



NEWSLETTER

WEEKS: 1-2 | TERM: 3 | 2019

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL...



Dear Members of the St John's Catholic College Community,

Schools are busy places, and for those with boarding care, such as St John's Catholic College, even busier. For 24 hours, 7 days a week, throughout the school year, there are Staff and Students on site, engaged in learning opportunities or more relaxing 'family-like' outings on the weekends. As a newcomer to St John's, I would like to affirm the work of the College as 'social justice in action'. Below are just a few examples.

#strong together:

Week One of Term Three might have been calendared for only three school days because of boarding travel day and the Darwin Show day, but staff began on Monday (July, 22) with an interactive workshop on Restorative Practices, facilitated by Scott Mannion, Head of Boarding. Thank you Scott. The aim

of Restorative Practices is to develop healthy relationships that make all individuals and our community strong together. These practices include really getting to know Students, loving them, forgiveness, learning from one another's mistakes, and Students getting to know the adults around them, and trusting one another so that we all feel safe and secure enough to learn together for a better future.

New students arrive:

During the first week, our community was blessed with the arrival of 10 new Students, transferring from local schools as day students, international students, children from refugee families, and those seeking Boarding for the learning opportunities the College's unique multicultural community offers.

Formally, we welcomed new and returning Students at an assembly, during which I was warmly welcomed back to this wonderful community as 'Dr T'. I am happy to report that I have witnessed many examples of our Students helping one another inside and outside the classroom. Indeed, thank you to the many Students who have made the additional effort of personally asking about my family and interests, making me quickly feel a member of the College community, and confirming what Milliscent Matika (Year 10) had told me as she proudly offered me a plate of pancakes she had cooked in class: 'Students here are very friendly'.

We are pleased that following last week's enrolment interviews a further four new Students will be joining the College, as soon as travel arrangements can be made. Working in partnership with the Melaleuca Refugee Centre, we continue to receive applications from prospective Students. Two refugee children we have enrolled recently, Aline and Patrick, showed me on a map how they had come from Uganda, through Dubai, Perth and are now settling in Darwin. They are being supported by one of our school Captains, Morice Mutalemba, and a past student now Staff member, Lizette Mutalemba. Thank you to all Staff and Students who are ensuring new students are being made welcome.

A lived and celebrated Catholic Identity at St John's Catholic College:

The College recognises we are a part of the wider Catholic Church. First, on Sunday (July 28) St John's Catholic College hosted Diocesan small group sessions on the first of six national themes for discernment: How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is missionary and evangelising? What does it mean to be 'missionary'? How do we 'evangelise'? There was prayer, reflection, discussion, respectful listening to one another's voices and recording of insights for the local and national Church.

Second, the Diocesan Leadership Conference during the holidays and the NT Catholic Education Executive Leadership gathering this week were held at the College. Among other topics safeguarding was discussed, reflecting our commitment to working together to create environments that are safe and feel safe, and so respect the dignity of each child, young person and vulnerable adult.

Third, we welcomed consultant Frank Fitzgerald, a retired experienced Catholic Principal, who spoke with Students and Staff as part of a review of Religious Education in senior school across Catholic schools in the Northern Territory. We look forward to receiving his report of findings to help us continue to grow this most important focus of the College.

Finally, I have been gifted a Religious Education class of Students (12-18 year olds) for who English may be their third language. Their enthusiasm for learning, their support of one another, their resilience and their uninhibited spirituality, so far, has seen two girls praising God with such angelic French singing that brought a tear to many of their peers (and myself) and a young man (from India) who wrote in script and then said his prayer in his mother tongue. His prayer gave strong witness, and also was very moving. Now, like others in the class, he will seek help to translate his prayer into English – and there are plenty of Staff members ready to help.

God continue to bless us all!

Dr Amelia Toffoli
Acting Principal



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Members of the St John's Catholic College Community,

Year 9 Retreat: Term 3: Tuesday 10th September at the College

The Year 10 Retreat is an important part of our students' spiritual and personal growth at St John's Catholic College, it is therefore a compulsory event for students to attend. The students will spend 2 days at the Mary River Wilderness Retreat from Thursday 22nd to Friday 23rd August, exploring the theme of 'Shoot for the Stars.' The Retreat aims to reinforce in students a positive self-image, to reflect on significant relationships and life experiences, and to explore the presence of God in one's life. The program consists of large group input, small group discussions and personal reflection time. A Liturgy on the second day also provides valuable prayer experiences for each of the students.

