Dear Parents and Friends of St Patrick's College Community,

The flush of purple from the jacaranda trees around Sydney tells us that we are moving towards advent and the Christmas season in the church. The weather is warming and the chorus of crickets and cicadas will soon fill the air with sound. The end of the school year always seems to creep up so quickly and this year is no exception.

Soon you will receive your daughter's report. I encourage you to spend some time with your daughter, affirming her for the triumphs and exploring the areas she may need to attend to in 2016. A letter will accompany the report which will give instructions on how to contact staff should you have any enquiries regarding the report.

Staff are currently relocating in preparation for the building work next year. Staff are vacating the staff room as these areas will be refurbished for middle school learning spaces. Building won't begin in earnest until term 2, but with the fast pace of term 1 at the start of the year, we have established the staff for the beginning of the year to minimise any disruption. Reception will continue to be in the same place and any enquiries will need to be directed through there during 2016.

Through the week a number of ex-students spoke to the Year 10 girls in a program which prepared them for the HSC years. It was striking how articulate and confident these young women were in front of over one hundred students. They each shared stories of their journey after St Patrick’s and how the values learnt at the College continue to underpin how they live their life now. They were delightful and a great credit to their families and to the College. I believe the Year 10 girls found the program to be very beneficial and I thank the staff for organising and offering this opportunity to the girls. (see photographs below).
Sadly a past student, Josephine Gibson, class of 2003, tragically died recently in a helicopter accident in New Zealand. This is a great tragedy for her family and friends. We will keep Josephine and her family in our thoughts and prayers as they come to terms with their loss.

As we come to the end of the year, I would like to acknowledge a few staff who will be leaving us. We wish Miss Riedel and Miss Burdekin the very best in their future schools and thank them for their expertise and guidance. Mrs Arena will be taking leave for 2016 and we wish her the very best. After over ten years of service, Mr John Bunce will be retiring from the College. We thank John for his role as maintenance supervisor, which he has managed with great skill and commitment. We wish him a well-deserved break.

Next week we will be finishing the school year with the end of year mass, awards ceremony and earlier in the week the Performing Arts Challenge. I hope you will be able to attend some of these events as they are wonderful celebrations of a year lived well. Please contact reception so we can be sure to cater appropriately.

Thank you to those parents who completed bus forms at the last parent teacher interviews. Unbeknownst to us at the time, the bus applications have since changed. The introduction of the Opal card for school travel has necessitated families complete one form for all modes of transport. This form can be found online. We will continue to lobby for a safer service from Camden in the coming months. I would like to encourage all parents coming from this direction to apply for a bus pass even if you don’t currently use the service. This way we are able to demonstrate the number of families who would use the service if it was more accessible. We will keep you informed of our progress.

As this will be the last edition of the Inside Out for 2015, I would like to extend to you a very happy Christmas and joyful New Year. May you experience the wonder of the birth of Christ in the times you share with family and friends over the season. Thank you for your support of the College and entrusting your daughter with us. We greatly value the partnership we have with you and look forward to continuing this alliance in the new year. I leave you with a prayer in the lead up to this holy season.

Blessing
Sue Lennox, Principal

“Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come”
Mark 13:33

Loving God, help me to be alert to your call, shaping me into the image of your Son, Jesus
Amen
Dean Ron Peters Adm
As the College’s year-long commemorations of the centenary of Gallipoli come to a close, Year 9 have been studying a site study of the Australian War Memorial to complement their studies of World War I and II. Site studies are a course requirement whereby students study how a historical site has changed over time.

In class, Year 9 investigated the history of the Australian War Memorial from its inception by Charles Bean to its ongoing additions over time, including the more recent Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. At the Memorial, students were divided into eight groups, each named after an important war event or place, and were given a guided tour of the War Memorial. This tour encompassed all conflicts and students were also able to examine the recent war in Afghanistan and see first-hand the devastation caused by IEDs. Many were enthralled by the Gallipoli boat, still intact with bullet holes from the landing and the recently restored World War I dioramas. Some of the girls enjoyed the ‘G for George’ light and sound show in Anzac Hall.
At the War Memorial, Georgia K and Analysa R, whose great grandfathers both served in World War I, did the College proud laying a school wreath (in school colours) at the Stone of Remembrance. The whole grade observed one minute’s silence and pondered on what they had seen in the War Memorial. The Memorial staff placed this wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the close of day.

