



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Please find below the **Week 2 Term 3 2020** edition of the Parental Lion Roars.

From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

Presenting... The St Leo's Semester One Virtual Awards Ceremony!

We are celebrating the wonderful success of our students during Semester One with a digital awards presentation highlighting the development of our students across the Growth Domains. Replacing the traditional face-to-face format due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are excited to present the St Leo's Semester One Virtual Awards Ceremony.

Please watch the opening section which includes a brief prayer and Principal's introduction, before viewing your selection of the **Principal's Academic Awards** – Gold and Silver (*Intake 2020: 2.22; Y8: 4.22; Y9: 6.20; Y10: 11.45; Y11: 13.02; Y12: 15.35*), followed by the **Gold Merit Awards (20.35)** and the **Sport Awards (22.42)**.

Also included are **two amazing musical pieces by two of our HSC students**: a vocal performance by Emily M (8.10) and piano piece by Mia M (17.40). **I highly recommend you see these!**

Award winners will be presented with hard copy certificates soon. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the team of staff who have worked on producing the Award certificates and video for Semester One.

[Click to view the Awards...](#) (24 mins total)



2020-21 Student Leadership Team

Congratulations to our 2020/21 Student Leadership Team that was announced last week.

- **College Captains: Rachel G and Matteo P**
- **College Vice Captains: Jessica J and Will T**
- SRC Ambassadors: Clara H and Riley H
- Spiritual Growth Domain Ambassadors: Crystal B and Jacob Y
- Physical Growth Domain Ambassadors: Emma E and Mahdi F-N
- Academic Growth Domain Ambassadors: Dasha V and Lachlan B
- Cultural Growth Domain Ambassadors: Francesca B-M and Joel T
- Environmental Growth Domain Ambassadors: Madeline H and Jacinta B
- Social Emotional Growth Domain Ambassadors: Tameka M and Patrick B
- Xavier House Ambassadors: Renae S and Joshua F
- Loyola House Ambassadors: Hannah M and Julia R
- Chanel House Ambassadors: Deven F and Monique D
- Aquinas House Ambassadors: John A and Cameron D
- MacKillop House Ambassadors: Emily T and William vK
- Bakhita House Ambassadors: Jake T-D and Lachlan R
- Teresa House Ambassadors: Isobel L and Jacob S
- McAuley House Ambassadors: Jade W and Angus P



It is pleasing to see that 48 Year 11 students applied for leadership positions for next year. All our Senior students are leaders - some are badged and some are not.

I look forward to working with this fine group of young people.

HSC Trial Exams

Our current Year 12 students are just three weeks away from their HSC Trial Exams. We wish them the best as they complete their courses, Major Works, bodies of Work and prepare for these trials which mirror the exact format of the HSC Exams in October.

Remote Learning Survey for Parents/Caregivers and Students

As outlined previously, please find the link to the survey for our learnings from Term 2 and the Covid-19 Remote Learning Experience. What did we learn and what can we incorporate into our planning for 2021? The survey is NOT to evaluate the three models (as this was done across Term 2) but rather to gather your learnings and experiences as parents and students, to incorporate into our strategy for the 2021 and beyond.



I will share the data with you in the next few weeks.

Thank you once again for your continued and passionate support for your young people as we move through this uncertain time.

Tony Gleeson
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Mr Daniel Petrie

Parent Teacher Interviews for Years 11 - 12

Parent Teacher Interview bookings are **open until 2.30pm today**, and will **re-open at 8am tomorrow**, Thursday 30 July, to continue taking bookings for 5 August. As per Mr Gleeson's correspondence on Friday evening, Parent Teacher Interviews for Stage 6 (Year 11-12) will take place over two Wednesday evenings via Zoom:

- **TONIGHT - Wednesday, Week 2 – July 29, 4:45 - 8:30pm – Years 11 & 12**
- **Wednesday, Week 3 – August 5, 4:45 - 8:30pm – Year 11 & 12**



How to book your Parent Teacher Interviews:

1. Log into Compass (if you need help with this, check the Parent's Guide to Accessing the Compass Parent Portal)
2. Once logged into Compass, a notification will appear under 'My News' informing you that the Parent teacher interviews are now open to make appointments.
3. Select 'Click here for bookings' with this notification, which will take you to the bookings where your son or daughter's teachers' names will appear.
4. Select a teacher's name and an available time slot (in white) to book a time. Repeat for each teacher.
5. There is also a button 'Show me how to book' which will give you further instructions if needed.

