



ANZ PRINCIPALS TOUR PNG

Thirteen Australian Principals/Assistant Principals and one New Zealand Principal from Lasallian schools, accompanied by three Brothers and three members of the Lasallian Mission Council (LMC), attended Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) for three days of meetings and school visits, Thursday 28 Feb to Saturday 2 March.



PNG, which is one of the four Sectors that comprise the Lasallian District of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea (ANZPPNG), has a rich history of Lasallian education, and the tour enabled the visiting school leaders to gain first-hand understandings of the particular challenges facing colleagues and students in our near neighbour's schools.

This was especially important since Australian and New Zealand schools offer financial, materiel and professional development support through the Twinning project with PNG and Pakistan. There were any number of highlights, including, but not limited to the:

- ◆ fine camaraderie and engagement evident amongst the ANZ and PNG Principals, teachers and students celebration of the Eucharist at Jubilee College, Fr John Glynn's fine homily, the wonderful music & singing,
- ◆ the offertory procession (how moving to see so many local students with so little, offering so much to those with even less than themselves)
- ◆ the high-quality reflections among the ANZ Principals as the tour drew to a close, including "Where to from here?"

Our "Twinned" school is LaSalle High School in Faisalabad, Pakistan where the staff and students greatly appreciate our support. When touring the schools in New Guinea it was

pleasing to see some of the resources sent across in earlier container projects being put to good use still.



Michael Egan
Principal



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

2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 2019

- 27 Year 11 PDHPE Bodyworks
Town Hall Excursion
- 28 MCC Cross Country

APRIL 2019

- 4 MCC Football Gala Day
- 5 Year 9 Reflection Day G1
Year 9 Science Excursion G1
- 8 Year 9 Reflection Day G2
Year 9 Science Excursion G2
- 9 Year 7 & 12 Parent/Teacher/
Student Meetings 3.30pm to
7.30pm
- 10 Year 10 Tech Savvy
- 12 Lent/Easter Liturgy 9.45am
All Parents/Carers Welcome

LAST DAY OF TERM 1



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FROM OUR ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS JIZELLA AKKARI

NEWMAN TESTING

Last Wednesday 13th March the College hosted the Newman testing day for 2020 students. We had a magnificent turn out of Year 6 students who sat a number of tests so they would be considered for our Newman Gifted Education Selective Program.

At the end of the day these young students and their families were invited to stay and join in with the College Open Day activities.

OPEN DAY

Open Day was held on Wednesday 13th March from 3.00pm – 5.30pm. We had many Year 5 and 6 students from all our major feeder schools attend the afternoon. Staff and many students showcased our curriculum, lead tours and informed prospective parents and students about the College.

We had over 80 students assist during the afternoon and they are to be congratulated on their wonderful leadership and conduct. This is by far the largest group of students who have had assist us at this event.

They spoke about the wonderful activities and events they do at the College to parents and Year 5 and 6 students, some demonstrated their skills and talents with demonstrations, others led groups around the school speaking generally about the College.



CLANCY PRIZE

On Friday night 15th March, Ms Maude and Ms Woods accompanied some of our students whose art works were exhibited in the Clancy Prize Competition. This competition is held every year and involves many Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese exhibiting works from Years 7–12.

The competition has a theme that all entrants must meet when submitting their piece. This year the theme was *“A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”* Pope Francis. LaSalle entered three pieces of work, all three pieces were examples of collaborative work, two paintings and a ceramic piece.

Congratulations to the students and staff for their efforts.



HARMONY DAY

On Tuesday 19th March the College ran a number of activities to commemorate Harmony Day (officially Thursday 21st March.) Many students participated in events run such as creating Harmony Walls in their classrooms using orange paper with positive visions, quotes or drawings and music was played by students during recess for everyone's entertainment. A huge congratulations goes out to the staff and students who ensured that the day was well noted.

COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

My thanks to those parents who are actively using the diary for everyday communication with teachers. It is helpful to remind your child to show any such message to the relevant teacher when next they see them.

