Welcome back to what promises to be a fantastic year in the life of St Paul’s College for 2019.

**College Theme**  Following on from a very successful Year of Youth in 2018, and from our continued strong focus on academic growth, we will have a theme that centres on these two criteria. It is our plan to take this to the students and seek their input for the wording of this in the coming days.

Throughout the year, we will focus on activities that promote challenging ourselves and daring to fail so as to seek success, both as staff and students.

**Annual Plan**  Our College web-site now contains details of our annual plan for 2019. These come directly from our Strategic Management Plan and from data derived from our results in State and National testing. Full details can be found at http://moodle.kmpsism.catholic.edu.au/ under the ‘About Us’ tab. In summary, though, we plan to address the following:

- Our strong Catholic identity
- Strengthening our resources
- Setting high expectations for teaching and learning
- Promoting a safe, happy and healthy community
- Setting in place routines for staff and students
- Strong focus on literacy and writing including a specialised and targeted writing program for selected students in Years 7 and 8.
- Understanding the importance of focused and directed homework
- Promoting care for the environment
- Self-efficacy and self-understanding in goal setting

**New College Website**  Still with the same URL address, the new College website includes a number of new features, not least of which is the ‘fly-around’ tour of the College facilities that can be viewed from any device. This is a fantastic way of showing off our College facilities and I encourage you to take a look and to recommend it to others who may be thinking of enrolling in the coming years.

**College Uniform**  Overall, I have to say that I am very pleased with the way our students have presented themselves for the commencement of this school year. And to that I must add a very sincere THANK YOU to our parent community for your support of a strong and proud College uniform. I firmly believe that if we have a common desire to strive for excellence in ALL things including uniform, then we are some way to ensuring our young people have the best chance of achieving later in life. Year Co-ordinators will continue (in a supportive and partnering way) to work with any parents who have struggled so far.

**College Enrolments**  These have now for the first time, hit six hundred students. Our excellent educational program, pastoral care and spiritual development continue to be the driving forces behind families wanting to send their children to St Paul’s. But we will not rest on that. Whilst we are proud of everything we have achieved over the last eight years, we still have many challenges and therefore we will continue to seek better and more supportive strategies to ensure the safety, comfort and educational success of our young people. We now have waiting lists in a number of year groups with more applications still awaiting the enrolment process. This explosion of numbers has created pressure on rooming within the College, but on the flip side, provides great impetus for a grant application for building works to further expand the facilities for your children in the coming years. Further details of this plan will be forthcoming as the year progresses.

**Stars of the Macleay**  Over the last seven years, we have had three serving staff members pass away from cancer and still more on sick leave or retired...
**College Calendar**

**February**
- 18 Swimming Carnival
- 21-22 HSC English Study Excursion - Sydney
- 22 Induction Mass - 9.30
- 25 Year 7 Belonging Day

**March**
- 4 Years 10/11 Healthy Relationship Program
- 4-9 Catholic Schools Week
- 5 Years 9/10 CSYMA - Incitare
- 6 Ash Wednesday
- 6-7 Diocesan Swimming - Lismore

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**Seniors Week Mass**

Next Sunday, 17th February, at 9.30am Mass, we will have a special celebration of Seniors Week. This is a great opportunity to give thanks for the wonderful gift of seniors, and all they contribute to our parish and the broader community.

We will pray especially for the elderly and sick receiving care, and all those caring for them, and their families. This Mass will be hosted by Vincent Court and, afterwards, there will be morning tea in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share.

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**Live Life Well @ School**

Healthy lunchbox inspirations
- Keep it fresh and healthy
- Avoid packaged snacks full of sugar
- Think small and easy to pick at for kids
- Cookie cut sandwiches for fun shapes
- Separate items with silicone cups
  
  Have fun and be creative!

For more inspiration visit School Lunchbox
www.schoollunchboxblog.wordpress.com/

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**St Paul’s College Sponsorship Page**

The newsletter cover sheet has room for one (1) more sponsor.

