

FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Pope Francis challenges us to go to the borders and embrace the marginalised. This is the heart of being inclusive. Let us this Lent reflect deeply on the meaning of this action so that we may respond with warm compassion.

Who are on the borders in our society? What is their circumstance? How do we respond in a respectful manner? Are we being the person of Jesus Christ towards them?

Our Christian vocation demands that we attend to their needs first and foremost before doing anything else. **What more can we do** to alleviate hunger, homelessness, unemployment, dislocation, alienation and isolation?

Welcome to Catholic Schools Week. The college commenced the week by speaking at all the Masses last Sunday in the parish of St Andrew the Apostle. St Andrews College is your college and we headlined some of the great things our students accomplish from apprenticeships to university studies. Each student continues to make a positive mark in the world. I thank our great teachers who provide great learning opportunities.

On Tuesday's annual **Open Day**, we welcomed many interested parents and future students to the college to view a functioning school. Our student representative council led tours throughout the day to give our visitors a real glimpse of the wonderful community at St Andrews College. I thank

each of them for their informative tours of the college. I thank all those staff who assisted in giving parents the experience of seeing and experiencing a "working school" in progress.

Congratulations Chang House for winning the overall points shield and participation shield at the recent swimming carnival. They brought to a close the dominance of the Bennelong House over the past few years. I thank everyone for the success of this magnificent carnival, especially Mr Martin Gillogly and his team who organised this high standard event.

Thursday was **International Women's Day**. Let us continue to act in just solidarity with all women for equality and affirmative action.

*God Bless you,
Nicholas Vidot
Principal*

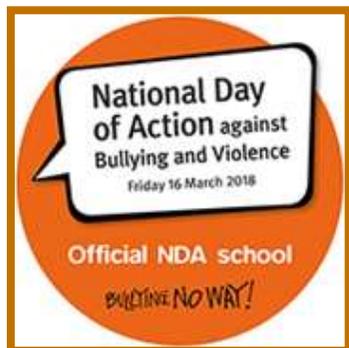


Faith in Christ is the College's motto.
Faith in Christ gives us our sense of meaning and purpose.

Coming Events

12th and 13th March	19th March
Year 7 Camp Collaroy	Student Learning Conference Year 7 to 10
14th March	20th March
Year 10 Fast Forward University Visit	College Cross Country
15th and 16th March	21st March
Year 11 Retreat	Medieval History Incursion Year 8
16th March	Powerhouse Museum Year 11 & 12 TAS students
National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence	23rd March
CSDA Public Speaking Finals	PDSSSC Swimming Carnival

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL STUDENTS



National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

On Friday the 16th of March 2018, Australian schools will stand united in their communities to celebrate the Eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA).

The National Day of Action is Australia's key anti-bullying event for in 2018, students are called to **imagine a world free from bullying.**

There is a Government website, <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/> which provides information and help with bullying. I encourage families to look at the website to help understand and develop strategies to deal with bullying.

St Andrews College has a zero tolerance to bullying and if anyone feels like they are being bullied they need to approach a staff member to assist them with the issue.

All students will be participating in activities associated with the National Day of Action. Each year group will work in their Pastoral Lessons to develop a better understanding of bullying and strategies to deal with bullying and violence.

Student Learning Conference Years 7 to 10

Our College learning rationale states that our curriculum should ensure, "that all students develop ownership of their learning and through reflective practice continue to learn how to learn". Keeping this in mind the College will be holding a Student Learning Conference evening on **Monday the 19th of March from 3.15pm to 8pm**. The Student Learning Conference is a time to meet your child's Learning Adviser and have a discussion about their progress so far this year.

The night will take the following format:

- Parents will make one appointment with your child's Learning Adviser.

- The interview will be with the Learning Adviser and will run for ten minutes.
- Each student will have a document, which they will prepare before the interviews. It will outline attendance, strengths and challenges, subjects and teachers and goals to set for the semester.
- The student will collect work samples and prepare responses to questions about their learning which will prompt the discussion during the evening.
- The student will discuss their strengths and challenges.

The Learning Adviser, parents and students will develop learning goals and strategies to achieve their goals.

It should be noted that if you wish to speak to an individual subject teacher regarding your child's learning you are welcome to do that at any time during the course of the year by contacting the teacher directly or through the front office. There will be a formal Parent/Teacher/Student night with the subject teachers in Term 3 this year.