For more detailed communication with staff, parents are welcome to use email but please be aware that answering emails is not a high priority task compared to actual teaching and lesson preparation and may take a couple of working days to have time to give a considered response.

Email communications between students and teachers are becoming more and more common. Some staff are particularly generous with their time and responses, in some cases in real time. The actual expectation for teachers to do this, is the same as for communication with parents and certainly not to carry on communication outside normal school hours.

I am aware that a number of students are not checking their school email on a regular basis. This is not ideal. I invite parents to check their child's email with them tonight to see how they are going with reading their school emails.

Urgent matters should be raised with the College via telephone and if a message is left it should include some detail as to the reason for the urgent communication and who it should be directed to. We endeavour to respond to such calls within 24 hours.



Jizella Akkari

FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: MR PETER STRUDWICK

THINKING OF OTHERS DURING LENT

"Whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me" (Matt 25:40)

In this time of year we are all very busy, whether it be with keeping up with assessments, classwork, homework and everything else in our lives. This busyness can result in tunnel vision, which often prevents us from taking the time to consider the every day acts of kindness that are all around us. I know that my own focus on getting through the "to do list" sometimes stops me from appreciating the positive contributions that our students, your children, constantly make in our College.

Throughout my time I have noticed a number of the selfless acts performed by our students as they go about their daily routines, during this Lent I encourage our students to think about others and perform daily acts of kindness, some actions could include:

- carrying schoolbags for their peers who are injured.
- cleaning up rubbish in the yard
- assisting teachers to carry heavy items to class
- escorting injured or sick peers to sick bay
- sharing food with their friends
- helping a peer to understand the classwork



I know that many other kind acts were carried out by students this week. While it's so easy to get caught up in the misguided choices that we see others make, it is far more rewarding to find the generous ones.



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FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: MR PETER STRUDWICK

PROJECT COMPASSION

Two weeks into our Project Compassion appeal for Caritas Australia, we are well and truly on our way to achieving our goal of \$6,000. This week as a College we are up to \$1,896.35.

Below is the breakdown of each year group's achievement so far. Congratulations to Year 7 and in particular 7.5, who have raised the most so far in the school. Keep up the great work!!

Year Groups	Total	Best Class	Total
Year 7 Total	\$584.70	7.5	\$247.90
Year 8 Total	\$293.90	8.2	\$111.45
Year 9 Total	\$211.15	9.6	\$60.95
Year 10 Total	\$157.85	10.5	\$44.65
Year 11 Total	\$212.35	11B	\$89.85
Year 12 Total	\$436.40	12L	\$184.00

YEAR 9 PASS STUDENTS - SYDNEY INDOOR CLIMBING GYM

On Wednesday 27th February, Year 9 PASS went on an excursion to Sydney Indoor Climbing Gym at Villawood.

The students participated in a rock climbing session which enabled them to practically incorporate the key concepts learnt in class. They could visually understand how different components of fitness can be applied to rock climbing.

Students were taught about the safety of rock climbing and then braved different walls, most of who thoroughly enjoyed the challenge.

Overall, the students once again demonstrated that commitment and confidence will lead them to success. **Christina Turiano**





FROM OUR ACTING LEADER OF TEACHER & LEARNING: MR GINO VALORE

2019 YEAR 7 & 12 PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS AND REPORTS

Parents have a significant impact on their children's educational achievements. In fact, parental engagement overrides all other factors that have been shown to influence a child's achievement. It is therefore critical that teachers and parents develop effective relationships to bridge student learning between home and school.

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

To facilitate this, LaSalle Catholic College invites all parents and students of Year 7 and Year 12, to attend Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews on **Tuesday 9th April from 3.30pm - 7.30pm in the School Gym.**

**PARENT
TEACHER
INTERVIEWS**

During this time teachers will be addressing respective Interim and Half Yearly reports for Years 7 and 12, handed out during Week 10. The reports will cover a number of areas including student's level of application towards their studies, classwork and behaviour, providing students with an opportunity to obtain feedback to improve and succeed. These reports will also contain an invitation to students and their parents in Year 7 and Year 12 to attend the upcoming Parent/Teacher/Student Interview Night.

