

# LASALLE STAR

*De La Salle*



Issue # 18

3 November 2017

## PARENT GROUP MEETING

Congratulations to all who attended our first meeting for a long while of a parent group.



Discussion covered the Sydney Catholic Schools draft constitution for parent groups, introductions of attendees, phone use and misuse, parent satisfaction survey results and opportunities for parent interaction including student and parent liturgies.

Office bearers are:

President: Steve Vujevic  
Secretary: Christine O’Hea  
Treasurer: Ratib (Richard) Al-Habib  
Committee Rep: Nahla Wannous

I look forward to the next meeting in Term One and the chance to work with the parents executive to further improve our school.

2017

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### NOVEMBER

- 6 Year 8 & 10 Exam Block
- 7 Archbishop of Sydney Student Forum
- 13 Years 7 & 9 Exam Block
- 14 Year 7 2018 Information Night 6-7pm in Gym
- 15 Year 7 2018 Learning Needs Transition Day
- 17 LaSalle Leaders Retreat Day
- 21 Year 12 Geography Excursion
- 23 Year 7 2018 Students Transition Day 1
- 27 Camp LaSalle
- 28 Chess Competition  
Carols @ LaSalle
- 30 Year 7 2018 Students Transition Day 2

### FR MICHAEL LANZON



We welcome Father Michael Lanzon to our Parish of St Felix de Valois

Bankstown who will be the Administrator until we get a Parish Priest appointed.



Michael Egan  
Principal



## FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

### STUDY FOCUS – “we first make our habits and then our habits form us.”

Each week in the Junior and Senior Student Planners a “*Study Focus or Wellbeing Focus*” is introduced on the left hand page. The focuses are designed to initiate discussion, both at school and at home, on the issues at hand and to promote a partnership approach. Lifelong learning habits must be explicitly cultivated in students; it is rare that they will just pick them up along the way.



Secondary students are often reluctant to share what’s happening at school with their parents or guardians: the Student Planners enable parents and guardians to be involved in their children’s education without their express permission.

Working on the assumption that students should open their planners at least 30 to 40 times a week, there is adequate time and opportunity for the strategy to ‘drip feed’ into their study habits.

The key elements to a successful study found in the Student Planner are - learning skills, pastoral care and wellbeing, healthy living, time management, study strategies and skills, research tools, teamwork – just to name a few.

I encourage you to have a look at your child’s Student Planner and share a learning conversation with them on a weekly basis.

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to contact his/her Year Coordinator through the College Office.



God bless,  
Leonie Dowd

## FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: MR DAVID CLORAN

**YEAR 7-10 EXAMINATION PERIODS:** Students in Years 8 &10 will commence their Yearly Examinations from this coming Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November through until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Students in Years 7 & 9 will commence their examinations on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November and conclude on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

At this point, all students have been issued with examination timetables, confirming the dates, times and locations of each of their exams. Subject teachers have also distributed assessment notifications for all examinations, which are intended to assist students in the preparation of each of these tasks. In recent year assemblies, students have been challenged to develop and adopt a strategic, realistic and committed study regime that will allow them to plan appropriately for each of these tasks, so that the results that they achieve, are an accurate reflection of their potential.

Students have also been reminded of the need to leave a phone message at the front office on any day that they are absent for an examination due to illness. These procedures are also detailed in each respective year groups Assessment Handbook. Any questions regarding these examinations may be directed to each subject teacher via the front office or the College diary.

**YEAR 11 REPORTS:** All Year 11 students have now received their 2017 Preliminary Reports. These documents offer students and their parents a detailed overview of how students have performed throughout the Preliminary course. Significantly, these reports should be used by all students to reflect upon their progress throughout 2017, and to set their own realistic, challenging and measurable goals for 2018 in the lead up to their HSC Examinations.

Parents are invited to direct any questions regarding their son’s progress in any specific subject towards the respective subject teacher and, as always, are invited to attend Parent/Teacher Interviews to meet with each teacher, during the last week of Term.



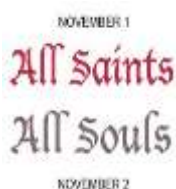
## COMMITMENT · CONFIDENCE · SUCCESS

**HSC EXAMINATIONS CONCLUDE:** As most would be aware, HSC examinations have been underway across NSW over the past four weeks, with the final examination for students at LaSalle taking place on Monday.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all students on the way that they have applied themselves in the lead up to, and throughout, this significant assessment period. The exam supervision team from NESA have forwarded consistent reports to the College regarding the outstanding manner in which our students sat each exam and the clear preparation that had been carried out in the lead up to the exams by our entire Year 12 cohort.

We, along with our students, look forward with great anticipation to the release of the HSC results on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

### FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: MS KATHRYN WHITE



Wednesday 1st November and Thursday 2nd November celebrates All Saints Day and All Souls' Day, respectively. The feast of All Saints recognises all the Saints. On this day many people take time to thank and remember the Saints, as well as thanking God for all that he has done for us.

On the Feast of All Souls' the Church celebrates and prays for those who have died.

The following reflection is written by Greg Sunter: **Historical Context - Halloween**

Much of the significance and meaning of the feasts of All Saints and All Souls has been overtaken by the popular celebration of Halloween. The feast of All Saints was also known as All Hallows Day – in the Old English language 'hallow' means to sanctify or make holy. The day before, October 31, was All Hallows Eve(ning) and the name over time became shortened to Halloween.

### FROM OUR LEADER OF PASTORAL CARE: MR ADAM WESTWOOD

#### PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT ABSENCES

The following is a reminder of the procedures involved when students are absent from school.