The advertisement is approximately 9.5 by 3.5cm and costs $70 for the year.

There are approximately 16 newsletters published per year.

If you are interested in advertising, please contact the College Office on 6562-7200

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**Volunteer at Vinnies?**

Would you like to gain valuable retail experience in a fun environment and meet lots of people.

Your local Vinnies shop has a variety of positions for the new year with flexible shifts available to fit around your other commitments. Volunteers must be 16+ and meets Centrelink volunteering requirements.

Please enquire at the shop or call/text Andrew on 0428 977 454
medically because of this terrible affliction. Many families in our student community are also struggling. I've created this page because I want to make a difference. I'm inspired by the work of Cancer Council NSW and wanted to support them by raising money as part of my participation in Stars of Macleay Valley 2019. Please help me help them by giving whatever you can using the ‘Give Now’ button. The more people who know about Cancer Council NSW, the greater their impact, so please spread the word by sharing my page with your friends and family. Thank you in advance for your generosity. It means a lot!

Others who wish to make a donation of items that are easily auctioned or raffled are invited to contact me at kevin.lewis@lism.catholic.edu.au

**Strategic Review – A Parent Perspective** This year, the College will once again work through the process of developing a new **Strategic Management Plan**. Part of this process will be the very important input and perspectives derived from parental voices. Throughout the year, I will be seeking input from you, the parent body, on what you see as the key issues we should be focusing on, and how they might shape our plan under the following headings:

- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Learning and Teaching
- Pastoral Care and Wellbeing
- Parent and Community Partnership
- Building Leadership Capacity

**Welcome to New Staff** This year the College welcomes ten new staff members in a variety of teaching and support roles. Welcome to:

- Ms Laura Curtin – Teaching Science and Catholic Studies
- Ms Megan Henry – Teaching HSIE and Catholic Studies
- Mr Lee Hancock – Teaching Geography and Multi-media
- Mr Tony Lane – Teaching Coding, IST, ISTEM
- Ms Mariah Allan – Youth Ministry Officer Trainee
- Ms Eloise MacDonald – Youth Ministry Officer Trainee
- Ms Jessica Grant – Sports/PE Trainee
- Mr Owen Blair – Aboriginal Education Worker
- Mrs Kassy Hill – Laboratory Assistant two days per week
- Mrs Tammy Lomas – Parish School fees for both St Joseph’s Primary and St Paul’s College.

We also welcome new Leaders this year:

- Mr Brad Taylor – Year 8 Pastoral Co-ordinator
- Mr Dominic MacAndrews – Leader of School Evangelisation

**Parish School Fees Collection** Parish school fees will continue business as usual with the only change for the moment being the location of the office. This has now moved from the Parish building on Marsh St, and is now on-site at the College. This office acts as a location for school fees enquiries for BOTH St Paul’s and St Joseph’s. Parents should present at the College front office to sign in and seek advice on access to the school fees room.

**HSC Analysis and ATARs** I was very pleased with our results in 2018. These reflected the dedication of our wonderful teaching staff and the hard work put in by our Year 12 students. The work doesn’t end there though... As an old mentor of mine said – if you’re not going forwards, you’re going backwards because others will continue to pass you by. We will keep looking for ways to improve our teaching and learning processes.

Our results included:

- Overall the College achieved five Band 6 results (90 marks or higher) and forty-seven Band 5 results (80-89 marks).
- Harley Thackray achieved an ATAR of 93.55 and is the DUX of St Paul’s College for 2018, James Walker achieved 90.75 and Mariah Allan, 90.70.