On Thursday 15th August the Church celebrates the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady when according to our faith, the Holy Mother, "having completed her course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory".

The Assumption signals the end of Mary's earthly life and marks her return to heaven to be reunited with Jesus. While the bodies of both Jesus and Mary are now in heaven, there is a difference between the Assumption and the Resurrection. Where Jesus arose from the tomb and ascended into heaven by his own power, Mary's body was taken up to heaven by the power of her Son. For this reason we use different words to describe each event. One is the Ascension of Christ and the other, the Assumption of Mary.

Year 7 and Year 9 Retreat Dates:

The Year 7 & 9 Retreat will be facilitated by the St Edmund's staff and students who will be visiting the College from the Saturday 7th – Wednesday 11th September.

Mass for Assumption Day will be celebrated at the College on Thursday 15 August at 8:45am. All are most welcome to join us in celebrating this most joyful occasion.

Year 7 Retreat: Term 3: Monday 9th September at the College

Denise Simon
Assistant Principal: Religious Education



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

Dear Members of the St John's Catholic College Community,

Of course, the start of this term brought the Royal Darwin Show, a favourite event of the year for most of our cohort. We escorted a large group of students to the Showgrounds on Friday and all who attended had a great time. Sideshow alley, terrifying rides and lots of sugary treats were the order of the day and our staff provided great support for the group across the day.

I am happy to offer everyone a warm welcome to the new Semester. We have had a good return of students to the College at the start of the term and it appears that our students and staff are happy to be back.

Our first couple of weekends are usually very busy and we are continuing that tradition this term, activities included a visit to the Nepalese festival at the waterfront, and fishing at Nightcliff Jetty. On Sunday we enjoyed a wonderful Mass with the returning students and Father Dave.

This term is a busy one academically, particularly for our senior students. Our Year 12 group is setting out to complete all of their major work this term and will be feeling a range of emotions about this. It is important to recognise that this is a very anxious time for our Year 12 group. As well as the pressure of completing all of their work, they have the anxiety related to moving out of the boarding house into the wider world. For some of our students this is a daunting prospect.

This week our students will enjoy a trip to Litchfield to swim at the waterfalls, we will visit the Indonesian Festival and Lake Leanyer on Sunday after attending Mass at St. Martin de Porres.

We will work through this with them and help to relieve the anxiety and support their school work. We will provide them with tools to use which will help deal with stress and help manage their workload. We will plan details for next year around finding work, continuing study, and other available options and how to manage this process.

I hope you all have a wonderful week.

Scott Mannion
Director of Boarding



Most of all we will provide a supportive network that they can call on as required over the final Semester of their school journey. We are very proud of them already and wish them all the best.



FROM THE ACTING PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING COORDINATOR



Dear Members of the St John's Catholic College Community,

Welcome back to Term 3, 2019. I hope you had a good rest during the Semester break. I would like to welcome Ms Shinead Love, Acting Head of Burford to the Pastoral Care Team. Shinead is the College's Digital Technology and Computer Product teacher and previously

held a position of Homeroom Teacher.

Support:

If you have concerns regarding your son/daughters overall progress or wellbeing, please contact your son/daughters Head of House via Email or Phone: 8982 2222:

Burford House: Ms Shinead Love: Shinead.Love@nt.catholic.edu.au

Daley House: Ms Katie Higgins: Katie.Higgins@nt.catholic.edu.au

O'Loughlin House: Mr. Jed Burley: Jed.Burley@nt.catholic.edu.au

Our College Staff have been requested to maintain open and ongoing communication with our parents/guardians to ensure an ongoing relationship is maintained.

Uniform expectations:

The College has very clear expectations about the College uniform. Students' uniform is monitored by the Homeroom Teachers and Head of House. Please support the College in ensuring that your son / daughter meets the College's uniform expectations. If students do not meet their expectations Heads of House will issue a consequence.

Formal Assembly: Cum Laude Awards Ceremony:

The Cum Laude Awards Ceremony is on Friday 9th August at 12:15PM in the Auditorium.

Shinya Nagaike

Acting Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Coordinator

Diocesan Leadership Conference



Well done to Makuer Akol Jok who represented the College at the Diocesan Leadership Conference. The focus of the 2019 conference was Child Safeguarding.



