Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of the College,

Firstly let me start by saying a huge thank you to everyone in the community for the warm welcome that has been offered to me in the first two weeks of this term. It is a great privilege and honour for me to come into St Peter’s as your new school leader. St Peter’s is a great school and I want to acknowledge the positive impact that Michelle Peters has had in all areas of school life in creating and building the school to where it is today. I wish Michelle every success and happiness as she moves into retirement this year.

This year we have a number of new staff starting at the College and it is my pleasure to introduce and welcome the following staff members: Sinéad Brady, HSIE; Victoria Learmonth, Adaptive Education; Jack Lynch, Science; Shannon Mulder, English and Nicola Oram, Visual Arts.

As a school leader my primary focus is on learning and at the various opportunities I have had so far to talk to the school community, I have encouraged students to reflect on their experiences at school last year and think about how effective their learning has been. This year I have asked all students at St Peter’s to set appropriate learning goals for themselves and then to look at how they can work to achieve these goals. After our opening school mass last week I told a story that reminds us all that sometimes we develop a belief that we cannot achieve something simply because we have failed in the past. I set the challenge for all students to make this the year they try again, even if they have had setbacks in the past.

I am a strong believer that effective learning involves a partnership between the school, students and their families. It is through good communication and a shared understanding of expectations that students are able to achieve their very best. My aim for all students at St Peter’s is that they progress through their schooling with an understanding and appreciation of the value of learning and an attitude that drives them towards excellence in everything they undertake. Learning should be rich and exciting and stems from a positive attitude and belief in oneself. My hope this year is that all our students experience the joy that comes from learning.

I wish everyone a successful year. At our opening school mass last week Fr Stephen reminded us all that God is there to help us and I encourage all of us this year to open our hearts and allow God to help us as we try again to achieve our goals and strive for excellence in everything we do.

Mr Tim Hildebrandt – Principal

Assistant Principal

Welcome to our new community members

This year as well as welcoming many new students and their families to our College, we also welcome our new Principal Mr Tim Hildebrandt. May all those new to the College, find St Peter’s to be a school of excellence dedicated to the learning needs of its students.

At the start of this new academic year there is the feeling of great enthusiasm around the college. There are many in our community that are thrilled at the HSC results achieved last year as well as the improvement in student writing that has occurred as a result of the teachers’ concentration on the “TEEL” writing process. In the next College Newsletter I will have more to say about this on-going initiative.

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Opening School Mass and celebrating success from 2015

Our opening School Mass which was held last Friday was a great celebration of our Catholic tradition. At the conclusion of Mass we showcased some of our students who did particularly well in their Higher School Certificate (HSC) studies in 2016. While it is always important to recognise the high achievers in any circumstance, it is equally important to recognise that the vast majority of our Year 12 students in 2016 achieved individual HSC results of which they and the staff at the College are extremely proud.

Organisational Matters

It is traditional that this first Newsletter contains a lot of the information about administrative matters. The aim in doing this is to ensure there are no misunderstandings about these routine issues that all students must follow. It is important that the workings of the College run smoothly. All organisations put in place ways “of doing things” and St Peter’s is no exception. Therefore, I seek your help with the following issues.

1. **Morning Supervision**

   The College provides active supervision of students from 8:20am each school day. Prior to that, there are numerous staff on site who can be called on in an emergency. However, it is important to know that staff are not out in the yard actively supervising until 8:20am.

2. **Absence from School**

   All students are required to be at school each day the College is open except for sickness or where approval has been gained in advance from the Principal. The responsibility of ensuring students are at school is that of parents and carers.

   Any absences from school must be explained in written form on the day your child returns to school. This also includes when your child is late to school. The absentee note should be addressed to your child’s Homeroom teacher.

   Where a student is required to leave the school early on a particular day, a letter requesting permission should be presented to the relevant Year Co-Ordinator at the start of the day. Parents are then required to enter the Administration Block and sign their child out of the College.