Other outstanding results include:

- Harley Thackray – 94 Ancient History
- James Walker – Notional Band 6 Maths Extension 2
- Mariah Allan – 94 Textiles and 3 x 89 results
- Carla Silvia – 97 Mathematics and E4 Math Extension 2
- Jacob Nelson was first in the Diocese in Agriculture with a result of 92 - Band 6.
- Dimik Pilbeam was first in the Diocese in the Retail Services exam
- Connor Slapp was first in the Diocese in the IDT Network and Hardware exam

- Of the fifty students who sat for the HSC exams, twenty-five were offered early entry to universities such as Southern Cross, Charles Sturt and University of New England, whilst many others will be successful on the back of their HSC scores and ATARs.
• James Walker received a scholarship from University of NSW to study Engineering.
• VET was also very successful with a number of students picking up apprenticeships prior to the end of year. For example, Harry Mainey obtained an apprenticeship at Jamie Oram Electrical, Jayden Barrie as a jockey, Hayden Clarkson at Ray Mainey Building and others.
• Connor Slapp was a finalist in North Coast Region School Based Apprentice and Trainee category at the TAFE Awards of Excellence.

Building Works and Upgrades  Over the holiday break, the College has invested heavily in a new power supply to support and future-proof the school. Prior to this, we had zero capacity to install new electrical facilities and therefore were hamstrung in our ability to extend and improve the College. Now with this installed, we are able to switch on our air conditioners and significantly improve the educational environment for all of our staff and students during the hottest and indeed, the coldest of days. Funding for this came from three sources:

• A grant from the Catholic Schools Office
• School funds from savings made via solar panels and other efficiencies
• The Macleay Valley Parish

Congratulations to our latest Australians  Over recent weeks during Australia Day ceremonies, I believe that three of our students and their families became fully fledged Australian citizens:

• Year 11 – Nandana Jayakumar
• Year 12 – Adrian Bacani
• Year 8 – Sam Bacani

Congratulations to each of you and your families, and welcome officially to our Australian community.

Parents and Friends Association  Our first meeting of the year will take place in the College boardroom on Wednesday, 20 February at 6.00 pm. All interested parents, carers and friends of the College are invited to come along and support this wonderful group and their work in raising much needed funds for the students of the College.

Here’s looking forward to a great year.

God Bless

Mr Kevin Lewis – Principal
klewis@lism.catholic.edu.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

This year, as over the last several years, I am honoured to support Mr Lewis and the staff and students in the role of Assistant Principal. I spoke to the whole College community, at our first assembly on 1 February, about looking forward to a year full of learning, opportunities and academic growth. It is our belief that in order to educate our students, it takes a community with a growth mindset and a strong desire to achieve. Our teachers are committed to the personal success of all of our students, and together we recognise the important role of parents in being the prime educators of their children. I invite you to be involved in your child’s education and stay in contact with your child’s teachers throughout the year through: the student diary, semester reports, parent/teacher information evenings, phone calls, email and interviews. Staff email addresses are on our web site for easy contact. They can be found under ‘Parents/Information & Forms’, then click on ‘Staff Contact Details’. Please feel free to contact our staff with any concerns, questions or information.

At St Paul’s, we focus on Gospel values and personal excellence in a safe and supportive environment. Our staff strives for academic excellence but also recognises the importance of focusing on each child’s individual faith and academic development. We encourage all our students to be significant contributors to their learning, as well as to the life of the College. The classrooms are safe, creative and engaging places where students can feel empowered to take risks and make positive choices.

The College has embedded Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) within the Pastoral Care morning routine.

The ‘late bell’, rings five minutes after the conclusion of both recess and lunch, and indicates when all students should be either in class or lined up outside the classroom, ready for learning. All students have been informed or reminded of this and the consequences of being late to class.

College Uniform  The majority of the students wear the College and Sports uniforms with pride, and I remind all parents/carers that the older style uniform is no longer accepted. Please see the information below about expectations regarding the uniform. Only the correct jewellery is to be worn, shoes cleaned and polished and hair neat and tidy. Boys should be cleanly shaven, and no make-up of any description is permitted in Years 7–10.

Reminder About the Expectations of Facial Piercings: College policy on uniform accessories in respect to piercings states that no visible facial or body piercing is permitted, and that up to two small plain studs or plain sleepers only
are allowed in each ear. Students arriving to school with new piercings or with current piercings covered with tape will be asked to remove both. No visible tattoos are allowed.