In the afternoon, Year 9 went to Parliament House where they undertook a tour and were able to observe Question Time both in the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the House of Representatives, the students observed and stood up for the condolence motion for the victims of the Paris terrorist attacks. They witnessed some fiery interchange over coal mines between Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Adam Bandt. They enjoyed trying to spot the famous faces finding Bill Shorten, Tony Abbott, Clive Palmer and our own MP Russell Matheson. The Senate was just as powerful and students watched Senator Sarah Hanson-Young passionately speak about the plight of refugees holding up a picture of a refugee boat for which she received a warning (props are not allowed to be used in the chamber). Students were also able to see Senator Deborah O’Neill from the gallery, an ex-student and special friend of the College.

Russell Matheson MP came and spoke to our girls after Question Time and spoke glowingly of St Patrick's commending us for our Anzac Day Schools Award and the acknowledgement it brought to the Macarthur area. He spoke to the girls about his career path becoming a politician and gave the girls the opportunity to ask him questions. He did not rush them and was candid and personable, offering advice to those girls who aspired to politics.

Many thanks to the leadership team for their support of this learning experience, Mr East, Mrs Power, Mr Stevens, Mrs Wilson, Mrs McDonald, Mrs Stalker-Booth, Mrs K Fetterplace, Mrs O’Brien and our volunteers Anne Kearney and Jeff McGill, who took these wonderful photographs for us. Below is a reflection from three of our Year 9 students.

Fran Musico-Rullo, HSIE Teacher

On Monday 23 November, we went to Canberra and visited the War Memorial and Parliament House. The adventure began when we departed on three large coaches at 7:15 am. We arrived at the War Memorial after a two and a half hour drive.

While at the War Memorial we got to see many relics, simulations and art pieces that were from the wars Australia has been part of. Our main focus of the tour was World War One and World War Two. On the tour we were shown artworks, dioramas and photographs which really put the wars into perspective. A main highlight was exploring the plane artifacts whether they were in ruins or in complete form. In particular the World War Two bomber plane simulator was enjoyable as we got to experience first hand what it was like on a bomber in World War Two. Walking through the Honour Roll was a meaningful experience, in which some students were allowed to place poppies on the names of their ancestors. Walking into the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was very moving and confronting as it made us realise how many soldiers would have gone unrecognised or forgotten. While there, we were able to understand the Memorial was not built to show victory, but as a place where people can come to reflect and to remember. We were able to appreciate the hard
work and passion that has gone into creating the Memorial and restoring its relics. Overall the War Memorial was a great experience and we would have loved to spend a whole day there exploring the beauty in it. We all had a lot of fun exploring the Memorial in our groups.

We then travelled to Parliament House where we were able to watch Federal question time and Senate question time. Both were extremely intriguing and many good points were raised. We were able to see both our Federal and Senate politicians working in action. Interesting points were debated, with some causing an outburst of emotions in some politicians. We learnt that after a minute, the speaker cuts the politician off, even if they have not finished speaking, which was quite amusing. After we saw both question times, we went and had afternoon tea, where Russell Matheson came and spoke to us. While he was there, he answered many questions and gave us an insight into the world of politics. We all thought this was a rewarding experience, from which we took a great deal.

The day was long but very enjoyable. As a year group, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the teachers and staff members who came with us on the excursion. Also, an even bigger thank you to Mrs Musco-Rullo for organising the event and making sure it flowed smoothly. This was a brilliant trip that we all thoroughly enjoyed.

By Haley M, Christina L and Maddison S, Year 9 Students

all photos in this article are courtesy of Jeff McGill.

