From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of St Patrick’s College

Welcome to 2016. It certainly was busy at the College with all girls resuming for the year last Friday. The excitement of beginning a new year, catching up with friends and reconnecting with teachers made for a very energetic day.

To the new girls in Year 7, we hope your start was smooth and that this will be a great journey over the next six years. We have also had a number of girls begin in the other years. Each are looking to come to St Patrick’s for opportunities and a brighter future. We are thrilled to have you with us and look forward to contributing to your development into the young women you have the potential to become.

We have a few staff changes at the start of the year. We welcome Mr Liam Rixon who has joined our maintenance team. On the last day of the term, Ms Gibson resigned to take a position elsewhere which has meant Mrs Glynn will be our Performing Arts Coordinator until our new Coordinator, Mr Joshua Combes, joins the College on 22 February. Fortunately we have been able to engage Miss Burdekin and Mrs Cimino to work with the girls until this changeover. As Mrs Power is on long service leave over Term 1, Ms Glase is our Acting Year 7 Coordinator and Miss Monique Young will take her English classes over the term. We warmly welcome back from leave Mrs Holt and Mrs Ibbett and those staff who took leave during the last term of 2015 as well.
In preparation for the building project that will begin in May, staff have relocated in offices around the College. We have communicated their location to students however if any parents wish to see any staff please come to reception and they will be informed of your arrival. More information about the building project will be provided through the term.

We were delighted with the Year 12 2015 excellent HSC results published at the end of last Year. Bethany Hillier received an ATAR of 96.4. There were 113 students who sat for the HSC. They achieved 34 distinguished achievements across 12 subjects. Two dance students were nominated for Callback, one student was nominated for Texstyle and one student achieved a distinguished achievement in her Society and Culture PIP. An outstanding achievement. Finally 84 girls received UAC offers for university placement. We will celebrate their success at the High Achievers assembly on Tuesday 9 February 2016.

Can I draw to your attention our Gala Ball which will be at The Cube, Campbelltown Catholic Club on Saturday 12 March 2016. It is the only fund raiser for the scholarships we support at the College. As an independent College we have only Government funding and fees as our source of income so the Ball proceeds are crucial in allowing us to assist families that find themselves in difficult circumstances. Please consider forming a table with other parents or friends and enjoy the night with us. Cost is $110 per ticket which includes all food and refreshments for the evening plus the entertainment and plenty of dancing. Tickets are reduced for a full table. A silent auction and raffle are available for those who like to support even further. We hope to see you there.

As I come to the end of my current contract I am due for a Principal's appraisal. This will be held on Monday 15 and Wednesday 17 February. The facilitator, Ms Anne Garvan, will be speaking with a number of key people in the community to gain a sense of my leadership. If you would like to have an opportunity to speak with the facilitator as an individual or as a member of a group, please contact my acting PA Bernadette Manchester on 02 4629 2904, so she can make an appointment.

Finally we recently heard of the sad loss of Danielle Gibbs class of 2007. Danielle was a beautiful young woman who was courageous and thoughtful through and through. Please keep her family in your prayers and thoughts as they manage their grief and sadness at this time.

I will leave you with a short reflection as we prepare for the Lenten season that begins with Ash Wednesday next week.

*We have chosen to fast,*  
*Not with ashes but with actions.*  
*Not with sackcloth but in sharing.*  
*Not in thoughts but in deeds.*  
*We will give up our abundance,*  
*To share with the hungry.*  
*We will give up our comfort,*  
*To house the destitute.*  
*We give up our fashions,*  
*To see the naked clothed.*  
*We will share where others hoard,*
Free where others oppress,
And heal where others harm.
Then God’s light will break upon us,
We will be called repairers of broken walls,
Welcomed at God’s banquet table.

Blessings
Sue Lennox

Teaching & Learning

Is this my best work?

Welcome back to all students for 2016. This year will be a busy and productive year. Mrs Lennox addressed the students on Day 1 challenging them to always do their best. The girls will be asked to reflect on their work to determine in fact if it is the very best that they can do frequently throughout the year.

Our 2015 College Dux, Bethany Hillier with Principal Sue Lennox

Class Configuration
At the end of 2015, much work was done on student placement into classes for 2016. St Patricks College does not stream classes on ability groupings (with the exception of Stage 5 Mathematics). Classes are mixed ability and the curriculum is differentiated in its delivery. This philosophy ensures that all students are appropriately challenged and that “the strong have something to strive for and the weak nothing to hide from” (RB 64:9). We use what we know about our learners to cluster them with like learners. Each class having clusters of very able students, capable students and students who require extra support. Teachers work hard to get to know their students quickly and to cater for their needs. Likewise we do not structure classes on friendship groups, nor do we allow students to cherry pick which teacher/s that they would like to have. This year we have had a growing number of parents/students requesting class movement. This is not always possible and as a general rule we do not accommodate those requests. We ask that you work with us and your daughter to get her settled and in some cases work toward building
resilience. We ask that the girls now focus on settling into their assigned classes, building relationships and embracing the learning opportunities that her teachers have planned for them.

