Dear Parents and Friends of St Patrick’s College

Last Saturday we hosted open day. It was a great success with nearly 200 families visiting the site and being led on tours by our very competent tour guides. Staff generously availed themselves to hold KLA workshops (Key Learning Areas) and students performed, participated and assisted in many ways. Our community worked together to showcase our wonderful College. (see photos below). I am grateful for the time and attention given by each person here on the day and those who worked to ensure the site was looking its best. We are a blessed community and days such as this highlight our blessings. Many families expressed how impressed they were with the girls and the College. Thank you to all involved. If you have a child or know someone one wishing to start in 2017 or 2018, share this newsletter with them. They can schedule a visit to the College by clicking here to book. Enrolment packages are now available from reception.

Last Friday we had our swimming carnival. This event is always buoyant and filled with laughter. Girls dress up and there is much cheering as the different houses compete for the coveted prize of top points scorer. We have championship events, points scrambles and many, many heats. What distinguishes our swimming carnival from that of other schools is the level of participation of the girls. Girls of all shapes and sizes are having a go. They jump in the pool in their swimmers without any hesitation or apprehension. New staff always comment on the freedom of the girls and how involved they are. Sadly, adolescent girls are strongly influenced by the attentions and gazes of the boys. In their company they can be coy and lack self-
confidence. Many certainly wouldn't have the bravado to stand up in a costume to participate in a race. At our swimming carnival, stresses such as these are not present. This is quite liberating for the girls and we see higher levels of participation and competition. In an all-girl environment, the girls are able to be themselves with the freedom to experience activities without prejudice. It was once again a delightful day. Thank you to Mr Scott Ashcroft and the PDHPE staff for their organisation of the day. (see photos below).

Sadly Fr Tony Daly passed away this week. It was a very sudden and tragic outcome which will leave many deeply saddened by his loss. We will keep Fr Tony's family in our prayers and the people of St Thomas More parish as they come to terms with this significant loss.

We bid farewell to Mr Tony Burden, who will be finishing with us, this week. Mr Burden has only been with us for a few years, but he has raised the profile of Design and Tech and contributed to the growth of hospitality in the College. We thank him for his strong support of the girls and wish him well in his future endeavours.

I extend a VERY warm invitation to all parents to our Gala Ball to be held on 12 March at the Cube. It will be a great night. All money raised goes towards the scholarship fund. Tickets are available through reception. I suggest you bring a table of friends as you will receive a discount as well! All food, refreshments and entertainment are included in the cost of the ticket. Your support of this, our only fundraiser, will be greatly appreciated. I would also like to welcome parents to the St Patrick's Day Mass on 17 March, which will be held at St Paul's Catholic Church, Camden beginning at 10.30am. Please come along if you are available.

There have been some ongoing tensions with people driving in and out of the College site during peak time through the St John's Road gate. This has caused near misses on several occasions. There will be a barrier installed in the top car park from next week so that there will only be one way traffic through the site. The barrier will be in place from 8.00 am to 8.30 am and 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm each day. We hope this will ensure the safety of the girls, avoid congestion and potential collision in the top car park and enable parents and others to exit the College quickly and safely. I ask that you work with the College to ensure this process works for all of us.

Finally as we are coming to the fourth Sunday in Lent, I leave you to reflect on the words of Pope Francis:

"he is waiting for you,
he is close to you,
he loves you,
he is merciful,
he forgives you,
he gives you the strength to begin again from scratch!
Everybody!"

Pope Francis

Blessings
Sue Lennox
Teaching & Learning

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.

From The Maths Faculty - Pi Club, Maths Help, Puzzle Corner

The Maths faculty is starting "The Pi Club", all welcome to join us next Friday at lunch time in Room 33.

Pi Club
The Pi Club will be setting up a number of games that can be played by 1, 2 or more people. There will be an opportunity to learn new card games such as 500, Euchre, Rummy and more. If there is a game you would like to play, please feel free to bring it along.

Maths Help
A reminder that Maths Help runs each Monday at lunch time in Room 33. All students from Years 7 to 12 are welcome to come along with any Maths problems and to bring their lunch. All students are welcome.

Puzzle Corner

Puzzle 1:
Lottie has a bag of apples. She gives half of them to Fred. Fred eats two and then has four left. How many apples did Lottie have at the start?

Puzzle 2:
40 members of a team go on a trip to a leisure centre. They go in minibuses that can each seat up to 15 people. It costs $30 for each minibus and $150 for the group to have use of the leisure centre. How much will the trip cost per person?

Answers:
1. Lottie had 12 apples to start with.
2. The total cost will be $240 as three minibuses will be needed ($90). $240 for 40 people is $6 each.
Senior School

Congratulation Brittney

Congratulations to Brittney M of Year 12 for being accepted into Western Sydney University Program "Women in Engineering". Earlier this term Brittney undertook a week long course with Western Sydney University, it was a great opportunity for her and well deserved.

