

# LASALLE STAR

*De La Salle*



Issue # 1

2 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to all of our Lasallian families!



On Tuesday, our new cohort Year 7 and 11 & 12 students commenced. Wednesday, the rest of the students returned.

We also welcomed our new Parish Priest at St Felix deValois Parish, Father Van Nguyen, who was introduced to our students during our College Assembly.



## DUX OF THE COLLEGE 2017



We congratulate our Year 12 cohorts for their wonderful results in the HSC.

Special mention goes to Brian Vu, who is DUX of the College for 2017. Brian received an ATAR of 98.5.

Attached to this newsletter, is a 2017 HSC Achievements Flyer for your perusal.



Michael Egan  
Principal

## 2018

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### FEBRUARY 2018

- 6 Student Photo IDs
- 13 Shrove Tuesday
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 16 Year 7 Vaccinations
- 23 Swimming Carnival

#### MARCH 2018

- 19-20 Year 7 Camp
- 29 Holy Thursday
- 30 Good Friday

#### APRIL 2018

- 1 Easter Sunday
- 2 Easter Monday
- 13 LAST DAY OF TERM 1



## COMMITMENT · CONFIDENCE · SUCCESS



Smartphone school to parent communication

To make communication more available to all our parents and carers we have purchased a mobile App, Skoolbag. This is a free App for all parents to download onto their mobile phones, once downloaded you search for our school name, LaSalle Catholic College, and install.

You will be able to receive our newsletters, notices etc free of charge.

### HOW TO INSTALL SKOOLBAG ON YOUR SMARTPHONE! IPHONE & IPAD USERS

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open".

### ANDROID USERS

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



### FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

Welcome back to the 2018 school year. I hope you had a wonderful holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready to start focused towards working to your personal best. I know in my early conversations with students that, whilst the holidays were great, most are keen to be back in the College environment. I welcome all new students to the College; in particular. I congratulate the vast majority of students who have started 2018 with a clear focus on their learning and have showed an obvious pride towards their College in the manner that they have worn the uniform and taken care with their grooming. To this end I remind you that the College uniform guidelines can be found in the Student Diary on page 12 – 13.

### NSW VACCINATION PROGRAM 2018:

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

**Parent Information Kits** that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child's school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic either as a physical card or a text message sent to the mobile number recorded on the consent form (within 1 business day). Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.





## **COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL STAFF – INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS**

Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) are warm and welcoming local communities and parents are encouraged to engage with school staff to get to know them.



Open parent communication is vital in establishing a working partnership with your child's school. There are ways however, that parents can prepare for discussions with their teachers and schools that will assist in achieving the best possible educational outcome for their child.

It is important that parents and carers follow appropriate communication protocols to ensure a collaborative dialogue.

### **FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS**

Parents are encouraged to chat to school staff and get to know them. Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) are warm and welcoming local communities.

However, if you wish to discuss anything specific in relation to your child, it is important to make an appointment and have this conversation confidentially.

Teachers are available to meet with parents and guardians at scheduled parent/teacher afternoons or evenings to discuss your child's progress. Your child's teacher or school leader may also contact you to arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss a particular issue regarding your child. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher or a school leader outside of those occasions about a particular issue, please contact the school office to arrange a meeting time with reasonable notice.

Due to obligations for teaching, supervision, meetings and extra-curricular activities, it will be rarely possible for a staff member to meet with you immediately if you attend the school site without notice. If there is an urgent matter you need to discuss with a member of school staff, please contact the school office directly.

Please do not attempt to meet with your child's teacher or a school leader about your child at morning drop off, afternoon pick up or another school event. During drop off, pick up and at school events, teachers and school leaders are often on duty supervising students. If they were to engage in one-on-one conversation of any length with a particular parent this may cause them to neglect their supervision duties to all students.

### **PHONE CALLS**

All phone calls to school staff should be via the school main reception line. Each school reception is generally open for phone calls between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm.

Teachers and school leaders will ordinarily be teaching or meeting during that time and will rarely be available to speak with you immediately, but the school reception will take a message and alert the class teacher as soon as practical.

If a matter is urgent, please alert the school support officer in reception accordingly. Urgent matters include urgent health issues impacting students (eg. forgotten medication), police issues or serious issues impacting student wellbeing.

For non-urgent matters, school staff, including teachers, will return your call or enquiry within three days.

If you become aware that your child or another parent has a teacher's mobile number please inform the school office. Please ensure that you do not communicate with your child's teacher by mobile phone.



## COMMITMENT · CONFIDENCE · SUCCESS

### EMAILS

Emails are a helpful way to communicate with your child's school.

For non-urgent matters school staff including teachers will return your email or enquiry within three working days during school term time. School staff are not required to return emails at night or on weekends and ordinarily will not be checking emails during those hours.

We would encourage parents and carers to phone the school directly regarding any urgent matters as there may be a delay in receiving emails.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

School staff are not able to connect with students, parents or guardians via social media for child protection reasons. Please do not attempt to contact school staff via social media.

While parent involvement is crucial to every aspect of school life, school names and logos are trade registered. Parents/guardians are therefore asked to seek permission from their local school principal before setting up groups in the school name or using the school's logo on social media.

### WRITTEN NOTES

Primary school parents/guardians should feel free to communicate with their child's school by sending them to class with a note for the office or their teacher.

Secondary school parents/guardians may communicate with school staff via the student diary.

Any messages from your child's teacher will also be communicated via the student diary, so please ensure that you check and sign your child's diary at least once a week to show you have read these messages.



Sydney Catholic Schools

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### SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

Please be advised that all School Fee Statements were issued on Thursday 1st February. If you have not received your statement, please contact Mrs McGrath on 9793 5600.

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### STUDENT ID PHOTOS

**Tuesday, 6th February is Student Photo IDs.** This is for all new students and staff, who have started with LaSalle this year.

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31 January 2018

### **SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY REMAINS A FOCUS FOR THE NSW GOVERNMENT**

The spotlight is on NSW's most precious pedestrians, with the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Melinda Pavey today making changes to parking offences around schools.

The changes to some parking offence penalties under the Road Transport Legislation Amendment Regulation 2017, comes as the NSW Government hits a major milestone in its \$10 million school infrastructure program.

Mrs Pavey said the changes to legislation will include seven new school zone offences and the loss of extra demerit points.

"The safety of our children is paramount, which is why we worked with a number of organisations to review parking penalties.

The offences include obstruct access to a ramp/path/passageway, stop on/near children's or pedestrian crossing, and stopping within 10 metres of an intersection without traffic lights.

Mrs Pavey said the changes come into force as the NSW Government completes a third of its school infrastructure program.

"Over the past two years the NSW Government invested \$10 million into school infrastructure, with \$5 million invested into school flashing lights, the other \$5 million into infrastructure," Mrs Pavey said. "This infrastructure work has included implementing raised crossings, line markings, fencing and kerb extensions as well as building pedestrian refuges.

"So far 54 schools around the state are now benefitting from the installation of these safety upgrades." Mrs Pavey said since 2013 there have been no pedestrian deaths in an operational NSW school zone, and we want to keep it this way.

"Every school in NSW already has at least one set of school zone flashing lights installed to warn motorists they are about to enter a 40km/h speed zone.

"Since coming to government in 2011 we have delivered 6,000 flashing lights across the state."

**MEDIA: Minister Pavey | Jessica Cole | 0437 767 663**