Gallery
**Language Lifeboat**

English help is available every Wednesday at lunch time in Room 37.

Bring your assessment tasks, homework, class notes or questions. Dedicated English teachers are available to help. All students from Years 7 to 12 are welcome.

**Literature Club**

Come along to Room 27 on Wednesdays at lunch time. If you love reading and are ready for a challenge, launch into the world of the classics and join the Literature Club. All students from Years 7 to 12 are welcome to join. Drop in next Wednesday and ask our mentors for a starter pack.
Senior School

Year 12 Formal

Year 12 celebrated their Formal in style at the City Beach Function Centre in Wollongong on Friday 13 November.

After the stress and hard work of the HSC examinations, it was a great opportunity for the girls and their partners to relax and enjoy each other’s company. It was a fantastic night with lots of food, fun and dancing and plenty of great memories.

Kevin Quigley, Year 12 Coordinator

Gallery
On Monday we celebrated Grandparents and Special Friends Day (G’Day) in the Mary Sheil Centre. It was a very special occasion for our Year 7 students and for their special guests.

We began the day with a lovely morning tea prepared for us by Ms Deborah Renshaw and Ms Melissa Goodsell. The girls were very hospitable in letting their guests eat first, before they lined up to partake. Then we had a beautiful liturgy, followed by a welcome from our Principal, Mrs Lennox and some very enjoyable dancing, singing and music as our students entertained their families and friends. Three of our students, Imogen M, Janaya B and Ellie F, spoke most eloquently about the many and varied opportunities they have had at the College this year.

The slideshow, created by Year 7 Student, Caroline A, displayed the key moments in the lives of our students was very engaging for everybody, as it showed the girls at work and at play.
Students were then invited to take their guests on a tour of the school, showing them their classrooms, homerooms and various places of interest around the College. This was followed by lunch, and an opportunity to mingle, and the day concluded about 1.00pm.

A big thank you to all students, teachers and staff who helped make it such an enjoyable day for everyone.

Eileen Norris, Year 7 Coordinator

Gallery
Middle School Ceremony

Today the College hosted our Middle School Ceremony, a beautiful liturgy was held and all our Year 9 students were presented with a certificate, marking the end of their time in Middle School. We wish all our girls the very best as they become senior students next year. Here is a copy of our Year 9 Coordinator, Katherine Power’s speech to our Year 9 girls.

Well, the Middle School journey has come to an end and I can proudly say that it has been an absolute privilege to have walked the road with the delightful 120 young women before me over the past three years. There have been some bends and twists in the road and it has been bumpy at times, but we are here today all that little bit richer for those experiences. We started Year 7 with some interesting questions like, “Do you know what bus I have to catch because I don’t know where I live” and sometimes even in Year 9 we get those again, like yesterday while in Parliament House sitting 200 metres from Malcom Turnbull comes the question “Where is the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard....."

Last week I was going through some photos on my computer and stumbled upon the Year 7 Camp photos from almost three years ago. What a surprise they were to me, to see these tiny little people with great big enthusiastic smiles – faces that are so different from the ones that I see each day now. You have all grown up very much over the past three years, in many ways, and you are a credit to your families, your College and yourselves.

We have shared some wonderful memories over the time and some stand-outs for me are the camp experiences and our incursion with Englishen Education earlier this year. Year 8 and Year 9 camps will always be wonderful memories for me because these are times where I have got to see you all at your absolute best, while you challenged yourself out of your comfort zone and grew in confidence.

Your ability to get involved and put your hand up has always been pleasing and I have enjoyed watching you celebrate your successes in a range of areas both in and outside of the school. I encourage you to continue this and for those of you who are still waiting for your moment – go get it because I am sure your peers will agree with me that getting involved and taking all of the opportunities St Patrick’s has to offer is a most rewarding experience. That is a message for the girls in the audience in Years 7 and 8 as well.