Booking an Interview

Open the St Andrews College website:

<http://www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au>

- At the bottom of the page is a section called "Announcements", open this section.
- Scroll down until you see the section "Year 7 to 10 Student Learning Conferences".
- There is information regarding the night and a hyperlink called "click here" in the second paragraph.
- Click the button and it will take you to the Student Learning Conference booking page.
- Select your child's Learning Advisor and a time.
- The Leaders of Learning will also be available for interviews if you would like to speak to them.
- Mrs May will also be available in the Year 10 space (Library)

(Continued over page)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL STUDENTS

Where to go on the night:

Year 7 Learning Advisers will be located in the Drama Room

Year 8 Learning Advisers will be located in F1-F2

Year 9 Learning Advisers will be located in B2-B3

Year 10 Learning Advisors will be located in the Library

WHAT'S IN THE PLANNER

What's the difference between a fixed and growth mindset?

Fixed mindsets are about proving, they only look at performance not effort, you feel that there is nothing you can do to change your ability.

Hard work and effort = lack of ability

Growth mindsets rely on efforts being made and you trying different things and learning.

Hard work and effort = achievement

Key words Curiosity and Zest, How do they effect your learning?

Curiosity about learning and a zest for learning will make us a great learner. We should be asking questions and finding answers. A love of learning and of life leads to success.

Removing negative emotions is essential if we are to have growth in learning. A fixed mindset will say I can't do maths. A growth mindset says I can't do maths yet. Believe in yourself, use positive self-talk, enjoy positive emotions and build resilience by learning from and changing negative emotions.

Do you want to earn extra House points? Come and tell me what you are grateful for, what makes your thankful. It's an easy way to gain points for your House.

God bless

Nick Thrum

Assistant Principal - Students



**Safer Drivers Course
for young learner drivers**

Preparing you for your P's

Become a safer driver and earn 20 hours of bonus log book credit by enrolling in a Safer Drivers Course.

The Safer Drivers Course is available to learner drivers under the age of 25 who have completed at least 50 log book driving hours.

To book a Safer Drivers Course contact:
National Driver Education Pty Ltd
02 9853 3243
www.ndeaustralia.com.au programs@ndeaustralia.com.au

National Driver Education
National Driver Education is accredited by Roads & Maritime Services as a provider of Safer Driver Courses for Learner Drivers.

Learner Drivers earn **20 Bonus Hours** at the completion of the course.

Where applicable Modules 1 and 2 are conducted on the same day.

Free course for disadvantaged learner drivers

The NSW Government is offering **1000** free places on the Safer Drivers Course each year to help young learner drivers from disadvantaged backgrounds and Aboriginal communities. The fee exemption allows those who are financially disadvantaged to benefit from the road safety outcomes of the Safer Drivers Course.

Next Available Course Dates:

Quakers Hill
Saturday 17th March 2018
Monday 16th April 2018 (School Holidays)
Tuesday 17th April 2018 (School Holidays)

Rouse Hill
Wednesday 18th April 2018 (School Holidays)

Please visit www.ndeaustralia.com.au to book a course or call 02 9853 3243.

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lifted Event

On February the 22nd the Year 12 SRC Leaders attended a day at Rooty Hill RSL with Year 12 Leaders from 22 other secondary schools from the Parramatta Diocese. The day was hosted by 'Catholic Youth Parramatta'.

The day began with Fr Rob Galea singing and sharing his faith testimony. Our students were told that they were "not only the leaders of the future but the leaders of today".

Bishop Vincent then spoke to our students about the Church in the current climate. He shared with the group that he was a refugee and asylum seeker.

Bishop Vincent emphasised Pope Francis' passion for reaching out to the marginalised of society, that the Church needs to be more concerned for the poor and marginalised, to be more inclusive. The Church should be a place of welcome and hospitality for everybody.

Bishop Vincent believes that this approach is essential to living the message of Christ. Bishop Vincent told our students that his view is that he is a follower of the poor, humble Christ and that the Church should be Kingdom building rather than empire building.

Students were then invited to sit with other schools and share their views on the following questions/statements:

- What makes your school noticeably Catholic?
- Describe your personal pathway to leadership
- What is unique to your school?
- To be builders of a civilisation of love.
- To be witnesses of the gospel and to grow as missionary disciples

The Year of Youth was then launched.

The Year of Youth Aims to:

- prayerfully discern the Australian Bishops' vision for ministry with young people, Anointed and Sent.

- Promote authentic and personal engagement of Church leaders in the challengers and successes of young people's lives.
- Acknowledge the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of young people, and young people acting upon the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church.
- Uphold the dignity of young people, ensuring a safe environment from physical, emotional and spiritual harm.

Catholic Schools Week March 5—9 2018

This week the College has celebrated Catholic Schools Week.

