



St Clare's Catholic High School

A Catholic school of excellence and improvement

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Upcoming Events

*Friday 30th June - Last Day Term 2
Monday 17th July - First Day Term 3
Wednesday 26th July - Athletics Carnival*

“Everything is connected - Every day, Every Learner

30 June 2017

From our Principal - Mr Shane Morris

Every Day, Every Learner - An Update



Our attendance level this week was **76.1%**. Our target is 90%

As part of NAIDOC Week, today we celebrated NAIDOC day, the theme of our day was **“Our Language Matters”**. I would like to especially thank **Mrs Julie Waddell & Ms Michelle Kennedy**, our Jarara Specialist Teachers who supported our school and students in planning for this important day. Many thanks also to **Mr Anthony Hulme, Mrs Catherine Ruff and Mrs Theresa Nielsen** for supporting the indigenous students who led the day. The feedback from the staff, students and community has been extremely positive. It is only fitting that we acknowledge our First Nations people who have strong links to the land and country on which we gather.

As announced by Kanye Hudson, “today we were very blessed and very privileged to have **Elders Uncle Greg Sims, Aunty Sandra Lee, Aunty Marie Melito, Aunty Mary** and special guest **Brenden Moore** with us today to celebrate this significant date. Elders are the cornerstone of our culture and their journeys provide us with the strength and courage to embrace ours”. The student participated with such passion and were very interested in learning about Aboriginal culture, heritage and the Dreamtime.



Shakespeare Carnival - NSW State Finals

*Congratulations to our Year 10 students, **Melody Lopez, Monica Nunez, Renz Tomacruz (on leave), Puti Luamanuvae, Christine Dela Cruz, Raelee Alcantara and Andrea Sadsad** who performed so brilliantly last Sunday at the Joveforsport event at the Seymour Theatre. Thank you to **Mrs Pauline Tivoli** who led the students through their paces over the last three months. Thank you to the following staff who attended the evening, **Mr Dominic Marshall, Ms Katherine Alfafara, Mrs Mary Bullen, Mr Dale Ahern, Mr Bhupinder Chhabra, Mrs Catherine Ruff, Mrs Lucia Benjamin and Mr Geoff Brain.***

Showcase Concert Series

*Congratulations to our inaugural participants of the Captivate Series for 2017, **Seanka Carlos, Shania Carlos, Gizelle Puno and Alexandra Hanna.** Thank you to **Mr Jason Smolen** who has been driving this partnership with CEDP Captivate Team. I look forward to continuing to promote the Arts in 2017/2018.*

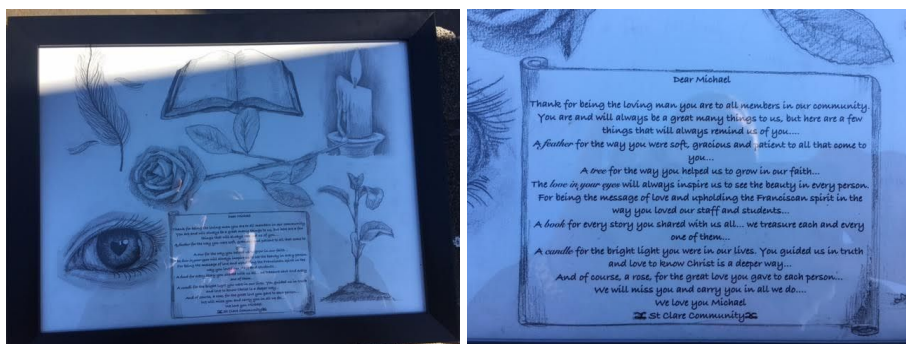
Staff Announcement

Ms Stephanie Cassar will continue in the role of acting Religious Education Coordinator for term 3. As this is a system appointment, CEDP will advertise for the position early next term.