I would like to make mention of the fantastic Year 9 Pastoral Team, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Winarzyk, Mrs Tannous, Mr Burden, Mrs K Fetterplace and Mrs M Fetterplace and Mrs Samyia. Also Mr Gattone, Mr Lincoln and Mr Stevens who have been with us
throughout the year as well. Each morning you are greeted by these lovely teachers who have your very best interests at heart. The care they show for you, sometimes without you even realizing, is a true reflection of our community and the wonderful staff we have at the College. Girls, please take a moment to thank your Pastoral Teachers. Also, to Mr Ashkar for all of his work in the Middle School and Mrs Wright for always being there to help us all out when we need it.

Well, where to from here? At the end of January next year, you will return a little bit taller and in stripes and not checks. You will hear a lot about what it means to be in the senior school and how the expectations have changed. You are half way there. And yes, the last three years will be more challenging again but you will have each other to call on and I have the utmost faith that you will work as a team together throughout that time, because that is what you have become during this year in particular. A wonderful team who care and love each other, just as Benedict would ask us to. Girls, it has been an honour to be your Year Coordinator throughout the Middle School and I wish you the absolute best for the Senior School. Congratulations.

Katherine Power, Year 9 Coordinator

Gallery
In Term 3 Year 8 Religious Studies were investigating the topic Striving for Goodness. As a part of the assessment of this topic, students were able to elect to complete a film review evaluating the effectiveness of the film in depicting good overcoming evil. Kayleen S reviewed "Kung Fu Panda" and her review was exceptional (see below). Annisha C elected to create a cartoon depicting the qualities of Jesus and showing how these can be used by a person, in the decision making process, to minimise harm and grow towards goodness (pictured here).

*Kung Fu Panda* (2008) is a movie directed by John Steven and Mark Osborne about a panda named Po who overcomes difficulties and learns that everyone is special, even if there is nothing special about them. Presumably set in China, this world contains anthropomorphic animals rather than humans. It is action packed with beautiful scenes and humorous moments. This movie shows that no one is born evil and also shows Po's resilience towards harsh situations.

Good and evil are very easy to differentiate in this movie. Evil is generally recognised by dark and eerie backgrounds. They contrast over an evil character, where they overshadow light on certain angles, making the shadows appear to be exaggerated.
The music is also very loud and fast while evil characters carry scary faces with their bad and prideful attitudes. Good is almost the complete opposite. Unlike evil, good is characterised by bright, vivid and stunning scenes with complimentary grand or gentle music, depending on the scenario. The main characters are the good characters, which viewers attach to as 'cool' or 'funny'.

Kung Fu Panda shows several situations where good overcomes evil. It emotionally shows good triumph over evil. When Po is neglected by the people he admires, his hurt eventually turns into resolve (with a little help) to defeat the main enemy. It also physically shows good overcoming evil with a classic 'good versus evil' battle at the climax of the movie, near the end. Since these two examples are one of the key events of the movie, the effectiveness in presenting the theme good overcoming evil is quite high since it is easier to remember as it is a main event. Since the viewers have an attachment to the good characters, it is natural for the theme of good overcoming evil to be presented strongly, because the viewers would dislike the evil characters.

The theme of good overcoming evil is very present in the storyline. At first, it will seem like evil has the upper hand. This creates a feeling of anticipation and a hope carries in every viewer for good to find a way to turn the tables. The movie also makes evil look like it's winning, but at the last moment, good pushes past the evil and wins. Instead of just good beating evil, the movie makes evil have the upper hand. Good suddenly turns the tables and overcomes evil, rather than making evil appear weak. The fact that evil is strong is generally true, giving a touch of realism, in a sense. As the saying goes: "You may have won the battle but you haven't won the war."

However, there are a few flaws in Kung Fu Panda that lessen the effectiveness of good overcoming evil. Since the fact that 'good can overcome evil' is not the main lesson, it puts the effectiveness down a bit. The main lesson (as I interpret it) is to believe in yourself because that is what makes you strong. It is a bit hard to realise that good overcomes evil in the film unless you really think. It is something people pick up unconsciously, so people don't realise that not only does good win, it overcomes evil as well.