Parents are invited to make interview appointments with their child's teachers via the Sentral Online Portal Booking System, details of which will be circulated in the coming weeks.

YEAR 11 AND 12 LEGAL STUDIES EXCURSION

'The keystone to justice is the belief that the legal system treats all fairly.' Janet Reno

On Tuesday 5th March, the Year 11 and 12 Legal Studies classes visited Downing Centre Local and District Court, followed by the Justice and Police Museum.

Students had the opportunity to view a range of cases in the Local and District Court which were shocking, amusing, informative and educational. From a contract killer case, domestic violence trial to summary crimes, students saw the law, and their syllabus, in practice.

Their reactions and opinions to real life criminal issues was a proud moment for their teachers,

as the students were mature and were able to

discuss matters through a legal perspective.

After a quick walk and break for lunch, students were involved in a mock trial at the Justice and Police Museum. Some of the students are destined for a career in law! Overall, it was a fascinating and engaging excursion.

A thank you to Mrs Montuouro for accompanying Ms Bou-Simon and both classes on the excursion.

Ms Natalie Bou-Simon





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What is ACYF?

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC). It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.



Purpose

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival exists to:

- Provide a high-quality formative and experiential opportunity for young Catholics to encounter Jesus Christ, in the context of the Catholic Church in Australia
- Listen to and discuss the issues and challenges in the lives of young Catholics in Australia
- Evangelise young people and empower them to evangelists
- Provide young people with local examples and connections of vocations, social action, liturgy and prayer, catholic music and catechesis.

When / Where / Who

The Archdiocese of Perth is hosting the next event from December 8th-10th 2019 on behalf of the ACBC. Approximately 9.30am – 8.30pm each day.

Venue

The 2019 Festival will be held at **Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre**, 21 Mounts Bay Road, Perth, WA 6000



PERTH CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

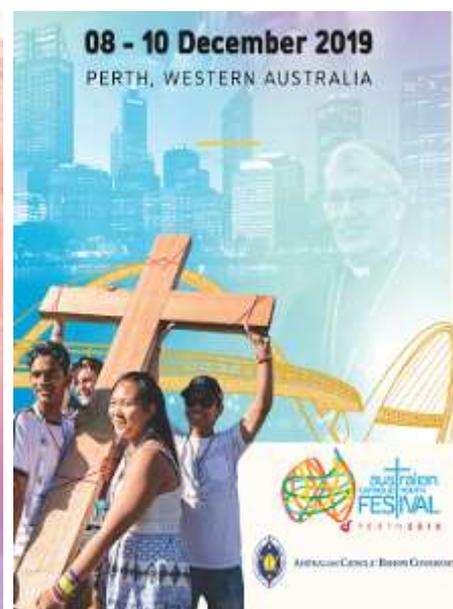
Who is the Festival For?

Young people from Year 9 (in 2019) to young adults 30 years of age are invited to the event.

