

LASALLE STAR

De La Salle



Issue # 6

13 April 2018

ACTING PRINCIPAL TERM 1 WEEK 1



In Week 1 of Term 2, Dr Dan White, Executive Director of Schools for the Archdiocese of Sydney will be assuming the position of Acting Principal at LaSalle Catholic College, Bankstown. This is a rare opportunity to have such close contact for a sustained period with such a highly regarded educational Leader.

He is very much looking forward to being part of the LaSalle community, and leading a Spirituality Day for staff members on the Monday.

I will be taking a period of professional development leave in that week. I plan to visit a leading Trade Training School and attend a conference on school governance during this time.

TERM 2 DATES

Saint Yon Classes resume on **Monday 30th April**.

LaSalle classes resume for students next term on **Tuesday May 1st**.

LEAVE APPLICATIONS: Forms for leave applications are available at the office and on our website. Parents are strongly advised to avoid planning holidays during term time for students in Years 11-12. Time off in these latter years invariably has a very negative effect on student achievement. Only in the most rare circumstances will extended leave be approved for senior students.

SCHOOL BAGS: The current school bag is ergonomically designed and presents the safest way for all students to carry what they need to and from school. We are very reluctant to approve any other style of bag for any length of time. Other styles such as wheelie bags tend to wrench shoulders and present a trip hazard for others. A number of students are currently bringing bags in carrying way over the 5kg target that we know is achievable on most days. How to ensure a bag is a safe weight:

- minimise decorations.
- carry in an empty water bottle and fill it at school
- only bring the books needed for that day (most days only require the laptop and diary and up to the five exercise books for five lessons)
- remove uneaten food (the record here stands at 27 uneaten lunches, please don't try and beat this)
- make sure PE gear is dry and only bring when needed
- consider a locker, this means only 2 lessons worth of books need to be carried.

I keep a set of scales in my office and am happy to help students lighten bags.

2018

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

30 Staff Development Day

Saint Yon Students Return

MAY

1 **TUESDAY** Term 2 LaSalle Students return

4 SCC Cross Country

7 Year 11/12 Business Studies Excursion

8 'Try a Trade' Day External
9.00am 'Meet the Principal'

You are invited to 'Meet the Principal' Michael Egan

*Dates: Tuesday 8th May or
Wednesday 16th May*

Time: 9.00am

*Rsvp: Mrs Anne Saliba on
(02) 9793 5600*



Michael Egan
Principal



FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

We have reached Week 11 of Term 1 and it is hard to believe that such a long term has come to an end. Within these weeks there has been so much achieved by the students and teachers. Our Commencement Mass and College Leader Investiture was wonderful and it was so good to witness the parents and families pride as they badged their Year 12 son with their captaincy pin. There was the highly successful LaSalle Swimming Carnival where so many students enjoyed the day at Auburn Aquatic Centre. The senior students certainly led the way with their chants and comradeship. The Year 7 students shared an exhilarating time at Nepean Camping grounds. This enabled friendships to be forged whilst engaging in many challenging team activities.

Amongst these major occasions there was Reflection Days, a Year 9 Women's Conference, feeder school visits, Clancy Art Prize, Harmony Day celebrations, MCC and SCC representative opportunities. The annual Open Afternoon where 100s of future Lasallians and their families visit the school to help decide the future educational setting for their sons and daughters was most successful. I was particularly proud that over 120 current students volunteered to stay behind for three hours to showcase the school they are so proud to belong to.

I certainly look forward to working again in this community in Term 2.

Reminders:

TERM 2 UNIFORM

To the female students in Year 7-9: If your summer uniform has pilling on the back of your summer uniform, Lowes has expressed that they will accept the return of the uniform with a new uniform issued where appropriate. My advice would be to think about sizing, as you now will not need this uniform until Term 4.

The College continues to impress upon the students the importance of wearing the College uniform and PDHPE uniform neatly and with pride. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and students who support the College in this manner.

The Uniform Guidelines are published in the College Student Diary. It is the College's expectation that all students wear their uniform in a neat and tidy manner and that the full correct College uniform be worn at all times.

As we all know, when one is dressed properly one feels much better about themselves and this optimises the learning environment of the College. We will continue to apply high standards of uniform at the College in the belief that it instills self-discipline in our students.

As students return to Term 2 on Tuesday 1st May I would like to remind all that the correct full winter uniform is to be worn to and from school.

GIRLS: College kilt length just below the knee, white College shirt, College blazer, optional College bottle green jumper, black leather low heeled, lace-up shoes and College stockings 70 denier opaque black tights.

The same rules for make-up, nail polish, hair grooming and jewellery applies all year round.

BOYS: Long grey trousers, white College shirt, College blazer, optional College bottle green jumper, College tie appropriate to Year group, black leather lace-up shoes, short grey socks, black plain belt with simple buckle.

T-Shirts, polo shirts and spencers are not to be visible.