Also, the Furious Five (five protagonists) turn out not to be so good when they start being bullies and get jealous. This might confuse a person whether to determine them as good, evil or misguided. As anthropomorphic animals (animals with human characteristics), it is a part of human nature to make mistakes. However, when the five protagonists go to fight against the antagonist, a battle of good and evil begins. Unfortunately, good loses the battle, so there is no evidence of 'good overcoming evil' in that scene at all.

The opportunity of good triumphing over evil is displayed many ways. From emotionally, to physically, this movie plays an excellent job of good triumphing over evil. Examples of this can be found in its storyline, the character's feelings and the feeling the moment gives to the viewers. Showing good overcome evil is not the film's main goal, so it isn't as obvious as it is supposed to be, and there can be scenes with no evidence of good triumphing over evil at all. Therefore, in terms of the film displaying the effectiveness of good triumphing over evil, I rate a 4 out of 5 stars.

Kayleen S, Year 8 Student
Sport

Sports Assembly

On Tuesday 17 November we were given the opportunity to come together as a community to recognise and acknowledge the many individuals and teams that have successfully represented the College in sport in the second half of 2015.

Professional Triathlete, Natalie Van Coevorden with St Pats Girls

The theme of the sports assembly was ‘Behind the Scenes’. Behind the Scenes aimed to recognise the hard work, commitment and dedication that athletes (or anyone looking to excel in their chosen field) display on a daily basis to be the best they possibly can. It also acknowledged that at times there will be set backs and disappointment, however these can be overcome if you keep faith and remain focused on the long term goal.

To help us celebrate the assembly, we invited local professional triathlete Natalie Van Coevorden to talk to the girls and present a number of awards. While at school, Natalie was able to successfully combine school with sport and achieved an ATAR of 90+, as well as represent to a high level in a number of sports. A fantastic role model for our students. She is currently chasing her dream of representing Australia at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Natalie’s sporting career originated from very humble beginnings and she has experienced a number of major setbacks along the way but through a positive attitude, the support of her family, hard work and dedication, she has put herself in a strong position to achieve her goal. It was a real honour and privilege to have an athlete as talented, humble and mature as Natalie at our assembly and I know the students got a great deal out of listening to her story.

Scott Ashcroft, Sports and Activities Coordinator
On Friday 13 November, I was given the opportunity to take 10 girls from the St Patrick’s Social Justice Group to attend the annual Cabramatta High School Peace Day. A very beautiful and inspiring ceremony was conducted honouring many multicultural groups of the school. The 2015 Sydney Peace Day recipient is Mr George Gittoes. Some of the main messages he gave were that “we are creators, not destroyers” and that “creativity is free”. Back at school, the girls encouraged the pastoral groups to stand in solidarity for peace and write their God-given talents on A3 paper to show how they can be Creative for Peace. Some of the reflections from the girls who attended are below for you to read.

#CR84PEACE
Miss Maria Boulatsakos

“The day began as we were warmly welcomed by greetings from members of the peace party, consisting of students representing various nationalities within the school community. The talented students from the school performed various musical pieces as the special guests and dignitaries entered the hall. After this, the recipient of the 2015 Sydney Peace Prize Award, George Gittoes addressed the audience. I genuinely believe he is one of the most inspirational speakers I have ever heard. George's central message was that each of us can be peacemakers if we harness our God-given talents and are passionate about our cause. I personally connected with the idea of change and peace being far more possible through the work of the people instead of the government. I really gained a lot out of the experience and it was a day that I will always deeply value.”
Rachel N, Student

“Cabramatta High School is a wonderful place and is such a diverse and multicultural community. This was presented in many ways, including performances from different cultural groups and students dressed in traditional clothing. At the Peace Day, we were introduced to the winner George Gittoes, who has worked around the world as an artist in many developing countries. There were many beautiful elements of the day including the Yellow Houses in the Peace Garden, and witnessing the release of 100 white doves, as a symbol of peace. The celebration was truly inspiring and it opened up my eyes as to how one individual can make a
difference in this world. It really was a great day and I personally took a lot away from the presentations of Peace on the day."
Emily W, Student