Zoom links for each interview:

Parents have been sent an email from Compass containing the Zoom link for each subject that your daughter/son undertakes. Please click on the link to log into the meeting 2-3 minutes before your designated time. You will be sent to a 'waiting room'. Once the teacher is finished with the previous meeting, they will allow you into the Zoom meeting for your booked Parent Teacher Interview.

Please note: Due to the nature of Zoom interviews, keeping to time will be most important to ensure delays are avoided where possible. If you require further time for discussion, please let the relevant teacher know and they will make the necessary arrangement for a second Zoom meeting at a later date.

You can see the complete list of Zoom session links for any member of staff: [HERE](#)

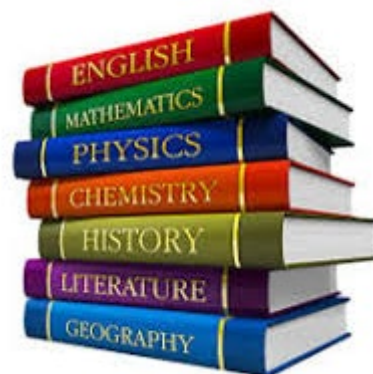
The College looks forward to this important step in the learning journey of your daughter or son.

Year 8 Subject Selection Process

Later today (Wednesday 29 July), Year 8 and their families will **digitally receive the Subject Selection Handbook** for Year 9 2021. Parents are asked to peruse this document with their children.

Students will then participate in a **Subject Selection Presentation Assembly tomorrow (Thursday 30 July)** where representatives from the courses on offer in 2021 will provide students with an insight into what each course involves. Following this assembly, students will **receive via email a confidential webcode** that they will require to complete their subject selections at a later stage of the process.

The College will then be hosting a **Parent Information Evening for Year 9 2021 Subject Selections** from 7pm on Monday Week 3,



August 3. Due to present Covid-19 restrictions, the College will be hosting this evening as a Zoom meeting. You can access the Zoom session via the following: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android [HERE](#)

Join from telephone (meeting ID: 940 9276 5849): (02) 8015 2088 (Sydney), (07) 3053 8570 (Brisbane), (08) 7150 1149 (Adelaide), (03) 8375 9112 (Melbourne)

Parents will have the opportunity to access the FAQs link within the handbook to list any questions prior to the information evening they wish answered during the Zoom session.

We expect the presentations to be approx. 30mins, followed by Q&As. Members of the College Leadership team and the College Pathways Coordinator will also be present for this important transition in the learning journey of your daughter or son.

By **Wednesday 5 August, students are required to have entered their subject selections** on EDVAL CHOICE using the webcode that they received via their College email. The **printed summary form/verification sheet, that requires a signature** by the student as well as parents, is due to reception by **Thursday 6 August**. We look forward to the journey ahead as they pave their way towards their Stage 5 studies.

Blessings and stay safe.

From the Acting Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation:

Mr Nathan Smith

St Ignatius of Loyola Feast Day

This Friday is the Feast Day of one of our House Patron Saints - St Ignatius of Loyola. As such, we will be celebrating this Feast at our Friday Lunchtime Mass.

I would like to extend an invitation to all students to join us for Mass, but in particular, I would like to encourage students who are in Loyola House to attend as it is a wonderful way to show pride in your House and to develop House spirit.

Mass will commence at 1.20pm in the College Chapel.



Year 12 Retreat – Update

It is with deep regret that we have to alter the proposed 3-day retreat program for our Year 12 students due to tightening of the COVID-19 restrictions. The Catholic Schools Office, based on advice from the relevant government and health authorities have stated that no overnight excursions can take place in term 3.

Nevertheless, we are committed to delivering a wonderful retreat-style experience for our Year 12 students before they graduate. We are currently working through a revised plan but the proposal will be that Monday 21 September will be a Retreat Day on-campus for Year 12 students.

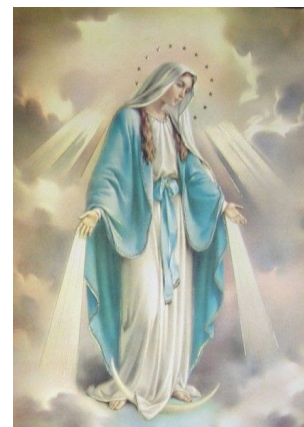
Further details on the day will be provided to students and their parents/carers within the next week.