   **It is College practice that parents/carers will be contacted by an automatic e-mail alert if their child is absent from Homeroom or Period 1.** The contact will be made at approximately 9:30am each school day. **It is therefore important that contact details are accurate.** Should you need to change your contact details please contact the Administration Office on 43512344.

3. **Uniform**

   It is important that students wear their uniform correctly. The uniform provides students with a strong and ready identity with the college and ensures that all students are equal in terms of their dress. The following guidelines are worthy of reinforcement:

   The College’s Summer Uniform is to be worn for all of Term 1. For students in Years 7 – 10 the summer uniform is to be worn 4 days per week, with the sports uniform worn on your child’s designated sports day. For students in Years 11 and 12 the summer uniform is to be worn every day.

   Students are not only required to wear the correct school uniform each day but they are also required to wear the uniform correctly. A reminder that traditional black, leather, lace-up shoes that can be polished, is a requirement for all students. Added to this is the requirement for all students to use the College school bag.

4. **Jewellery**

   As with uniform, jewellery is also an area of concern for some students. Any student who is not aware of the College’s allowances with jewellery is instructed to refer to the planner for clarification. No part of the face, except the lower ear lobes is to be pierced. Nose studs or rings are not to be worn at school. Band-Aids or clear studs are also not acceptable.
5. **College Planner**
All students have received their College Planner. The planner is expected to be carried with students to every class and placed on their desk during class time. The planner contains a great deal of information for both students and parents and I recommend that you put aside some time to go through it.

At the start of each lesson each student is required to fill in the “Learning Goal” for that lesson. As well, it is an expectation of students that the planner is filled in every day with required work for homework and assignment work. It is also a requirement of students to present their planner to their parents at least once a week for them to sign.

I would urge parents to read through their child’s planner on a regular basis to ensure that their child is using the planner correctly and to keep abreast of any important information from teachers that may be communicated through the planner. I would also encourage parents to use the planner as a means of communication to teachers if the need arises.

6. **Mobile Phones**
At St. Peter’s we are aware that many students carry mobile phones on them throughout the school day. We do not encourage students to bring mobile phones to school but accept that students often need them for either security purposes or for contact with parents after school. **What we are not willing to accept is their use in the classroom or between lessons.**

Any student, who displays a mobile phone in class, whether or not it is in use, will have it confiscated and passed onto myself. The owner of the mobile phone will then need to bring to school a note from their parents acknowledging that the mobile phone was misused at school and requesting its return. This applies to all students irrespective of circumstances. This process also applies in situations where the phone is confiscated on a Friday. **Pleading that the phone is needed over the weekend will not change the process.**

A number of our problems with mobile phones come when students receive calls during lessons, sometimes from parents. If, as a parent, you need to make vital contact with your child throughout the school day I request that you contact the office so that the important message can be passed on by an adult. Please note that any student who decides to carry a mobile phone with them throughout the day does so at their own risk. The school will not be responsible of loss or damage of phones.

Parents and Carers should understand that enrolment at St Peter’s means that students follow the rules and requirements of the College. I expect that all parents understand and keep to this policy on phones if their child uses the phone in an inappropriate manner.

7. **Bullying**
St Peter’s prides itself on being a safe school and in providing a safe environment for the student and staff community. We are also aware that bullying can exist in all schools and therefore strict guidelines must be in place to deter this unfortunate practice from occurring. I encourage all students to report any incidents of bullying they may witness so appropriate action may be taken.

Facebook and other social media have been used in the past by some students to bully others. This is an area where parents can be of great help by monitoring their child’s use of this forum. Knowing your child’s password, monitoring what they say and setting a clear time to close down mobile phones and computers (at least 1 hour prior to your child going to sleep) is a part of the parenting process.

8. **Student Drop Off and Pick-Up Area**
The two bus bay areas at the top of the school become very hectic of a morning and of an afternoon with school buses and teachers making their way through these areas. If you are dropping your child at school of a morning please be aware that they are to be dropped off at the **bottom bus bay area only.** If it is raining the alternate drop-off area is at the first roundabout at the top of the hill. No child should be dropped off before school at the Administration Block. Likewise, of an afternoon, students should be collected from the bottom bus bay area.
At present the afternoon collection point for students who meet their parents is very crowded. I expect this to become less crowded over the coming weeks as Year 7 students get used to travelling home by bus. I ask all parents, whether you feel you are in a rush or not, to leave the College grounds in an ordered manner that includes following the directions placed on any signs. At present some parents drive in a manner that may be advantageous to them but impacts on the majority of drivers. Please follow the rules in a courteous and community-minded manner.