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: ADMINISTRATION



Dear Members of the St John's Catholic College Community,

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Thank you to all those parents/guardians who attended the Parent Teacher Interview Evening on Thursday 1st August. It was a good opportunity for teachers to meet and discuss your son/daughter's progress with you. If you were unable to make the evening,

please contact your son/daughter's Subject/Homeroom teacher if you would like to discuss their progress. Teachers will also be able to provide you with the Edmodo codes for current classes.

Academic Calendar:

The Academic Calendar for Term 3 has been electronically released on our school website. Parents/Guardians have been sent an email with pdf files of the Academic Calendar. Please access the Academic Calendar to find information about the assessments and due dates.

ACARA Item Trial:

St John's Catholic College has been selected for the ACARA Item Trial. All Year 7 and 9 students will undertake the Language Conventions and Reading trial tests in in week 4.

Year Level	Domain	Date	Time
7	Reading-Conventions of Language	12/8/2019	9:00 AM
9	Reading-Conventions of Language	13/8/2019	11:10 AM

Ayesha Fatima
Assistant Principal: Administration

Academic Care Team:

The Academic Care Team members for 2019 are as follows:

APRE Mrs Denise Simon
Denise.Simon@nt.catholic.edu.au

English/ Humanities Ms Annalea McCurry
Annalea.Mccurry@nt.catholic.edu.au

STEM (Interim HOF) Mrs Ayesha Fatima
Ayesha.Fatima@nt.catholic.edu.au

HPE/Arts Mr Ryan Trembath
Ryan.Trembath@nt.catholic.edu.au

Acting Inclusion Support Mr Navin Chandra
Navin.Chandra@nt.catholic.edu.au

VET/Careers Ms Tracey Ingui
Tracey.Ingui@nt.catholic.edu.au

Visual Arts Class



TB Unit
Block 4, RDH
Tiwi NT 0810

T 08 89228804
F 08 89228310
E debra.beaver@nt.gov.au

File Ref: EDOC2019/223488

Cameron Hughes
Principal
St Johns College
The Gardens
Darwin 0810

Dear Cameron,

Re: Outcome of Tuberculosis (TB) screening 2019

The TB unit Darwin has successfully completed the public health requirement to follow-up students and staff in your school who may have been exposed to TB.

We will continue to follow-up all the contacts with a positive Mantoux test as part of our service.

I wish to thank you for all your assistance and co-ordination in helping us achieve the screening process.

I also wish to acknowledge the work with the co-ordination and delivery of services from Rowen Winters your School Nurse. It was through her work that we were able to conduct our follow-up so efficiently.

Yours sincerely

Deb Beaver
Public Health RN

To Parents/Carers

On 8th August 2018, the NT Health Minister announced that a catch up program for Men ACWY vaccine will now be available for all children aged 2-19 years in urban Darwin to protect and reduce carriage and transmission of Men ACWY in the NT. **Statistics have shown a poor uptake of the MEN ACWY vaccine for children aged between 5-15yrs.** Please note this is a catch up program for children who have NOT previously received this vaccine.

This program is implemented due to recent outbreaks of Men W circulating Australia. For more information/statistics please visit www.health.nt.gov.au

The immunisation Nurses at the Palmerston GP Superclinic are available to immunise any child who is yet to receive the Men ACWY immunisation. Bulk billed 15 minute consults will be available Monday to Sunday 8-4pm. To make a booking or to make an enquiry please call Penny or Liz K at the Palmerston GP Superclinic on 89198919.

Most Children/Adolescents will require a single dose if vaccinated after 12 months of age.

The vaccines are very safe and incur the common vaccine side effects such as injection site pain, redness and fever – other side effects can be discussed with vaccination nurse at time of appointment.

Anyone outside the 1-19 year age bracket who would like to be immunised will need to see their GP and get a private script for Men ACWY. Meningococcal B is not being funded by NT government or the National immunisation scheme and people wishing to be vaccinated for this should also see their local GP for a private script.

Immunisation saves lives. It protects you, your family and your community. And it also helps protect future generations by eradicating diseases.

Regards

Liz Kennedy | Practice Nurse | FCD Health Ltd



Partnering with Territorians for a Healthier Life



T |+61 8 8919 8919 F |+61 8 8931 3737

Address | 3 Gurd Street Farrar NT 0830 Postal Address | PO Box 1850 Palmerston NT 0831

Email | elizabethkennedy@fcdhealth.net.au Web | www.fcdhealth.net.au