Middle School

Year 8 Science

The girls are currently studying the Cells and Plants unit. During the unit they learn about structures found within a cell and how they contribute to the overall functioning of the cell.

Cell by Sophie S

For their recent Assessment Task, the girls chose a specific cell that was capable of photosynthesizing. They learnt about the specialized structures within these cells and then completed a fact sheet and a model of this cell.
The girls worked incredibly hard in this task and the final results have been outstanding.

“I enjoyed this task because I got to know the structure of the cell quite well as I had to pay special attention to detail, therefore I got a clearer understanding of its overall function” Sophie S – main picture.

Kate Lefever - Science Coordinator

Gallery
Congratulations Margot

Congratulations to Margot V of Year 12 who recently received a NSW Combined Catholic Colleges 'Blue' award for her outstanding achievements in AFL during 2015. Margot is a very skilled student who not only excels on the sporting field but also in the area of dance / performing arts.

Scott Ashcroft - Sports and Activities Coordinator

Congratulations Amy

Congratulations to Amy S of year 9 who has qualified for the National Junior Athletics Championships being held in Perth, Western Australia. Amy has qualified to represent NSW at the Championships in the 1500m and in the 2000m Steeplechase. Amy has been training hard, is extremely excited to be able to represent NSW and is looking forward to the experience of competing on a National level. We wish Amy the best of luck.

Scott Ashcroft - Sports and Activities Coordinator
Congratulations Jarian

Congratulations to Jarian H of Year 8 who is doing amazing things in the sport of weightlifting. Jarian is relatively new to the sport and trains with Triumph Weightlifting Club at Mona Vale and now holds 3 Australian records in the 15 years age group for the Clean and Jerk @73kg, the Snatch @54kg and Total @126kg.

Scott Ashcroft - Sports and Activities Coordinator

Co-curricular

Anzac Assembly 2016 - Do you have a grandparent/relative who served in the Vietnam War?

Anzac Day this year will not only focus on the 100th anniversaries of the Western Front battles of Fromelles and Pozieres, but also on the 50th anniversary of The Battle of Long Tan.

We intend to particularly commemorate the sacrifices of those Australians who were involved in the Vietnam War and would like to make contact with families in our College community who have connections to the Vietnam War. As we did last year with Gallipoli, we would like those students who have a grandparent or relative who served in Vietnam to share their story at the College Assembly.

Please contact Mrs Fran Musico Rullo at the College or via email at fmusicorullo@saintpatricks.nsw.edu.au

Fran Musico Rullo - HSIE Teacher
Catholic Schools' Public Speaking

Last Friday night eleven very articulate bright young women travelled to OLMC Burraneer for round one of the CSDA Public Speaking competition. Speeches explored topics as wide ranging as disability, technology, Australia Day and politics.

Our CSDA Public Speakers

St Patrick’s girls always speak with passion and conviction. Their viewpoints matter. Our representatives were:
- Year 7: Amadee T, Angelina D
- Year 8: Minduli T, Imogen M
- Year 9: Reagan B
- Year 10: Kate W, Rachel N
- Seniors: Karen D, Portia F, Monique P, Georgia W

Congratulations to all our speakers and good luck to Angelina, Minduli, Reagan, Rachel and Karen who will be progressing to the Zone Final at Aquinas College, Menai, this Friday night.

Marguerite Pulham - Debating/Public Speaking
Year 9 Duke of Ed Practice Journey

On Friday 26 February and Saturday 27 February 7 Year 9 students took part in their Duke of Ed Practice Journey through Royal National Park.

The weather was good for our journey on Friday and with full packs and much enthusiasm we set out from Otford Lookout to hike through the southern part of Royal National Park. Our journey took us through some lovely rainforest, palm forest and some stunning coastal areas. On the way we encountered two snakes, a wallaby and an echidna plus we learnt to recognise the calls of many birds. We made very good time arriving at the campsite at North Era beach mid afternoon and the girls immediately began setting up their campsites. It was a lovely place to then relax and enjoy. There was much fun cooling off at the beach later on.

On Saturday, we were all up and about early, after breakfast, the campsite was packed up and we were off up and over the hill to Garie Beach. After a brief stop there, we then hiked north along the Coast Track eventually joining the Curra Moors Track, finishing at the end of that track. The College bus was a welcome sight after a very tiring two days.

All 7 girls - Emily, Catherine, Natalie, Esther, Lylia, Nakia and Jessica did extremely well over the two days, they are now well prepared for their Qualifying Journey during the Year 9 Camp at the beginning of Term 2. Well done girls, it was a pleasure to experience this with you all.

