



## From the Principal

Term 2 Week 2 – May 6 2019

### Parent Communication

Last week the College received positive feedback about *The Pride* (which will now be published every 5 weeks of school). There is much information contained in this publication and as there is no need for an 'urgent' read, you can read it at your leisure. *The Pride* showcases the fantastic learning experiences in each of the 6 Growth Domains that have occurred over the previous 5 weeks and future opportunities.

The weekly publication - *The Lion Roars* (this one you are currently reading), keeps parents up-to-date with important dates, messages and reminders of a logistical nature.

I am sure that with both of these publications, parents will be further able to strengthen their partnership with the College in order to improve the outcomes of the students.

### Thank you

I would like to acknowledge and thank *Mr Daniel Petrie* and *Mr Ashley Johansen* who took on extra responsibilities and roles whilst I was on Leave for the last 4 weeks of Term One. Both led the College community with enthusiasm and expertise in all facets of Christian leadership. Both members of staff now resume their normal roles at the College.

### Building Works Update

I will be writing a letter to parents about the College building works this week and where we go to from here.

### Staff Appointments

It is my pleasure to announce the following promotional positions in the College:

- *Mr Nathan Smith* has been appointed as Pathways Leader (the new position will be detailed in the next edition of *The Lion Roars*).
- *Ms Jessica Watts* has been appointed as Leader of Middle School.

The replacement Year 7 Leader of Year position will be finalised shortly.

### Year 12 Retreat

Last week I had the privilege of attending the 3-day Year 12 Retreat at Stanwell Tops. I was very impressed with the attitude and high standard of respect that was displayed by the students. As they complete their evaluations of the Retreat - it was for many - the highlight of their secondary school experiences. Thank you to *Mr Dumas* (Director of Evangelization and Catholic Faith Formation) and *Mr Tiglao* and their team of teachers – *Rev. Gomez, Mr Wilson, Ms Doyle, Mr Johansen, Mr Petrie, Ms McCaan, Ms Boguradzki, Ms Needs, Ms Nelson, Mr Gallagher, Mr Kershler, Ms Hasman, Ms Ramsay* and *Ms Ellison*, who not only supervised but also ran many of the sessions and gave of themselves to contribute to this very important experience.

I would urge everyone to view the 3 min video on our Facebook page to gain an understanding of the 'happenings' of the Year 12 Retreat.

### **NAPLAN Tests**

Students in Years 7 and 9 will be sitting **NAPLAN Tests** next week. Parents should have received details about this nationwide testing both last term and last week. If you have any questions - please contact the Leader of Year (Year 7 - **Ms Watts**; Year 9 - **Mr Trainer**).

### **CSSA Debating**

The CSSA Debating season commenced last Friday evening and congratulations to our debaters who won 5 out of the 6 debates conducted against Holy Cross College, Ryde. I would like to thank **Mrs Boguradzki** (Teacher-in-charge), **Mr Zeaiter and Ms Murphy** who give up their time in coaching, adjudicating and supervising the students. Debating is a great set of skills to develop. I would urge students to attend and watch our debaters in action over the next few weeks. Our next home round is this Friday 10 May against Marist North Shore.

**Mr AF Gleeson**  
**Principal**

## **From The Director of Evangelisation and Catholic Formation, Mr Andrew Dumas**

### **Year 11 – Retreat Notes**

Year 11 retreat notes will be distributed this week. Year 11 senior retreat will be held in week 5 of Term 2 from Wednesday to Friday (29-31 May).

### **All Parents ....Please Join Us**



In July a group of staff and students will travel to the country of Kiribati.

Kiribati is located in the Pacific Ocean half way between Australia and the USA.

By attending this event, you will help to pay for schooling for some Kiribati students we are visiting, who would not otherwise be able to pay for school fees, school uniforms and other school costs.

We have booked a private screening of the inspiring new movie 'Breakthrough' at Event Cinemas, Hornsby on Wednesday, 22 May. We want to fill the cinema.

**So please tell ALL your friends and family.**

Quote your friends this LINK below to book now:

[www.trybooking.com/BCBUW](http://www.trybooking.com/BCBUW)

Please watch the video trailer...

Google search – “Breakthrough trailer”

It is great to build community spirit at St Leo's by attending this event and to make a difference for the poor in our world.

God Bless  
Mr Andrew Dumas

## From Director of Students

*'At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents'*  
- Jane D. Hull

### Parent/Caregiver information:

#### Week 1

It was wonderful to see our 7-11 students again after the Term 1 holidays. They appeared happy and ready for another term of opportunity at St Leo's. I spoke to a number of students last week both in and out of the classroom, and it was pleasing that many want to *make a real difference* this term both academically and with their chosen co-curricular pursuits. I also visited the Year 12 Retreat last week at *The Tops* Conference Centre (Stanwell Tops) - the positive engagement, the St Leo's spirit, as well as the evident camaraderie during the three day program were outstanding. Well done Year 12!

#### Uniform

Students are now expected be attired in full Winter uniform (including blazer) this term. All students are expected to wear the blazer to and from the College every day during Terms 2-3. Year 12 may continue wearing their College jersey. Please see the Student Diary if any uniform/grooming expectations need clarification.

#### Student Leave

All student leave requests, in the first instance, should be communicated in writing to the Principal (Mr Gleeson) - an email to the College is acceptable. Students requesting leave should then see Mr Johansen (Director of Students), near the Student Services office, to obtain the appropriate paperwork. There are two forms – *Exemption from Attendance* (under 10 days) and *Application for Extended Leave* (over 10 days). All completed leave forms should be returned to the Director of Students office as soon as possible for processing. It is important to note that leave beyond 10 days must be considered by the Catholic School Office through the College. **The College Skoolbag app should not be used for any student leave requests.**

#### Attendance

**For whole day absences please use the College Skoolbag app** but for partial absences (early departure) a note from the parent/caregiver is required to be presented to your child's Year Leader before school.

Following an absence from the College you must ensure that within 7 days you provide the College a verbal or written explanation for the absence. **If students arrive late** to the College parent/caregivers must notify the College as soon as possible via the Skoolbag app, telephone call or signed parent/caregiver entry in their child's diary outlining the reason for the lateness.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to contact the College if there are any queries or concerns.

**Mr Ashley Johansen**  
**Director of Students**