



# NEWSLETTER

WEEKS: 3-4 | TERM: 3 | 2019

## FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL...



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

### **Formal Assembly: Cum Laude Awards:**

It was with respect and expectation that all Staff and Students entered the College's Auditorium for Term 3's uplifting Cum Laude Awards Ceremony. This is a formal assembly where students who have excelled in their Semester 1, 2019 Reports are recognised, and their parents and friends of St John's Catholic College are also invited.

Emily Post (Yr 12) gave the Acknowledgement of Country, Morice Mutalemba (Yr 12), Lance Hutt (Yr 12) and Sharnique Oxtoby (Yr 12) led us in prayers, and together we sang the Australian National Anthem, before Dr Edwin Lourdes Joseph (MCNT President & FECCA Deputy Chair) inspired us

through his keynote address. Dr Joseph is passionate about serving the community and being active in public life. He spoke about diverse experiences, including roles in Education, Human Resource (HR), Project Management, Community Engagement, Research and Policy. Having migrated to Australia as an adult, Dr Joseph understands the problems faced by Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) people in Australia. He expresses his appreciation for opportunities offered to him, by being active in the refugee space, volunteering with Red Cross, Melaleuca Refugee Centre and DASSAN (Darwin Asylum Seeker and Advocacy Network).

Kada Hutt (Yr 8), Mirabelle Matyorautah (Yr 8), Veronica Thomas (Yr 9) and Madalena Matarazzo (Yr 11) received Cum Laude 'with honour' Awards. Maitashe Magodora (Yr 7), Raquel Caldwell (Yr 7), Maria Develos (Yr 7), Leonardo Soares (Yr 8), Leada Blackie (Yr 9) and Cadence Kavanagh (Yr 10) received Magna Cum Laude 'with great honour' Awards.

As Acting Principal, and daughter of Italian migrants, I Acknowledged Country in Italian and English. Then, I gave a vote of thanks to Dr Joseph for his keynote address and to Mr Shinya Nagaike, and everyone involved in preparing for and participating in this ceremony. I congratulated our award winners, but, I also reminded everyone that excellence applies to everyone. It is doing our personal best 'PB', and continuing to improve on our PB. St John's Catholic College community is special in so many ways, because of the many different cultures, languages and practices that enrich us every day. We are all different: we must 'do it our way', but, if we see a need, we must do something about it. Only if we all do this will we make the world a better place.

### **Block Grant Authority (BGA) visit:**

As part of the process of securing funds to upgrade Jubilee Hall, we welcomed Simon Duffy (Catholic Representative) and Mark Elkington (NTCSA Representative), who will forward to the relevant authority their assessment of the College's BGA application and their observations of the need for the upgrade made during their visit to the College. The success, or otherwise, for our funding application will not be known until Term 4.

### **Assumption Holy Eucharist:**

It was with much joy and reverence that our College community gathered in the Multipurpose room early on the 15 August, to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Holy Eucharist. Thank you to Fr Dave for including us all and for making the celebration more meaningful. Thank you also to the College Choir, under the direction of Katie Higgins, their angelic singing, moved us all to sing. Of particular note was the singing of the Aboriginal Our Father, especially for our visitors from Kupang.

Thank you Denise Simone for organising the celebration.

### **Cultural Exchange Program 2019:**

We were pleased to welcome 3 Staff and 18 Students from our Sister School, SMP Katolik St. Theresia Kupang. Our visitors are staying in the College Boarding 'Pods', having meals with the boarders and exchanging cultural understandings, going

to classes, shopping, Mindil Beach Markets, Leanyer Water Park, Territory Wildlife Park and other activities with their SJCC 'buddies'. Thank you to Ann Tan (College International Coordinator), to Scott Mannion (Head of Boarding) and all involved in this life changing Exchange Program.

Dr Amelia Toffoli  
Acting Principal



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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.

### 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.

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

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

On Thursday 15th August, the College celebrated 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.



Denise Simon  
Assistant Principal: Religious Education



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

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

This week a number of our Year 12 boarding students attended an introduction day, facilitated by North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA), to the Bilata Legal Pathways program. This program is developed to support young Aboriginal students to follow the pathway into legal services

and through study to become a part of the legal system as lawyers or other positions within the profession. We had 4 students attend on Monday and another two attended an evening session on Tuesday night.

We were excited to see ex-student Milima May, who is working with NAAJA come to support the program and invite our students to attend. She was very supportive of our students through the day. The idea was to give the students a look at the different opportunities that this program could provide. They attended a court session, were introduced to legal firms and looked at the roles within the different organisations within the legal industry.

All of our student were excited and interested by the day and are looking at options to enter the program next year.

Now is the time that all of our senior students are trying to identify pathways beyond this year and look at where they



hope to be working or studying going into the new year. It is an exciting and daunting time.

We thank those at NAAJA for providing this opportunity and hope that this has provided some options for our young people going forward.

Scott Mannion  
Director of Boarding



## FROM THE ACTING PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING COORDINATOR



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

Thank you to those who attended and supported the Cum Laude Awards Assembly on Friday 9th August (Week 3). Thank you to our Keynote Speaker, Dr Edwin Lourdes Joseph, MCNT President & FECCA Deputy Chair from Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory.



I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Scott Yumbulul who was presented with a Parramatta Eels Medal on Friday 2nd August. The medal recognises a student who follows PARRA principles of; Preparation, Attitude, Responsibility, Respect and Achievement in and out of the classroom. Thank you to Joshua Phillips, Community Partnerships Executive from Parramatta National Rugby League Club who presented the medal and attended our Attendance Awards Assembly.

Congratulations to those students who have received awards in the last two weeks. We will be looking forward to seeing your continuous achievements and excellence in the future.

Best wishes,

Shinya Nagaike  
Acting Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Coordinator





# "Say Cheese"



**MSP Photography  
are on their way!!!**

**School Photo Day is:**

*Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September*

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**Have your child's school memories  
captured forever.**

Please take time to read the relevant information  
on the MSP payment envelopes & remember  
these helpful points:

- Don't seal envelopes inside each other – You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day.
- Use the Shootkey on your envelope to order online!
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request.
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given – cash, cheques and money orders only. Credit card payments can only be made online.

Please feel free to visit our web site

[www.msp.com.au](http://www.msp.com.au)

For photo enquiries Phone: (08) 8132 1148 or Email: [enquiries.adl@msp.com.au](mailto:enquiries.adl@msp.com.au)