The College uniform and accessories are outlined on pages 109–111 of the Junior Student Diary, and in the opening pages of the Senior Diary.

Again in 2019, Williamson International will be the sole supplier of our regular College uniform. This can only be purchased online directly to Williamson International with credit card facility for payment (Visa and MasterCard only). Order at https://shop-williamson.com.au/ (more information is on the College website home page, under the “Parent” tab).

Sample sets of each item and size are available at St Paul’s as try-on samples to determine the correct size prior to placing on-line orders. Returns and exchanged goods must be returned in their original packaging and the cost of postage in both directions is the responsibility of the buyer.

- Boys tailored trousers and shorts must be worn with a plain black belt.
- When wearing plain black stockings with the skirt, socks are not to be worn.
- Year 7–12 boys are to wear their shirts out.
- Year 11–12 boys are to have their shirts tucked in only when wearing their ties in Terms 2 and 3.
- Girls skirts and shorts must come to the top of the knee when standing upright.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Uniform Items</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior girls blouse (Year 11–12)</td>
<td>Senior boys shirt (Year 11–12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior girls blouse (Year 7–10)</td>
<td>Junior boys shirts (Year 7–10)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls skirt (Year 7–12)</td>
<td>Boys tailored shorts (Year 7–12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls slacks (Year 7–12)</td>
<td>Boys tailored trousers (Year 7–12)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls shorts (Year 7–12)</td>
<td>Senior boys tie (Year 11–12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior girls tie (Year 11–12)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Unisex items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Socks (Year 7–12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jumper (Year 7–12)</td>
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**Regular Uniform Shoes** Polishable, black leather, small-heeled, solid leather upper, lace-up, solid sole. Note: Shoes with exposed uppers or buckles are not allowed.

**Sport Shoes** Joggers with a flat sole, good grip and rolled toe. Note: skate shoes, basketball boots, canvas shoes, volleys or similar are not allowed.

**Uniform at Sports Carnivals** On Monday, February 18, we will be running our annual Swimming Carnival. I want to make clear to all students and their parents/carer the uniform expectation for this day. Students in Years 7–11 must be dressed in full College sports uniform with the option of wearing a House coloured T-shirt or polo shirt only. Only Year 12 students are permitted to attend dressed as novelty characters with modesty being a key requirement. This is not an out of uniform day. Students are permitted to change into more appropriate competition attire only whilst they are competing. Containers of coloured sprays, dyes, coloured zinc etc. are not to be brought to carnivals.

During all swimming activities, including swimming carnivals, swimming attire must be appropriate for the activity being undertaken for the time of year. Rash shirts and board shorts may be worn. Female students are not, under any circumstances, to wear string bikinis or the type of bikinis used for sun baking. Sporting bikinis will be allowed as the type used in surf carnivals.

**Drop Off/Pick Up Zone** A reminder to all parents that student drop-off in the mornings and pick-up at the conclusion of school is to occur from Sea Street. All buses, for both drop-off and pick-up use the North Street entrance. To minimise congestion and for safety reasons we ask that parents do not wait for children at this location. Sea Street has a designated school drop-off/pick-up zone outside the top gate so again, for safety reasons, we ask that this zone is utilised, not the North Street driveway.

**College Diaries** One of the most important organisational tools that students have at their disposal is the College Student Diary. Students need to learn the skill of using the diary for writing down homework, assessments and other reminders. The other important function that the diary plays is that it is a quick and effective method of communication between College and home. The diary is also a quick reference point for information about College policies. All students have a diary, and we expect that students use it correctly. This includes parents sighting and signing it for each student in Years 7–12 each week, checking for any teacher correspondences, and that homework is being listed and completed. All diaries will be checked during Pastoral Care time each Monday.
I ask all parents to make themselves familiar with the ‘Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy’, which can be found on Page 12 of the Junior Diary, and on the College web site. Your support in regards to College expectations around appropriate use of electronic devices, helps us to ensure our children remain safe, and information into and out of the College is controlled. We also ask that contacting your child occurs via the front office, and remind you that the College takes no responsibility for the safety and security of these devices.