The theme this year is 'Every learner, every day: TRANSFORMING LEARNING', a theme strongly focused on learning.

This is the prayer that was prayed in Learning Group each morning along with the Gospel reading that was read in Religion Classes.

Lord Jesus,

You came among us as teacher, to reveal to us the Father's endless love and mercy.

Our Catholic schools continue to give witness to your compassion and wisdom, seeking always to ensure that we are all welcome no matter who we are.

May our Catholic schools continue to be places of connection and sources of hope and enthusiasm for our young people and their families.

May the work of our Catholic schools always be guided by the inspiration of your Spirit.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

Amen

GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,'— this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question. (NRSV)

Fasting this Lent *In the words of Pope Francis*

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Kellie Robinson
Leader of Learning Religious Education



LEADERS OF LEARNING PASTORAL CARE



Bullying - No Way!

The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is on Friday March 16. St Andrews College is proud to be an NDA School (we have participated regularly in the National Day of Action against bullying and violence). Listen out for the activities that will happen in Pastoral Lessons over the next few weeks.

Bullying. No Way! – Take a stand together!

The 2017 Rotary Award for Citizenship

At the Senior Campus Assembly held on Monday the 5th of March, Mr Vidot, presented The 2017 Rotary Award for Citizenship to Year 11 student Lachlan Jones.

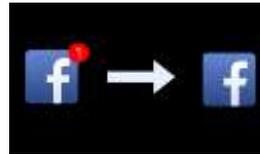
The Rotary Award for Citizenship recognises school and community involvement. It is an award for the student considered by peers and teachers as having been the best “Citizen”.

Congratulations Lachlan!



Technology Tips – Part 1

Try these simple changes from the website <http://humanetech.com/take-control/> to live more intentionally with your devices



1. Turn off all Notifications except from *people*

Notifications appear in RED dots because red is a trigger colour that instantly draws our attention. But most notifications are generated by machines, not actual people. They keep our phones vibrating to lure us back into apps we don't really need to be in. Visit Settings > Notifications and turn off all notifications, banners, and badges, except from apps where *real* people want your attention; e.g. messaging apps like WhatsApp, FB Messenger, Signal, Telegram, WeChat etc.



2. Go Grayscale

Colourful icons give our brains shiny rewards every time we unlock. Set your phone to grayscale to remove those positive reinforcements. It helps many people check their phone less. Go to Settings > General > Accessibility > Accessibility Shortcut (bottom) > Colour Filters. This allows you to quickly *triple-tap* the home button to toggle grayscale on and off, so you keep colour when you need it.



3. Try keeping your home screen to tools only

Do you open apps mindlessly because they are the first thing you see when you unlock your phone? Limit your first page of apps to just tools—the apps you use for quick in-and-out tasks like Maps, Camera, Calendar, Notes, or Lyft. Move the rest of your apps, especially mindless choices, off the first page and into folders.

Sue Cooper
Leader of Learning Pastoral Care

LEADERS OF LEARNING PASTORAL CARE

Year 7 Report

Our Year 7's have had a great start to the year and have been working extremely hard in each of their classes. They have been busy adjusting to the additional work loads required of high school students and settling in well to high school life.

During Term 1, Year 7 students are involved in the Peer Support Program. Each week, groups of 8 -10 students meet with two Year 10 Peer Support Leaders and work through a range of activities that focus on resilience. The program we are following, from Peer Support Australia, is called "Rethinking Challenges". Meeting in small groups allows meaningful connections to form, assisting students with the transition to secondary school. Over the term, students will acknowledge their strengths and achievements, identify people who support them and learn how to view challenges as opportunity for growth. And of course, have fun!



Congratulations to the following students for being chosen as Semester 1 Learning Group Leaders:

- B2: Bianca Infante and Haroun Fadlalla
- B6: Caitlyn Dela Cruz and Jade Kember
- C5: Louella David and Danny Yazbek
- C7: Shaniya Lal and Keya Pandya

F4: Rebekah Espinosa and Ayush Goyal

F6: Bella Ayton and Lucas Battikha

G4: Ana-Vaisioa Vaokakala and John Vaokakala

G15: Dorothy Anzoa and Tyler McCann

Families are reminded that camp is fast approaching! 12th-13th March we will be going to The Collaroy Centre, where students will get a chance to create stronger connections with their peers and teachers. It will be a great opportunity to try a variety of outdoor activities that the centre offers as well as get to know other students who have come from other primary schools. Students are reminded to keep a close eye on the google classroom page for updates and are reminded to be at school by no later than 8am Monday the 12th of March 2018.

