walks and Talks with a renewed focus on the six critical questions that provide insight into effective learning and teaching; What are you learning? Why? How are you going? How do you know? How could you improve and where do you go for help? Where to from here?
- Further refinement of the student leadership structure providing for greater clarity of roles and areas of responsibility.

We want all (children/young people) in our schools to thrive and we know that working together, listening, and sharing ideas helps our schools to improve and grow as strong learning and faith communities.

The survey opens 5 September and closes 7 October 2022. We welcome your timely feedback.

Please click on the link [here](#) and it will take you to the survey.

With thanks

**Benjamin Frize**  
**Assistant Principal Wellbeing**

## Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement – Year 12

### Year 12 students and families

The past few weeks, Year 12's have been revising in class and developing greater confidence to get through the HSC. It is 3 weeks away and fast approaching. Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> September will be their last formal High School lesson. Wow, it is hard to believe how quickly this time has come round. I am so very proud of the fun Year 12 are having with each other and the spirit in which they are completing their schooling days. They have been asked to finish what they started, and they are doing this every day.



St Mary's staff are so privileged to walk this journey with your sons and daughters and to share in with the fun. This week we played the **Annual Pitt Cup** in memory of our great mate and colleague, Doug. Unfortunately, Year 12 **lost** to staff, but they accepted defeat gallantly.

On Thursday they challenged staff to a game of **Touch Footy** and once again Year 12 **lost**.

They have been writing affirmations to one another and I want to thank Sophie Russell for this initiative. I hope every Year 12 student feels surrounded by love from these affirmations.

On Friday the 16 September, Year 12 and staff dressed up as fictional characters as part of their Spirit Day. I do hope some photos make this newsletter.

As for next week, please refer to the note that has gone home about Graduation Mass and Awards ceremony. The information has also been posted on Compass. Once again, another special week for Year 12.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions about next week.



**Maryanne Murray**  
Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement – Year 12



## Doug Pitt Cup 2022

### Teachers Victorious!!!! Commiserations Year 12







**ST MARY'S**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
GATESHEAD

12 September 2022

Dear Year 12 Students, Parents and Carers,

The purpose of this letter is to inform all families of Year 12 students about the upcoming events and responsibilities linked to the end of our seniors' time at St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead.

Date	Event/Activity
Friday 16 September 2022	<b>Spirit Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compulsory school attendance.</li> <li>• Normal roll call.</li> <li>• Last Day of Formal Classes.</li> <li>• Year 12 and staff dress up as fictional characters plus "anything but a backpack".</li> </ul>
Monday 19 September	<b>Tradie Day at school</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compulsory school attendance</li> <li>• Normal roll call</li> <li>• Students may wear Hi Vis and/or working clothes.</li> <li>• Periods 1 &amp; 2 Service to school community</li> <li>• BBQ Lunch</li> <li>• Periods 3 and 4: Preparation for final assembly plus games on back oval.</li> </ul>
Tuesday 20 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compulsory school attendance.</li> <li>• Sports uniform or full school uniform.</li> <li>• Normal roll call</li> <li>• 9.00-10.17am HSC Presiding Officer, Mrs O'Gorman, Mr Keating, Ms Finlay to meet with Year 12 students.</li> <li>• Recess break: students to bring a snack and a drink (canteen will <b>not</b> be available)</li> <li>• 10.30am move to St Paul's Catholic Church Gateshead for Graduation Mass preparation.</li> <li>• Dismissal: approximately 12.00 midday. Year 12 students will have plenty of time in the afternoon to have their full school formal uniform ready for Graduation Mass at 6.00pm that night.</li> <li>• <b>Graduation Mass 6.00pm</b> St Paul's Catholic Church Gateshead.</li> <li>• Year 12 students to arrive at 5.30pm and assemble in Roll Call classes outside the Church.</li> <li>• Families will be invited into Church to take a seat before Mass begins.</li> <li>• Year 12 students are to wear formal school uniform (<i><b>i.e girls to wear skirts and tab tie; boys to have long trousers with tie, all students to wear blazer; black leather polished school shoes</b></i>)</li> <li>• COVID protocols to be followed. If unwell stay at home; <b>masks are recommended to be worn</b> and will be available at the back of the church as well as hand sanitiser.</li> </ul>