If your child is away from school and you, as their parent or guardian phone the school and advise of their absence, on the return to school, your child will still have to produce a note from home explaining the absences handed to their homeroom teacher.

If your child is away for more than two days a medical certificate is required to hand to their homeroom teacher once returning to school.

Thank you in advance for your assistance on this matter.

#### YEAR 7 - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Year 7 in Homerooms collected toys and gifts for students in overseas communities. Operation Christmas Child charity collects shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivers them to children in need all around the world.

Year 7 did a terrific job getting behind the project and managed to organise numerous shoeboxes filled with gifts to provide many children with the excitement of opening up Christmas presents on Christmas day.



## NEWS FROM OUR SAINT YON TRADE TRAINING CENTRE:

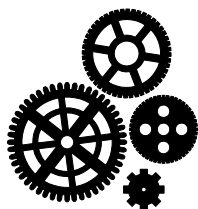
### WORK PLACEMENT - SWEEPING SYDNEY

Work placement block two is currently in full swing at Saint Yon Trade Training Centre.

With over 120 students to complete mandatory industry experience, host employers across Sydney on work sites, kitchens and factories are extremely busy accommodating extra workers.

From cafes, clubs, restaurants and bistros, to auto service centres, top end developments, waterfronts and bottom end sites, students from LaSalle Catholic College and our partner Colleges are particularly engaged.

A big thank you to industry trainers, students and host employers for their positive attitude and support in making work placements so worthwhile for our students.



## ST FELIX de VALOIS BANKSTOWN NEWS:

**St Felix Fete - 11 November 2017**

**RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE NOW - ONLY \$2 EACH**

**Crafts**

**Donations are Greatly Appreciated**

**Plants**  
We would like to start collecting plants that we can sell at our Fete. If you have any plants you would like to donate please bring them to the presbytery.

**Prizes**  
We are looking for donations of gifts, vouchers or money to buy gifts suitable for the Chocolate wheel. Please contact Parish Office if you can donate.

**White Elephant Collection**  
This Wednesday 8 November from 6.00pm - 8.00pm. Come and drop off your items suitable to sell at the White Elephant Stall. **NO SHOES, CLOTHES or BOOKS please**



## LAST MINUTE STUDY

### *What do you do if you have left your study to the last minute?*

In an ideal world it would be great if all students paid attention, focused and participated in all classes, completed all homework and assessments thoroughly, asked for help throughout the year on anything they didn't understand, made regular summaries of the work covered in class (preferably at the end of each topic or section) and did their best to learn as they go throughout the year.

But in reality, this doesn't always happen for every student and every subject.

So what can you do if you have left your study for tests and exams to the last minute?



### STUDY NOTES

#### 5 TIPS FOR LAST MINUTE STUDY

- FIND OUT FAST:** Be very clear what you need to learn and what will be tested. It is impossible to start your study until you are sure what you have to know. Find out as much as you can too about the exam format and the style of questions. Don't be afraid to ask your teacher. For each subject write a list of exactly what topics and areas you need to review.
- GATHER MATERIALS:** Do you have notes, materials, textbooks on everything you need to learn? If not, is there a friend who will let you photocopy the work you have misplaced? Is there an online portal where material from classes is stored? Can you borrow from the library additional books or textbooks on the topics you need to learn? Are past examination papers available?
- MAKE A PLAN:** You only have limited time left so you need to make the most of it. Draw up a grid that shows how much time you have left before your exams to study. Decide if you will spend equal time on each subject or if certain subjects need more time. Allocate subjects to the timeslots you have then decide exactly what you will do to prepare for each subject. For each subject make a list of what sort of study you should do to prepare for that subject. Brainstorm your ideas on how to prepare, ask your parents and teachers for feedback and share ideas with your friends.
- CREATE STUDY NOTES:** Target your notes to what will be tested. It is best for learning and memory to make your study notes yourself, but if you have run out of time there are options. See if any of your class materials or textbooks have summarised the sections you need, see if there are study guides available in the library on the topics to learn or make targeted notes yourself on the key areas you have to memorise. You could also see if there is a friend where you could split the topics between yourself and share the notes you make. Don't spend too long on this stage; it needs to be completed as quickly as possible.
- STUDY!** What does study actually mean? It means memorising the material you need to know so you can recall it in the exams, and practising the skills of the subject so you know how to do the types of questions you will have in the exam. To memorise your notes you need to test yourself over and over on them. You could read a section, see what you can write down without looking then check. Then review the things you didn't know again. Or you could do the same approach reading things out loud then seeing what you can repeat out loud. Doing questions, practise essays, past exam questions will also help you understand what you know, and what you need to spend more time on.

**The key is to get started. No more procrastination, no more excuses. Start today!**

You and your parents can learn more about study and examination techniques at [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units.

Username: lasalle

Password: 544achieve



There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is setting down or picking up school children. This speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

Lights will flash on the front and back of the bus reminding drivers that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road.

Buses can't stop quickly because they are large and heavy vehicles. So, remember:

- Reduce speed to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing
- Give way to buses
- Watch out for children crossing
- Never park in or near a bus stop or bus zone.

### Informal school bus stops

Informal bus stops are not sign posted and are usually found in rural areas. They may be at the front of a property, or on the side of the road, which may make children difficult to see.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

**STOP!**  
one step back from the kerb

**LOOK!**  
continuously both ways

**LISTEN!**  
for the sounds of approaching traffic

**THINK!**  
whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

More information is available on the Parents section of Safety Town: [www.safetytown.com.au/parents](http://www.safetytown.com.au/parents)