

LASALLE STAR

De La Salle



Issue # 11

28 JULY 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to confirm that tuition fees in 2018 will be restricted to the usual 'cost of living' increases (generally between 2% and 5% each year). The fee schedule for 2018 has not yet been released, but I felt it was important following intense media coverage last term, to reassure you that there will be no significant changes to the fees at our school.

Thanks to the support of our families and parishioners, changes to Government funding have been delayed, and Sydney Catholic Schools have assured us that at least for 2018, 2019 and 2020 we hope to be in a position to continue to maintain similar tuition fees.

I recognise the sacrifices that parents and caregivers make when they choose a Catholic education and our Catholic school system is committed to keeping our schools affordable for our families. If any family is in financial difficulty I invite you to approach me for a confidential discussion.

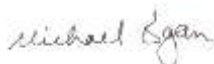
Families on very low incomes will be able to apply for 'means-tested' bursaries to assist with the education of their children through the Catholic Education Foundation. I once again reaffirm that no Catholic child should be denied a Catholic education due to a genuine inability to pay fees.

SCS will continue to advocate to all sides of politics for a more equitable financial outcome for our schools and students. As the Federal government conducts its review into some aspects of funding, we will continue to keep you informed. We look forward to your continued support as we engage our politicians in deepening their understanding of our school system and the importance of supporting parent choice in education.

I am deeply appreciative of the trust and confidence that you have placed in us, in sending your child to our school.



St John Baptist de La Salle,
Pray for us
Live Jesus in our Hearts,
Forever



Michael Egan
Principal



2017

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 2017

31 Year 12 Trials

AUGUST 2017

- 1 Year 12 Trials continue
Year 7 Academic Diligence
Morning Tea with Principal
- 3 MCC Soccer Gala Day
- 4 Year 8 Academic Diligence
Morning Tea with Principal
- 6 The Transfiguration of the Lord
- 7 Year 9 Academic Diligence
Morning Tea with Principal
- 8 Year 11 Academic Diligence
Morning Tea with Principal
- 9-11 Year 9 Camp
- 11 Year 10 Academic Diligence
Morning Tea with Principal
- 15 Feast Day of the Assumption
of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Year 11 & 12 Mass
Years 7-9 Author's Visit
- 16 Year 10 PDHPE Excursion
Year 11 Information Evening



FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

Congratulations

WELCOME BACK TO SEMESTER 2

Thursday 27th, the College held the first assembly for Term 3 and it was a highly energized gathering where many students were awarded certificates in recognition for 100% Perfect Attendance for Semester 1 – a total of 100 days. This is an excellent achievement and the students are to be congratulated and they themselves should feel very proud. Congratulations to:

- Year 7:** Marcus Cuschieri, Eliana Haifa, Sammuell Hayek, Tara Issy, George Mallick, Joshua Nguyen, Levi Osei, Said Said, Joseph Tannous and Brandan Tran.
- Year 8:** Laren Alastar, John Benitez, Umar Bin Amjad, Kristina Bisquera, Daniel Chaine, Sophia Efendi, Jack Galvin-Valencia, Leah Grieco, Samuel Gunawan, Faraj Haifa, Natalie Lawani, Grace Le, Ben Magnou, George Mensah, Linh Nguyen, Harriet Owusu, Hung Pham, Giorgio Serratore, Jason Tran and Marko Vujevi.
- Year 9:** Mario Aneski, James Dinh, Peter Do, Tony Elaro, Jason Issy, Justin Le, Jayden Lloyd, Andy Lu and Daniel Trinder.
- Year 10:** Jed Atienza, Matthew Grove, Joshua Ha, Benjamin Latu, James Maxwell, Anthony Nguyen and Danny Obeid.
- Year 11:** Issa Albaba, Paul Albahri, Remon Alghaith, Stefan Aneski, Kelvin Baffoe, Ryan Do, Domenico Grieco, Kiefe Ha, Alexander Hayek, Andy Le, Calvin Ly, Kevin McMaugh, Teo Melki, Eric Nguyen, James Nguyen, Minh Pham, Tony Pham, Tony Sibichan, Maxwell Stacey, Justin Tran, Kevin Tran, Peter Tran and Peter Youssef.
- Year 12:** Benjie Asomaning, Danny (Phuoc) Chu, Anthony Dang, Huu Do, Omar Elzahr, Tai Faiauga, Ethan Hua, Gandhi Matar, Joshua Mollica, Steven Nguyen, Binh Tran and Brandon Vu.