Nicole Lovern

Year 7 Leader of Learning - Pastoral



LEADERS OF LEARNING PASTORAL CARE



LEADERS OF LEARNING PASTORAL CARE

OPEN DAY 2018



To celebrate and showcase Catholic education at St Andrews College, the Junior Campus opened its doors to the community on Tuesday the 6th of March.

It was an opportunity for future students and their families to experience what happens each day in our great College.

Students from Year 6 and their families heard from Year 7 students, our School Captains and Principal, Mr Vidot about the rich and unique teaching and learning experience offered at St Andrews College.

Open Day was another opportunity for the community to see the students and staff doing more and going beyond.

(Read the School Captain and Year 7 Speeches on the next two pages)



OPEN DAY 2018

OPEN DAY 2018



School Captains Open Day Speech

Good morning Mr Vidot, parents and students, and welcome to St Andrews College Open Day. Isaac and I have been given the privilege to talk to you about what St Andrews College means to us and what opportunities are available for us as students.

Being at St Andrews College has given us a platform to further our education, and our learning in Christ. At the College we are a nurturing and inclusive community who care for and respect one another while also being supportive of those with different talents and gifts.

During my time at St Andrews College since year seven, I have grown in both height and knowledge. Knowledge in education with the dedication and help of teachers and students and as well as growing to understand myself a little better. St Andrews College has offered me the opportunity to overcome challenges that I thought I would never be able to, such as performing in a talent show that the school has, CAN, representing the school as a captain and being here today to talk to you about the great opportunities that St Andrews College offers. In our school, we are always surrounded by our friends and teachers who are there to support us as we strive for our Personal Best.

The teachers create a positive learning environment by incorporating both physical equipment and technology into our learning. As we have textbooks online, it helps us to advance our knowledge on particular subjects at home, and ask our teachers any questions on Google Classroom or by email. This school also offers many opportunities to further our education like learning centre, which runs for an hour after school on Wednesdays, and is open to all of those in need of assistance such as exam preparations, assignments or any homework after school hours.

We have our school counsellor who helps students with any needs as well as our careers advisor who helps students with any career opportunities that they may need help with such as writing a resume or a pathway for future careers.

At St Andrews College, the opportunities we are given to participate in college activities are numerous. It is extremely easy to be apart of extracurricular activities such as representative sport teams, public speaking, school leadership, dance and music tutoring as well as participating in college events like Creative Arts Night, Unity Day, Walkathon, Swimming and Athletics Carnivals.

School carnivals and other extracurricular activities give us an understanding of how to work as a team, and prepare us for the workplace. Unity Day is an annual event that celebrates the cultures from a diverse range of students. Walkathon is an occasion where students dress up to raise money for the school. The St Vincent de Paul Society within our school is also used for fundraising and giving those who are in need food, water and shelter.

As a school, we're not all about education, as bonding with others is another great factor this school has. Every day Learning Groups have a time to bond with their Learning Advisors as well as their fellow peers, and this will create great friendships throughout the years at St Andrews College. At assemblies we gather as a community to celebrate student achievements and success, and our year group meetings with our Pastoral Leader of Learning, gives students the opportunities for any questions and also congratulating those who have done great work.

St Andrews college is a school where we strive for our Personal Bests, both in education and in extracurricular activities. By supporting one another through camps, excursions, assessments and exams, we sure are a school who do more and go beyond.

We hope you enjoy your day at the College and we look forward to seeing our new students of St Andrews College in 2019.

Isaac Figon and Holly Pham

OPEN DAY 2018



Year 7 Open Day Speech

Moving from primary school to high school is a big step in your life, you go from being the oldest, the biggest and in most cases, the smartest of the school to the smallest, youngest and probably the kids who have the most to learn at the school. And we should know, as two students from year seven. I'm Alysha and this is Ayush. Today we will be telling you all about this wonderful school and how our first five weeks of high school have been. A lot of things change when you go to high school. Your friends, your teachers and your life, but with the right attitude, you can do really well.

The first few weeks of school are amazing. You meet new friends and get to know all your teachers. There are plenty of opportunities and events to participate in. You have peer support every week which consists of many fun activities. You also have the swimming carnival not long after the start of school.

Since I came from St Andrews Primary School, I knew quite a lot of people here. Surprisingly, most of my new friends come from all different schools not my school. During the first few days, I was pretty nervous about finding new friends, but I soon realised I had nothing to be afraid of because everyone was friendly and made me feel really welcomed.