PTO

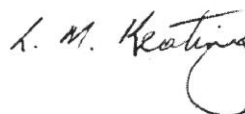
Wednesday 21 September	<b>Year 12 Final Awards Ceremony, Year Assembly and Clap Out.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be live-streamed and link sent out by Compass</li> <li>Compulsory school attendance.</li> <li>Start Time: 9.30am in Josephite Centre. Parents and Carers are welcome to attend. <b>Please complete tear off slip below</b> to indicate numbers attending (for catering purposes).</li> <li><b>Full formal school uniform</b> (ie. girls to wear skirts; boys to have long trousers with tie, all students to wear blazer; black leather polished school shoes)</li> <li>Morning Tea Approximately 10.30.</li> <li>11.10am - move back to The Josephite Centre for Student led final assembly</li> <li>Approx. 12.30 Clap out.</li> <li><b>COVID protocols to be followed.</b> If unwell stay at home; masks are recommended to be worn and will be available at the back of the hall as well as hand sanitiser.</li> </ul>
Thursday 22 September	Year 12 Teachers available to assist students during timetabled class time.
Friday 23 September	Year 12 Teachers available to assist students during timetabled class time.
<b>Holidays</b> 22 September 2022 to 11 October 22	Time for Study and Preparation for HSC  NB: Some subjects will be running (optional) workshops during the holidays. Students will receive separate information via email.
10 October to 11 October	Year 12 Teachers available to assist students during timetabled class time.
<b>HSC Exams Start: Wednesday 12 October</b>	<b>"Let's go well and be well. Let's do this!"</b> <b>Study Room – Library/L7</b>
<b>HSC Exams Finish: Friday 4 November</b>	Yippee!
<b>Graduation Formal Dinner – Monday 7 November</b> To be held at NEX, 309 King St, Newcastle West. 6.30pm-10.30pm (note has been sent home regarding this event. Note can also be found on Compass.)	
<b>HSC Results released: Thursday 15 December</b> <b>ATAR Results released: Thursday 15 December</b>  Results will be available to students via email and text message. Students will also be able to access results by logging in to their "Students Online" account. Students invited to attend morning tea to celebrate release of HSC results and ATAR at St Mary's Catholic College Café Thursday 15th December. Time: 10.30am.	

We are looking forward to celebrating with Year 12, to ensure their final days of schooling are memorable. If you have any questions, please contact the College.

Yours sincerely,



Maryanne Murray  
Year 12 Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement



Larry Keating  
Principal



# 7 TIPS FOR MANAGING EXAM STRESS

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE		FOR PARENTS/CARERS
Stay organised with to-do lists and study timetables	1. 	Give them time off chores and non-urgent family stuff
Take regular study breaks	2. 	Encourage them to keep doing the activities they did before exams
Have a dedicated study space	3. 	Help them set up a study space and make sure the rest of the family understands
Have a long term goal	4. 	Chat with them about what they want to do after exams finish
Get as much sleep as possible	5. 	Remind them to go to bed at a regular time each night
Remember your health - eat well and stay active	6. 	Go on study break walks with them and try to cook wholesome meals
Talk to the people around you	7. 	Make a time to chat to them and let them vent

**REACH OUT.COM**



## Careers Corner

### • YEAR 12 – UAC Reminder

Year 12 have had the opportunity to attend information sessions over the past three weeks regarding the UAC application process, SRS and EAS, as well as Traineeships and Apprenticeships. They have also received information via email. This is another reminder of key closing dates.

## Key dates for 2022 to 2023

*Dates are correct as at 9 March 2022 but subject to change. Times indicated are based on Sydney time.*

### Application dates

Friday 30 September 2022

Early bird processing charge deadline

(Pay for and submit your application by this date to avoid the higher processing charge.)

Friday 3 February 2023

Applications close for semester 1, 2023

Some courses have early closing dates set by the institutions. Check the course descriptions on UAC's website at [uac.edu.au/search](http://uac.edu.au/search).