I hope everyone has a most enjoyable year and if you feel I can be helpful to you please contact me at St Peter’s on 4352 9805.

Mr Peter Higgins – Principal

Administration

NSW School Vaccination Program 2017
Each year NSW Health works with schools to offer the vaccines recommended for adolescents by the National Health and Medical Research Council [NHMRC].

The first date for immunisations will be 16th February, 2017.

This year the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students:
- Human Papillomavirus [HPV] vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months for male and female students
- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis [whooping cough] vaccine [dTpa} as a single dose; and
- Varicella vaccine [chickenpox] as a single dose

Parent/guardian consent is required for students to be vaccinated. Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing or calling the school or contacting the Central Coast Public Health Unit, Gosford, directly on 4320 9730. It is very important that the school provides the Public Health Unit with any notifications of withdrawn consent prior to the commencement of clinics to ensure that the wishes of parents/guardians are respected – these notifications should include the student's name and school grade, the date and time that consent was withdrawn and those vaccines the withdrawn consent applies to. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisations Consent forms will only be accepted if they are completed using blue or black pen and are original. Photocopies or faxed consent forms will not be accepted.

A record of vaccination will be given after vaccination as a physical card or as a text message to the mobile number provided by the parent on the consent form. To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible. Students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8.

The Parent Information Kits have been translated for parents/guardians into 26 community languages and are available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/schooltranslations.

Sue English – Administration Co-ordinator

Uniform Shop

Please see the Refund & Exchange Policy below:

New Goods
Goods will only be accepted for exchange or refund if they are returned in their original condition and packaging, with an accompanying receipt within 30-days of purchase. Once a garment has been worn or washed we are unable to accept this back for exchange or refund. Please check sizing of all garments prior to wearing or washing.
New Goods – Faulty
Faulty new goods will be exchanged immediately upon return with an accompanying receipt with 30-days of purchase provided they have not been worn, washed or used in any way.

Worn / Washed / Used Goods – Faulty
The Uniform Shop reserves the right to assess the condition and age of returned goods prior to providing an exchange or refund. This may result in an exchange or refund being refused. The Uniform Shop reserves the right not to offer an exchange or refund where the item fault is a result of misuse or neglect.

Second Hand Uniform Items
Please choose carefully as there is no exchange or refunds on second hand goods.

Winter Uniform Opening Hours
To assist parent in the purchasing of Winter Uniform items, the shop will be open on **Saturday 25 March** from **8:30am to 2:30pm**. PLEASE NOTE: THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL NOT BE OPEN DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

Students return on Day 1 of Term 2 in full Winter Uniform.

**Barbara Pincott – Uniform Shop**

**Stage 6**

**Year 11 Fortnightly Report: Term 1 Week 3**

Welcome back! I hope you and your families were able to enjoy a restful and rejuvenating Christmas holiday and have been fortunate enough to start 2017 with positivity and good health.

It is a wonderful opportunity to be a Year Co-ordinator and especially because I get to oversee this particular group of students. In case you have missed the memo I am very proud of this cohort and how well they worked together (and laughed along the way) to get through Year 10. That is not saying it was always easy, especially for some, nor were there no hiccups along the way, but if the large number of students and their families choosing to stay at St Peter’s for their senior schooling indicates anything, it is that students feel safe and have a sense of belonging to our school community; and that is a great thing.

In 2017 my aim* is to continue to work together to build a strong and cohesive year group family, where our differences are not only respected but they help create the uniqueness of the graduating class of 2018 (which is only a mere 7 terms away!!!!!).