**Bullying** is not only unacceptable at this College, but is also unacceptable in society. At St Paul’s, we treat bullying very seriously. All students have been made aware of a google form called ‘Being Bullied’, which I reminded them of, first week back. Students who believe that they, or any other students, are being bullied are asked to complete this form. We can’t deal with the problem of bullying unless we are aware of it. Of course, just informing a teacher, Pastoral Co-ordinator or myself is also fine, however, we appreciate that some students might feel unable to do this in a face to face manner. Parents, it is important to be aware that when someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they only do it once, THAT IS NOT NICE. Likewise, when someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, THAT IS MEAN. However, when someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it over a period of time, even when you tell them to stop or show them that you are upset, THAT IS BULLYING.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

**College Suspension Policy** Students who are placed on either an internal or external suspension will be placed on a monitoring card. While on these cards, no school representation or extra-curricular activities will be allowed (this does not include assessable items or activities). This will be at the discretion of the Assistant Principal in consultation with the Principal and the Pastoral Co-ordinator.

On their first day back this term, all students were asked to mark into their diaries the major examination blocks this year. Below are the examination and assessment dates for 2019. These can also be found on the live College calendar.

**Examination/Assessment and Staff Professional Learning Dates for 2019**

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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC Exams: 17 October – 12 November</td>
<td>Year 7–10 Assessments: 25 November – 6 December</td>
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The Staff Professional Learning Days for 2019 are:

Friday, 12 April (last day of Term 1) – Staff Spirituality Session 1/ Staff Professional Learning.

Monday, 29 April (First day of Term 2) – Staff Professional Learning.

Tuesday, 30 April (Second day of Term 2) – Staff Spirituality Session 2
School Review and Improvement Professor discussion.

Monday, 22 July (First day of Term 3) – Staff Professional Learning.

Friday, 27 September – Staff Spirituality Session 3/ Staff Professional Learning.

**Note**: Term 4 will conclude for students on Wednesday, 18 December 2019.

**Absenteeism** This year, parents will again be notified of student absences by an automated text message. If an acceptable reason is received on the same day as the absence, then this reply will be recorded. Written notes explaining an absence are also acceptable if received within seven days of the absence, after which an unexplained absence will be recorded which cannot be altered. Text responses such as ‘yes’ or ‘I am aware’ for example, which do not explain the absence, will not be deemed as an acceptable explanation for the absence and will require a phone call or note in order for an explained absence to be recorded. Once again, I thank you for your support in this.

**Students Being Late to School Without Explanation** It very important that students arrive at school on time. The school day begins at 8.55 am. Students who arrive late without a parental explanation will have the following consequences:

- 1st time – Pastoral Co-ordinator records late event.
- 2nd time – Pastoral Co-ordinator informs student that there is a pattern.
- 3rd time – There is a pattern of lateness and the Pastoral Co-ordinator phones parents/guardians to discuss concerns and outline the consequences of any future occurrences.
- 4th time and ongoing – A lunch time detention is issued by the Pastoral Co-ordinator, the length of which comprises the school time that the student has missed (calculated from 8.55 am).
**2019 Vaccination Program** Year 7 consent forms will come home prior to 12 March.

Term 1 – 12 March:
- Year 7 HPV dose 1 of a 2 dose course – (HPV dose 1 and 2 are given six months apart)
- Year 7 Boostrix – 1 dose only
- Year 8 HPV dose two catch ups – I have these forms; I will email you the recall list before the first clinic.

Term 2 – 7 May:
- Year 10 Nimenrix (meningococcal ACWY)
- Year 7 catch ups for HPV dose 1 and Boostrix, Year 8 HPV dose two catch ups

Term 4 – 22 October:
- Year 7 HPV dose 2
- Year 7 HPV dose 1 and Boostrix catch ups
- Year 8 HPV dose two catch ups
- Year 10 catch ups.