### Processing charges

Early bird

Thursday 12 April to midnight Friday 30 September 2022

\$73

Standard

Saturday 1 October 2022 to Friday 3 February 2023

\$200

*All fees and charges are in Australian dollars, not refundable under any circumstances (except as required by law) and subject to change after 30 June 2022.*

### Year 12 results and ATAR dates

All dates determined by external organisations are subject to change.

**2022 NSW HSC students**

Thursday 15 December 2022

HSC results released by NESA from 6am

ATARs released on UAC website from 9am

**2022 ACT Year 12 students**

Thursday 15 December 2022

ATARs released on UAC website from 9am

Keep updated with key dates and upcoming webinars:

<https://www.uac.edu.au/key-dates>

### • School recommendation Scheme (SRS)

**Applications close** 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022

<https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/srs/schools-recommendation-scheme.pdf>

### • What to do when you get an Offer from UAC

<https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/schools/offer-flowchart.pdf>

### • Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Students are emailed weekly updates on apprenticeship and traineeship vacancies, those seeking a vocational pathway are advised to update their resume now and take the time to carefully read the criteria.

### • YEAR 11- Pattern of Study Interviews

Any Year 11 student thinking about changing their pattern of study for Year 12 is welcome to contact me via email to request an interview if they need assistance in their decision making.

**Ms Finlay**

**Careers Adviser**

## VET News

The Catholic Schools Office VET Student of the Year Award recognises the achievements of a Year 12 student who has excelled in Vocational Education. Geraldine Blake from the Catholic Schools Office visited our college last week to present **Luca Surman** with a Certificate acknowledging his nomination for the award.

Luca has studied Hospitality - Kitchen Operations for the past two years demonstrating industry knowledge and practical skills with a positive attitude and a commitment to learning and improvement. He has consistently demonstrated leadership and initiative by organising job tasks for himself and other students. His teacher Mrs Fiona Edwards and work placement employers report that he possesses qualities of initiative, adaptability, organisation, and excellent time management. He has received job offers on each of his work placements.



**Ms Finlay**  
**VET Leader of Learning**

## Congratulations – Outstanding Student Achievement

### **Cian O'Hagan – Australian Photographer of the Year**

Cian O'Hagan has won Junior Australian Geographic photographer of the year as well as the runner up category.

His photos can be viewed in the link below. His acceptance speech is also attached. Congratulations Cian, an incredible achievement.



<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/news/2022/08/winners-are-grinners-australian-geographic-nature-photographer-of-the-year-2022/>

**Congratulations also extend to....** The following students who were selected to compete at NSWCCC Athletics on the 12 September at Homebush: **Ethan Venables, Harry Boswell, Bella Jones, Sam Dunkley, Stevie Botham, Kaitlin Rees, Sienna Byrnes, Jacob Lynch.**



## Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement – Year 8

### Year 8 Formation Day

Last Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, Year 8 attended their Formation Day at Redhead SLSC. The day was led by Chris Doyle who had the kids singing, dancing, strutting, jumping, building human towers/cars/the Sydney opera house (!) with their bodies, cringing at his dad jokes and generally having a whale of a time. There was even a twerk on a catwalk.

Throughout all of the tomfoolery, there were lots of laughs but also lots of opportunities to question and engage with important topics from the climate crisis to personal legacies to compassion, humanity and striving for personal goals.

Year 8 loved the day and are to be commended on the manner in which they participated and stepped outside comfort zones to face the challenges of the day. It made me very proud to be their Leader of Wellbeing.



Katrina Brennan  
Leader of Wellbeing and Engagement – Year 8



## RU Ok Day

We had a great RUOK on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September. The sun was shining, the sausages were sizzling and Just Dance was a happening thing on the COLA! This was St Mary's in true form – coming together to enjoy the company of one another.

Thank you to the PDHPE staff who supported the SPC in RUOK Day.

*Remember, checking in with someone else can save a life.*





## Aboriginal Education

### Aboriginal Numeracy Gala Day

This week a number of students from Year 7 and 8 joined in with other schools to participate in an Aboriginal Numeracy Gala Day at McDonald Jones Stadium. The students combined with other schools to perform a number of literacy tasks including measuring goal kicking angles, hang time of 'bombs' and managing 'salary caps'.