On the other hand I came from Marayong Public, I only knew around four people. Though now I know my whole class, my learning group and I have also made many more friends. I thought that I would not get to know many people though it ended up being the complete opposite. Everyone was very welcoming and nice. Also on the first few days we got to play many games to get to know our classes well.

Now let's talk about classrooms and teachers. Unlike primary school, you don't only have one teacher, and you don't only have one classroom. But soon enough you get used to not being in the same classroom every day. It's important to get to know all your teachers and classrooms to find your way about. As the year progresses, we hope to memorise where we need to go and when we need to be there.

Some problems or struggles that come with high school are getting homework done, finishing assessments on time, getting around the school and finding your classes. Though these problems are easily solved. All you have to do is do your homework as soon as you get home, start assessments as soon as possible and just study the school map.

There are plenty of opportunities to do at this school. These opportunities include, swimming carnival, SRC, public speaking and many more. All these examples provide you with the ability to gain confidence, the ability to improve your interpersonal skills and the opportunity to represent the school.

Don't be afraid of starting high school. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know people and try new experiences. We look forward to seeing you all next year, not as year sixes, but year sevens, beginning your journey through high school.

Ayush Goyal and Alysha Pillay

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL



The College Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday the 1st of March and was another great day in the life of the College.

I was impressed with the behaviour and positive nature of our students, which is obviously guided by our dedicated staff. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all staff and the students for their fantastic contribution to the great success of the College Swimming Carnival.

A special thank you goes to Ms Knezevic, Mr Weaver, Mrs Weaver, Mr Frankham, Mr Leaves and Mrs Lovern for arriving at the pool at 7:45am to run the 100m events and help me setup the venue.

The atmosphere was amazing and we have Mr Chiappetta to thank for this, his endless enthusiasm really encourages the students to get involved. I wish to congratulate the students on their participation and achievements.

A special congratulations goes to the Age Champions and to Ashleigh Out and Georgia Green for breaking long standing College Records.

Carnival results are as follows:
Winning House: Chang
Participation Trophy: Chang

New records:
 Ashleigh Out
 13 Years 50m Butterfly
 Georgia Green
 14 Years 50m Butterfly

Final Standings:

Chang	331
Bennelong	274
Gould	227
Frances	202

Participation Trophy:

Chang	111
Gould	93
Bennelong	92
Frances	79

(Continued over page)



COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Age Champions:

12 Years Boys:

- 1st Hale Roy
- 2nd Jackson Sibir
- 3rd Ben He

12 Years Girls:

- 1st Jade Kember
- 2nd Rianna Patrabanash
- 3rd Hannah Johnston

13 Years Boys:

- 1st Marcus Domingo
- 2nd Jai Pereira
- 3rd Henry Wu

13 Years Girls:

- 1st Ashleigh Out
- 2nd Jasmine Zolerick
- 3rd Annabelle Johnston

14 Years Boys:

- 1st Marvin Mateo
- Equal 2nd Caleb Lowe and Colin Lu

14 Years Girls:

- 1st Georgia Green
- 2nd Viktoria Vidovic
- 3rd Leigh Amores

15 Years Boys:

- 1st Andrew Easton
- Equal 2nd Miguel Tazon and Luke Ward

15 Years Girls:

- 1st Stephanie Out
- Equal 2nd Joanne Cooke and Crystal Slater

16 Years Boys:

- 1st Daniel Taylor
- 2nd Oscar Housego
- 3rd Clayton Bonello

16 Years Girls:

- 1st Jayan Easton
- 2nd Daenya Simpson
- 3rd Anna Kravtsova

17+ Years Boys:

- Equal 1st William Lu and Lachlin Sibir
- 3rd Daniel San Pedro

17+ Years Girls:

- 1st Ashley Naing
- 2nd Kaitlyn Green
- Equal 3rd Alyssa Seccull and Reyzhel Gregorio

Martin Gillogly
Leader of Learning – Sport



COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

NSWCCC BLUE AWARDS 2018



On Monday the 12th of February, three students from the College were awarded a prestigious NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Blue Award for their outstanding achievements in the sporting arena. A NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Blue signifies achievement in sport at the highest school pathway level and is limited to two students per sport, per year. This year three students from St Andrews College were recipients of a NSWCCC Blue they were: Amy France; Jemma France and Thomas Green.

Below are the citations for each student:

Jemma France - Blue Award 2017 – Diving

Jemma is a very hardworking and persistent athlete who has improved each year through the school pathways competitions and has been rewarded with her second New South Wales Selection to the Pacific School Games.

During the New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges Championships, Jemma placed first in the 16 years Springboard.

Jemma continued her success at the New South Wales All Schools Championships where she was placed third in the 16 years Springboard.