The Feast of the Assumption

Saturday 15 August is the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady where we acknowledge the end of the Blessed Virgin Mary's earthly life and celebrate the assumption of her body and soul into heavenly glory.

We will celebrate this Holy Day of Obligation on Friday 14 August during our Friday Lunchtime Mass. I would like to extend a warm invitation to all students to join us at lunchtime for this very special occasion where we pay tribute to our Blessed Mother and celebrate the important role that she plays in our faith development today.

Mass will commence at 1.20pm in the College Chapel.



Regular Prayer at the College

A reminder of the regular opportunities we have for prayer at the College throughout the week. Every day the College prays the daily Examen at 1.10pm. In addition, we have the following opportunities for regular prayer during the week:

- **Morning Mentor prayer**
- **Rosary in the Chapel on Wednesdays at recess**
- **Lunchtime Mass on Fridays in the Chapel**
- **Prayer during Religious Education classes.**



In addition to these regular prayer opportunities, the College Chapel is open all day for students who wish to say their own personal prayer or who may wish to have a quiet space for reflection. I encourage all students to make use of this beautiful space within their school.

From the Dean of Curriculum

Mr George Morad

Senior Study Afternoons

The Aquinas Resource Centre is open from 3.00-5.00pm every Wednesday afternoon. A variety of Year 11 and 12 teachers make themselves available every week to be there to answer questions and give feedback to Year 12 students. There are a variety of tutorials and mini-workshops that are run. Students form study groups and bounce rich ideas off each other.



This has been in consistent operation pre and post Covid-19 and will continue every Wednesday. I publish a list of workshops and teachers the day before in order for students to forward plan their Wednesday afternoon.

Students are able to:

- Get specific Year 11 and HSC help
- Clarify aspects of subject specific content
- Have small group tutorials with teachers
- Get feedback on practice Year 11 and HSC responses

I encourage all Year 12 students to make use of this time in preparation for the upcoming HSC Trial examinations.

From the Director of Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

Student Leadership Team 2020-2021 – Commencement of Duties

Our new College Student Leadership Team were appointed and will officially commence their duties at the start of Term 4. Prior to this, they will attend a two day Induction Program held on campus this Term. These dates will shortly be confirmed via the College Calendar and will be timetabled to cause minimal class impact to their studies.

In addition, before the end of term there will be two joint meetings with the incumbent leaders - an 'open' forum for the new leaders to informally discuss role/expectations of College leadership.

The Leadership commissioning ceremony/handover will also occur later this Term, pending COVID-19 guidelines. Again this date/details will be communicated in due course.

Mrs Kate Todd (Year 11 Leader) and I certainly look forward to their contributions when they officially start their important student leadership work next term. It is also important to note that all unsuccessful candidates were appropriately counselled, as required, by both Mrs Todd and/or myself. If any parent/caregiver would like further feedback about the College leadership process, please phone the College to speak with us.

Cyberbullying

Online bullying can have a devastating impact on young people, whose online life is a key part of their identity and how they interact socially. Cyberbullying behaviour takes many forms, such as sending abusive messages, hurtful images or videos, nasty online gossip, excluding or humiliating others, or creating fake accounts in someone's name to trick or humiliate them. Targeted advice is also available for children, young people or adults who may be experiencing online abuse.

You can find further information, parent resources and support options [HERE](#).



WARNING SIGNS - your child may not tell you if they are experiencing bullying behaviour online because of a fear it might make things worse for them or they may lose access to their devices and the internet. Possible signs that all parents/caregivers should be aware of include:

- being upset after using the internet or their mobile phone
- changes in personality, such as becoming more withdrawn, anxious, sad or angry
- appearing more lonely or distressed
- unexpected changes in friendship groups
- a decline in their school work
- changes in their sleep patterns
- avoidance of school or clubs
- a decline in their physical health
- becoming secretive about their online activities and mobile phone use.

Absences

Parents/caregivers are requested to enter any relevant attendance information (sickness, early departure etc) using the **Add Attendance Note** feature on the Compass Parent Portal so that the College's database is up-to-date with student movements.