Thank you to the Wollutuka Institute and the Newcastle Uni students for their amazing organisation. Congratulations to all the students for engaging so enthusiastically in the learning ... and showing so much energy on the footy field when all other school went home!



Passionate learners - Taj and Madden!



Madden kicking goals with his learning!



Uni students supported our Year7/8s with Numeracy at each station



Lachlan, Madden and Taj with Knights player, Tamika Upton

**Paul McKay**  
Aboriginal Education Teacher

**YEAR 12 MUSIC SOIREE**





## HSC Musical Soiree

The Year 12 Music class performed their performance pieces for their HSC on Monday evening, September 5<sup>th</sup> for family, friends, and teachers at St Marys. It was a wonderful evening, with a delicious supper shared by all.

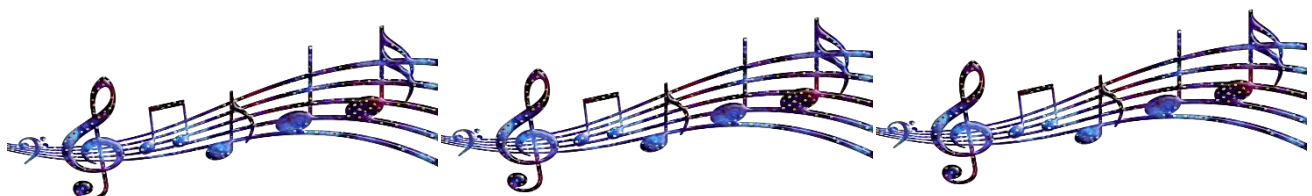
Congratulations to our students who displayed excellence on their chosen instruments:

**Brody Allan** – Guitar  
**Lachlan Brien** - Guitar  
**Alyssa Dugan** – Piano  
**Jack Erby** – Guitar  
**Molly Freebody** – Clarinet  
**Timana Hill** – Voice  
**Riley Urquhart** – Drums  
**Hayden Werren** – Drums

Many thanks **Steve Walter, Adele Weekes, Christine Shaw, Louise Hatcher** and the SPC, who helped with the running of the evening. Additionally, we would like to thank **Cathy O’Gorman, Maryanne Murray, Louise Henderson, Rod Allan, Christine Shaw** and family and to all our family and friends who were a part of the audience.

Year 12 Music completed their performances as part of their HSC on Monday September 12. We are so proud of their dedication to their practical work and their achievements.

**Ms Ruth McCrae**



You may recall from our last newsletter item, that during BOOK WEEK we ran a writing competition. With just 6 words, students were challenged to use 6 words that were able to tell a complete story. We had a huge response and over 60 individual writers entered, often with multiple stories. It was ever so difficult to choose the 'top' entries, but in the end we prevailed. Drum roll please! And the **6-Word Stories** winners are:

Here is a taste of some of the winners.

“Goodbye” he whispered, floating into nothingness. (Chloe).

[illegible]

Teacher Librarian



## SPORT

Earlier this week, we had the opportunity to meet Olympian Athlete (Archery), Matthew Gray. He met with our Year 9 students as part of a program called – “**Olympics Unleashed**” as part of their Stage 5 PDHPE syllabus.



**Annette Morgan**  
Sport Coordinator





## LEARN AWABAKAL / GATHUNG LANGUAGE

THROUGH  
SONG, DANCE, PUPPETRY, AND  
STRINGY BARK ROPE MAKING

**Where:** 1/6 Leo Lewis Close, Toronto NSW

**When:** 4.00pm - **21 Sept, 19 Oct, 16 Nov**

**Who can come along:** All children & young people aged 8-18 in the Hunter Region

**Cost:** \$0 free

**Register:** [youthsupport@calm.org.au](mailto:youthsupport@calm.org.au) | 4950 3888 | 0473 222 268


Join Uncle Amos Simon from Murrumbidgee Mural for a post NAIDOC celebration with a series of fun sessions, learning about First Nations culture through local song, dance, puppets, and stringybark rope-making.