Jemma was selected to compete for the New South Wales Team at the Pacific Schools Games. She competed in the springboard, platform and synchronized diving events, gaining a fifth place finish in both the one metre and three metre springboard events.

Congratulations Jemma.

Amy France - Blue Award 2017 – Diving Official

Amy is a dedicated athlete and talented official who has represented New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges and New South

Wales All Schools at the Pacific School Games in Adelaide.

During the New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges Championships, Amy placed second in the 17 years Springboard and also officiated.

At the New South Wales All Schools Championships, Amy placed fourth on Platform and was also an official judge.

She is highly skilled and a tough competitor whilst always displaying a positive attitude.

Amy was selected as an Official Judge as part of the New South Wales Team that went to the Pacific School Games in Adelaide.

Congratulations on your contribution both as a competitor and as a judge.

Thomas Green - Blue Award 2017 – Softball

Beginning when he was in Year 9, Thomas has been involved in umpiring at New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges and New South Wales All Schools Softball selections for the last two years. Such were his skills and potential, that he has been invited to officiate at the interstate level.

In May 2016, at the School Sport Australia Championships in Melbourne, and again last December at the Pacific School Games in Adelaide, Thomas controlled preliminary games and finals with composure and control, often dealing with players much older than himself. Whether from behind the plate or on the bases, he is able to establish and maintain respect from players and officials alike.

He is very willing to listen to, and learn from, the advice of those more experienced around him. His mentors speak of his achievements in nothing short of the most glowing of terms, and it is very pleasing to note that they see Thomas as having a big future in this crucially important aspect of the game.

Congratulations Thomas, on your achievements as a softball umpire.

Mrs Weaver, NSWCCC Diving Convenor

WRITING AND READING FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Writing Focus

For most adults, writing a paragraph is a natural thing. Yet children struggle with getting the structure just right. How you begin your writing is very important in order to ensure that you focus on what you are writing about. So today I am focusing on the paragraph.

The Topic Sentence is supposed to tell you the topic you are writing about. Let's look at this prompt:

Which type of **technology** gets **teens** into the **biggest trouble**? Write a persuasive paragraph about it.

Where do you start? It is important to look at the key words in the question. In this case the underlined words are the key to the prompt. When writing your topic sentence you should begin with a sentence that includes the key words. For example:

"The **technology** that gets **teens** into the **biggest trouble** is ..."

The topic sentence should always be clear and should *not* include the reasons why something is the case. These reasons *why* are called details and they should be included in their own sentences. If I gave this question to students I would see some responses like this:

"The technology that gets teens into trouble is the internet because"

In the above example the student is going to give me all of their reasons in one long sentence. When they finish this sentence, what will they write? They will be at risk of repeating themselves in order to make a full paragraph. Below is a simple graphic organiser to help students structure their paragraphs.

TOPIC SENTENCE.

Detail 1:

Detail 2:

Detail 3:

CONCLUSION.

By separating the topic sentence from the details the writing should flow more easily. The final sentence should conclude your ideas and link back to the question.

Reading Focus

Connecting

Reading can be a challenge; especially if you are reading about a topic that you are not familiar with. One way in which we can help make sense of what we read is *Connecting*.

Connecting means that we try to make sense of the text by relating it to what we already know about the topic. We *connect* it to previous stories; what we know about the world; and our own life events.

You can connect to a text before and during the reading of a text. When we pre-read a text by looking at the pictures and the headings we are using our existing knowledge to guess what it will be about; we are *connecting* our existing knowledge to it.

As parents, you can ask your children to look at the text and ask what they may already know about the text. It's possible that they may know of a real life situation that fits the example, or they have watched a television show or documentary that told them something about the topic. Students who enjoy watching shows such as 'Horrible Histories' and 'Mythbusters' can bring existing knowledge into the classroom.

The more we connect what we already know, the more we can learn!

Duncan Dewar
Literacy Mentor

CAREERS

University of Wollongong – Law

Law at University of Wollongong aims to produce outstanding graduates who are informed, independent, effective and responsible problem solvers and communicators. The University of Wollongong is dedicated to teaching excellence and engaging students in a practical, intellectually rigorous and satisfying learning experience.

The University of Wollongong delivers a world-class degree that provides a thorough grounding in the law, as well as a real-world focus on the essential practical skills and the social and ethical context in which the law operates.

The academic staff at the University of Wollongong is committed to social justice and providing a legal education which engages with the complexities of law's intersection with society.