**Class of 2015**

Congratulations to our 2015 graduating class on very solid HSC results. It would appear that over 80% of our candidates have received offers to University for study in 2016. Our 2015 College Dux, Bethany Hillier achieved and ATAR of 96.4 and over 10% of our candidates were placed in the top 10% of the state and a further 20% in the top 20% of the state.

Twenty two students achieved one or more band 6’s: with 34 mentions on the distinguished achievers list. Lucy Powell currently has her major works in Textiles and Design on display at Rosehill Racecourse as part of the celebration of HSC success in TD. Vivian Hondrogianis and Nicole Walker also had their Dance compositions nominated for Call Back and Tori Anderson was acknowledge for an excellent Personal Interest Project for Society and Culture. Also, our VET students experienced success and acknowledgement for excellence being nominated for the MWPL Honour Roll. Congratulations Nicola Beckman, Brittany Drew, Ashley Edge, Sheridan Lalor, Jessica Mangan, Lucy Powell and Brigitta Vakauta who demonstrated excellence in their workplace experiences.

On Tuesday 9 February at 8.50 am the distinguished achievers for 2015 will be acknowledged at the College assembly. Please join us in the celebrating these achievements and hearing the words of wisdom.

Cecely McGeachie - Assistant Principal-Curriculum

**Language Lifeboat**

English help is available every Wednesday at lunch time in Room LH1.

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 LH1 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.

Maths Help

The Maths faculty is once again running Maths Help. This year it will be held on Mondays at lunchtime in Room 33.

Is your daughter struggling with her Maths homework?  
Is your daughter struggling to find time to complete her Maths homework?  
Does your daughter have an assessment task coming up?  
Assistance is available in Room 33 on Mondays, during lunchtime. All Welcome.

Parent Teacher Meet and Greet

SAVE THE DATE
Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet

You are warmly invited to join us at the St Patrick's College  
Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet

On Wednesday 17 February 2016  
6pm to 7pm  
Mary Sheil Centre

Followed by a chance to meet your daughter's pastoral team and share refreshments with other staff and parents.

For further information please contact the College  
TEL 02 4229 2099
Middle School

Welcome to our new Year 7 students

"To the new girls in Year 7, we hope your start was smooth and that this will be a great journey over the next six years."

Sue Lennox - Principal

"We have also had a number of girls begin in the other years. Each are looking to come to St Patrick’s for opportunities and a brighter future. We are thrilled to have you with us and look forward to contributing to your development into the young women you have the potential to become."

Sue Lennox - Principal

Gallery
Our College Sports Calendar for Term 1 of 2016 is listed below.

Key:
NSWCCC Events – Registrations done individually through CSSS website.
Wollongong Diocesan Events – Trials conducted at school.
College Events – Entries completed on the day.

**Term 1**
8 February – CCC Blues Awards Night
9 February – CCC Council Meeting / CCC Girls Softball Nomination Closing Date
16 February – CCC Triathlon Nomination Closing Date / CCC Girls Softball Selection Trials
25 February - CCC Cricket Nominations Close
29 February - CCC Tennis Nomination Closing Date / CCC Cricket Selections
19 February – College Swimming Carnival
26 February - CCC Girls Cricket Nomination Closing Date
1 March – CCC Girls Cricket Trials
2 March – CCC Triathlon Event (Individuals) – Penrith
3 March – CCC Triathlon Event (Teams) – Penrith
7 March – Wollongong Diocesan Touch (Wet Weather Back up 11 March)
10 March - Wollongong Diocesan Swimming / Wollongong Diocesan Tennis (Wet Weather Back up 24 March)
10 March – CCC Hockey Nomination Closing Date
21 March – CCC Hockey Selection Trials / CCC Basketball Nominations Close
Scott Ashcroft - Sports and Activities Coordinator
Co-curricular

*Duke of Edinburgh - Practice Journey*

From the 11 to 14 December 2015 groups of Gold, Silver and Bronze students participated in a Practice Journey through Royal National Park and Heathcote National Park as a part of the Adventurous Journey requirements of the Awards.

Day 1 included the 2 Gold Award students - Portia and Iesha - both now in Year 12 together with 6 students now in Year 9 who signed up early for the Bronze Award - Brianna, Alex, Ellie, Jasmin, Lily and Olivia. They hiked from Otford Lookout in Royal National Park along the Coast Track to North Era beach campground.