*The not so subtle asterisk has been added because I want to emphasise that when we start breaking down the importance of students being strong, cohesive and respectful it goes beyond following the rules and having responsibilities. I want the students of Year 11 to be independent, accountable and self-regulated learners. There is a big difference in the way that a Year 10 student thinks and a Year 11 student, and we want this transition to start now. This means that students take ownership, if they miss an assessment they should know what is required of them, collect the paperwork and begin the process. We should no longer have to chase students; they should be chasing us! Being self-regulated also means that you accept a growth mindset whereby failures are seen as opportunities for growth and learning that builds resilience and hopefulness.

I am sure these types of messages are being echoed by you on the home front also, students should be packing their own school bags the night before, knowing that they have all their uniform ready and prioritising study in the afternoons.
WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING?

Information Evening:

Thank you to the students, parents, carers and their families who attended the Information Evening last Monday night. It was only a balmy 70°C in the hall which made me think that my winter Japan holiday in January was all but a daydream. No, what it really made me think was “wow” we have a cohort of students and their families who place a very high importance on education and this was something to be very proud of. I will briefly run through some important take home messages from the evening.

1. Organisation of Stage 6
Stage 6 is the term used to describe students in Year 11 and Year 12 (senior school). The Year 11 students move seating areas to St Patrick’s Square and join the Year 12 students. There are privileges in this area which include an urn for hot water, sandwich toasters and microwaves. This is also where the Stage 6 office is located and all important paperwork and information can be accessed. The Stage 6 office is where they will find their Year 11 Co-ordinator (me!) and the Year 12 Co-ordinator Chris Morris, as well as the Stage 6 Co-ordinator Sandra Haines. The Careers Advisor Pauline Dibb’s office is also located in the Stage 6 area next door to the F1 computer room. The Stage 6 Pastoral Care team is also supported by the Year 11 Homeroom teachers who are a daily point of contact for parents and students.

2. Expectations as a Senior Student
Every student and their family signed the senior contract to attend St Peter’s. We hold students accountable to this contract and this should reinforce the expectations we have of them. Most importantly it is about doing the little things right such as uniform. Can I stress that boys have their hair tied back if it is long, their shirts are tucked in (unless playing sport or being active at recess/lunch) with a black leather belt, and no facial hair. Like I said it is the little things that make a big difference and I would like to spend more time helping students rather than ringing parents and having uniform detentions. Could I also emphasise for both girls and boys that school shoes are black leather, not canvas or any other alternative.

I would like to congratulate the girls, the sock problem is no longer a problem and that is wonderful. We do however want to crack down on the amount of piercings students are coming to school wearing, can we please have your support in ensuring that students leave that type of jewellery for the weekend and that there are no facial piercings to be seen and ear piercings are kept to a single small sized stud. I know there are clear jewellery options for piercings that you do not want to close up.

3. Assessment Booklet
Sandra Haines went through important information that is contained in the Year 11 Assessment Booklet that was handed out on Monday night. We expect that students and their families keep this booklet handy and refer to it often, Pauline Dibb often refers to this as the “HSC Bible”. Inside this booklet you will find instructions for application for leave (holidays, medical etc), process for applying for misadventure/illness, respectful behaviour and every subject courses outline of assessment dates and outcomes. Our Wellbeing For Learning period this Wednesday will focus on using this booklet to make a Study Timetable.

I have included the link below to the Board of Studies (now referred to as NSW Education Standards Authority [NESA]) for more information about ATAR/HSC requirements that were spoken about on Monday night. http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/

Student Achievements:

At the end of last year Breanna Lowe was selected to compete at a National Level in Physical Culture. This meant that she performed in the Concert Hall at the Opera House on Wednesday 7th December 2016. This was a significant achievement and we as a school community are very proud of her. I look forward to hearing what she is up to this year.
We have featured Jack Graham before in the Fortnightly Report regarding his selection into the Under 16’s Central Coast Mariners Academy. Further to this Jack has been selected to participate in the Club’s National Premier League Performance Phase Under 18 Team. This is a wonderful opportunity and demonstrates how hard work and commitment can help you reach your long term goals and aspirations.