Farewell Mr Michael Vella

*Today we farewelled **Mr Michael Vella.** Mr Vella has been a committed, passionate and experienced teacher who has held various leadership positions over his 44 years of teaching, such as Pastoral Coordinator and more recently as the Religious Education Coordinator at St Clare's Catholic High School since 2012. During this time we have seen first hand how dedicated and passionate Mr Vella has been in working with the whole community to live out their faith experience and be the face of Mercy. We wish Mr Vella the very best for the future.*





From the Assistant Principal - Mr Anthony Hulme

Term 2 Report

This term the students have been challenged to be better students and have been asked to work a little harder in the areas of manners and respect. All members of the community have been reminded that we have a zero tolerance towards swearing in the school community. We thank all parents and carers for your continued support in this regard.



Student Devices

With the students taking a short break from their studies, this would be a perfect time for parents/carers to check over your personally owned devices. At all times parents/carers should know all the passwords to be able to open and get onto the device that you own. The device for school should be used for academic purposes with a limit of 2 games and no inappropriate content to distract your child's learning.



Please make sure all unwanted/downloaded content is deleted and the device has adequate memory available. Any updates should be performed over the student vacation.

It would be suggested to check internet history/logs to make sure content viewed is the material you would allow. Whilst at home, students should use their device in a location that would allow adequate parental supervision.

Uniform for Term 3

As we approach the end of Term 2, it would be timely to revisit the uniform policy in preparation for Term 3

Uniform / Hair

- *Boys must have their shirts tucked in at all times, including before and after school.*
- *Girls should have their hair tied back, skirts at knee height and have no nail polish or false finger nails.*
- *Hair cuts must be in accordance with the St Clare's policy, as indicated in the diary.*

- No facial jewellery (plastic spacers/keepers are not permitted at any time)
- Only girls are permitted to wear one small earring/stud in the lower ear lobe only
- Chewing gum is not allowed at any time.

Students who do not meet these simple expectations will receive a demerit/detention from their Learning Advisor or class teacher, for continued breaches and disregard of the school policies and procedures.

Winter Uniform - Terms 2 & 3

BOYS

- School trousers (grey)
- Open-necked white shirt with school crest
- Grey socks
- School tie
- Black school blazer with school crest on breast pocket
- Black belt

GIRLS

- School skirt (to be worn to the knee)
- Open-necked white blouse with school crest
- Black tights or black pantyhose (no knee-highs)
- Black school blazer with school crest on breast pocket

Note: NO tie for girls (this is an error in the Student Planner).



The correct school shoes that are to be worn are black, polishable, lace up, leather traditional style school shoes that have a small **solid** heel. Flat soled synthetic/canvas style skate shoes do not meet WHS requirements. Girls styles such as 'Mary Jane' should be avoided due to the open top design of the shoe. This style does not meet WHS requirements in Science and TAS.

Winter - Boys & Girls

- White polo shirt with school crest
- White school sports socks with tri-colour band
- School tracksuit (jacket and pants). NB: Tracksuit jacket may only be worn on Thursday (sports day)
- White leather/vinyl athletic shoes with solid upper (i.e. no punch holes). NB: This is an Work Health and Safety requirement for practical subjects. Skate/canvas style shoes are NOT permitted as part of the sport uniform ie VANS, Converse etc

Please note that combinations of Sport and normal uniform are NOT permitted.

The final decision in regard to correct uniform rests with the decision of the Principal or delegate.

Policies and Procedures

In recent parent correspondence a link was provided for all parents/carers for the latest updates regarding the daily rules and procedures the students must be aware of. These policies and procedures are available on the school website. [Policies and procedures](#)

Mobile Phones



During a normal learning day, a significant number of our students are being distracted by phone calls/messages on their mobile phone. In discussion with representatives of students from each year group a common theme was raised where it was tabled that it was often a call/message from parents/carers. In the classroom it is our expectation that mobile phones are switched off, and the mobile device can only be used for educational activities ONLY if the teacher gives specific permission for that lesson.

If a parent/carer needs to send a message could we ask that you call the school office on 98302400 and a message will be given to your child. ***If a student needs to call home they can go to the school office and see one of the office staff to arrange this.*** At no time should a student be using social media/communication mediums on their device. These Apps include iMessage, Snapchat, Instagram etc.