A reminder to have all items of clothing clearly labelled with your first and second name.

At LaSalle Catholic College we aspire to: **commit** to a deep love of learning, engender **confidence** in one's ability and to celebrate the **success** of all the members of our community.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you again next Term.

May God bless you all this autumn break.

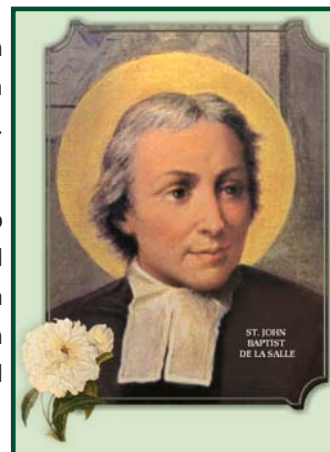


God bless,
Leonie Dowd

FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: MS KATHRYN WHITE**ST JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE FEAST DAY: 7TH APRIL**

St John Baptist de La Salle died April 7, 1719. The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St John Baptise de La Salle on the anniversary of his death. He was canonized a saint of the Catholic Church on May 24, 1900 and proclaimed patron of all teachers of youth by Pope Pius XII on May 15, 1950. Lasallians celebrate May 15 as Founder's Day.

St John Baptist de La Salle was an inspirational Christian educator who sacrificed wealth and luxury to dedicate his life to the poor. During the late 1600's in France, very few people could afford to send their children to school and many were uneducated and illiterate themselves. St John Baptist de La Salle left his home, gave up his wealth, renounced his position as a Canon, and moved in with teachers, which formed the Brothers of the Christian Schools. He provided free education and welcomed all students from many backgrounds. His legacy lives on in our College today.

**TERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS**

Next year in 2019, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and the Lasallian Family will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the death of our founder, Saint John Baptist de La Salle. The Institute has designated 2019 as the Year of Lasallian Vocations and throughout the world, events and celebrations are being planned to honour our common Lasallian heritage. LaSalle Catholic College will be participating in these celebrations as well as attending a Mass for Sydney Lasallian Schools in May 2019 at St Mary's Cathedral.

Pope Francis once said, *"We are pilgrims from death to the fullness of life."* With this understanding, the theme of the Tercentenary, One Heart, One Commitment, One Life represents the fullness of Saint de La Salle's life and the continued vitality of the Lasallian Mission and vocation in 80 countries around the world.

COURAGEUS YOUTH EVENT – TERM 1

On Friday evening, the Faith in Action group collaborated with students from Mount Saint Joseph and De La Salle Revesby for a CourageUs youth gathering.

Father Stephan began the evening with a Mass which enables us to set our minds on the words of Pope Francis to "get off the couches."

This was extended with our guest speaker, Luke from Catholic Mission who shared with us how we are taught in the Gospels how we can help others by doing little things, such as within the story of the Good Samaritan and how we can extend our faith in God and help our neighbours who are people we meet everyday.

Dinner was provided with pizza, drinks, chips and lollies. We engaged in fun activities such as minute to win it games which allowed us to challenge ourselves to meet other students. We gained points for our team and we tied with MSJ to the final round. The tie-breaker was a dance battle which was very competitive. This led to everyone dancing together.



We look forward to attending the next CourageUs youth events once a term throughout the year. **Harriet Owusu**



FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: MS JIZELLA AKKARI



News story

STUDENT NEWSLETTERS 2018

23 March 2018

Topic: HSC

Stages: Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10), Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12)

Over 205,000 Year 10, 11 and 12 students have received their first issue of NESA's Student News for 2018 on Thursday 22 March.

Schools are requested to check that their students have read them and to look out for future editions, as they contain important information that is relevant to them.

Students who did not receive a newsletter should check the email address in their Students Online account, accessed via [My Details](#). They will need to [activate their account](#) if they have not done so already.

Copies of all [student News](#) editions are available on the NESA website, including the latest editions of 2018:

- ◆ [HSC Student News](#)
- ◆ [Year 11 Student News](#)
- ◆ [Year 10 student News](#)

For more information, contact: Michael Charlton, Director, Communications, Media & Events. michael.charlton@nesa.nsw.edu.au (02) 9367 8248

FROM OUR LEADER OF PASTORAL CARE: MR ADAM WESTWOOD



CHARLI REID, YEAR 8 STATE CHAMPION

Congratulations to Charli Reid, our Year 8 student.

Charli was the first Bankstown Gold Medal winner from the NSW State Championships for U13 Girls with a jump of 5.19m. **Mr Adam Westwood**

Well Done!

YEAR 12 LEADERSHIP REPORT

Term 1, 2018 had begun with Year 12's continuation of their final school year. The Year group has adopted the theme, *"We Believe, We Can"*. This theme reflects a growth mindset that will allow us to confront the challenges and move forward in meeting the demands of our Senior year. Our Year 12 cohort do believe that with "confidence and commitment", we will succeed. We continue to work hard to ensure that we support each other on many levels of our school experience.