Wellbeing for Learning:
We have regular fortnightly assemblies with the Year 11 students that occur on Day 3 Period 4. During these assemblies will receive important information that will be centred on group theme of “Foundations for Success”.
Information presented will include:

- Self-regulation
- Resilience and learning from our mistakes
- Stress management
- Resources for mental health and wellbeing: knowing where to get help and who to ask
- Developing respectful and positive relationships.
- Driver safety program
- Requirements of the Prelim course and HSC / BOSTES / ATAR / VET
- Making S.M.A.R.T goals and effective and realistic study timetables
- Learning how to learn through research based programs such as Elevate education
- Forming habits that improve wellbeing such as sleep, part-time work, socialising, exercise and study
- Forward thinking about future opportunities and career paths
- Getting the little things right – uniform, attendance, behaviour, attitudes

Subject Changes:
At the moment there is a lot of movement between subjects. There is a clear process which we have communicated with the students.

1. Form collected from Stage 6 office
2. Student needs to take the form home and have a discussion with parent/carer who will sign if permission granted
3. Student needs signatures of the teacher’s class he is leaving and the KLA (subject) Co-ordinator of that subject
4. Student needs signatures of the teacher’s class he is going to and the KLA (subject) Co-ordinator of that subject
5. Student needs to see Pauline Dibb at recess or lunch for her to check requirements and have a discussion from a career perspective.
6. Final step is to hand the paperwork back to Sandra Haines in Stage 6 Office who will process the change electronically within 24 hours and have new timetable in Stage 6 Office

I look forward to the year ahead. It will be a busy year but as always, please do not hesitate to contact me or Sandra Haines with any questions or concerns. We are more than happy to help and to find resolutions.

Have a happy fortnight

Rebecca Doenau – Year 11 Co-ordinator
Year 12 Student Leaders

Year 7 Meet and Greet Night
As the Year 7s started their second week of high school we welcomed them and their families into our St Peter’s community with a nice sausage sandwich BBQ at our Meet and Greet night last week. The Year 12 leaders and mentors spent time cooking up a storm for our newest members of the school whilst the students, parents, families and teachers got to know each other and were introduced to their homerooms. The night was a success and great chance for us Year 12 mentors and homeroom teachers to show our welcome and excitement for the Year 7s as they begin their fun-filled journey through high school, with the support of our loving St Peter’s family.

Peer mentoring
Every Tuesday (Days 2 & 7) for the rest of this term and half way into Term 2, the student leadership team and volunteers will be initiating the School Peer Mentoring Program. This is a fantastic chance for our Year 12s to be a helping hand for the Year 7s and pass down their wisdom and knowledge to help the Year 7s have a smooth transition into high school. As going from primary school to high school is such a massive change and big leap for the Year 7s, the mentors are here to help them and provide support in any way they can. In homerooms the mentor’s role is to help with timetables, navigating around the school, helping with making friends and most importantly providing a fresh, supportive and interactive environment that the Year 7s can have fun with and also find guidance and advice in when needed. The mentors have been absolutely loving interacting and engaging with the kids and are happy and excited to be able to provide help and share their hints and tricks of settling into the school. The Year 7s can always find their mentors out on the playground for any help they need, as well as every Tuesday homeroom. We hope our Year 7s are loving their first few weeks here at St Peter’s and with the help of our Year 12 mentors they can have a smooth and also exciting journey into their first year at St Peter’s.

William Sawyers and Melissa Andrews – Year 12

ICLT

In order to help our students prepare for success this school year, we’re providing Office to every student free of charge. With Office 365, you will now have access to the latest version of Word, for writing; Excel, for spreadsheets; PowerPoint, for presentations; OneNote, for organization and note taking; and much more.