It is a proven fact that attendance to school every day is the key to continual learning improvement.

I remind parents of your **legal obligation** to ensure your son/daughters are at school each day and are happy to work in partnership with you to ensure this happens. Some tips to ensure you and your daughter keep on top of attendance:

- ◆ Please ensure that you keep in communication with the school if your son/daughter will be away for more than one day;
- ◆ All school equipment should be packed the night before;
- ◆ Electronic equipment (phones, laptops, iPads) should NOT be in the room before going to sleep;
- ◆ Encourage your son/daughter to go to bed at a reasonable time, **not past 10:00pm** to ensure they wake up early enough to get ready and get to school **ON TIME**;
- ◆ Ensure your son/daughter gets up at an appropriate time, not past 7:00am to get ready, have a healthy breakfast and **get to school by 8:30am**.

LEVEL 2 AWARDS

At the same assembly I was able to award 4 students their Level 2 Certificates and College pin. Level 2 is the second highest level of Achievement at this College and is awarded at the end of Semester 1.

Students at this advanced level of achievement have displayed outstanding characteristics the College motto: Commitment – Confidence – Success through such attributes as:

- Diligence to the studies;
- Positive attitude;
- Dedication to whole College activities;
- Personal Profile at Semester 1 Reports in the high zones;
- Showing a sense of pride in their College uniform
- Demonstrated solid organisational skills.

Congratulations to:

- Year 8:** Natalie Lawani and Isabella Silvera
- Year 10:** Phi Vu and Trung (Paul) Nguyen

Well Done!



FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: DAVID CLORAN

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

As our new term gets underway, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all students on their progress and efforts throughout Terms One and Two, which were reflected in the Semester One Reports that were distributed at the end of last term. Following these reports being distributed, all parents and students were invited to attend the Semester One Parent/Teacher Interviews that took place from Wednesday July 19, through to Friday July 21.

I am most grateful to the many parents who made themselves available for these interviews, and am confident that the discussions that took place were most constructive and will no doubt support the progress of each student throughout Semester Two. Furthermore, I would encourage all students to act on the advice that they received from their teachers during these interviews, particularly in instances where similar advice was received across a number of their subjects.

Year 12 Trial Higher School Certificate Examinations

This week saw the commencement of the 2017 Trial HSC Examinations with a number of VET students sitting their first exams, with the rest of the student body commencing their exams from this coming Monday. These examinations mark the final significant assessment period for our Year 12 students before they complete the HSC at the beginning of Term 4.

In recent weeks, I have reminded all students of the need to commit their time and energy towards these assessments in order for their results to be a true reflection of their potential. Students were also reminded of the need to maintain an appropriate perspective on these exams and that the need for adequate rest, leisure and nutrition, were also essential components of effective exam preparation. All of our Year 12 students are to be commended on the enthusiastic, focused and mature way that they have approached these exams to date, and they are assured of the ongoing thoughts and prayers of the College community over the next fortnight.

Year 11, 2018 Subject Selection Information Evening

A reminder to all parents of students in Year 10 of the upcoming 2018 Year 11 Subject Selection Information Evening which will be held on **Wednesday 16 August at 6:30pm in the College gymnasium**. This evening will allow all students the opportunity to nominate the subjects that they would like to undertake for their Preliminary and HSC years.

In preparation for the night, all students have been issued with a list of subjects that they are eligible to select, based on prerequisites they satisfied in their Semester One report. The evening will also include a one on one interview with a senior teacher at the College so that various options regarding subject selection can be discussed. **This is a compulsory event for all students and at least one parent or guardian.**

Year 9 Academic Forecasts

Over the past week, students in Year 9 have received their 2017 Academic Forecasts. These documents give students an indication of their suitability to undertake certain subjects in Years 11 and 12, based on their current level of academic progress. Based on each students' Semester One Report, the Academic Forecast can be used as an indicator of the academic rigor required for students considering certain patterns of study.