“At the assembly we listened to and were inspired by George Gittoes. Mr Gittoes is a very worthy recipient and the very first artist to receive this prestigious award. The release of 100 white doves represented a sign of peace. Overall, the whole morning was a very good insight to the cultures and the many people willing to create peace in our troubled world. A quote from George Gittoes says, ‘Art is like sunshine, it's free and it's food for the soul’.”
Paris S, Student

“When we arrived at Cabramatta High School we were greeted on a path made from students representing their home countries. Cabramatta High School is made up of students from over 48 different countries. When listening to George Gittoes tell his story of how he became the person he is today and how much he has helped people in need overseas, we were very inspired. Many students asked questions about his journey and his thoughts on some of the world’s biggest problems like poverty and discrimination. The doves that were released symbolised the peace and freedom which the world should be experiencing. We were very grateful to George and to the students of Cabramatta High School for taking the time to perform various pieces for us, along with giving us the opportunity to show our acceptance of peace for the world. This experience has just made me want to help more in areas that others cannot. It was a fantastic day and I hope George can be an inspiration to everyone.”
Georgia C, Student

“Even with the scorching hot day reaching a peak of 28 degrees, nothing could change the beauty of the 100 doves being released. As they were circling us, it felt like all the peace that was generated from that day was enough to be spread across the world. Peace between many cultures was evident everywhere, from the students, honoured guests and visitors of other schools. Through George Gittoes’ experience and knowledge on true good and evil in the world, he was able to use his artworks to tell us a story. The amount of compassion, sympathy and kindness he had, was known to everyone in the room through his words. Even though he had seen horrific events, he would always do something about it, George Gittoes is a truly inspirational man and deserved this prestigious award.”
Catherine T, Student

Here is a short video clip made by Cabramatta High School that summarises the events of the day: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mPvo6kqAI3U
"Where are you going?" asks Jesus.

Retreats are a significant experience for people of all ages. However, they are especially important for young people because research indicates that the later teenage years are a time of life when we are most open to spirituality.

Recently our Year 10 students experienced their first of a series of three Senior Retreats. The theme of this first Retreat is “On the Journey” and its main aim was to allow the girls time to stop, discuss, reflect and pray together as a year group by slowing down and taking stock of their life journey so far. Luke’s gospel story about the travellers on the road to Emmaus was the scriptural basis of the Retreat. In that story, Jesus asks the travellers, “Where are you going?” This is the same question the Year 10 students were asked to consider while reflecting on their own life journey. Below are two reports about the Retreat written by Year 10 students.

On 29 and 30 October, Year 10 experienced their first retreat which was held at Stanwell Tops. With high expectations, we boarded the bus at 8:30am, and began our first Retreat as a year group.

Our first experience was a preparation for Retreat, stations were set up around the Retreat site, with each station giving us an insight into what we would need on our individual journeys. Luggage, shoes, a map, rations, and a compass. These elements helped us reflect on what we had and what we would need on our journeys. Next on the program, we each discovered the way in which we think, whether we follow our head, our heart, or our gut. Personally, we both thought with our head, choosing to think logically, rather than emotionally.

At the end of the first day, we reflected on our relationships with each other, and our aspirations for the future. During a liturgy we each had the opportunity to give our closest friends a sign of friendship, and lit a candle with a wish for something we hope for. We also went through a painstaking craft time, in which we had to place beads onto a small pinboard, and iron it. These created individual patterns and symbols, significant to each of us.

On the second and final day, we listened to a testimony, given by Mrs Reader. Whilst heavy and emotionally challenging, she was able to share one of her most challenging experiences in life. We are all extremely grateful, and will continue to draw lessons from her presentation.