• Install on up to 5 compatible PCs and Macs, plus 5 tablets (including iPad!)
• Use with OneDrive for automatic device syncing
• Gain valuable skills on the world’s most popular productivity software

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• Office subscription lasts for as long as you are student here and the program continues

Follow these simple steps to get Office:

1. For PC and Mac:
   a. Visit https://portal.office.com/Home
   b. Click through to sign in as username@dbb.catholic.edu.au and download
   c. On the installation page select your language and click install

2. For iOS, Windows Phone and Android:
   a. Download from your app store
      • https://products.office.com/en-us/mobile/office
      • Sign in with your school credentials for full editing capability

You will need a St Peter’s Catholic College – DBB network login to sign in. If you have trouble installing Office, this guide may resolve your issue: http://aka.ms/office365help.

Tom Goodwin – ICLT/eLearning Co-ordinator

Careers/VET

The year has commenced at the usual pace with incredible heat. Students seem to be very enthusiastic about their return to St Peter’s, their friends and the excitement of a new building. Supporting theme of “Learning”, many opportunities arise over the year for students regarding their future learning at University and other providers for vocational training. These opportunities are presented to the students and families via the daily notices, assemblies, parent evenings and workshops, interviews, guest speakers, the College Newsletter and a specific Careers Newsletter which is emailed to Year 11 and 12 and is available on the College website. I encourage you to engage with these sources of information and to discuss opportunities with your daughter and son. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to meet to discuss the vast array of opportunities for today’s young people.

The types of opportunities presented to students include Student Exchange Programs, University, TAFE, TVET and Private Provider access and courses, apprenticeship and traineeships, work experience, work placement for VET students, Uni Study/visit days, scholarship information, Industry contact, various guest speakers including the Defence Forces, Centrelink, Police Force, Group Training Organisations, Universities, job profiles, employer talks, courses, e.g. Boat Licence, Barista, OH&S, RSA, RGC and many more. I encourage the students to take responsibility for their future by providing them with stimulus to ‘spark’ their thinking for their career development.

A reminder to all eVET students, please return paperwork and the administration payment to the Finance office this week.

My name is Ryan Adamson. I have recently started work at Taronga Zoo and was asked to write about how I was given the opportunity of this job.

I have always loved animals and have always dreamed of working at the zoo.

When I was 13 I joined, a program called ‘Youth At The Zoo’ or YATZ. This program was a huge step in my life and in getting a job at the zoo. YATZ is a youth volunteer program where teenagers are given the opportunity to gain experience in the zoo. In YATZ I have been given some amazing
opportunities. There are some that definitely stand out, like the two times that I got to go down to Chiltern, a little
town in Victoria to help in the release of zoo bred critically endangered regent honey eaters. At this camp, I met a
lot of people who had the same passions as me and gave me a chance to start building my confidence. A few
months later I was awarded a “BASIC” (the zoo award system the letters are a different category) I was given this
for Accepting and taking responsibility. This all happened in my first year. From there I became a YATZ leader (the
person who helps the newer YATZ and runs the Educational days). During year 10, I did work experience with the
Australian mammals for one week. This was the same year that I won the zoo’s Youth Volunteer of the Year award
and I was nominated for The Volunteering NSW award.

I was doing YATZ for about a year I when asked to speak at the world parks congress (a meeting of conservationist
and national park rangers from all around the world) as part of a panel on how to get teens into conservation. It
was not long after this that I could go to a youth leadership camp which opened me up to the chance to help run a
program called youth leading the world. While this was going on I had applied for a job at Taronga zoo in which I
got an interview but not the job as I lacked experience. To combat this I got a job at the Entrance cinema and
worked there in conjunction with YATZ. This is about the same time that I started year 11 In this year as part of my
HSC I did a TAFE course of cert II in Animal studies through the Taronga Training Institute. The next time the job
was advertised I was given a chance just for the holidays but at the end of the holidays I was asked if I would be
interested in staying on. I have now jumped at the chance.

I have been very fortunate to be able to follow my dream at such a young age. Always follow your dreams, no
matter how many people tell you it won’t happen or to get a more realistic dream. If you want something badly
enough work towards it, and don’t stop until you make it.

I look forward to positive communication with you in 2017 and seeing you at various parent evenings.