SchoolTV - Online Wellbeing Resources

SchoolTV has a number of special reports that may be of interest to parents/caregivers about raising young teenagers: [LINK](#)

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

From the Director of Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

Mrs Lindy Sykes

TAFE Employability Short Courses

The following short courses are now available. Please see linked flyers for more information.

- [Get That Job - Employability Skills](#) (10581NAT, Course in Vocational and Community Engagement) 1 day per week for 8 weeks: Job seeking skills - soft skills, goal setting, communication, teamwork, emotional intelligence, mock interviews, etc.
- [Skills for Women in the Workplace](#) (10583NAT Certificate I in Access to Work & Training) 2 days per week for 16 weeks: Introduction to Microsoft Office 365 and employability Skills for Women, soft skills, job ready training, team work, report writing, etc.
- [Job Seeking Skills during COVID-19](#) (CSO5555 TAFE Statement in Education & Employment Pathways) 1 day per week for 3 weeks: A unique fast paced course offering individualised support with resumes, cover letters, LinkedIn, interview skills and more. Suited for those that are job ready NOW.



From the Director of Administration

Ms Therri Ellison

Photo Days

The following dates have been set aside for photos:

- **Friday 7 August** - School Sports and Extra Curricular Photos will be taken on
- **Thursday 20 August** - Whole Staff Group **8am**, Mentor Groups & Individual Portraits Yr 7-12 & Families, Individual Staff & Whole Year 12 Group)
- **Tuesday 1 September** - Year 12 photos (individual and groups) and catch up photos.



Year 10 Vaccinations

NSW Health will be at the College to provide the Meningococcal ACWY vaccination to all Year 10 students on **Wednesday August 5** from 9.30am. Permission forms have been given to Year 10 students and should already have been returned to Student Services.

From the Director of Teaching and Learning

Mrs Josephine Cali

After School Coding Club for Intake 2020-Year 10 Students

Commencing next Wednesday 5 August, students can participate in an online Code Camp Program after school. As the program is online, students can do this from home or school. Supervision will be provided from 3.15-4.15pm each Wednesday of Weeks 3-10 in Term 3 for those who would like to participate here at the College.

We have arranged with Code Camp to make the cost of this program fully covered by the Creative Kids Rebate. The use of the voucher means that there is no direct cost to parents, which will need to be applied when you enrol your child in the program. Please apply and download your voucher [HERE](#). Alternatively, the cost of the program is \$100 for those not using the voucher.

If your son or daughter would like to participate, please see the information provided on the flyer below and [ENROL HERE](#). Please note, students will need to be enrolled in the course by CodeCamp to gain access to the course materials. Enrolments are directly managed by Code Camp.

If you have any questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact [Mrs Melanie Timmerman](#) or [Mrs Josephine Cali](#).

We are looking forward to seeing your son or daughter at Coding Club!

From the Leader of Debating

Mrs Laraine Boguradzki

2020 Debating Competition

This year, St Leo's has entered four junior teams and a Senior team in the shortened debating competition.

Last Friday night, we began the first round by hosting Holy Cross College, Ryde and an outstanding result of 4 out of 5 successful teams. Congratulations to our Year 7, 8, 9 and Senior teams who all won their debates on the topic 'Is working from home here to stay?', while the Year 10 debate was extremely close.

I was impressed by how well the students worked together. They did extremely well at defining, defending and rebuttals. I am very proud of our students, who are coached at lunchtime and after school on Mondays by myself and Mr Luke Antoun.

Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions, audiences are currently not allowed for the debates – a real pity as parents and other supporters would have been proud of their performances, as I certainly was.

Thank you to Mr Tony Gleeson, Mrs Helen Somerville and Mrs Michaela Hashim for lending their assistance and support on the night, Mr Luke Antoun who assists in coaching and adjudication, and Ms Jayne Persico for her assistance with organisation.

This week we travel to Oakhill College, Castle Hill. Here's hoping we will continue our success!

CODECAMP

Learn to code at Code Camp after-school!

Get creative and enjoy using logic and problem solving to build your own games!

CREATIVE KIDS REBATE
NSW GOVERNMENT Registered Provider
www.codecamp.com.au/ckrebate

CLAIM \$100 OFF ENROLMENTS

Supported by **hp** **Westpac** **chromebook** **intel**

Wednesday afternoons
5 Aug - 21 Oct
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

St Leo's Catholic College

\$100 for 10 weeks

Years 7 - 10

my.codecamp.com.au/course/626