Day 2 involved the same group hiking across Garie Beach and up to the Curra Moors Track and to the Wallamurra Track where they met with 3 of our Silver Award students - Haley and Emily from Year 10 and Tahlia from Year 11. This group then hiked together to the end of Lady Carrington Drive where the Bronze Award students finished. The rest of the group then continued to Heathcote where we met our final Silver Award student - Madeline. We then hiked together to Mirang Pools campground in Heathcote National Park for a well deserved rest after a long and tiring day.

Day 3 the Gold and Silver students hiked to Uloola Falls campground back in Royal National Park via Karloo Pools where we had a nice rest stop. Day 4 was a nice easy walk out to Waterfall where we were picked up and returned to school.

It was a wonderful introduction for our Bronze Award students and I am sure much was learnt during their time. The Silver and Gold Award students were able to build on their previous knowledge and coped very well in quite warm conditions. Well done to all the students involved.

Tessa Gooch - Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator
Community News

Important Dates

What's On.......

09 February - Shrove Tuesday, HSC High Achievers Assembly, Year 12 Drama Excursion
10 February - Ash Wednesday
17 February - Pastoral Advisors- Parent Meet and Greet
19 February - College Swimming Carnival
26 February - PUPIL FREE DAY, Staff First Aid, Duke of Ed Bronze Award Journey
27 February - College Open Day, Duke of Ed Bronze Award Journey
29 February - Year 7 Camp, Year 10 Retreat
01 March - Year 7 Camp, Year 10 Retreat
02 March - Independent Triathlon, College Assembly
03 March - Teams Triathlon
04 March - International Women's Day Breakfast, Middle School Dance
08 March - Senior School Assembly, Middle School Parent Forum (9am & 7pm)
09 March - Year 7 Reflection Day, Twilight Dance (at St Gregory's College)
11 March - College Photo Day
12 March - Gala Ball
15 March - Middle School Assembly, Senior School Parent Forum (9am & 7pm)
17 March - St Patrick's Day Mass (Camden)
18 March - Year 7 Parent Dinner, National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
21 March - Year 8 Creative Arts Day
22 March – Year 9 Camp Information Evening
23 March - Year 12 Drama Excursion
24 March - Holy Thursday, COLLEGE CLOSED
25 March - Good Friday, COLLEGE CLOSED
28 March - Easter Monday, COLLEGE CLOSED
30 March - College Assembly, Easter Liturgy
01 April - Year 5 Workshops
08 April - Staff and Students finish for Term 1
25 April - ANZAC Day, COLLEGE CLOSED
26 April - Staff and Students return for Term 2
Macarthur No Interest Loan Scheme - Community Program

Macarthur No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS) is a community program under the stewardship of the Presentation Sisters. It provides small, personal, no interest loans to eligible low income residents of Macarthur. Macarthur NILS commenced operation in Campbelltown in 1998.

![NILS Logo]

Macarthur NILS lends up to $1200.00 for a variety of essential household items such as refrigerators, washing machines, household furniture and computers. They also lend for essential services such as green slips.

These loans can also help families with children take part in school camps, major sporting representation, and to have complete school uniforms.

Repayments are tailored to suit your budget and start at around $30 a fortnight. All loans have no interest and no charges.

You can apply for a loan if you have lived in the Macarthur area for the past three months, have a Health Care Card or a Centrelink Pension Card, and have enough in your budget to easily repay a loan.

To apply call on 4625 6487 or email admin@macarthurnils.org.au. Located at 22 Iolanthe Street, Campbelltown.

Gallery
Mt Carmel Alumni Day

Welcome Back Alumni Day

20th March 2016
11am – 2pm

We are welcoming back past students, staff and their families. So come and enjoy the great day!

Bring your own picnic lunch.
Enjoy it on our oval.

Free sausage sizzle, refreshments, kids entertainment.

Take a tour around the College – 11.30, 12.30 and 1.30.

School Safety

In School Zones
GO 40 FOR ME
A SPEED YOU LOSE message from your Local Council

SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES
Current as at 1 July 2015

- NO STOPPING
- DOUBLE PARKING
- BUS STOP

SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC OFFENCES
As at 1 July 2015

- SPEEDING OFFENCES
- MOBILE PHONE USE
- CHILDREN’S CROSSINGS
- U-TURNS

Maximum Penalty

$425 + 2 Demerit Points
$177 + 2 Demerit Points
$319 + 2 Demerit Points
$319 + 2 Demerit Points
$319 + 2 Demerit Points
$319 + 2 Demerit Points
$425 + 4 Demerit Points
$531 + 4 Demerit Points
$425 + 4 Demerit Points

For a full list of new penalties and offences, please visit:
www.mrs.nsw.gov.au or please the RSPV on 13 22 13

These penalties apply to offences in school zones only while the zone is active.