Our school experience has been shaped by our willingness to make the choices that will benefit ALL of us as we journey towards our final goal. Subsequently, the second term for the Seniors has meant that we have maintained a consistent approach to our studies within the classroom context and extensively studied and revised for our Half Yearly's. The cohort revised studying tips, creating study timetables, revising and doing past exam papers.

However, the Term was quite enjoyable as we gained a stronger bond and built relationships with other teachers. We would like to thank the teachers for their extensive efforts in class and their commitment to our Year group. Many teachers created after school classes for revision and studying. This was a very much appreciated offering.

As a cohort, we know that the journey is not over but we look forward to maintaining the consistency and sense of collegiality that will enable all of us to attain the best results possible.

"We are LaSalle and proud to be!"

Fadi Chadayda



“MUSIC GIVES A SOUL TO THE UNIVERSE, WINGS TO THE MIND, FLIGHT TO THE IMAGINATION AND LIFE TO EVERYTHING.”(PLATO)

Term 1, 2018 has seen the formation of the College Band and Vocal Ensemble comprising of Year 7 - 12 students. These musical students were provided with many opportunities to share their talents with the school community. The commitment of these students has been reflected in giving up their lunch times and afternoons for rehearsal in preparation for various events.

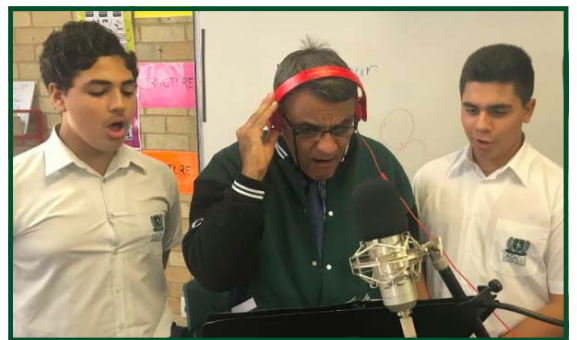
The Music Department is currently seeking to provide as many opportunities for the students to develop their solo and ensemble awareness and instrumental skills.

The group has led the community with songs written by our very own Mr John Jacobs at the College Opening/Ash Wednesday Mass, Commissioning of the Senior Leaders and the Easter Liturgy.

Students also had the opportunity to engage in the Harmony Day songwriting competition, as well as, perform and record the LaSalle Catholic College entry. Harmony Day is an event held to promote a harmonious society and this year’s theme was *“Everyone Belongs”*.

The College Band learned, recorded and performed our song *“Everyone Belongs”* written by Mr Jacobs to highlight the importance of embracing differences within our community.

Mr John Jacobs



*“So let us
sing a song,
that
everyone
belongs.”*

SPEED DATING IN HSC CLASSES!

In preparation for their upcoming assessment task (a Viva Voce), the Standard English classes conducted a ‘speed dating’ lesson to gauge their perfect match!

Students asked each other questions related to their prescribed text and their chosen related text.

The classroom was abuzz with animated conversations and the feedback proved useful as their performances in the actual speaking task the following week were thoughtful and confident. **Mrs Pamela Barrington-Smith**



**LEARNING CENTRE NEWS:
MRS ANNE NOWAKOWSKI**

Is it good to listen to music while studying?

Should you listen to music when studying?

In an ideal world we would probably say no music while doing schoolwork except classical baroque / instrumental music which actually can help your memory by getting the brain into a relaxed state. But a good compromise is as follows.

If the work is not very difficult, and fairly routine, then you can have whatever music you like on. It will make you feel relaxed, it will make you feel like the time is going faster and help you stick to completing the work you need to do.

But if the work requires higher order thinking skills, i.e. studying for a test, trying to understand something difficult, doing an essay plan, trying to learn or remember anything – then switch the music off. Otherwise it will end up taking you much longer to complete the task and to retain what you are learning (even though you are convinced it is not affecting you!).

Just get in the habit of stopping and asking yourself each time before you start work whether it is the type of work that requires you to really focus and concentrate and if it is – switch the music off for a while. The same approach goes for doing work in front of the TV.

You might also like to visit the **Dealing with Distractions** unit at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au for some more ideas and in particular blocking software for technology distractions.

Our school's subscription details are –

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Username: lasalle

Password:544achieve

We wish you all
a safe
and
happy holiday.

PLAY TOUCH FOOTBALL
ANYONE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!

Jets Winter Development Competition
Boys and Girls aged 4 – 17
Skills, drills and games for all ages and skill levels with qualified coaches and trainers

Monday's from 9 April 2018 @ 4:30pm

Registration is \$25 per player
REGISTER Online at
www.bankstownjets.com.au

Learn the Game and Play the Game

Summer Competition commences 3 September, please contact us for more info.

Touch Football is a minimal contact sport played by all ages and skill levels. It provides a great social environment for all of its participants regardless of gender or ability.

BANKSTOWN Jets TOUCH

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