NB: Young people under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

Adapted from: <http://youthfestival.catholic.org.au/resources/>

Christina Breda

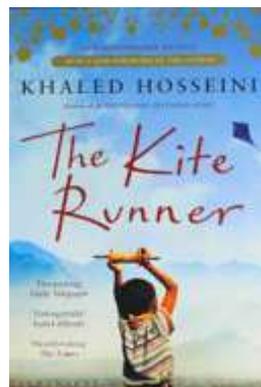
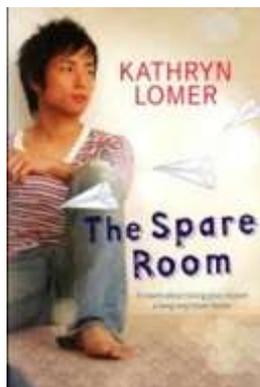
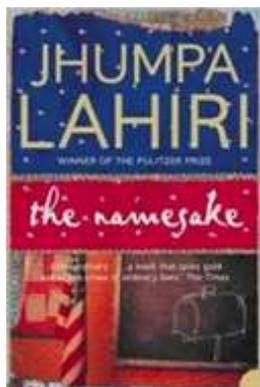
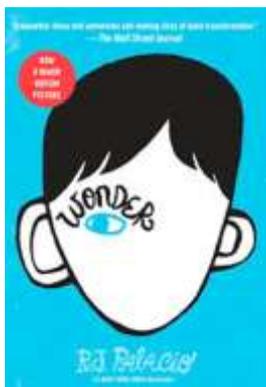
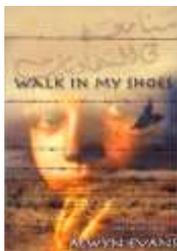




FROM THE LEARNING CENTRE

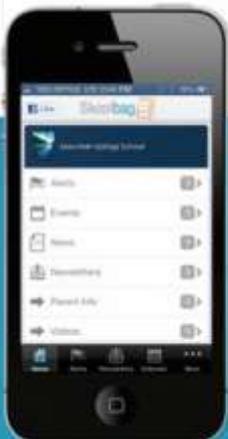
Harmony Week in the Learning Centre where 'everyone belongs'

*"If you want to know a person, listen to their stories
If you want to know a nation, listen to its people's stories."*



PARENTS/CARERS, STUDENTS & TEACHERS:

Please download the Skoolbag App to your mobile phone.

Skoolbag 
Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students





St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

- **Family Picnic:** A picnic is being held on Sunday 7th April straight after the 10am Mass in the grotto area. A great opportunity to come together to talk to each other and meet new parishioners and families in a relaxed environment. BYO picnic lunch, drinks, chairs and blankets. All welcome.
- **Stations of the Cross:** The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 7.30pm during Lent. All welcome.
- **Ashes to Easter:** Peter Kearney will conduct a prayerful sequence of stories and reflections, songs and hymns relevant to Lent and Easter at **St Brendan's Church, 54 Northam Ave Bankstown, on Friday 22nd March** commencing at 7pm. The cost is \$10 at door. All welcome.

SCREEN OVERUSE / ADDICTION IN CHILDREN AND TEENS

Dr Wayne Warburton Associate Professor of Psychology, Macquarie University



Venue:	St Mary's Catholic Primary School 144 Rex Road, Georges Hall
Date:	Wednesday 27 March 2019
Time:	6:30 - 7:30
Content:	Screen Overuse/Addiction in Children and Teens

Upcoming Event
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Wednesday 27 March, 2019



Screen Overuse / Addiction in Children and Teens

Dr Wayne Warburton Associate Professor of Psychology, Macquarie University



From Wayne...



Many parents tell me they are concerned about the levels of screen use they see in their children and teenagers. This isn't surprising - the most recent US polls show that teenagers have an average recreational (non-educational) screen use of 9 hours and 40 minutes a day, with their parents averaging more than 70 hours in Australia we are not far behind. We now know that about 50% of children use screens at a level that has a negative impact on key areas of their life, and that around 1-2% have a severe screen use problem that requires treatment. For a lot of children, a key issue is around video games, and this fits with the recent identification by the World Health Organisation of Gaming Disorder as a serious mental health problem for some kids. This talk will examine screen overuse/addiction, including the impacts on a child's developing brain, and will provide practical advice on managing screen overuse and promoting a healthy media diet.

Details

Venue: St Mary's Georges Hall School, Cnr Georges Cross, and Rex Road School Hall
Date: Wednesday 27 March
Time: 6.30pm
Open to all parents of students of Sydney Catholic Schools
To Register: Complete your details in this [Registration Form](#).
Important Note: This is a presentation for PARENTS only, not suitable for students to attend.