Morning tea this day was not morning tea for ourselves, but for all. Each of us collected morning tea for someone else, and received morning tea from someone
else. After this experience, we again reflected on our relationships with each other, this time in small groups. Each of us gave one bead to everyone in our group, explaining why we picked it, and what it symbolised about that person.

Our last activity reflected on ‘home’: what it is, and where it is. This activity made us all the more grateful to return home, and appreciate where we each thought home really is for us.

This experience was spiritually provoking, each of us returning with a new sense of spirituality in time for our exams. We are grateful to the staff who took time out of their week to be away from their families, and join us as a year group.

Faith I & Renee P, Year 10 Students

On 29 and 30 October, Year 10 embarked on their first Retreat experience. Held at Stanwell Tops, we undertook two days of delving into the theme of ‘On the Journey’. This explored the idea of who we are and who we want to be. It was an opportunity for the grade to reflect on where their path is heading, taking special consideration into the next two big years ahead of us.

Using the film 'The Wizard of Oz' and the scripture 'The Walk to Emmaus' as a centre point for exploring the theme of 'On the Journey', we participated in activities that tested our ideas of ourselves, how we overcome obstacles in life and the importance of building strong relationships with family, friends and Christ. This offered us a chance to open up to our peers and build friendship, understanding and empathy within the whole grade.

The Retreat also focused on bringing together new bonds of friendship within the grade, as well as strengthening those that already exist. It was an opportunity for us to explore our own potential and discover the potential of others. The reflective time also allowed us to think about our spiritual health and how it could be improved in order to assist us in finding balance and a general sense of wellbeing.

This Retreat offered our grade the opportunity to reflect on our journey, the relationships we have within the grade and our connection with God. It was also a time to de-stress and regroup ourselves before the final preparation for our Year 10 yearly exams. We would like to acknowledge and thank all the wonderful teachers who joined us on our first Retreat and helped guide us through it. We had a fantastic time and are looking forward to our 2016 Retreat!

Lindsay C, Year 10 Student
Community News

Second-Hand Uniform Trading

The College is conscious of the need to provide an efficient process for families to be able to buy and sell second-hand uniforms and other student resources.

I am delighted to inform you of the College’s new initiative to provide parents with the ability to trade these second-hand items via the Sustainable School Shop. www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

The service provides access to second-hand uniforms all year round. Results from other schools have been excellent and families have enjoyed a more comprehensive and convenient method of trading these items; many schools are using this service.

The Sustainable School Shop is providing complimentary annual subscriptions (lasts 365 days) to those families that register on their website prior to 31 December 2015. We would encourage parents to take full advantage of this opportunity. For the best results:

- Register on the Sustainable School Shop website
- List your secondhand uniform items for sale
- List wanted ads for those items you are looking to buy
- The College’s uniform lists are loaded into the system to make listing ads easy
- The system matches the ads of buyers with sellers and notifies the buyer via email
- Buyers contact sellers and arrange where and when to trade
- The school is not involved in the transaction
- Parents are well supported via Sustainable School Shop’s telephone (1300 683 337) and email help lines
- The system is simple and easy to use - if you don’t have a computer, internet access or an email address, please call the Sustainable School Shop for assistance

Once an annual subscription expires, families are offered three levels of access:

- Search only - registering/logging-in on the Sustainable School Shop, searching all the for sale ads and gaining the sellers’ contact details is free
- Single items cost $1.00 to be advertised
- Subscription - an annual subscription costs $19.95 and is the most anyone will pay. These are taken by families who have many items to advertise
All enquiries should be directed to the Sustainable School Shop on: 1300 683 337 or help is also available through ‘Contact Us’ on their website at www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

We are very excited about this new initiative and we hope you will make the most of this opportunity and gain the benefit from recycling your student’s school items.

Tessa Gooch, Business Manager

**Important Dates**

**What’s On.......**

27 November - Aboriginal Education Excursion
27 November - Creative Arts Night
01 December - College Assembly
01 December - Senior School Parent Forum
04 December - College Mass and Awards
**04 December - Students Finish for 2015**
29 January 2016 - All Students Return for 2016