I look forward to supporting the teachers, staff, students, parents and community of St Paul’s College again this year and am confident that it will be a successful one.

**Mr Guy Campbell – Assistant Principal**

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**REC MINISTRY**

Welcome back to 2019! I hope and pray that you and your family’s Christmas break was restful and blessed. A special welcome to those families who are new to St Paul’s – it is wonderful to have you as a part of our community of faith and I hope that your time here in Catholic education is eye-opening and life-giving.

**Youth Ministry Officers** It gives me great pleasure to welcome aboard Mariah Allan and Eloise MacDonald as our Youth Ministry Officers (YMOs) for 2019. Both of these young ladies graduated from St Paul’s last year and were our female College captains too. As students at St Paul’s, both sought to explore their faith and deepen their relationship with Jesus and now we are blessed that they have elected to spend another year sharing that gift of faith with our College community here.

Last week these young women attended, along with all of the YMOs from the Diocese, their training in Lismore, which I had the opportunity to also be a part of for a few days. It was inspiring to see so many faithful witnesses to God gathered to get equipped and fired up for their year of Mission. We are truly blessed to be part of such a vibrant Diocese that has these young witnesses ready to serve.

**Senior Ministry Leaders** I would also like to congratulate and welcome aboard our Senior Ministry Leaders for 2019:

- **Year 12**: Gymea Brown, Jemma Edwards, Corey Gleeson, Rowan Hodges, Lara Jay, Joshua Lill, Lachlan Moore, Jessica Thomas
- **Year 11**: Lily Burns, Amy Irving, Liam King, Brooke Preston

It is wonderful to have such a committed, excited group of students who wish to share and deepen their own faith and leadership skills in and amongst their peers. Throughout the year, they will be working alongside our YMOs to help plan and facilitate many of the ministry events in our College.

**Induction Mass** Our opening school Mass for 2019 will take place on **Wednesday, 20 February at 9.30 am** at All Saints Catholic Church. At this Mass, we will induct and commission our College Leaders for 2019. Parents and friends are invited to this most important celebration!

**Year 7 Belonging Day** On **Monday, 25 February**, Year 7s will attend their first high school retreat day. The aim of the day will be for our youngest pupils to get to know their school, their peers and their faith a little bit more in a relaxed, enjoyable way. Our Youth Ministry Officers and Senior Ministry Team will help to run the day, and the cost will be covered by the RE subject levy. More details are to come directly to the Year 7 students.

**Plenary Council 2020** The Catholic Church in Australia is holding, for the first time in over eighty years, a plenary council. A Plenary Council is a formal meeting of the bishops and other representatives of all the dioceses of the Church. *Its purpose is to discern what God is asking of us in Australia at this present time.* Although, in the end, it will be the bishops who will vote on any future directions for the church in Australia, they will be making those decisions in the light of a long listening to the Holy Spirit speaking through the voices of any of the faithful who wish
to speak around Australia. Everyone has a chance to participate and to express whatever the Spirit is saying to them in their heart.

If you would like to make a submission to the Plenary Council or would just like some more information, then please head to the website: http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/

If you have any thoughts or suggestions about any faith or ministry related issue at St Paul’s, I’d be most happy to hear from you.

Have a great year and God bless!

Mr Dominic MacAndrews – Leader of Evangelisation

PEDAGOGY

Welcome to the 2019 academic year. For the next three years, I have been re-appointed to the position of Leader of Pedagogy. This position looks at the art of teaching and learning, an important part of school life. We have a vision of learning which will guide us in all that we do. Our vision is that:

- We, the St Paul’s College learning community, are challenged by Christ to use our gifts and talents to strive for our personal best.
- We believe that when we take responsibility for our learning, we become authentic life-long learners.
- As a learning community, we continually endeavour to foster the partnership, which exists between students, parents and staff to improve individual learning and growth.