Students are required to undertake a compulsory internship as part of their studies, so students can apply their legal knowledge to real-life situations. This ensures that graduates receive a practical and contextual legal education that prepares them not only for traditional careers in the legal profession but also for a wide range of careers in government, business and community organisations as well as sound leaders, innovators and problem solvers.

University of Wollongong has two campuses one in Wollongong and the other in Liverpool. The following courses are offered at the Liverpool Campus:

- Bachelor of Arts – Sociology Major
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Business Information Systems
- Bachelor of Commerce – Management or Marketing Major
- Bachelor of Computer Science
- Bachelor of Information Technology
- Bachelor of Nursing
- Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Business/ Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Commerce/ Bachelor of Laws

UOW College

UOW College provides pathway options for those students who do not meet the entry requirements for the UOW course they are wishing to study.

Pathway programs are designed to develop essential academic and study skills required for successful completion of university study.

UOW College offers Higher Education Diploma Programs which upon successful completion provides guaranteed entry and up to one year credit towards selected UOW Bachelor degrees. The following Higher Education Diplomas are offered at the UOW College:

- Diploma of Business
- Diploma of Engineering
- Diploma of Information Technology
- Diploma of Social Science

UOW College also offers Vocational Programs at Diploma, Certificate IV and Certificate III level. These qualifications can be used as a pathway to the workforce or to a Bachelor Degree at the UOW. Vocational qualifications are offered in the following areas:

- Business and Management
- Early Childhood Education and Care
- Fitness
- Nursing and Health
- Legal Services

Successful completion of a UOW College Vocational Program can guarantee entry into the first year of a Bachelor Degree at the University of Wollongong.

For more information students are encouraged to visit www.uow.edu.au or www.uowcollege.edu.au

Therese May
Careers Adviser

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



St Andrews Youth Word and Teaching

The next gathering for our youth Ministry will take place on Friday the 16th of March at 7pm.

These evenings are for students from Years 4 through to Year 12. The evening starts at 7pm and concludes at 10pm.

The first hour is taken up with the celebration of Mass and during Lent Stations of the Cross.

This is followed by a meal and then a number of social activities, concluding with a faith dimension.

**Good Friday
Night Walk**

FRIDAY 30 MARCH

STARTS 10PM – ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH BLACKTOWN
CONCLUDES 7AM – ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

CYP CATHOLIC YOUTH PARRAMATTA

[catholicyouthparra](#) [catholicyouthparramatta.org](#) [cyp_parramatta](#) [@catholicyouthparra](#)

The poster for the Good Friday Night Walk features a large, dark blue background with the event title in white and yellow. Below the title is a photograph of a large crowd of people gathered in front of a church at night. The event details and contact information are listed at the bottom.

Palm Sunday

STREET PROCESSION, WYD MASS &
PANAMA EVENT WITH BISHOP VINCENT

Sunday 25 March | 5:15pm | Parramatta Town Hall

PANAMÁ **WYD PANAMA 2019** **CYP** CATHOLIC YOUTH PARRAMATTA

[catholicyouthparra](#) [catholicyouthparramatta.org](#) [cyp_parramatta](#) [@catholicyouthparra](#)

The Palm Sunday poster has a green background with the title in white cursive. It features a photograph of a street procession with people carrying flags and a palm branch. The event details and logos for Panama 2019 and Catholic Youth Parramatta are at the bottom.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

providing quality public transport



Busways Group Pty Ltd
6 Bridge St, Pymble NSW 2073
www.busways.com.au

Does your child catch a school bus? Help them keep it!

As the bus operator that providing your child's school bus services, we're asking for your help getting your child to use their Opal card on every bus trip.

Since the introduction of the School Opal card in 2016, school bus patronage data has significantly dropped. This is not reflected in the number of students actually travelling on our buses for various reasons a large number of students are consistently not using their Opal cards as they should be.

Opal data gathered by tapping on and off is used by transport planners and service schedulers to design the bus network that best serves the community utilising the resources available.

If students don't tap on and off then school bus services will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

Please help us reinforce the message that tapping on and off every bus journey with an Opal card is essential to travel on the bus. This will ensure school services continue to be planned for the students that use it, providing the journey to school your children depend on.

To help us achieve this, please talk with your child:

- Ask them if they tap on and off the bus with their Opal card.
- If they do, congratulate them for doing the right thing and talk about why it's important.
- If they sometimes don't or never do, ask them why.
 - Are they confused about why they have to? Talk about why it's important, and that every tap tells the bus planners that the bus is needed.
 - Do they forget? Help them find a way to remember, such as getting into the habit of getting their Opal card out as soon as they arrive at the bus stop or bus line.
 - Is their Opal card at the bottom of their bag? Help find a handier place to keep it.
 - Are they influenced by friends or peers that don't tap? Talk about how they like to travel on the bus with their friends and how tapping is what keeps the service running.
 - Have they lost their Opal card? To order a new Opal card visit www.opal.com.au.