If students note that they have been identified as being suitable for a particular subject, they are encouraged to maintain their current standard of performance over the coming 12 months in the lead up to the official subject selection process that takes place half way through Year 10. If students have been identified as falling short of the benchmarks necessary to complete subjects that appeal to them, they are encouraged to use the year ahead to focus on these subjects in order to achieve the prerequisites that are identified in their assessment handbooks.



FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: MS KATHRYN WHITE

Much is happening in the Religious Education realm, including the Lasallian Youth Gathering, the Australian Catholic Youth Festival and the College's Mission in Action Day (MAD).

During the Term 2 holidays two students from the College attended the Lasallian Youth Gathering, hosted by De La Salle College, Ashfield. This event, which occurs every 2 - 3 years is a significant event for young Lasallians. Young people from the Asia Pacific regions (Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Pakistan) joined the 4 day gathering.



Notes went home this week to parents of all Year 10 and Year 11 students for attendance at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The festival occurs during December, at Sydney Olympic Park and will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for students to engage in their faith and meet other young Catholics.

Finally, we have been blessed to have Bro Sajid visiting our College for the last two weeks. As Principal of De La Salle Campus 2 in Pakistan, our fundraising initiatives on MAD day will directly assist the students in his school. The College heard from Bro Sajid during the assembly about the need to provide clean drinking water in the school and basic necessities such as books for students.

LASALLIAN YOUTH GATHERING

During the School Holidays from the 10th to 14th July, Paul Nguyen, Miss C Breda, our Lasallian Youth Minister and myself, attended the Lasallian Youth Gathering. The gathering included over 250 students, teachers, Youth Ministers and volunteers from various Lasallian Schools from our district; Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, New Zealand and Australia. Held in De La Salle Ashfield, we were able to learn about our wider Lasallian community through workshops, guest speakers and service work, which left us enriched and ready to make a change.



Faith: To begin our day we prayed the LYG prayer, accompanied by prayer in other languages by those from different countries in our region. A highlight for me was the New Zealand's prayer, which focused on how even though we are from different areas of the world, we are all Lasallian, a large community of people, that through faith, enables us to overcome obstacles.



Service: Our most favourite part of the gathering was the opportunity for community service. Whilst some visited Br Gerry at the Brother's house in Bankstown, others visited nursing homes, or filled a crate at Holy Spirit Lakemba with school furniture to be sent to Papua New Guinea our group was allocated to garden at Richard Merden Reserve. We planted over 500 trees which was over three months worth of volunteer work that we completed in a few hours!

Community: On our final day, as a Lasallian community we went to Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. This followed by a pilgrimage walk to Mary Mackillop Place 5km. After an enriching experience we felt at awe of the amazing knowledge we had gained and the work we had accomplished all in recognition of St John Baptist de la Salle.

Overall, it was a faith filled experience that changed my life and has allowed me to recognise the works of Saint de la Salle. **Jayden Gulasi (Year 12)**





LASALLIAN GLOBAL WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM, 2017 - AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

Recently we had the privilege of representing LaSalle Catholic College at the Lasallian Global Women's Symposium held in Auckland, New Zealand.



There were over a hundred women from around the world attending from as far away as the United Kingdom, USA, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, as well as delegates from New Zealand and Australia.

Br Bob Schieler fsc (Superior General) and other De la Salle Brothers warmly welcomed the delegates and participated in the discussions and workshops conducted over the four days of the symposium.

Much discussion centred around the understanding that when women are well-educated and empowered, communities flourish. Delegates considered the future of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, acknowledging that approximately 60% of Lay partners are women and that many schools and Colleges are now co-educational.

The themes included looking at the contribution of women as change makers in our Lasallian story where we had time to get to know one another and share our backgrounds and journeys.

We looked at Lasallian women in the present and what Lasallian women could look like in the future. There was much serious discussion but also time for laughter with such activities as a poi making workshop and performances from Maori dance groups.

We were encouraged to actively listen to each other (**Enlightenment**); to look for ways in which we might work effectively together (**Engagement**); and to encourage young women and girls to actively seek their vocation within the Lasallian Mission (**Empowerment**).

The symposium was a wonderful experience helping to empower women from around the globe to improve the place and identity of women today in the world and the Lasallian Mission.



We were honoured by the presence of Br Bob Schieler (Superior General) at our table on the final evening.