As parents, you play a vital role in your child’s education, as do we. It is therefore vital that we work together to ensure that every child is able to achieve, and become lifelong learners. We ask that you take time to discuss with your child what they have done during the day, what they have learnt and any homework/assignments that may have.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries in relation to your child’s learning.

Mrs Lesa Morrison – Leader of Pedagogy

CURRICULUM

Congratulations to all our HSC students from 2018. Mr Lewis has outlined their achievements in his report. Students, their families and the teachers at St Paul’s should also be commended for the efforts they have made in contributing to these results.

Absenteeism of Senior Students at St Paul’s College  It has been proven by numerous studies, both in Australia and overseas, that attendance at school is the second most important factor in educational achievement after the influence of the student’s family. See https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/attendancedata/chapter1a.asp

Over the past three years, attendance of Year 12 students at St Paul’s College has dropped from an average of 90% in 2016 to 84% last year. This means that, on average, each student in Year 12 at St Paul’s College had thirty-two full day absences out of the two hundred days of compulsory attendance per year in 2018.

Ignoring genuine illness, this number of absences for a senior student studying for the NSW HSC seems to be excessive and needs to be addressed.

Teachers will be working hard throughout 2019 to ensure that this alarming trend is turned around. Expect to hear from your child’s teachers if they have a pattern of non-attendance developing over several days or particular lessons in the two-week cycle.

We will be working together to encourage all students at St Paul’s to take full advantage of the class time available to maximise their academic achievement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Diary Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Years 7 and 9 Online NAPLAN Testing</td>
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<td>Years 7 – 11 Mid-Course Assessment Block</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 HSC Trial Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSC Practical Submission Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11 Preliminary Final Exams</td>
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<td>Year 12 HSC Exams</td>
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Mr Leon Robinson – Leader of Curriculum

LIBRARY MATTERS

Welcome back to a new year and congratulations to everyone for the wonderful way in which you collected your textbooks recently.
Overdue books continue to trickle in, and we’re grateful for that. Thousands of dollars’ worth of resources have been recovered this way, and everyone is to thank for placing the necessary importance on such an undertaking. Keep looking, because the next edition of “serious” letters will be going out shortly. And House Points will be awarded to those with the best records.

It’s wonderful to see so many people using the Library before and after school, as well as at recess and lunch. It’s a vibrant, friendly place where students are making excellent use of the facility whether it be with books, magazines, iPads, laptops or board games. Just a reminder about our iPad rules:

- No volume
- No social media or capturing images
- No interaction between users or devices
- No distracting those working, studying or reading actual books (like in the old days).

We are generally open from 8.15 to 4.30 Monday to Friday. And if that’s not an option for some reason, Student Services, across the hall, can usually look after your needs, especially on Wednesday afternoons.

Mrs Patrice Martin has been deployed elsewhere for Term 1, and along with Mrs Cathy Whalen, they can pretty well take care of your every need. All you have to do is ask.

Finally, thanks to William Butler and Blair Kardell (Year 10) and Madalynne Farah-Halls (Year 12) who have volunteered to be Library Monitors this year. Their involvement is very much appreciated. Anyone else interested in helping out just needs to make that known.

Happy Reading!
Mr Peter Garty – Teacher/Librarian 😊

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services will be available to those who require further support in 2019. I am looking forward to working with Students in the capacity of Additional Needs Teacher. Currently we will continue to run Homework club each Wednesday afternoon in Student Services from 3.30 – 4.25. If you would like to meet me or discuss your child’s Personalised Plan, or if you have any questions in regards to your child’s support needs please call the school or email me at kristy.carney@lism.catholic.edu.au and I will be happy to make an appointment time.

Homework Club will once again be operating every Wednesday afternoon from 3.25 until 4.25 in Student Services. Students can complete homework or assignments with the support of a teacher and with access to computers and reference books. The Library will also be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons until 4.30. All students are welcome and encouraged to make use of this valuable service. Those students being picked up, should do so from the car park behind the Science block.