From the acting Religious Education Coordinator - Miss Stephanie Cassar

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Sydney from 7th-9th December this year. The Festival will be held in the Sydney Olympic Park precinct using the Sydney Showground and Qudos Bank Arena venues and will culminate with a closing Mass on Saturday, 9th December at the Domain, not far from St Mary's Cathedral and adjacent to the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney. The three-day Festival is a youthful and energetic celebration hosted by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in partnership with the Archdiocese of Sydney.

The Festival exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, celebrate their faith and encounter the vitality of the Church in Australia. The Festival will mark the beginning of the Year of Youth in 2018 proclaimed by the Bishops of Australia to celebrate ten years since World Youth Day was hosted in Sydney.

*The theme of the Festival is: **'Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy: Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment'**. The Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney and Australian Catholic Bishops Delegate for Youth is looking forward to welcoming young people from every Catholic Diocese across the country.*

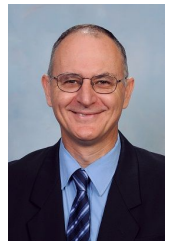
"Who could forget the energy and the buzz when we welcomed tens of thousands of young people to our city for World Youth Day in 2008? Now, nearly a decade later, young people from across the country will join Church leaders to celebrate and pray for the young Church of Australia," Archbishop Fisher said. For more information about the Festival, see www.acyf.org.au.

*Early next term we will be inviting year 9 students to express an interest in participating. The School will support each student nominated to attend the festival. **Miss Cassar** and I will speak in more detail around the significance of this great opportunity for our students.*

From the Business Manager- Mr David Wakeling

School Fees

Thank you to those parents/carers who have paid their Term 2 school fees, or have made contact with the School to set up a payment plan. School Fee statements for Term 2, 2017 were due for payment by 12th June.



Payment Plans

The School understands that paying school fees in big lump sums for 3 terms may be difficult for some families. Please note that we are able to offer a payment plan where the school fees are paid weekly, fortnightly or monthly, over the whole school year. If you are not yet on such a plan, and would like to discuss this option, please contact the schools finance office during school term dates on 9830-2400 (select option 2).

Financial difficulty

Families who are experiencing financial hardship which makes it difficult to meet the financial commitment of your child's education, can have their circumstances assessed for assistance with fees, over and above that of a payment plan. This will require that families provide certain income, expense and liability documentation to substantiate that they meet the requirements of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta school fee management policy. Once the documentation is submitted the Business Manager will assess and may require an interview with families.

Assessments are made for one year only and MUST be reviewed each year. So, if you had an arrangement last year, you will need to contact us again this year. Please note that unless an assessment or review is done, you will be liable for the full amount of school fees. These matters will be treated sensitively and with absolute confidentiality, and will not affect your child's education.

School Finance Office Hours.

The Schools finance office is open during term weeks from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund

For families with a new student enrolment for 2018, for whom school fees and the purchase of a school uniform would present financial hardship, applications for Bishop Manning Scholarship which covers school fees and a uniform allowance are invited. (Uniform allowance in first year only). Applications and supporting documents must be received by the School (or can be submitted direct to Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta) by the 30 October 2017 for the 2018 School Year. For further information or to download an application visit <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/scholarships> or contact the School.

Notice Required to withdraw a student or 10 Weeks fees in lieu of notice.

Please note that section 5.7 of the Catholic Education Office Parramatta Diocese School Fees Management Policy, requires that one term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal. If no notice is given (or less than 10 weeks notice), then an additional 10 weeks fees will be payable. Under this policy only the Manager of the School Fees Liaison Unit, Catholic Education Parramatta has the discretion to vary this policy.

From the Leader of Diversity and Learning- Ms Catherine Ruff

Semester One Completion, Reports and making the most of Parent Teacher Conferences



Semester One has definitely been a busy, yet productive time for our students and staff.

There have been many challenging and varied learning opportunities for students to display their skills, knowledge and understanding across all subject areas. Thank you to all the parents who attended Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday.