Mrs Sophia Oparcik and Mrs Anne Nowakowski



COMMITMENT · CONFIDENCE · SUCCESS

SNAPSHOTS OF YEAR 8 REFLECTION DAY:



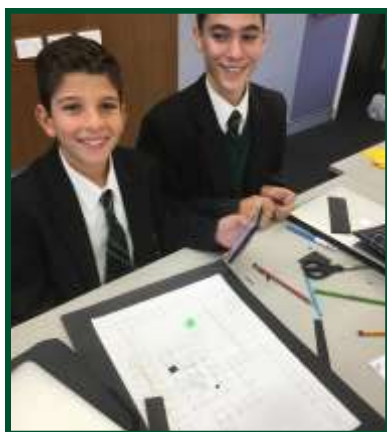
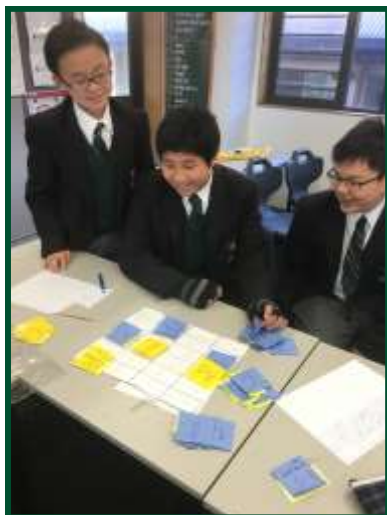
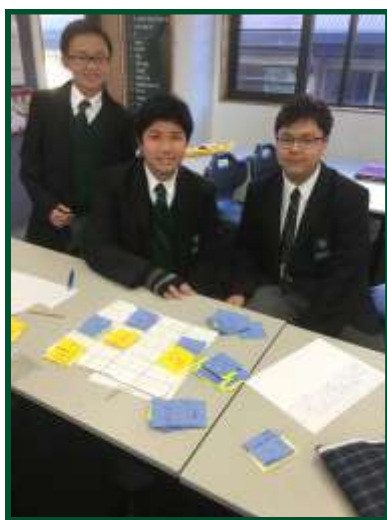
SOLOMON MATHS CLASS:

Year 7 Solomon Maths class created their own Mathematics Board Games as an extension activity at the end of Term 2.

The students were able to interactively play each groups' games and give critical feedback to the creativity and content of the games.

All the students were engaged in their work and enjoyed the opportunity to challenge each other and be creative.

Mrs Patterson, 7 Solomon Maths Teacher.





HELPING OUT A STRESSED CHILD

Many parents feel powerless to help when their child is stressed and overwhelmed about their schoolwork. It is not just senior students who experience this level of stress, research indicates that for some students this starts as early as Year 7.

If your child is experiencing stress and anxiety related to their schoolwork, here are some strategies you can try.



1. **FIND OUT MORE:** Try and discover what it is that is causing the most anxiety. Does your child feel anxious about tests or assignments? Are they struggling to plan and manage their workload? Are they finding a particular subject difficult? It is very difficult to address the issue until you really uncover what the issue is. If they do not want to discuss with mum and dad, you may find asking a teacher who they like and respect to talk to them may lead to a better outcome.
2. **LET THE SCHOOL KNOW:** Next talk to your child's teacher or Year Coordinator, who is responsible for your child's year group. You can either ask the school to investigate further and even take action to address the issue, or you can ask them to keep it confidential, if you are just supplying information. **Call the College Office on 97935600 and leave a message for the appropriate staff member to contact you.**
3. **DECIDE STRATEGIES:** Once the problem is clear, next step is to decide what strategies to try (and you may need to try multiple strategies over time). You may have some ideas of things your child could try, **you may find some ideas on the Study Skills Handbook site, or you may need to talk to teachers to learn from their expertise.**
4. **DON'T GIVE UP:** If a strategy doesn't work, then try something different. Different people will have different suggestions so google or talk to lots of teachers or other parents about the issue and see if they have other ideas you could try.
5. **CONSIDER EXTRA SUPPORT:** Your child may need additional support. For example from a school counsellor, or a psychologist or a tutor. Make sure you are clear about the issue so you can find the right person to provide the additional support your child needs.

You can learn more about strategies to help students cope with the academic demands of school at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units.

Username: **lasalle**

Password: **544achieve**