Pauline Dibb – Careers/VET/SBAT Co-ordinator
Telephone: 4352 9841
pauline.dibb@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Creative Arts

REHEARSALS COMMENCE FOR SPCC’s UPCOMING PRODUCTION OF ‘LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS’
Last week saw the commencement of rehearsals for our 2017 College Musical, ‘Little Shop of Horrors’. We are finally at
the point where the cast and crew have been auditioned and selected. It is a top line-up of talent and commitment. This
show is fun, witty and technically challenging.

Two rehearsals are conducted each week. The Monday after-school rehearsal is for all cast members, band and
technical crew. This is followed each Thursday afternoon with a rehearsal specifically designed for our leads who work
with the directors of the production, Mrs Ruth Crawley and Ms Sarah Heywood.
Our first full rehearsal days last week were certainly a great start. Well done to everyone for their commitment and efforts.

A reminder to all cast and crew that permission forms and the participation fee are due to be returned to the College no later than 17th of February. Please forward payment and permission note to the Administration Office by this date. Cast T-Shirts will be ordered at the end of this week, so please ensure you have given your size to Mr Tome.

‘Little Shop of Horrors’ will be presented by SPCC in the middle of Term 2 in the College Hall. More information to follow. Stay tuned!

*Ian Burke and Darryl Tome – Producers*
Languages

Welcome to a new academic year in the Language department. This year we are offering 2 Languages of study for Year 8 – French and Japanese. In Stage 5, French has a class in Year 9 and Japanese is also being studied in both Year 9 and 10. Across all years Japan Club (Artscool) is also on offer. More on that later.

Year 8 students will have found out what Language they are studying for 2017. Some students may be disappointed that they did not get their first choice and this was not possible for a variety of reasons:

1) There are always timetabling issues which need to be taken into account when preparing the classes. Even though we do our best to allocate students’ their first choice, this is not always possible, and is not guaranteed at the time of selection.

2) There were not enough students who elected to do German, so the German class did not run. Students who put German as their first choice, should have received their second choice if they still have their heart set on German will be able to pick it as an elective in 2018.

3) Due to timetabling constraints there are only 6 classes in total and every class is full. So this influenced the Languages on offer. For example, there are only 2 French classes - one on each side (Blue and Green) and on the Green side the Learning Support class is studying French. Therefore, students who picked French on the Green side, who are in a mainstream class, you will be studying Japanese. It is hoped that these students will enjoy the year of language learning and if they still have their heart set on French will be able to pick it as an elective in 2018.

Japanese News - Catching up from 2016

Manga Competition

At the end of Term 4 students in the Japanese classes were invited to submit entries for the annual Manga (Comic) Competition. There were numerous outstanding entries as can be seen by the photos provided. I always find it a rewarding competition and we have many talented artists in our community. The winning entries were:

1st Lauren Aquilina (8R2) - entry number 18  
2nd Ayesha Jameel (8G1) - entry number 9  
3rd Brianna Redhead (10) - entry number 12

Special mentions to: Briahna Duggan (10) – entry number 10, and Angelina Hondroyiannis (8R2) – entry number 6.

Interestingly, Lauren Aquilina has been a competitor in this competition before she even started high school. She actually won the competition in 2015 when she was in Year 6. Her drawings are always admired by the voters. Congratulations to all entrants.
Year 9 2016
Also at the end of Term 4, Year 9 Japanese students were encouraged to design their own ‘obentou’ – Japanese lunchboxes, including the lunch ingredients in it. The students had a lot of fun making characters and appealing shapes out of food and then eating it. We then had green tea ice cream cones. This was a hit and miss dessert, as some students enjoyed it and some did not. If you have your own ice cream machine give it a try, though my suggestion is to change the ‘matcha powder’ from 1 tablespoon to 1 teaspoon otherwise it is overwhelmingly ‘green tea’ flavoured.
Commendations
Students worked hard in 2016 and received numerous commendations for their efforts. A student in each class was awarded a prize of Japanese lemonade: the novelty drink with a marble in the top. In each class the most commendations were received by:
8G1: Riley Hart and Emilee Lappin
8G2: Caleb Hicks
8R2: Lauren Aquilina
8R3: Ella Blackamore
9: Eliza O’Donnell
10: Therese Camus

2017 – JAPANESE NEWS
In Class
All Year 8 students need an exercise book – A4 100 pages. Most of the work students will complete are available on OneNote and students must bring a working and charged tablet to class every lesson.