Australian Government

**CALM**  
Life Child · Youth · Family

**GET UP! STAND UP! SHOW UP!**  
3-10 JULY 2022



# ABORIGINAL Cultural Workshop

SIGNIFICANT ARTIFACTS - CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE


School Holiday Program

## 11AM SEP 21

**SOUTHLAKE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE  
143 DORA ST, AWABAKAL COUNTRY, MORRISSET  
TO BOOK, CALL 02 4973 7000**

**About the Facilitator:** Kentan is a Conservation Land Management and Cultural Heritage Officer from Bahtabah Local Aboriginal Land Council. His passions lie within indigenous culture & the environment. He is always happy to teach and believes in using inclusiveness to close the gap of misunderstanding.

This program is brought to you by Hunter Local Land Services, Bahtabah Aboriginal Local Land Service and Southlake Community Services.







## SENIOR THEATRE MAKERS 2022

ASPIRE's Senior Makers Ensemble is for students in Years 9-11. This initiative is all about the devising process.

Working as a company of theatre makers the group will create an original performance piece that will be shared at the end of the process at the Civic Playhouse in Newcastle.

As part of the program participants will be encouraged to evaluate their work and develop their own theatrical language of the program. They will also develop their acting skills and be challenged to keep experimenting with their voice and physicality. It's perfect for anyone studying, or thinking of studying HSC drama, as well as anyone who loves theatre and wants to learn more with like-minded peers.

The group will be led by ASPIRE's Artistic Director, Anna Kerrigan and ASPIRE Intern, Katie Matthews.

Senior Theatre Makers will take place from 4.30 pm – 6.30 pm at the Catholic Schools Office, Newcastle.

The schedule is:

### Term 4

Tuesday 11 October 2022  
 Tuesday 18 October 2022  
 Tuesday 25 October 2022  
 Tuesday 1 November 2022  
 Tuesday 8 November 2022  
 Tuesday 15 November 2022  
 Tuesday 22 November 2022  
 Tuesday 29 November 2022  
 Tuesday 6 December 2022

### Weekend Rehearsal 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Saturday 10 December 2022

### Bump In and Rehearsal 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Monday 12 December 2022

### PERFORMANCE DAY 10.00 am – 8.00 pm

Tuesday 13 December 2022 (*Performance at 6.00 pm*)

**Senior Theatre Makers is open to all students in Years 9-11**

Course Cost: \$150 (scholarships are available for those in financial need).

To reserve your place please complete a booking form online at the ASPIRE website <http://aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au> or call Anne Atkins on **02 4979 1331** for more information.  
 Closing date for registration is **Friday 9 September 2022**





## CREATIVE CHOREOGRAPHY

**DATE:** Tuesday 27 September 2022

**LOCATION:** To Be Confirmed

**TIME:** 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

**COST:** \$80.00

Join ASPIRE's Assistant Choreographer for this fun day of dance as you look at creating your own choreography and developing your skills in creating work. Whatever style of dance you enjoy this is a great opportunity to work with like minded young performers and pick up some new moves!

This workshop is open to students who are in Year 4 to Year 7.

## PLAY IN A DAY

**DATE:** Wednesday 28 September 2022

**LOCATION:** Catholic Schools Office, Newcastle

**TIME:** 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

**COST:** \$80.00

Get ready to create an original piece of theatre in just a day!! Working with ASPIRE's Assistant Drama Director you will be challenged to work together to create a completely original story to be performed at the end of the day. Participants will develop skills in voice and character as well as learning about devising a piece of theatre.

This workshop is open to students who are in Year 4 to Year 7.

To reserve your place please complete the online registration form below or call Anne Atkins on **02 4979 1331** for more information.  
<https://aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au/join-us/holiday-workshops/>

**ASPIRE**  
MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA



23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL

# Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning



Fr Greg Barker, the community of Catherine McAuley Catholic College, together with The Federation of P & F Associations and The Special Needs Working Party warmly welcome all to join with clergy, students, principals, teachers, school staff, families and parishioners for this special celebration.

**Sunday 18 September | 2.30pm**

Catherine McAuley Catholic College, 507 Medowie Road Medowie

Followed by afternoon tea.