Tessa Gooch - Duke of Ed Coordinator
Careers

The year has started off at a fast pace. Year 12 have begun with their individual career interviews and Year 10 Career Lessons are well underway.

This year I hope to continue with a number of parent workshops with the aim to provide you with the most effective tools to help students make career choices. Please remember, I am always happy to meet with parents with any queries regarding their daughter’s career pathway. You can also find a full listing of career information by clicking this link [http://www.mhscareers.com/news.html](http://www.mhscareers.com/news.html) Login: stpcc  Password: 755d6y.

University of Western Sydney

University of Western Sydney: The Academy Scholarships
The Academy at UWS offers substantial financial support for high-achieving students who are committed to academic excellence and to making a contribution to their community. Scholarships include the VC Leadership Scholarship, valued at $10 000 per year, and the Dean’s Scholarship and Academic Excellence Scholarship, valued at $5 000 per year.

University of Western Sydney College: Foundation and Diploma
Foundation Studies allow guaranteed entry to an undergraduate degree at the University of Western Sydney. An ATAR is not required for entry. From Foundation Studies students can enter the first year of an undergraduate degree or complete a Diploma, which allows them entry into the second year of an undergraduate degree.
UNSW Indigenous Students Enabling Programs
Enabling programs are designed for Indigenous people who have the potential, but are not yet prepared for first year undergraduate study. Enabling programs generally run for one year and are offered at UNSW’s Kensington campus in Sydney. At the end of the program, students who have demonstrated an ability to perform at a tertiary level can apply to transfer into a degree program at UNSW. http://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au/unsw-enabling-programs

UNSW Year 12 Medicine Information Evening
24 March 2016, 6pm to 8pm, Sir John Clancy Auditorium, UNSW Kensington
During the evening information will be provided on the UNSW Medicine degree, regarding application, admissions and tips for the UMAT exam. Registrations open 29 February at 5pm.
https://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/year-12-medicine-information-evening

JMC Information Session
7 March 2016, 6pm to 7pm, 561 Harris Street, Ultimo NSW 2007
Career opportunities in the growing areas of Animation, Film and TV, Music, Songwriting, Game Design, Entertainment Management, Audio Engineering and Digital Design.
http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/information-sessions/jmc-academy-information-sessions
**Defence Jobs Australia: Learn to be a Leader Facebook Q&A**
Wednesday 23 March, 6:30pm - 8pm (AEDT) @ Facebook
Find out about developing leadership skills as an officer in the Australian Army. On the night, the Q&A will appear as a post on the Defence Jobs Australia Facebook page, where participants can post their questions in the comments section and have them answered.
[https://www.facebook.com/events/130021477377782/](https://www.facebook.com/events/130021477377782/)

**Defence Work Experience Opportunities**
There are numerous work experience programs listed for all aspects of the Defence Force. They will provide an opportunity to get a taste of the job as well as learn more about the ADF and Public Service.

**Short Courses at AFTRS**
The Real Filmmaking Workshop – 11 April 2016
Teens Digi Animation – 18 April 2016
The courses aim to teach new skills and are taught by industry professionals.

Damien Williams - Careers

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**Mission Team**

**Opening of the School Year Mass**

Parents, Guardians and Friends of St Patrick's College,

We extended a warm invitation to the Opening of the School Year Mass on St Patrick’s Day, 17 March.

The mass will commence at 10.30am in St Paul’s Parish Church, 26 John Street, Camden
Community News

Gala Ball - Tickets Available Now

2016 GALA BALL
Jersey to Motown

12 March 2016
Campbelltown Catholic Club

Featuring: Live Entertainment, Silent Auction, Raffle,
Photo Booth, Gourmet Dinner and Drinks.
The ONLY St. Patrick's College Scholarship Fundraiser
Tickets will be limited. Booking Available Now.

Year 5 Workshops

INVITATION:
Year 5 Student Workshop

Friday 1 April 2016
see web page for details:
www.saintpatricks.nsw.edu.au/year_5_visits

Macarthur's only all girls College
Important Dates

What's On......

08 March - Senior School Assembly, Middle School Parent Forum (9am and 7pm)
09 March - Year 7 Reflection Day, Twilight Dance (at St Gregory's College)
11 March - College Photo Day
12 March - Gala Ball
14 March - Year 11 Ancient History Excursion, Pi Day
15 March - Middle School Assembly, Senior School Parent Forum (9am and 7pm)
16 March - Year 10 PASS Surf Day
17 March - St Patrick's Day Mass (Camden)
18 March - Year 7 Parent Dinner (The Cube), Year 10 Science/English Challenge, 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, Easter Liturgy
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, ANZAC Day Assembly
27 to 29 April - Year 9 Camp