As a parent/carer, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Older children need different kinds of support from their parents/carers than younger children do, but that support is still critical. There are many ways you can support your child succeed in school. When families are involved in their children's schools, the children do better and the children have better feelings about going to school. Many studies show that what the family does is more important to a child's school success than how much money the family makes or how much education the parents have. In fact, when families and schools work together we see better outcomes for students.

After the Parent Teacher meeting you might consider....

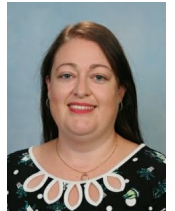
- talk with your child - emphasise positive feedback and be direct about issues that were discussed
- start working on the action plan - check you child's behaviour and school work on a regular basis - ask your child how he/she feels about his/her

- keep in touch with the teacher/s - this helps to strengthen the parent-teacher partnership. When a child sees that parents and teachers are working together, the child understands that education is a top priority at school and home

Leader of Wellbeing & Learning - Mrs Theresa Nielsen

Anti Bullying Initiatives

All students have the opportunity to nominate themselves for an anti bullying group. This is an exciting initiative which will be led by students. The aim of the group is to raise awareness through proactive campaigns created by students. Please encourage your son/daughter to join in the fortnightly meetings and contribute to making St Clare's a safe school for all.



Being Internet Awesome means being smart, alert, strong, kind, and brave. To demonstrate these qualities, I plan to stick to the following guidelines:

- 
Share with Care
 I will thoughtfully consider what I share and with whom and keep extra sensitive information to myself (i.e., home address, current location, other people's business).
- 
Don't Fall for Fake
 I will watch out for phishing and scams and report questionable activity every time.
- 
Secure Your Secrets
 I will take responsibility for protecting important information by crafting strong and unique passwords with characters, numbers, and symbols.
- 
It's Cool to Be Kind
 I will spread positivity and use the skills I have learned to block and report negative behaviors.
- 
When in Doubt, Talk It Out
 I will use my voice when I notice inappropriate behavior and seek out a trusted adult to discuss situations that make me uncomfortable.

Because that's what it takes to be a safe and fearless explorer of the online world.

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I recently watched a video created by the famous author John Green (he has written many novels two examples of which are Paper Towns, The Fault in Our Stars). In this video, he promotes the Be Internet Awesome initiative. He speaks about his experience of bullying and how the insidious nature of cyber bullying can affect many young people today. The five fundamental pillars of the Being Internet Awesome are summarised in the graphic to the left.

Last week, in Learning Groups students discussed, collaborated and created a cyber bullying campaign. This was an exciting opportunity for Learning Groups to work together and discuss this important issue.

One last piece of information that I would

¹ https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/pdfs/Google_BeInternetAwesome_Pledge.pdf

like to share with you are support structures both in and out of school that students can access if they are dealing with complex issue of bullying. Students are always encouraged to speak with their parent/carers, in addition to this they can:

1. Speak with a trusted adult for example, their Leader of Year or Learning Advisor
2. Ask to speak with the School Counsellor
3. Call Kids Helpline on 1800551800 or access their website

<https://kidshelpline.com.au>

From the Leader of Sport - Mr Brenton Geribo

Student Achievements

Congratulations to Peter Taateo, of Year 10, who will represent St Clare's in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges U/15's Rugby League team at the Australian Secondary School Rugby League Championships at the end of this month. Peter has made his way through Parramatta trials, Sydney Independent trials and the CCC trial to get this point. We wish him the best of luck!



At the beginning of this month, Daniel Lawther attended the Australian Gymnastics Championships as part of the NSW Acrobatic State Team. Daniel competed in Melbourne over 4 days at this event, which is the highest level of Australian competition. Congratulations Daniel!



Peter Taateo



Daniel Lawther

Student Achievement- Jayden Buan

Jayden Buan has just returned from New Zealand where he represented Australia in the Australia/New Zealand Boxing Championships. He won his fight, although, the team only just lost by 1 point. There were selectors from the Commonwealth Games in attendance so hopefully there will be more good news for Jayden in the future.