If there's another reason that you'd like to discuss with Busways, please contact us at info@busways.com.au or call our customer service team on 9497 1878 to talk to us. We are happy to listen and do what we can to help your child feel comfortable using their Opal card.

Thank you for helping us to best serve your school community.

FREE MONEY \$\$\$\$\$ - Active kids Government Initiative

The government is giving away \$100 to all students from Kindergarten to Year 12 if they are participating in an organised sport. It is a simple process. I encourage families to visit the link below and follow the instructions to **"Apply for your voucher"**

You will need your child's Medicare Number as well as their height and weight. Once you have registered you will receive a voucher number via email and you use this number when you go to pay your son's or daughter's registration fee for their chosen sport.

A full list of providers are also listed on the webpage and you can search by postcode.

I hope this information is helpful.

<https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids>

Martin Gillogly - Leader of Learning Sport



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Busways RFA Murrumbidgee P/L ABN 76 003 173 437 T: (02) 9627 6990 F: (02) 9629 4700 150 Gendarrigg Rd Glandsburg NSW 2701	Busways Blacktown P/L Perry's Drive T: (02) 4721 9933 F: (02) 0732 6864 4750 Macquarie Rd Parramatta NSW 2150	Busways Blacktown P/L Werrisbee Depot T: (02) 4574 9201 F: (02) 4577 5009 94 Macquarie Rd Mulgoona NSW 2755	Busways Gosford P/L ABN 79 117 812 619 T: (02) 4328 2277 F: (02) 4384 2177 47 Empire Bay Dr Kincumber NSW 2251	Busways Woyah P/L ABN 11 350 044 120 T: (02) 4322 6991 F: (02) 4332 5831 8 Wilson Rd Woyah NSW 2259	Busways North Coast P/L ABN 75 106 262 342 T: (02) 6563 2499 F: (02) 6563 2148 5-8 Denton St Port Macquarie NSW 2444
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LEADERSHIP TEAMS 2018

College Leadership Team

Principal	Mr Nic Vidot
Assistant Principal Staff	Ms Shauna Nash
Assistant Principal Learning & Teaching	Mrs Gabriela Osterlund
Assistant Principal Students	Mr Nick Thrum
Leader of Learning Religious Education	Mrs Kellie Robinson
Leader of Learning Religious Education	Mr Anthony Culbert
Business Manager	Mrs Melissa Welch
Executive Secretary	Mrs Julie Sabine

Leaders of Learning—Pastoral Care

Leader of Learning - Pastoral Care	Mrs Sue Cooper
Leader of Learning - Year 7	Mrs Nicole Lovern
Leader of Learning - Year 8 (Acting)	Mr David van Gestel
Leader of Learning - Year 9	Mr David Frankham
Leader of Learning - Year 10	Ms Lyndal Simmonds
Leader of Learning - Year 11 (Acting)	Miss Emily Pett
Leader of Learning - Year 12	Mr Peter Bowd
Leader of Learning Careers	Ms Therese May
School Counsellor	Ms Kerrie Castle

Leaders of Learning—KLA - Senior Campus

Leader of Learning - English	Ms Maria Kervin
Leader of Learning - Creative Arts (including Junior)	Mrs Pauline Ryan
Leader of Learning - HSIE	Mr Alan Johnson
Leader of Learning - LOTE (including Junior)	Mrs Mariko Mizukami
Leader of Learning - PDHPE	Miss Claudine Desira
Leader of Learning - Mathematics	Ms Tracey Thomson
Leader of Learning - Science	Mrs Caroline O'Hare
Leader of Learning - TAS	Mr Bill Robson

Leaders of Learning—KLA - Junior Campus

Leader of Learning - English	Mrs Marsha Edwards
Leader of Learning - HSIE	Mr Daniel Camilleri
Leader of Learning - PDHPE (Acting)	Ms Dominique Goldie
Leader of Learning - Mathematics	Mr David Carey
Leader of Learning - Science	Mrs Wendy Rudman
Leader of Learning - TAS	Mr Michael Said
Leader of Learning Support	Ms Karen Frederick
Leader of Learning Technologies	Mrs Sarah Anzellotti
Leader of Learning Sport	Mr Martin Gillogly



“Faith doing Justice”

“Doing More Going Beyond”

LEADERSHIP TEAMS 2018