Year 10 Japanese students can continue to use the previous year’s folders and therefore, do not need to purchase new equipment. Year 10 work will also be on OneNote and students are encouraged to log on at home on a daily basis for updates, revision and homework activities. Students in Year 10 will access the class set of computers and do not need their own device.
Year 8 & 10 Japanese students will work through a variety of units and activities throughout each term. All students will be aiming to earn the maximum number of TARGET POINTS which go towards their assessment marks. Please encourage your son or daughter to be using their study time wisely on homework activities and revision activities. Students can benefit most from reviewing vocabulary, kanji and sentence patterns from previous units for at least 15 minutes 5 nights a week, especially nights when we haven’t had Japanese lesson during the day at school. Students should be using an online programmes called ‘Quizlet’, ‘Stile’ and ‘Recap’ to help with vocabulary learning. All students have been ’invited’ to join these programmes or have joined them in class. There are also numerous other online activities that would be of a benefit and I will be letting students know throughout the year.

All year groups will be able to find the current units of work, assignments, and audio work on OneNote. Students should see me immediately if they have issues with accessing ‘OneNote’ or the other online resources.

**JAPAN CLUB (ARTSCOOL)**

Last year students had the amazing opportunity to join one of the Period 0 Artscool classes. This year language has been added to the programme. Any student from any year group is eligible to join Japan Club. We meet on Monday each week at lunchtime in J3. Students do not need to have any knowledge of Japan or Japanese.

The aim of Japan Club is to learn as much as you want to about Japan and the Japanese language and culture through a variety of interactive and hand’s on activities. This is a no pressure environment and there are NO assignments or assessments to complete.

Students will be asked to sign up for Japan Club on Monday lunchtime, Week 2 in J3. Students will sign up for a term at a time, and can sign up every term as the programme will cover a diverse range of topics which will be covered over the course of the school year.

Until next time,

(Please take care)

**Jenni Dowdell – LOTE Teacher**

**Year 8 French Students**

Bonjour! My name is Narelle Flint and I am your child’s French teacher this year. Many people feel like they cannot help their child with subjects such as Languages as they are unfamiliar with them. However, your child will appreciate and benefit greatly from your interest and support.

My newsletter items will hopefully help you to understand what is happening in the classroom for this subject. If however, you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school.

I have sent home a letter explaining what your child will need for French this year, but sometimes these letters do not arrive. So, just in case you haven’t received yours, your child will need the following materials:

1. The textbook “Tapis Volant” will be provided by the school and kept in the classroom.

2. The “Tapis Volant” workbook which can be purchased from the Uniform Shop from the beginning of Week 4 for $42. These workbooks are used in class to reinforce the language dealt within the textbook. They are accompanied by Audio CDs and a DVD which can be used at home for revision.


Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problems with acquiring any of these items for your child.

Merci!

**Narelle Flint – LOTE Teacher**
Sport

NSWCCC Sport Registrations 2017

Registrations for the following sports are now open on the NSWCCC Website:

- AFL
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cricket - Girls
- Diving
- Golf
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby League
- Rugby
- Softball
- Tennis
- Triathlon
- Volleyball

More information regarding the registration process can be found by clicking the HELP button on the website.

Click on "How do I register for a sport"

Nicole Higgins – Acting Sport Co-ordinator

Notices

WYONG PARISH NEWS

RCIA—Information Session
We will be having an information session for RCIA on Saturday 25th February 1pm in our Parish Meeting Room. If you know of anyone who is interested in becoming a Catholic, please invite them to this session. For further information please contact the Parish Office on 4352 1011.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH NEWS
Register Now to Play Junior AFL

Ages 5 - 17 with modified rules up to 12 years

Auskick $90
Youth Girls $100
Junior Boys $160

Check out our website for more information

www.wyonglakesafc.com.au