Please complete the form below and return to the Student Services Centre.

Mrs Kristy Carney – Additional Needs Teacher

I give permission for …………………………………………. to attend Homework Club on Wednesday afternoons. She/he will be collected or walk home (please cross out whichever does not suit).

Parent’s name: ………………………………………………….      Phone: ……………………………………..

Parent’s signature: ……………………………………………..

Mathematics Tutoring and Homework Help

Each Wednesday afternoon, Mathematics tutoring and homework assistance is available in the Library from 3.30 – 4.30 pm. This is a free service and is available to all students from Years 7 to Year 12.

When collecting your child after tutoring, please arrange to meet them in the carpark below the Science block off Sea Street.

Thank you
Mr Ron Walker – Mathematics Teacher
**Weekly Sport**  In Year 7 students will be involved in either pool activities or school or town sport. Pool activities include swimming carnival preparation, stroke correction, fun relays and water polo. School and town sport involves mixed teams playing sports such as touch, basketball, soccer, netball, volleyball and softball.

Years 8, 9 and 10 students select a sport from the local facilities eg school grounds, gym, tennis courts, aerobics, indoor sports, golf, water-polo, beach and ten-pin bowling.

Year 11 Sport is held for one period every Friday at school where they will sign up to a sport each week.

If a student is unable to wear the full PE uniform to school on their allocated sports day, then they must wear full school uniform to and from school, and change into the PE uniform they have, for the sports periods only. Please refer to the Uniform section in the College handbook for a more detailed sport/PE uniform outline, including what to wear during swimming activities.

Sports Selections for Years 8, 9 and 10 occurred this week. If any students from these years missed their chance to sign up to a sport, they are to see Mr Needs and do so as soon as possible.

**College Swimming Carnival**

**HOUSE CAPTAINS**

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<th>Farrelly</th>
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<td>Kody Clarkson</td>
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On Monday, 18 February, St Paul’s will be hosting our annual swimming carnival. We anticipate favourable weather and some hot lap-times. Make sure your child is prepared to slip, slop, slap, wrap and slide into some shade so that the day is enjoyed by all.

Last year, a number of long-standing records were broken and we expect a similar result in 2019.

We encourage parents to familiarise themselves with the College Uniform policy, particularly regarding swimming activities. You can find more information on Page 109 and 111 of the College Diary.

**A reminder to all parents that only Year 12 students are allowed to dress up as novelty characters, with modesty being the key requirements to their costumes.**

“During all swimming activities, including swimming carnivals, swimming attire must be appropriate for the activity being undertaken for that time of the year. Rash shirts and board shorts may be worn by students. Female students are not, under any circumstances, to wear string bikinis or the type of bikini used for sun baking. Sporting Bikinis will be allowed as in the type used in surf carnivals.”

**Coming Sporting Events**  A number of NSWCCC events are now open for various sports. Visit https://www.csss.nsw.edu.au/nswccc-home.aspx for more information.

The Lismore Diocesan winter trials for Football (Opens soccer) and Rugby League (u15s and Opens) are now open.

- **11** February – Long Course Swimming
- **18** February – Swimming Carnival
- **26** February – Diocesan Touch Football Selections
- **7** March – Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- **13** March – Schools Cup Netball
- **19** March – Diocesan Tennis
- **19** March – Diocesan Winter Trials (Football and Rugby League)
- **24** March – Hastings 9’s Rugby League (boys)
- **28** March – Diocesan Opens Basketball
- **4** April – College Cross Country

**Mr Heath Needs** – Sports Co-ordinator
BODY WATCH 4 FITNESS
Uniting Church Hall
Wide Street Kempsey
Monday—5pm Aerobics & Body Pump
Wednesday—5pm Step Class & Body Pump
Come and join a fun exercising atmosphere
Professional Fitness Instructor
Enquiries—Debbie 0401 221 288

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