From the PATHE Incursion - Mr Michael Setefano



From the Social Justice Coordinator - Mr Dale Ahern

Human Trafficking Initiative

Over the last month the Social Justice group have been raising our own awareness of issues in society. Our main focus has been Human trafficking and people who have essentially been forced into servitude. As a group we brainstormed how to raise awareness outside of the Social Justice group. Ultimately, we decided to have an initiative at recess on Friday where an announcement was made for students in regard to a pizza lunch. Students were let in 15 at a time into the classroom that was blacked out and were told to sit at single desks and sort rice. If they tried to stand up from their seats we had 'guards' who told them to sit and finish the task. After a few minutes students were moved onto another classroom where it was explained why they were tricked. Students were informed that they experienced something similar to what people in the world are going through. Many people who are being trafficked in the world are promised a job or assistance of some kind and when they arrive they are taken 'hostage' and are forced into other conditions, in which they are stripped of their freedom.

The students who participated were told that they experienced 3 minutes of trickery that some people experience for years and never earn their freedom. Everyone involved was able to reflect and understand the meaning of this action and students were rewarded with lollies for participating. I would like to thank all students who participated, the Social Justice team and Mr. Setefano who assisted with all the planning and running of this action.



YCS - Minute to Win it event

On Friday, 16th June, 23 Social Justice members, Mr. Setefano and myself went to Loyola Senior High school for a minute to win it competition. The theme of the night was Superheroes and students were encouraged to dress up. Students were broken up into teams and were competing in different games. The students and teachers had a great night participating in a range of games showcasing various skills. Loyola Senior High created this event to raise further awareness for Human Trafficking, halfway through the games students were given a case study on an individual who had experienced trafficked and were asked to reflect on how this case study made them feel. The link was then made that we are lucky in our lives and can participate in nights like this and feel safe. This was a great night for all involved and the St. Clare students won 'Best dressed'.



From the Leader of Learning TAS - Mr Bhupinder Chhabra

On Friday, 26th May, I, along with the rest of Mr Chhabra's Year 9 Food Technology class, participated in our very own 'Cultural Food Day.' Each student was required to make their own cultural food, from either their country of birth, background or country of their choice. A wide variety of cultural dishes were made from all around the world; from different countries and continents. Many dishes which were made included, spring rolls by Joyce Nipales and Beef Satay by Nelson Tan from Asia, Fettucine Carbonara, Vegemite rolls, African sausages, Pavlova, Chicken Kebabs and Lamb Kofta to name a few.

It was an incredible experience and an enjoyable day, loaded with endless fun and laughter. A great deal of effort, determination and love were put into each cultural dish produced by every student. The meals composed tasted delicious and were very appetising.

Claire Summers



WESTERN SYDNEY APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINEESHIP EXPO

29 August 2017

- 3.00 - 8.00pm
 - **FREE** Public Entry
- Penrith Panthers Exhibition
Marquee, Mulgoa Road, Penrith

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SKILLS AND THRILLS

A CAREERS SHOWCASE LIKE NEVER BEFORE

DATE 29th August, 2017

VENUE Evans Theatre,
Panthers Penrith

SESSION 3:30 - 4:00pm
TIMES 4:30 - 5:00pm
5:15 - onwards

For the second year SkillsOne will be taking careers advice out of the office and onto the stage, through a fun and exhilarating showcase packed with live music, video and animation.

This year the Skills and Thrills careers showcase is being presented in conjunction with the **Western Sydney Apprenticeship & Traineeship Expo**, with the aim to encourage students to consider VET career pathways.

The show will help students and parents discover and understand the latest on **jobs of the future**, industry trends and how to connect passions to a **successful career outcome**.

BE ENTERTAINED, LEAVE INSPIRED.

SkillsOne will showcase a variety of **in-demand Industry areas**, with a focus on the needs of NSW, including:

- Tourism, Hospitality & Events
- Retail & Service Sectors
- Building & Construction
- Community Services & Healthcare
- Digital, IT & STEM
- Creative Industries
- Agriculture
- Government jobs
- Service sectors

For more information contact
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