No RSVP required

For more information please contact

Catherine McAuley Catholic College on 4068 1000



[mn.catholic.org.au](http://mn.catholic.org.au)



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## St Mary's Catholic College Uniform Shop

### Year 10 Blazer Fittings

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Dear Parents and Carers,

A friendly reminder to Year 9 boys to visit the Uniform Shop during Term 4 to be fitted for your trousers and blazer.

A friendly reminder to Year 9 girls to visit the Uniform Shop during Term 4 to be fitted for your blazer.

Blazers are required for all Year 10 students from the first day of Term 1, 2023.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

 0435 954 372

 stmaryshigh@alinta.com.au

 The Uniform Shop @ St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead - Pacific Highway, Gateshead NSW 2290



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## St Mary's Catholic College Uniform Shop

### 2023 Year 7 Uniform Fittings

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Dear Parents and Carers,


The Uniform Shop will hold fittings for 2023 Year 7 students in the upcoming September/October school holidays.

During your 30 minute appointment we will guide you through the requirements for your child and provide you with all the information you need to place your order. Orders can be placed at the time of your appointment or online through our website. Layby is available with a 20% deposit.

We offer size exchange on any garments where needed.

Our online booking calendar will be open from Thursday 1st September. To book your appointment, visit [www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au) and register an account.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

 0435 954 372

 stmaryshigh@alinta.com.au

 The Uniform Shop @ St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead - Pacific Highway, Gateshead NSW 2290



<b>CALENDAR 2022 - TERM 3</b>	
<b>Week 10 (B Week)</b>	
Mon 19 Sept	Year 12 "Service Day" (Giving back to the community)
Tues 20 Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landcare</li> <li>Year 12 Meeting with HSC Presiding Officer and Preparations for their Graduation Mass</li> <li>Year 12 Graduation Mass – Students, Parents/Carers, Family members and Staff – St Paul's Catholic Church, Gateshead at 6.00pm</li> </ul>
Wed 21 Sept	Year 12 Final Assembly; Morning Tea; Formal Graduation Ceremony; "Clap-Out"; issued with Reports – commencing at 9.30am with the Formal Graduation Ceremony - TJC
<b>Thurs 22 Sept</b>	<b>Public Holiday</b>
Fri 23 Sept	<b>Last Day of Term 3 – Spring Vacation</b>
<b>TERM 4 - Week 1 (A Week)</b>	
Mon 10 October	Students return to school for Term 4
Mon 10 - Tues 11 October	Year 12 Teachers will be available to assist students in preparing for HSC exams, during timetabled class time
Wed 12 October	<b>HSC Examinations commence</b> – English Paper 1 (Exams conclude Monday 7 November)
Fri 14 October	Newsletter 15/22 published

### Uniform – Year 10 2023

*Uniform requirements change for students going into Year 10. Shirts and blouses change to white, formal trousers and belts are required for boys and blazers are required for all students from the beginning of 2023.*

*Fitting appointments can now be booked on the Uniform Shop website. Please go to [alintaapparel.com.au](http://alintaapparel.com.au) to make your appointment. Please note, special size orders take longer to receive therefore please make your appointment at your earliest convenience.*

*If you have any queries, please contact Kylie in the Uniform Shop on 0435 954 372.*

### COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION

St Mary's Catholic College, the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) and Schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle are committed to providing a positive, safe environment for all staff and students. There are occasions however, when members of our schools and wider community are concerned about something happening at a school that appears to be unsatisfactory or unreasonable. If you have a complaint, please follow this procedure:

<https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/about/complaints-resolution-and-feedback/>

### Uniform Shop Opening Hours during HSC Examinations

Please find below the revised uniform shop opening times due to the HSC Examinations being conducted in the Josephite Centre. If there are any changes to this during the exam period, you will be notified separately. The Uniform Shop will revert to the usual opening times from Tuesday 8 November.

- Monday 10th October 8:30AM - 3:30PM
- Tuesday 11th October 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- Friday 21st October 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- Wednesday 26th October 8:30 AM - 11:30AM
- Monday 31st October 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- Tuesday 1st November 8:30 AM - 10:30AM
- Thursday 3rd of November 12:45 PM - 3:30PM
- Friday 4th of November 830 AM - 3:30 PM





# Year 12 Spirit Day 2022





